

For problems with azimuthal symmetry (no ϕ dependence) and with the North + South Poles included ($\theta=0, \theta=\pi$).

$$V(r, \theta) = R(r) \cdot T(\theta)$$

$$= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left(A_l r^l + \frac{B_l}{r^{l+1}} \right) P_l(\cos \theta)$$

Laurent series:

$$B_{-2} r^{-2} + B_{-1} r^{-1} + A_0 r^0 + A_1 r^1$$

$$C_{-2} r^{-2} + C_{-1} r^{-1} + C_0 r^0 + C_1 r^1$$

If you are solving the interior of a sphere and the origin $r=0$ is included:

$$B_0 = 0, B_1 = 0 \dots$$

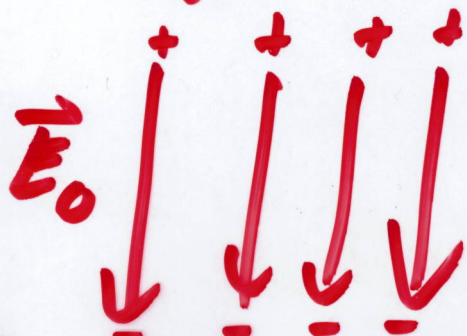
$$V(r, \theta) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} A_l r^l P_l(\cos \theta)$$

If you are solve the exterior problem $r=\infty$ included

$$V(r, \theta) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{B_l}{r^{l+1}} P_l \cos \theta$$

unless there is charge at ∞ .

e.g. constant Electric field



$$V = E_0 z = E_0 r \cos \theta \\ = A_1 r^1 P_1(\cos \theta)$$

A remarkable result:

If you know the potential on the positive z -axis:

$$V(z) \text{ for } 0 \leq z < \infty$$

then you can figure out the potential everywhere $V(r)$

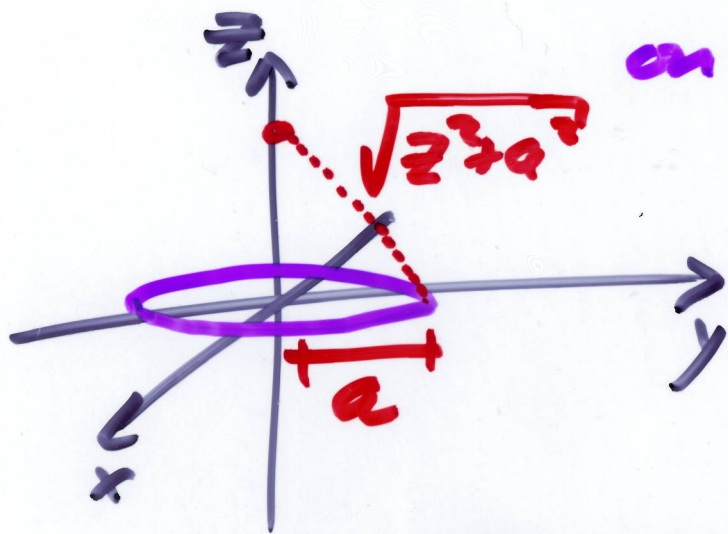
$$V(r, \theta=0) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left[A_l r^l + \frac{B_l}{r^{l+1}} \right] \cdot 1$$

that is a Laurent expansion.

$$\dots \frac{B_1}{z^2} + \frac{B_0}{z} + A_0 + A_1 z^1 + A_2 z^2 \dots$$

Remember $P_l(1) = 1$ $\theta=0$
 $\cos\theta = 1$
North Pole

E.g. Ring of charge q ,
radius a . Find the voltage
on the z -axis.



$$V(z) = \frac{kq}{\sqrt{z^2 + a^2}}$$

For $z > a$

$$V(z) = \frac{kq}{z} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{a^2}{z^2}}} = \frac{kq}{z} \left[1 + \frac{a^2}{z^2} \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= \frac{kq}{z} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (-1)^l \left[\frac{(2l-1)!!}{2^l l!} \right] \left(\frac{a^2}{z^2} \right)^l$$

$$x!! = x(x-2)(x-4) \dots$$

$$x! = x(x-1)(x-2) \dots 1$$

$V(r, \theta) =$ Take $V(z)$ replace
 $z \rightarrow r$, multiply by
 $P_l(\cos \theta)$

"Going off axis"

$$V(r, \theta) = \frac{kq}{r} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (-1)^l \left[\frac{(2l-1)!!}{2^l l!} \right] \left(\frac{a^2}{r^2} \right)^l P_l(\cos \theta)$$

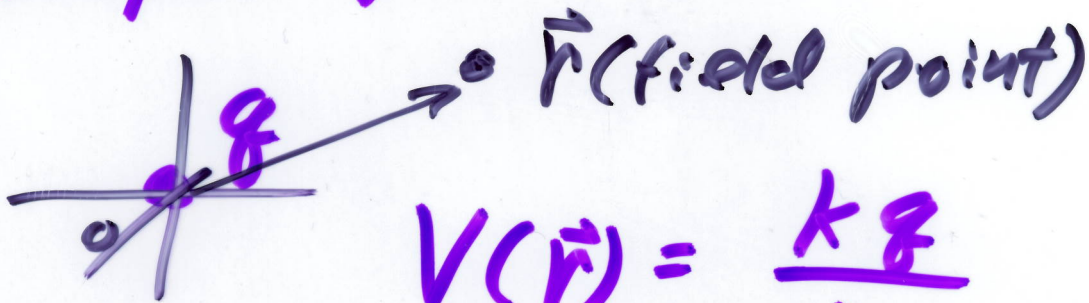
$$= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left[kq (-1)^l \left[\frac{(2l-1)!!}{2^l l!} \right] a^{2l} \right] \frac{1}{r^{2l+1}} P_l(\cos \theta)$$

