# NUMERICAL METHOD FOR A MERIDIAN PLANE OF SYMMETRY OF AN ELECTROSTATIC MODEL 

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#### Abstract

The paper deals with a non-trivial electrostatic model which may be regarded as a reference for certain numerical testing calculus. The model comprises two spheres which intersect under an angle $(\pi / n)$, with $n$ a natural number, and $\boldsymbol{R}_{1}, \boldsymbol{R}_{2}$ şi $n$ as parameters. The analytical expression and numerical values of the electrical potential created by the two spheres are developed, in relate with the mentioned parameters.


Keywords: electrostatic model, symmetry, electrical charge.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The electrical potential formula is deduced using the image charges and the geometrical inversions method in the real plane. The true electric point charges $q_{i}$ are situated at the locations $Q_{i}$, which are at the $d_{i}$ distances from the point $O$ in $a$ homogeneous dielectric. The potential established by these charges in the $P_{j}$ points which are at the $R_{j}$ distances from the point $O$ is $V_{j}$. The point $O$ is picked as a inversion pole and $\mathrm{p}^{2}$ as the power of inversion. In the $\mathrm{Q}_{\mathrm{i}}$ ' points, which are the reverse of $\mathrm{Q}_{\mathrm{i}}$ points, the values of the charges are: [1]

$$
\begin{equation*}
q_{i}^{\prime}=\frac{p}{d_{i}} q_{i} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

The potential founded in $P_{j}{ }^{\prime}$ points by the $q_{i}{ }^{\prime}$ charges is:

$$
\begin{equation*}
V_{j}^{\prime}=\frac{R_{j}}{p} V_{j} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

## 2. THE IMAGE CHARGES FOR A SYSTEM OF TWO CONDUCTING SPHERES

We consider the conductor spheres of $\mathrm{O}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{O}_{2}$ centre and radius $\mathrm{R}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{R}_{2}$ respectively, which make a $\varphi$ angle. This means that in the cross section of fig. $1, \angle \mathrm{O}_{1} \mathrm{PO}_{2}=\pi-\varphi$. We take as known values for $\mathrm{R}_{1}$, $R_{2}, \varphi$ and the total charge $q_{t}$ of a conductor sized by the two spheres. We can assume exactly the same that instead of $q_{t}$ charge is known the $V$ potential of conductor. We propose to find the position and the value of the image charges function of $q_{t}$ (or function of V ). For this purpose an inversion of P pole and
$p^{2}=4 R_{2}{ }^{2}$ power is made. The sphere of $R_{2}$ radius is transformed in the plane $\pi_{2}, \mathrm{PO}_{2} \perp \pi_{2}$, that is tangent to the sphere in $T_{2}$. The sphere of radius $R_{1}$ is transformed into the plane $\pi_{1}$ so that $\pi_{1} \perp \mathrm{PO}_{1}$ and:

$$
\begin{equation*}
P T_{1}=\frac{4 R_{2}^{2}}{2 R_{1}} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

The circle resulted from the intersection of the two spheres have PQ as diameter which is next transformed into the straight line $\pi_{1} \cap \pi_{2}$ which is perpendicular to the drawing plane in O .


Fig. 1. The two conductor spheres
The sphere surface was equipotential, with V potential, but the surface of planes $\pi_{1}$ and $\pi_{2}$ is not equipotential. If we would put a charge in the P point:

$$
\begin{equation*}
q=-4 \pi \varepsilon p V=-4 \pi \varepsilon 2 R_{2} V \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

so the surface $\pi_{1}$ and $\pi_{2}$ goes to zero potential.
It results that in the absence of the $q$ charge the potential of $\pi_{1}$ and $\pi_{2}$ surface is the same with the potential established by the electrical images of the $q$ charge related the $\pi_{1}$ and $\pi_{2}$ planes. This is a known problem presented in figure 2. The number of image charges is $2 n-1$. These charges are in the points $\mathrm{A}_{1}, \mathrm{~A}_{2}$, .. $\mathrm{A}_{2 \mathrm{n}-1}$ which are situated on the circle of OP radius.


Fig. 2 - The electrical images of the q charge related the $\pi_{1}$ and $\pi_{2}$ plans

The initial situation is obtained through a new inversion of the same pole and same power. The charges from $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{2 n-1}$ are transformed into an images charges $q_{1}{ }^{\prime}, q_{2}{ }^{\prime}, \ldots, q^{\prime}{ }_{2 n-1}$ situated in $A^{\prime}{ }_{1}, A^{\prime}{ }_{2}$, $\ldots, A^{\prime}{ }_{2 n-1}$. The point $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{2 n-1}$ are situated in the circle with $O$ centre and $O P$ radius, so the reverses points $A^{\prime}{ }_{1}, A^{\prime}{ }_{2}, \ldots, A^{\prime}{ }_{2 n-1}$ are situated in the straight line which is perpendicular from $P O$. The reverse point of $A_{1}$ is exactly $O_{2}$ (because $P A_{1} \cdot P O_{2}=4 R_{2} \cdot R_{2}=4 R_{2}{ }^{2}$ ) so the images charges are situated at the $O_{l} O_{2}$ straight line.

