

Wed.	3.1-.2 Laplace & Images	<i>Poster Session: Hedco 7pm~9pm</i>	
Thurs.			HW3
Fri.	<b>3.2</b> Images <b>T4</b> Relaxation Method		
Mon.	<b>3.4.1-.4.2</b> Multipole Expansion		

# Poisson's & Laplace's Equations

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \rho / \epsilon_0$$

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} V$$

**Poisson's**  $\nabla^2 V = -\rho / \epsilon_0$

**Laplace's**  $\nabla^2 V = 0$  In "free space" where no charges are

In Cartesian

$$\nabla^2 V = \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} V) = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

# Building up: 1-D

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \equiv 0 = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

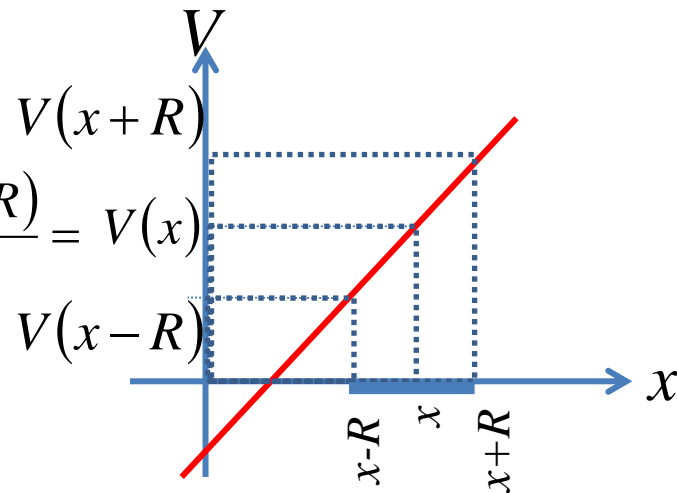
so,  $\frac{dV}{dx} = \text{constant} = m$

$$dV = m dx$$

$$\int_0^V dV = \int_{x_0}^x m dx$$

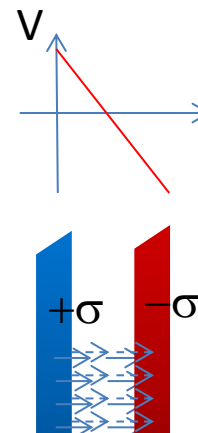
$$V = mx + x_0$$

$$\frac{V(x+R) + V(x-R)}{2} = V(x)$$



- No local min or max
- $V$  at mid point of range is average of  $V$  at edges

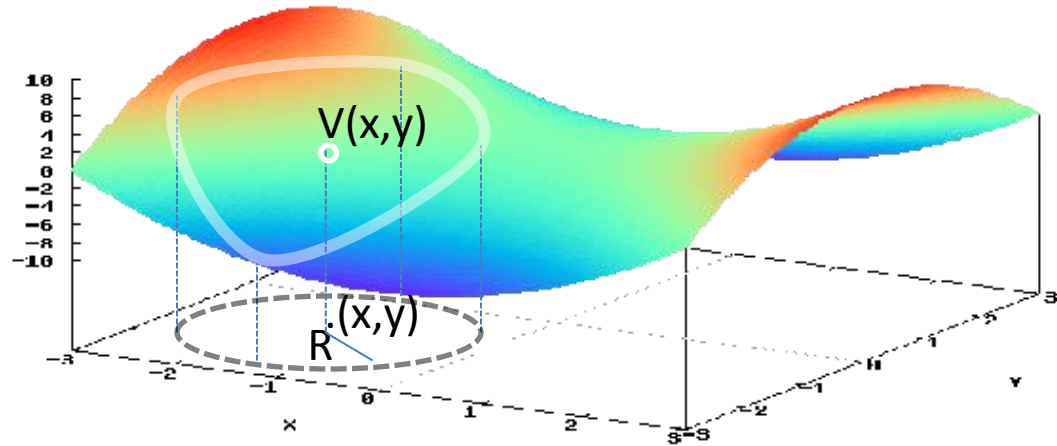
Example: voltage in parallel-plate capacitor



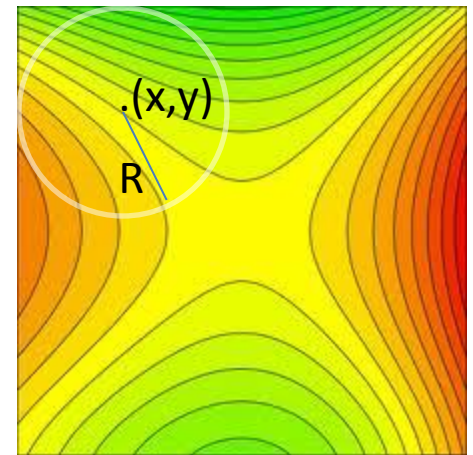
# Building up: 2-D

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} \neq \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} = -\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2}$$



$$V(x, y) = \frac{\oint V dl_{circle}}{2\pi R}$$



- No local min or max; either flat (possible tipped plane) or saddle points
- $V$  at mid point of range is average of  $V$  around edges (proof forthcoming)

# Building up: 3-D

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

Hard to visualize, but...

