

Dipoles, Quadrupoles, Multipole expansions

a) Some useful Math relations

$$a) (1+x)^\alpha = 1 + \alpha x + \frac{\alpha(\alpha-1)}{2} x^2 + \dots$$

$$b) \vec{\nabla} r = \frac{dr}{dx} \hat{e}_x + \frac{dr}{dy} \hat{e}_y + \frac{dr}{dz} \hat{e}_z \quad \text{here } r \text{ is the magnitude}$$

$$\frac{dr}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} = \frac{x}{r} \text{ etc.}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} r = \frac{x}{r} \hat{e}_x + \frac{y}{r} \hat{e}_y + \frac{z}{r} \hat{e}_z = \frac{\vec{r}}{r} = \hat{e}_{\vec{r}}$$

$$c) \vec{\nabla}(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{r}) = \vec{\nabla}(a_x x + a_y y + a_z z) \\ = a_x \hat{e}_x + a_y \hat{e}_y + a_z \hat{e}_z \\ = \vec{a}$$

d) Taylor series of a function $f(x'_1, x'_2, x'_3)$

$$f(\vec{r}') = f(x'_1, x'_2, x'_3) = f(0,0,0) + \sum_{i=1}^3 x'_i \frac{df}{dx'_i} \Big|_{\vec{r}'=0} + \\ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 x'_i x'_j \frac{d^2 f}{dx'_i dx'_j} \Big|_{\vec{r}'=0}$$

Lets apply this to $f(x'_1, x'_2, x'_3) = f(\vec{r}') = \frac{1}{|\vec{r}' - \vec{r}|}$

$$\text{Use } \frac{df}{dx'_i} = -\frac{df}{dx_i}, \quad \frac{d^2 f}{dx'_i dx'_j} = \frac{d^2 f}{dx_i dx_j}$$

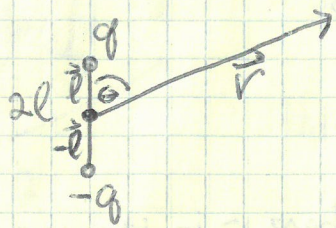
$$\frac{1}{|\vec{r}' - \vec{r}|} = \frac{1}{|\vec{r}'|} - \sum_{i=1}^3 x'_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \frac{1}{|\vec{r}'|} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 x'_i x'_j \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \frac{1}{|\vec{r}'|} + \dots$$

related to
monopoles

related to
dipoles

related to
quadrupoles

1) Electric field of a dipole



find field for $|\vec{r}| \gg |\vec{l}|$

$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = \frac{q}{|\vec{r}-\vec{l}|} - \frac{q}{|\vec{r}+\vec{l}|}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Use } |\vec{r} \pm \vec{l}| &= \sqrt{(r \cos \theta \pm l)^2 + (r \sin \theta)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{r^2 \pm 2rl \cos \theta + l^2} \\ &= r \sqrt{1 \pm \frac{2l}{r} \cos \theta + \frac{l^2}{r^2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{|\vec{r} \pm \vec{l}|} = \frac{1}{r} \left(1 \pm \frac{2l}{r} \cos \theta + \frac{l^2}{r^2} \right)^{-1/2} \approx \frac{1}{r} \mp \frac{l}{r^2} \cos \theta$$

$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = \frac{2ql}{r^2} \cos \theta + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{ql^2}{r^3}\right)$$

for $r \gg l$

in terms of dipole moment $\vec{p} = 2ql\vec{e}_l$:

$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \hat{e}_r}{r^2}$$

\hat{e}_r : unit vector in direction of \vec{r}
 $\hat{e}_r = \frac{\vec{r}}{r}$

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} \Phi = -\vec{\nabla} \left(\frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{r}}{r^3} \right) = -\left(\vec{\nabla} \frac{1}{r^3} \right) (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{r}) - \frac{1}{r^3} \vec{\nabla} (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{r})$$

