



Theory of Electric Fields (1-B)

Answer the following questions:

Question No. 1

(25 Marks)

- (a) Discuss in detail the analogy between current density in conducting media filling a two-electrode arrangement and electric flux density in dielectric media filling the same arrangement. How is this analogy used to assess the capacitance and resistance of the arrangement? [10 marks]
- (b) Construct a curvilinear-square map of the potential field about two parallel circular cylinders in air, each of 3.5 cm radius, separated a center-to-center distance 21 cm. Calculate from the sketch and from the exact formula:
- Capacitance per meter.
  - Maximum electric field provided that the two cylinders are stressed by  $\pm 1$  Volt. [15 marks]

Question No. 2

(25 Marks)

- (a) Starting from the principle of charge conservation, derive the current continuity equation in its differential form. [6 marks]
- (b) Explain in detail how the conductivity of metallic conductors and intrinsic semiconductors change with the increase of temperature. [4 marks]
- (c) The cross section of an infinitely-long cylinder of 5 m radius at a potential of 100 V in free space. Its axis is 13 m away from a plane at zero potential. Find:
- the location of the equivalent line charge,  $a$ .
  - the value of the potential parameter,  $K_1$ .
  - the strength of the equivalent line charge,  $\rho_L$ .
  - the capacitance between cylinder and plane,  $C$ .
  - new values for the potential parameter,  $K_1$ , the cylinder radius,  $b$ , and the distance between the cylinder axis and the plane,  $h$ , to identify the cylinder representing the 50 V equipotential surface.
  - the ratio between the maximum and minimum values of conductor surface-charge density. [15 marks]

Question No. 3

(25 Marks)

- (a) With the aid of neat sketches, compare briefly between the polar and nonpolar dielectric molecules. [6 marks]

- (b) A point charge  $Q$  of 10 nC is located at point (2, 0, 3) between two semi-infinite conducting planes ( $z=0$  and  $x=0$ ) intersecting at right angles. Determine the potential at point (4, 5, 6) and the force acting on the charge  $Q$ . [10 marks]

- (c) A copper sphere of radius 4 cm carries a uniformly distributed total charge of 5  $\mu$ C in free space. Calculate:  
 (i) the total energy stored in the electrostatic field.  
 (ii) the capacitance of the isolated sphere. [9 marks]

**Question No. 4**

**(25 Marks)**

- (a) In a p-n junction extending in the  $z$ -direction, the region for  $z < 0$  is the p-type material and the region for  $z > 0$  is the n-type material, where  $z=0$  is at the p-n interface. The degree of doping is identical on each side of the junction. The volume charge density at the junction is expressed as:

$$\rho_v = 2\rho_{v0} \operatorname{sech}\left(\frac{z}{a}\right) \tanh\left(\frac{z}{a}\right)$$

where  $\rho_{v0}$  and  $a$  are constants related to the junction.

Solve Poisson's equation to determine the potential and electric field for the junction as a function of distance  $z$  from the center of the junction. Derive an expression of the junction capacitance.

[15 marks]

- (b) Solve Laplace's equation for the potential field in the homogeneous region between two concentric conducting spheres with radii 0.2 m and 0.3 m, if  $V = 200$  V at  $r = 0.2$  m and  $E_r = 6000$  V/m at  $r = 0.3$  m. [10 marks]

Best wishes

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$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} = 0 \quad (\text{cartesian})$$

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial V}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \phi^2} \right) + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} \quad (\text{cylindrical})$$

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \phi^2} \quad (\text{spherical})$$