- No local min or max; either flat or saddle points

Consequence: can't make a stable 'trap'  
for a charge using only electrostatic fields  
– no minima for them to settle into.

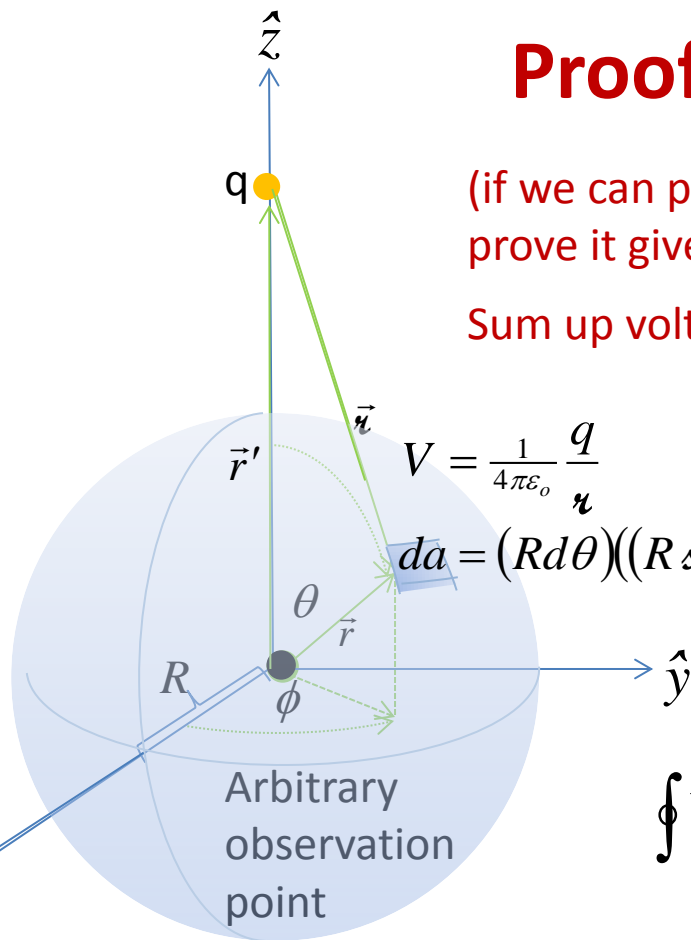
- $V$  at mid point of range is average of  $V$  around edges  
(proof, up next)

$$V(x, y, z) = \frac{\oint V da_{sphere}}{4\pi R^2}$$

**Proof that**  $V(x, y, z) = \frac{\oint V da_{sphere}}{4\pi R^2}$

(if we can prove it given one point source, we can prove it given any configuration of point sources)

Sum up voltages over sphere of radius R  $\oint V da$



$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r}$$

$$da = (R d\theta)(R \sin \theta) d\phi$$

$$r = \sqrt{(\vec{r} - \vec{r}')^2} = \sqrt{\vec{r} \cdot \vec{r} + \vec{r}' \cdot \vec{r}' - 2\vec{r} \cdot \vec{r}'}$$

$$r = \sqrt{z'^2 + R^2 - 2z'R \cos \theta}$$

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{\sqrt{z'^2 + R^2 - 2z'R \cos \theta}}$$

$$\oint V da = \int_0^{\theta=\pi} \int_0^{\phi=2\pi} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{\sqrt{z'^2 + R^2 - 2z'R \cos \theta}} R^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi$$

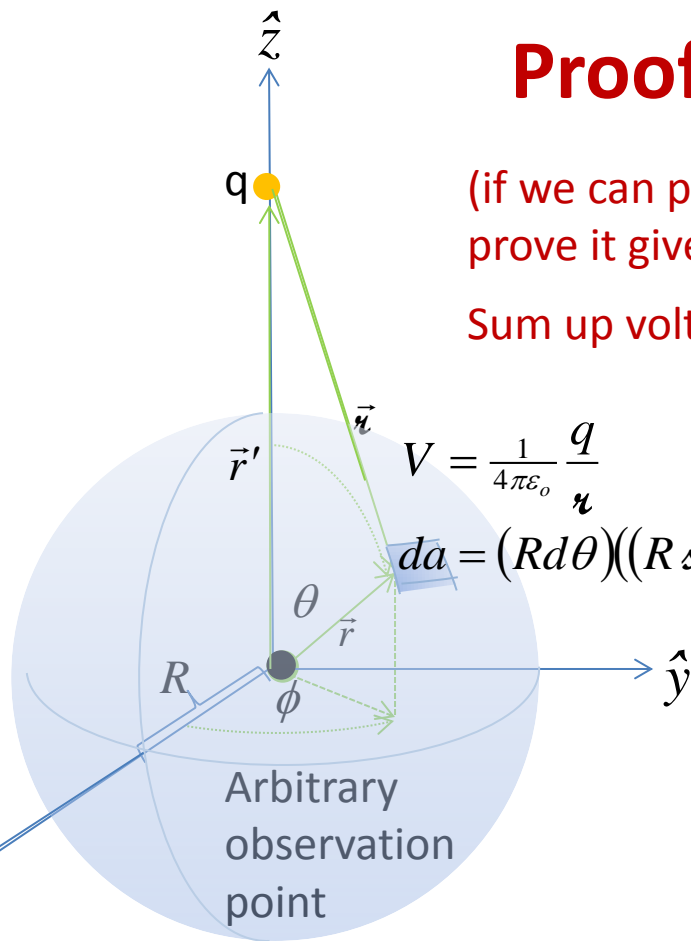
$$= \int_0^{\theta=\pi} \frac{2\pi}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{\sqrt{R^2 + z'^2 - 2z'R \cos \theta}} R^2 \sin \theta d\theta$$