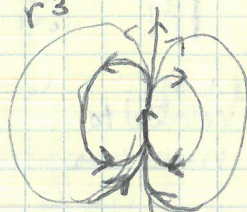
$$= \frac{3\vec{r}}{r^5} (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{r}) - \frac{1}{r^3} \vec{p} = \frac{1}{r^5} (3(\vec{p} \cdot \vec{r})\vec{r} - pr^2)$$

For polar coords w/ $\vec{p} \cdot \hat{e}_r = 2ql \cos \theta$

$$E_r = -\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial r} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(\frac{2ql \cos \theta}{r^2} \right) = \frac{2\vec{p} \cos \theta}{r^3}$$

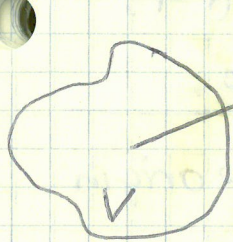
$$E_\theta = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \theta} = \frac{p \sin \theta}{r^3}$$

$$E_\phi = -\frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \phi} = 0$$



2) Multipole Expansion

Arbitrary charge distribution of finite volume V



$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = \int_V dv' \frac{\rho(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}$$

look at \vec{r} far from V & choose origin inside V
 then $|\vec{r}| \gg |\vec{r}'|$ This allows us to expand Φ in the
 small ratio $\frac{|\vec{r}'|}{|\vec{r}|}$

$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = \Phi^{(0)} + \Phi^{(2)} + \Phi^{(4)} + \dots$$

$$\Phi^{(0)}(\vec{r}) = \int_V dv' \rho(\vec{r}') \frac{1}{|\vec{r}|} \quad \text{monopole potential}$$

q : total charge in V

$$\Phi^{(2)}(\vec{r}) = - \sum_{i=1}^3 \int_V dv' x'_i \rho(\vec{r}') \frac{d}{dx_i} \frac{1}{|\vec{r}|} \quad \text{dipole potential}$$

"-" comes from $\frac{d}{dx_i} = -\frac{d}{dx'_i}$

$$\Phi^{(4)}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 \int_V dv' x'_i x'_j \rho(\vec{r}') \frac{d^2}{dx_i dx_j} \frac{1}{|\vec{r}|} \quad \text{quadrupole potential}$$

$$\int_V dv' \rho(\vec{r}') = q$$

$$\Phi^{(0)}(\vec{r}) = \frac{q}{r} \quad \text{monopole potential}$$

~~$\Phi^{(2)}$~~ Define dipole moment \vec{p} of charge distribution

$$\vec{p} = \int_V dv' \vec{r}' \rho(\vec{r}') \quad \text{for point charges } \vec{p} = q\vec{e} - q(-\vec{e}) = 2q\vec{e}$$

$$\Phi^{(2)} = - \sum_{i=1}^3 p_i \frac{d}{dx_i} \frac{1}{r} = -(\vec{p} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \frac{1}{r} = \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{r}}{r^3}$$

Leading contribution to the potential far away from a distribution w/
 no net charge

Quadrupole potential

a) auxiliary math result

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} \frac{1}{r} = 0 \text{ if } r \neq 0$$

Green's function

$$\nabla^2 \frac{1}{|r-r'|} = -4\pi \delta(r-r')$$

set $r'=0$

because $\frac{1}{r}$ is the potential of a point charge at the origin & hence satisfies Laplace's eq.

$$\Delta \frac{1}{r} \text{ or } \nabla^2 \frac{1}{r} = 0 \text{ away from the origin at } r=0$$

Can subtract any constant times $\nabla^2 \frac{1}{r}$ from $\Phi^{(4)}$ not alter the result.