B_{2l}

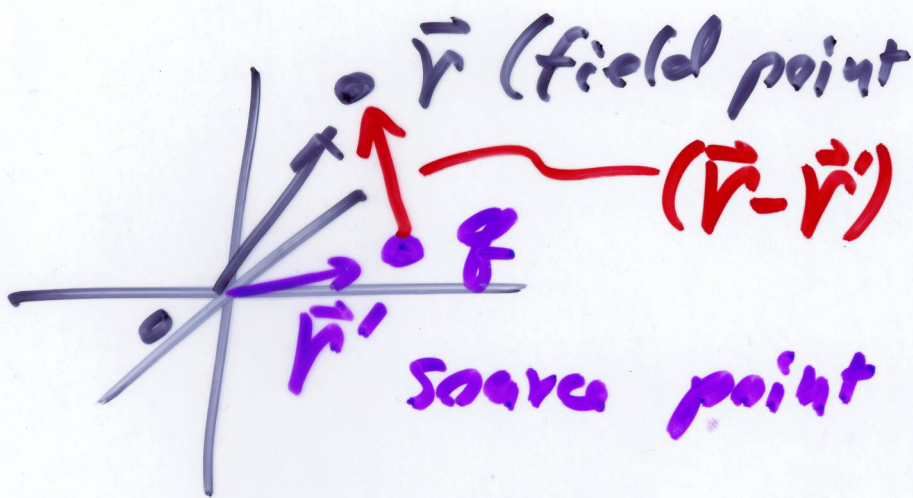
Multi pole expansion:

pole = monopole = point charge.

monopole potential

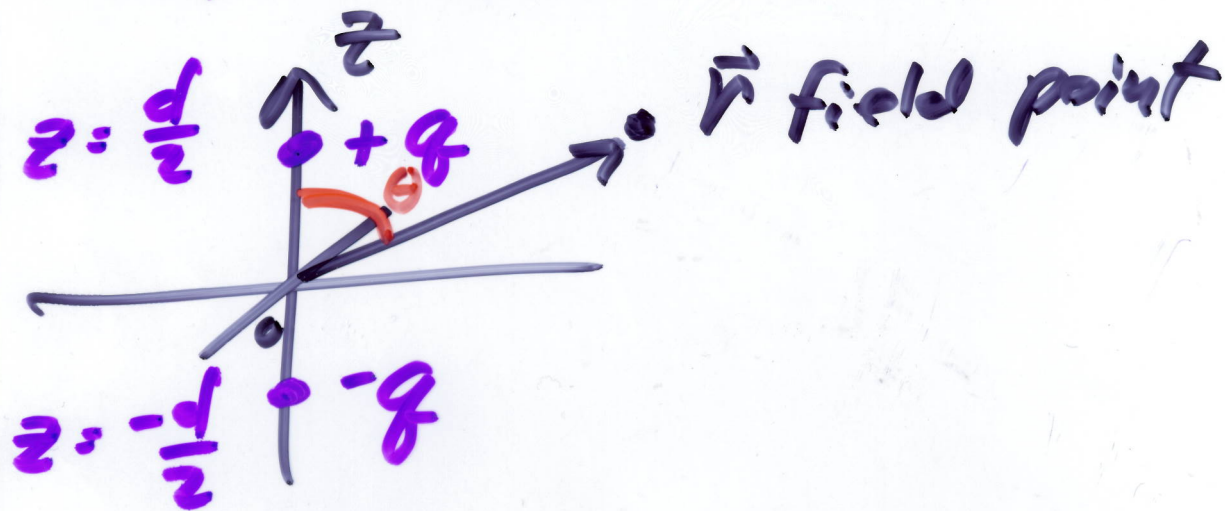


$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{kq}{r}$$



$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{kq}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}$$

Dipole potential



Charge density

$$\rho(\vec{r}) = q \delta(x) \delta(y) \delta(z - \frac{d}{2}) - q \delta(x) \delta(y) \delta(z + \frac{d}{2})$$

$$V(\vec{r}) = \iiint_{\text{All space}} \frac{k \rho(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}$$

$$= \frac{kq}{|\vec{r} - \frac{d}{2} \hat{e}_3|} - \frac{kq}{|\vec{r} + \frac{d}{2} \hat{e}_3|}$$

$$\frac{1}{|\vec{r} \mp \frac{d}{2} \hat{e}_3|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\vec{r} \mp \frac{d}{2} \hat{e}_3) \cdot (\vec{r} \mp \frac{d}{2} \hat{e}_3)}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 \mp r d \cos \theta + \frac{d^2}{4}}}$$

$$= (r^2 \mp r d \cos \theta + \frac{d^2}{4})^{-1/2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{r} \left(1 \mp \frac{d}{r} \cos \theta + \frac{d^2}{4r^2} \right)^{-1/2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{r} \left(1 \pm \frac{d}{2r} \cos \theta + \text{higher order} \right)$$

$$V(r) = \frac{kq}{r} \left[\frac{d}{r} \cos \theta + \text{higher} \right]$$