$$= -\frac{qR^2}{2\epsilon_0} \int_{\cos \theta = -1}^{\cos \theta = 1} \frac{d(\cos \theta)}{\sqrt{R^2 + z'^2 - 2z'R \cos \theta}}$$

**Proof that**  $V(x, y, z) = \frac{\oint V da_{sphere}}{4\pi R^2}$

(if we can prove it given one point source, we can prove it given any configuration of point sources)

Sum up voltages over sphere of radius R  $\oint V da$



$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r}$$

$$\oint V da = -\frac{qR^2}{2\epsilon_0} \int_1^{-1} \frac{d(\cos\theta)}{\sqrt{R^2 + z'^2 - 2z'R\cos\theta}}$$

$$da = (Rd\theta)((R\sin\theta)d\phi)$$

$$= \frac{qR^2}{\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{2z'R} \sqrt{R^2 + z'^2 - 2z'R\cos\theta} \Big|_1^{\cos\theta=-1}$$

$$= \frac{qR^2}{\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{2z'R} \left( \sqrt{R^2 + z'^2 + 2z'R} - \sqrt{R^2 + z'^2 - 2z'R} \right)$$

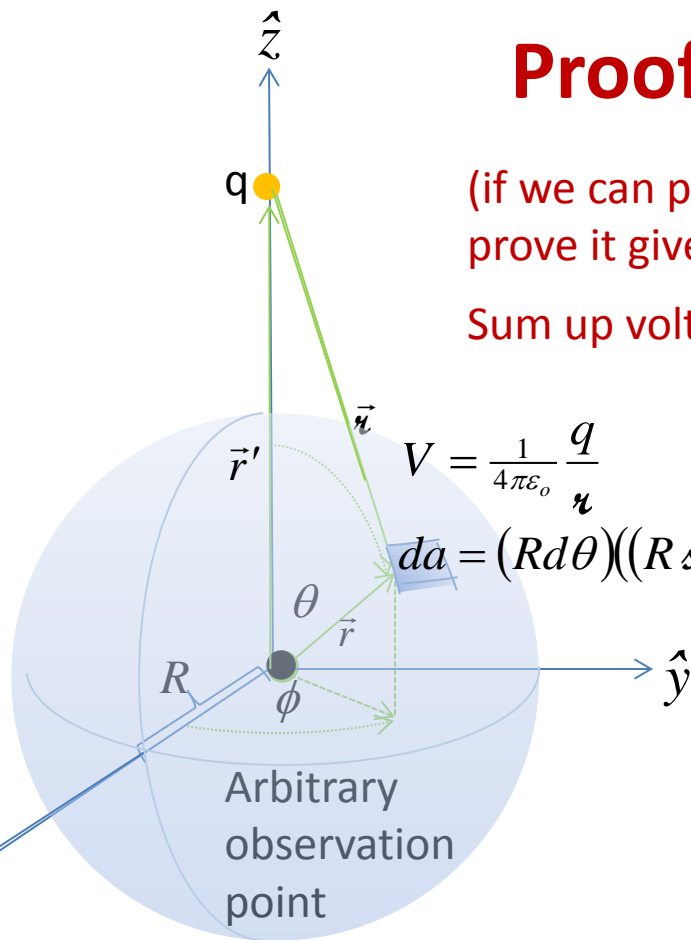
$$= \frac{qR^2}{\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{2z'R} \left( \sqrt{(R+z')^2} - \sqrt{(R-z')^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{qR^2}{\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{2z'R} (|R+z'| - |R-z'|)$$

**Proof that**  $V(x, y, z) = \frac{\oint V da_{sphere}}{4\pi R^2}$

(if we can prove it given one point source, we can prove it given any configuration of point sources)

Sum up voltages over sphere of radius R  $\oint V da$



$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r}$$

$$\oint V da = \frac{qR^2}{\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{2z'R} (|R + z'| - |R - z'|)$$

$$R < z' \Rightarrow |R - z'| = z' - R$$

$$= \frac{qR^2}{\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{2z'R} (R + z' - z' + R) = \frac{qR^2}{\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{z'}$$

$$V(x, y, z) = \frac{\oint V da_{sphere}}{4\pi R^2} = \frac{\left( \frac{qR^2}{\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{z'} \right)}{4\pi R^2} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{z'}$$

Exactly what we knew it was all a long!

Why bother then?