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 \delta_{ij} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \frac{1}{r} = 0 \text{ if } r \neq 0$$

$$b) \Phi^{(4)}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \left[\int_V dv' g(\vec{r}') x_i' x_j' \right] \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \frac{1}{r}$$

Subtract for $r \neq 0$ $0 = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \left[\int_V dv' g(\vec{r}') r'^2 \delta_{ij} \right] \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \frac{1}{r}$

$$\Phi^{(4)} = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \left[\int_V dv' g(\vec{r}') (3x_i' x_j' - r'^2 \delta_{ij}) \right] \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \frac{1}{r}$$

$$\equiv \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i,j=1}^3 Q_{ij} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \frac{1}{r}$$

Q_{ij} deals with charge distribution
 $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \frac{1}{r}$ deals with test point location

$$c) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \frac{1}{r} = \frac{3x_i x_j - \vec{r}^2 \delta_{ij}}{r^5}$$

$$r = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\frac{-x_j}{(\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2})^{3/2}} \right)$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{if } x_i = x_j} -\frac{1}{r^3} + \frac{3x_j x_j}{r^5}$
 $\xrightarrow{\text{if } x_i \neq x_j} \frac{3x_i x_j}{r^5}$

$$\rightarrow \frac{3x_i x_j}{r^5} - \frac{\delta_{ij}}{r^3}$$

- d) • Q is a 3x3 matrix or tensor 9 elements
 • Q is real & symmetric $Q_{ij} = Q_{ji}$ 6 elements
 look at formula $x_i \rightarrow x_j$ keeps Q the same
 • Q is traceless $\text{tr } Q = \sum_{k=1}^3 Q_{kk} = 0$ 5 elements

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^3 3x'_i x'_j - r'^2 \delta_{ij} = 0 \quad \left(\text{This is why we added the } \nabla^2 \frac{1}{r} \text{ term - to force trace to vanish} \right)$$

Choose a basis in which Q is diagonal "principal axes"
 This gets rid of off-diagonal terms.

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} Q_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Q_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Q_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Q_{11} + Q_{22} + Q_{33} = 0$$

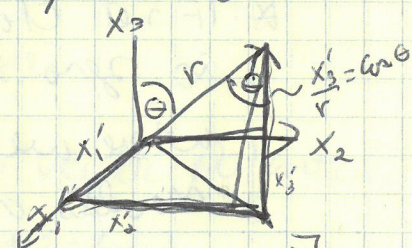
• Only two elements are independent

e) If there is enough symmetry sometimes you get lucky and two of the elements of the diagonalized Q are equal. So if $Q_{11} = Q_{22}$ then one calls $Q_{33} \equiv Q$ the quadrupole moment.

$$Q_{33} = \int dV' \rho(r') (3x_3'^2 - r'^2) \quad \text{(primes)}$$

$$\Phi^{(4)}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{6r^5} \sum_{j=1}^3 Q_{jj} (3x_j^2 - r^2)$$

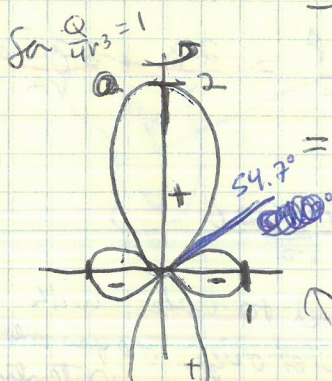
For this special case



Polar plot of $\Phi^{(4)}$

$$= \frac{Q_{33}}{6r^5} \left[-\frac{1}{2}(3x_1^2 - r^2) - \frac{1}{2}(3x_2^2 - r^2) + (3x_3^2 - r^2) \right]$$

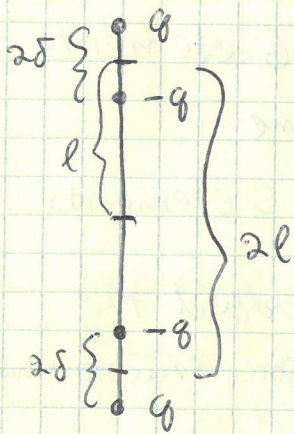
$$= \frac{Q_{33}}{4r^3} \left[-\frac{x_1^2}{r^2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{x_2^2}{r^2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{2x_3^2}{r^2} - \frac{2}{3} \right]$$



$$= \frac{Q_{33}}{4r^3} \left[-\frac{(x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2)}{r^2} + \frac{3x_3^2}{r^2} \right] = \frac{Q}{4r^3} (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$$

$\frac{Q_{33}}{4r^3}$ is fixed & here radius corresponds to amplitude of $\Phi^{(4)}$