## 3. CALCULUS OF THE VALUES AND OF THE POSITION CHARGE IMAGES

We use the notation $\lambda=R_{2} / R_{l}$ and

$$
\begin{equation*}
c=\sqrt{\lambda^{2}+2 \lambda \cos \varphi+1} \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

and with figure 2 :

$$
\begin{align*}
& P A_{2 m-1}=\frac{4 R_{2}}{\sin \varphi} \cdot c \cdot \sin (m \varphi-\beta)  \tag{6}\\
& P A_{2 m}=\frac{4 R_{2}}{\sin \varphi} \cdot c \cdot \sin (m \varphi)
\end{align*}
$$

The position of image charges on $O_{1} O_{2}$ is given by:

$$
\begin{equation*}
P A_{2 m-1}^{\prime}=\frac{R_{2} \sin \varphi}{c} \frac{1}{\sin (m \varphi-\beta)}, \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

$m=1,2, \ldots, n$
The position of even images charges is given by:

$$
\begin{equation*}
P A_{2 m}^{\prime}=\frac{R_{2} \sin \varphi}{c} \frac{1}{\sin (m \varphi)}, m=1,2, \ldots, n-1 \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

The system after the two inversions is identically with the initial system, and after the substitution of the plane charges (zero potential plane) with the image charges, the total charge is not changed [2].
We note that:

$$
\begin{equation*}
S=\sum_{m=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\sin (m \varphi-\beta)}-\sum_{m=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{\sin (m \varphi)} \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

And it results: $\quad q=-q_{t} \frac{2 c}{S \sin \varphi}$
The final form deduced from the value of image charges is:

$$
\begin{equation*}
q_{2 m-1}^{\prime}=q_{t} \frac{1}{S \sin (m \varphi-\beta)} ; q_{2 m}^{\prime}=-q_{t} \frac{1}{S \sin (m \varphi)} \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

The V potential of the spheres can be calculated from (4), and (11):

$$
\begin{equation*}
V=-\frac{q}{8 \pi \varepsilon R_{2}}=q_{t} \frac{c}{4 \pi \varepsilon R_{2} S \sin \varphi} \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

or directly with the image charges.

## 4. NUMERICAL CALCULUS FORMULA

First we choose the Cartesian system of coordinates $x O$ 'y, taking into consideration the meridian plane symmetry.

Then we set up the $O^{\prime} x$ axis, so as to comprise the $O_{1}$ and $\mathrm{O}_{2}$ points and the axis $O^{\prime} y$ so as to raft across the $P$ and $Q$ points.

Let us first calculate:
$x_{2 m-1}=P A^{\prime}{ }_{2 m-1} \sin [90-(m \varphi-\beta)]=\frac{R_{2} \sin (\varphi) \operatorname{ctg}(m \varphi-\beta)}{c}$
$x_{2 m}=P A^{\prime}{ }_{2 m} \cos m \varphi=\frac{R_{2} \sin \varphi}{c} \operatorname{ctg}(m \varphi)$
Then we choose the pair point $(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})$ on which we want to evaluate the potential
$\left(x-R_{2} \cos \alpha\right)^{2}+y^{2}-R_{2}^{2} \geq 0 ;$
$\left(x-R_{1} \cos \beta\right)^{2}+y^{2}-R_{1}^{2} \geq 0$
In case of equality in (14) $\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})=\mathrm{V}$. And yields the general expression of the electrical potential:
$V(x, y)=\frac{V R_{2} \sin \varphi}{c}\left[\sum_{m=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\sin (m \varphi-\beta) \sqrt{\left(x-x_{2 m-1}\right)^{2}+y^{2}}}-\right]$
A formula which can be adapted for any particular case in the context. Using this formula (13) the capacitance of the spheres system can easily follow. [3].

## 5. NUMERICAL TESTING AND VALIDATION

We took as an example certain numerical values of the spheres and of the initial potential: $R_{I}=0.5 \mathrm{~m} ; R_{2}=1 \mathrm{~m}$; $n=25 ; V_{0}=100 \mathrm{~V} ; \varphi=\pi / n=7.2 \mathrm{deg}$. The proposed numerical model acts as expected, that is the potential decreases along the $O y$ axis starting from the initial value, as figure 3 shows:


Fig. 3 - Potential behaviour along the $O y$ axis

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

The main objective of this paper is to present and test an electrostatic analytical and numerical model for electrostatic potential evaluation. The model depends
on 3 parameters and can be adapted on certain numerical calculus needs. The proposed model can be valuable for non-destructive evaluation simulations, like [4], or in biomedical applications [5].

## References

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