Means, you can determine the voltage in the interior from that on the perimeter (even if you don't know the source charge configuration).



# Example: General Solution if $V$ depends only on distance from $z$ -axis

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left( s \frac{\partial}{\partial s} V \right) + \frac{1}{s^2} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

If  $V$  depends only on  $s$ ,

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left( s \frac{\partial}{\partial s} V \right) + \frac{1}{s^2} 0 + 0 = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{s} \frac{d}{ds} \left( s \frac{d}{ds} V \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{ds} \left( s \frac{d}{ds} V \right) = 0$$

$$s \frac{d}{ds} V = c$$

$$\frac{d}{ds} V = \frac{c}{s}$$

$$dV = \frac{c}{s} ds$$

$$\int_{V(a)}^{V(b)} dV = \int_a^b \frac{c}{s} ds$$

$$V(b) - V(a) = c \ln \left( \frac{b}{a} \right)$$

**Exercise:** General Solution if  $V$  depends only on distance from origin

# Uniqueness Theorems (by hook or crook)

**Voltages:** (as with any differential equation) Regardless of *how* you've found it, if you've found one solution to Laplace / Poisson's equation that satisfies the boundary conditions, you've found the *only* solution.

*Proof:* (prove the opposite to be false)

If both  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are solutions, that is  $\nabla^2 V_1 = \nabla^2 V_2 = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$

Since it's a *linear* differential equation,  $V_3 = V_1 + V_2$  must also be a solution, that is,  $\nabla^2 V_3 = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$

$$\nabla^2 (V_1 + V_2) = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$$

$$\nabla^2 V_1 + \nabla^2 V_2 = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$$

$$\left(-\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho\right) + \left(-\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho\right) \neq -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$$

Mustn't be true after all –  
apparently there's only one  
solution.

# Uniqueness Theorems (by hook or crook)

**Fields:** Given a charge density in a cavity within a charged conductor, the field within the conductor is uniquely determined by the *inner* charge distribution and the conductor's charge amount.

*Proof:* (prove the opposite to be false)

Assume both  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are solutions. Their difference is  $\vec{E}_3 \equiv \vec{E}_2 - \vec{E}_1$

$$\vec{E}_3 \cdot \vec{\nabla} V_3 + V_3 (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}_3) = \vec{\nabla} \cdot (V_3 \vec{E}_3) \quad \text{Product rule}$$

$$-\vec{E}_3 = \vec{\nabla} V_3 \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{E}_3 \equiv \nabla \cdot \vec{E}_2 - \nabla \cdot \vec{E}_1$$

$$-E_3^2 + 0 = \vec{\nabla} \cdot (V_3 \vec{E}_3)$$

$$-\int_{vol} E_3^2 d\tau = \int_{vol} \vec{\nabla} \cdot (V_3 \vec{E}_3) d\tau$$

The area is the surface of the enclosing conductor, i.e., an equipotential, so  $V$  is constant over the integral.

Gauss's Law

The integrand is clearly never negative, so no way for it to sum to zero by some contributions canceling others; must *always* be 0

$$E_3^2 = 0 \quad \vec{E}_3 \equiv \vec{E}_2 - \vec{E}_1 = 0 \quad \vec{E}_2 = \vec{E}_1 \quad \text{Charge distribution uniquely determines field}$$

# Hooks and Crook: Interesting ways of finding $V$ and $E$

**Images:** replace a problem with a simpler equivalent one (based on corollary of the first uniqueness theorem)

**Relaxation:** a computational method based on the potential at a point being the average of the values at the same distance (more about Next Time).

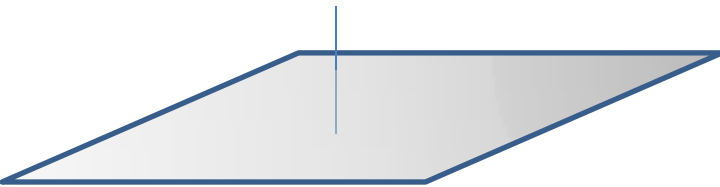
**Multipole Expansion:** a method for getting approximate answers for  $V$  far from a charge distribution (section 3.4)