Ex: Two coaxial but oppositely oriented dipoles



net charge = 0

net dipole moment = 0

rotational symmetry around 3rd axis

$Q_{11} = Q_{22}$ (lucky case)

$$Q_{33} = \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} 3x_{3\alpha}^2 - r_{\alpha}^2$$

$$= 2 \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} x_{3\alpha}^2 \quad \text{since } r_{\alpha} = x_{3\alpha}$$

$$= 2q [(l+d)^2 - (l-d)^2 - (-l+d)^2 + (-l-d)^2]$$

$$= 16qld \quad p = 2qd$$

$$= 8lp \equiv Q$$

$$Q_{11} = Q_{22} = -\frac{Q}{2} = 4lp$$

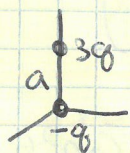
$$\Phi^{(4)}(\vec{r}) = \frac{Q}{4r^3} (3\cos^2\theta - 1) = \frac{2pl}{r^3} (3\cos^2\theta - 1)$$

* Notice that this picture is only valid for $\vec{r} \gg \vec{r}'$
if we look too close to the origin this picture breaks down

* If net charge is zero & (zero) if the net dipole moment is zero too these results end up being indep of where we choose the origin. math becomes trickier but results are the same.

* If net charge is not zero etc. then results are not the same

ex: Calculate monopole, dipole moments & approx potentials for



monopole

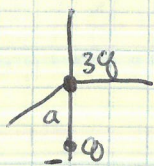
$$Q = 2q$$

dipole

$$p = 3qa\hat{z}$$

potential

$$\Phi = \frac{Q}{r} + \frac{p \cdot \hat{r}}{r^2} = \frac{2q}{r} + \frac{3qa\cos\theta}{r^2}$$



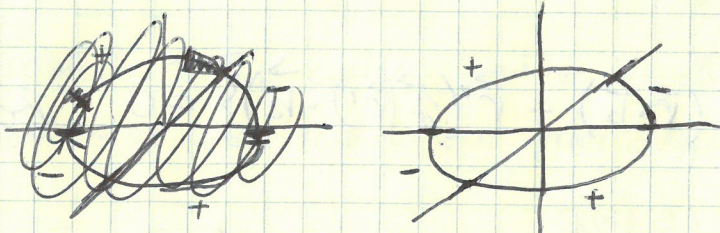
$$Q = 2q$$

$$p = qa\hat{z}$$

$$\Phi = \frac{2q}{r} + \frac{qa\cos\theta}{r^2}$$

unless all prior moments cancel you need to ask with respect to what origin are you measuring

One more example for quadrupole (for HW)
 Consider a ring of radius a lying in the $x-y$ plane
 with line charge $\rho_e = \pm \lambda$ for alternating segments



here them suggest how to code.

$$Q_{ij} = \int_0^{2\pi} \rho_e(\theta) a d\theta (3x_i x_j - r^2 \delta_{ij})$$



The analysis we just conducted in terms of Moments
~~also~~ appears in many situations

EX: Classical Mech. of Rigid bodies
 mass = $\int_V dv' \rho_m(\vec{r}')$ relevant for accel
 moment of inertia

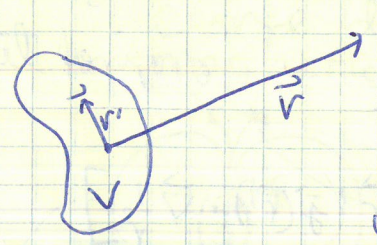
$$I_{ij} = \int_V dv' (r'^2 \delta_{ij} - x'_i x'_j) \rho_m(\vec{r}')$$

relevant for rotational acceleration

Let's repeat this analysis for the vector potential

1) Multipole expansion for vector potential

a) Current density \vec{j} confined to finite volume V



$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{c} \int_V dv' \frac{\vec{j}(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}$$

use $\frac{1}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} = \frac{1}{r} - \sum_{j=1}^3 x'_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \frac{1}{r} + \dots$

$$= \frac{1}{r} - \vec{r}' \cdot \vec{\nabla} \frac{1}{r} + \dots$$