# Charge Images Reflected in Conductors

**Images:** replace a problem with a simpler equivalent one (based on corollary of the first uniqueness theorem)

**You know the flat surface is an equipotential / the electric field goes perpendicularly into it.**

**Given your charge above, where could you put another charge to get these V and E properties in the plane?**



$$\frac{q_o}{\epsilon_o} + \frac{q_i}{\epsilon_i} = V_{surface} = const$$

**Voltage on conductor surface is constant**

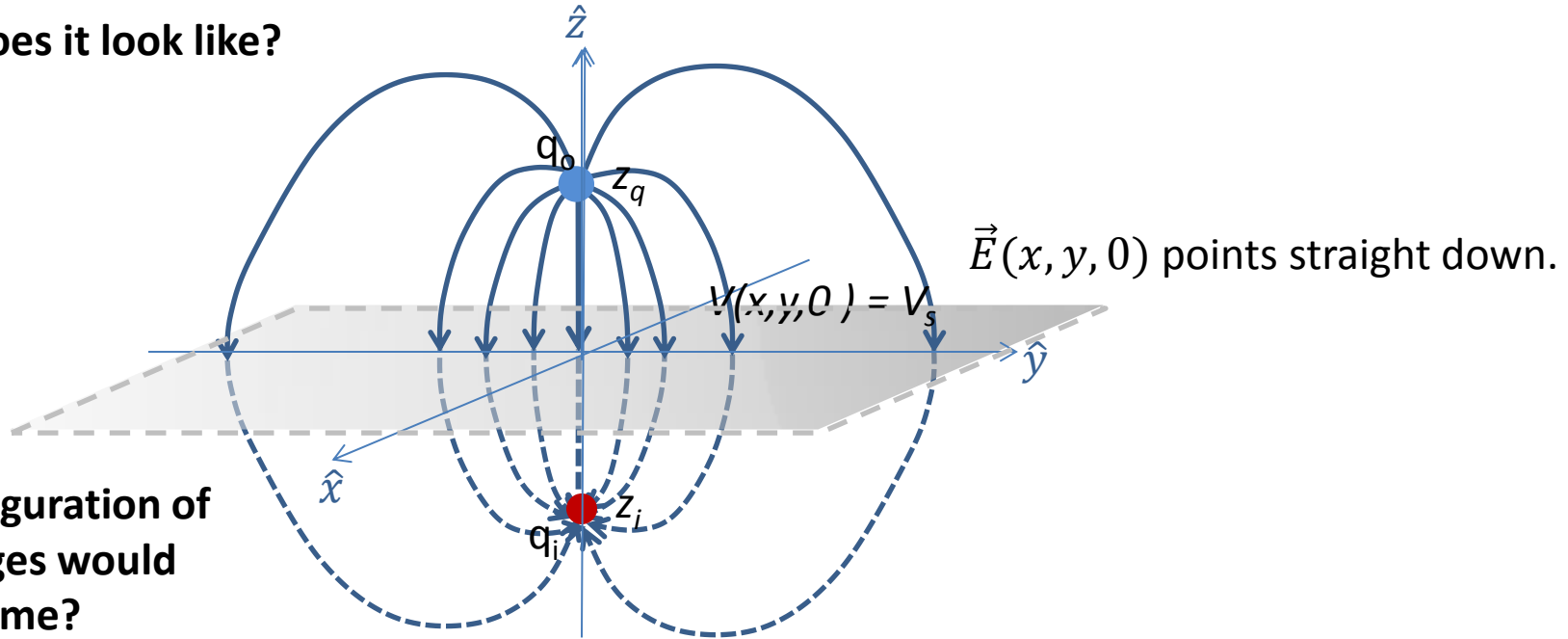
**Much more next time**

# Charge Images Reflected in Conductors

**Images:** replace a problem with a simpler equivalent one (based on corollary of the first uniqueness theorem – if your solution works on the boundary, it works everywhere)

**Example:** a charge  $q_o$  suspended distance  $z_o$  above a flat conducting surface that's held at voltage  $V_s$ . Find expression for  $V$  anywhere above the conducting surface.

What does it look like?

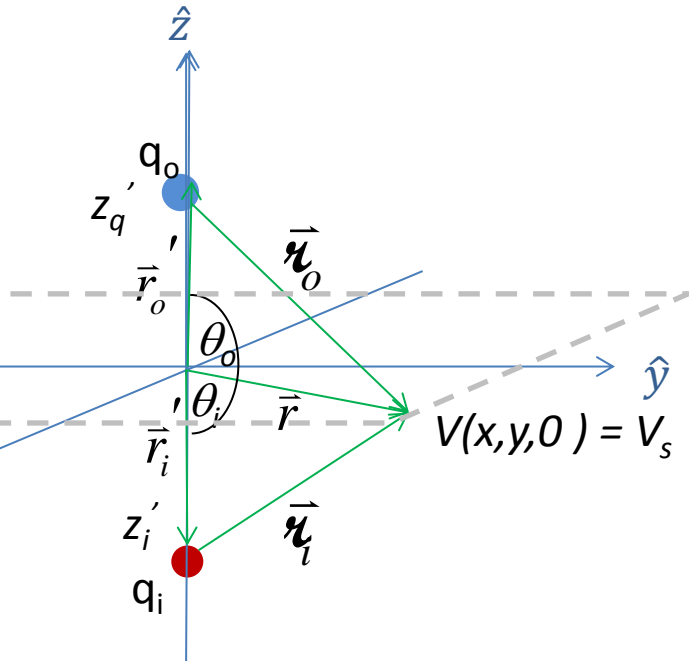


What configuration of point charges would look the same?

# Charge Images Reflected in Conductors

Example: a charge  $q_o$  suspended distance  $z_o$  above a flat conducting surface that's held at voltage  $V_s$ . Find expression for  $V$  anywhere above the conducting surface.

In gory detail (for the experience),  
determine image's charge and  
location



For observation location in plane of the conductor

$$\theta_o = \theta_i = 90^\circ$$

$$\cos \theta_o = \cos \theta_i = 0$$

$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2}} + \frac{q_i}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_i'^2}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V_s$$

Must be true for *all* location in plane, so can choose easy-to-evaluate locations to determine values of  $q_i$  and  $z_i$ .

$$r \rightarrow \infty \quad \frac{q_o}{\sqrt{\infty^2 + z_o'^2}} + \frac{q_i}{\sqrt{\infty^2 + z_i'^2}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V_s$$

$$0 + 0 = 4\pi\epsilon_o V_s$$

Apparently works at all only if  $V_s = 0$ .

$$r \rightarrow 0 \quad \frac{q_o}{\sqrt{z_o'^2}} + \frac{q_i}{\sqrt{z_i'^2}} = 0$$

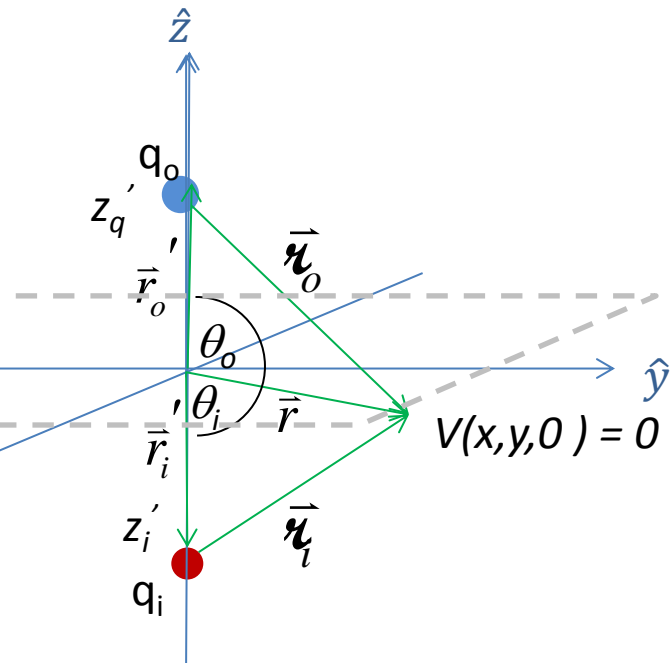
$$\frac{q_i}{|z_i'|} = -\frac{q_o}{|z_o'|}$$



# Charge Images Reflected in Conductors

Example: a charge  $q_o$  suspended distance  $z_o$  above a flat conducting surface that's held at voltage  $V_s$ . Find expression for  $V$  anywhere above the conducting surface.

In gory detail (for the experience), determine image's charge and location



Return to 
$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2}} + \frac{q_i}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_i'^2}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V_s$$

Plug in what we've learned:  $V_s = 0$   $q_i = -q_o \left| \frac{z_i'}{z_o'} \right|$

$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2}} + \frac{-q_o \left| \frac{z_i'}{z_o'} \right|}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_i'^2}} = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2}} = \left| \frac{z_i'}{z_o'} \right| \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_i'^2}}$$

$$\frac{1}{|z_o'| \sqrt{\left(\frac{r}{z_o'}\right)^2 + 1}} = \left| \frac{z_i'}{z_o'} \right| \frac{1}{|z_i'| \sqrt{\left(\frac{r}{z_i'}\right)^2 + 1}}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{r}{z_o'}\right)^2 + 1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{r}{z_i'}\right)^2 + 1}}$$

$$|z_o'| = |z_i'|$$

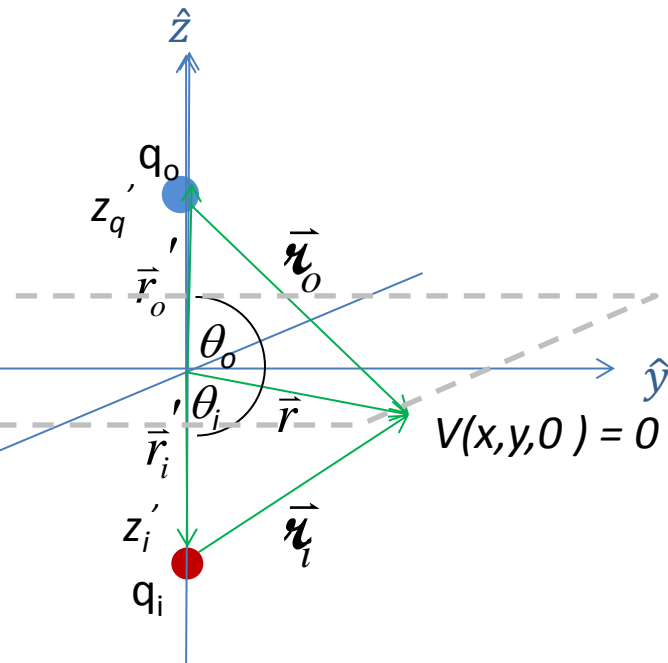
$$z_i' = -z_o'$$

$$q_i = -q_o \left| \frac{z_i'}{z_o'} \right|$$

# Charge Images Reflected in Conductors

Example: a charge  $q_o$  suspended distance  $z_o$  above a flat conducting surface that's held at voltage  $V_s$ . Find expression for  $V$  anywhere above the conducting surface.

**Digression: Force between  $q_o$  and Surface**



**Image charge distance and magnitude**

$$z'_i = -z'_o \quad q_i = -q_o$$

**Field everywhere above the plane is as if there were these two charges**

$$\vec{F}_{i \rightarrow o} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \frac{q_i q_o}{(z_o - z_i)^2} \hat{z}$$

$$\vec{F}_{i \rightarrow o} = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \frac{q_o^2}{(2z_o)^2} \hat{z}$$

So,

$$\vec{F}_{o \rightarrow surface} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \frac{q_o^2}{(2z_o)^2} \hat{z}$$

# Charge Images Reflected in Conductors

Example: a charge  $q_o$  suspended distance  $z_o$  above a flat conducting surface that's held at voltage  $V_s$ . Find expression for  $V$  anywhere above the conducting surface.

**Digression: Work of moving  $q_o$  into place (and arranging surface charge)**

Image charge distance and magnitude

$$z'_i = -z'_o \quad q_i = -q_o$$

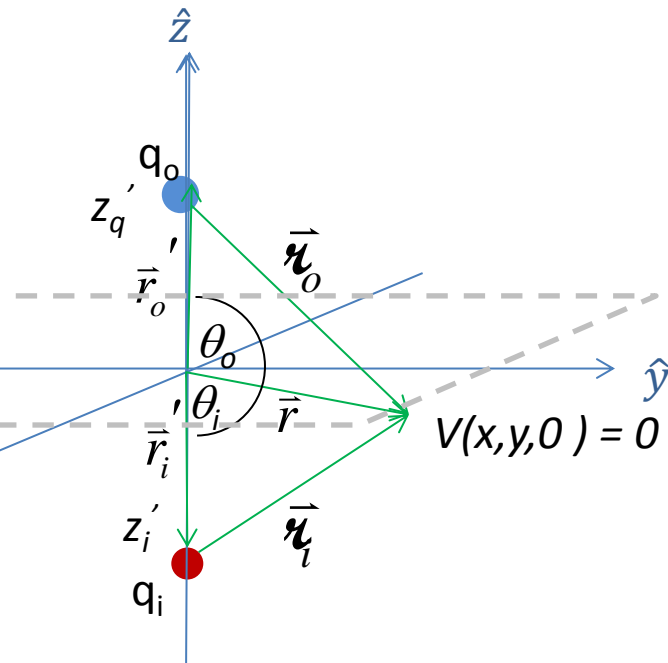
Field everywhere above the plane is as if there were these two charges

$$\vec{F}_{\text{surface} \rightarrow o} = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \frac{q_o^2}{(2z_o)^2} \hat{z}$$

$$W = \int_{\infty}^{z_o} \vec{F}_{\text{you} \rightarrow o} \cdot d\vec{l} = -\int_{\infty}^{z_o} \vec{F}_{\text{surface} \rightarrow o} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_{z_o}^{\infty} \vec{F}_{\text{surface} \rightarrow o} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

$$W = \int_{z_o}^{\infty} -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \frac{q_o^2}{(2z)^2} \hat{z} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_{z_o}^{\infty} -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \frac{q_o^2}{(2z)^2} dz$$

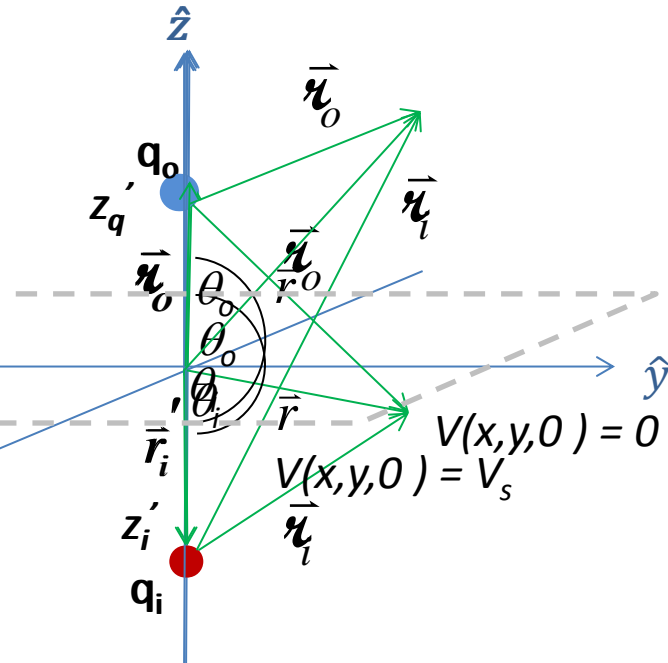
$$W = -\frac{q_o^2}{16\pi\epsilon_o} \int_{z_o}^{\infty} \frac{1}{z^2} dz = \frac{q_o^2}{16\pi\epsilon_o} \frac{1}{z} \Big|_{z_o}^{\infty} = -\frac{q_o^2}{16\pi\epsilon_o} \frac{1}{z_o}$$



# Charge Images Reflected in Conductors

Example: a charge  $q_o$  suspended distance  $z_o$  above a flat conducting surface that's held at voltage  $V_s$ . Find expression for  $V$  anywhere above the conducting surface.

Return to determine image's charge and location



Return to 
$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2}} + \frac{q_i}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_i'^2}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V_s$$

Plug in what we've learned:  $z_i' = -z_o'$   $q_i = -q_o$

$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2}} + \frac{-q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V_s$$

Works on the surface:

$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2}} + \frac{-q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2}} = 0$$

Must work everywhere above the plane:

$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2 - 2rz_o' \cos \theta_o}} + \frac{q_i}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_i'^2 - 2rz_i' \cos \theta_i}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V(\vec{r})$$

becomes:

$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2 - 2rz_o' \cos \theta_o}} + \frac{-q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2 - 2rz_o' \cos(\pi - \theta_o)}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V(\vec{r})$$

$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2 - 2rz_o' \cos \theta_o}} + \frac{-q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2 + 2rz_o' \cos(\theta_o)}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V(\vec{r})$$

# Charge Images Reflected in Conductors

Example: a charge  $q_o$  suspended distance  $z_o$  above a flat conducting surface that's held at voltage  $V_s$ . Find expression for  $V$  anywhere above the conducting surface.

Return to determine image's charge and location

Must work *everywhere* above the plane:

$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2 - 2rz_o' \cos \theta_o}} + \frac{-q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2 + 2rz_o' \cos(\theta_o)}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V(\vec{r})$$

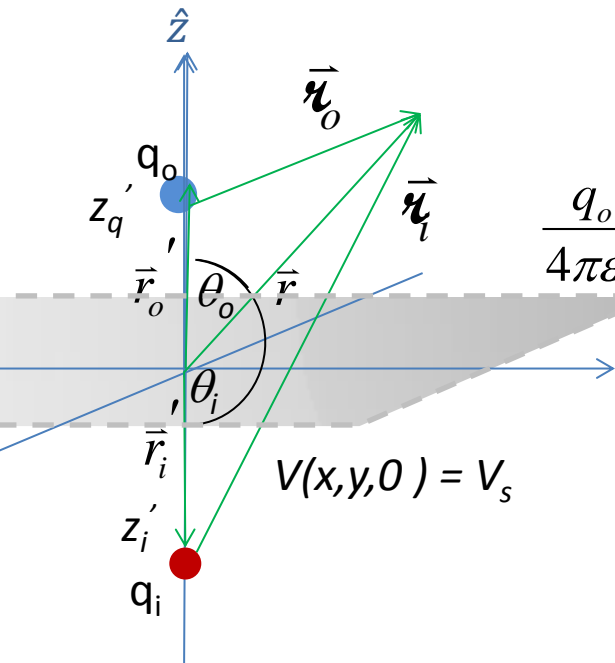
If  $V(x, y, 0) = V_s \neq 0$  simply add the constant offset.

$$\frac{q_o}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2 - 2rz_o' \cos \theta_o}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2 + 2rz_o' \cos(\theta_o)}} \right) + V_s = V(\vec{r})$$

or

$$\frac{q_o}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (z - z_o')^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (z + z_o')^2}} \right) + V_s = V(\vec{r})$$

Even for the *real* system



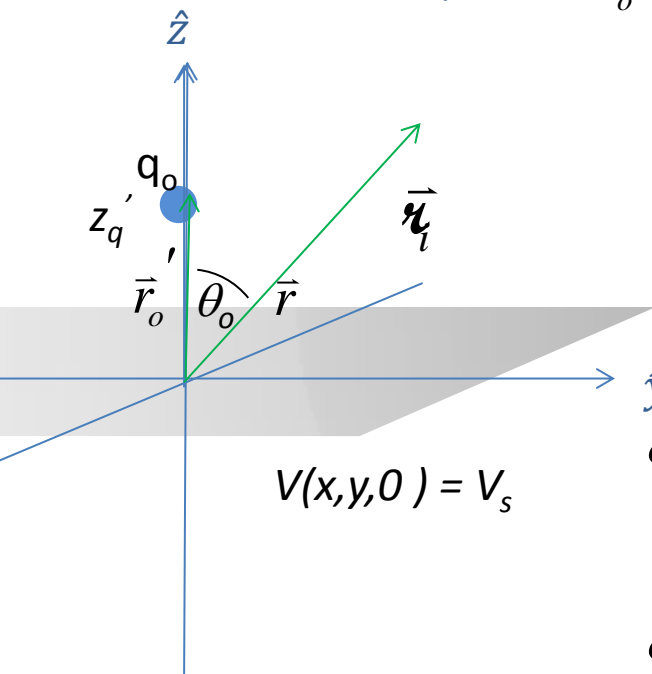
# Surface Charge Density

$$\frac{q_o}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (z - z'_o)^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (z + z'_o)^2}} \right) + V_s = V(\vec{r})$$

From a Gaussian pill-box:  $E_n = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_o}$   $n$  denotes component perpendicular to surface

In terms of V:  $-\frac{\partial V}{\partial n} = E_n = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_o}$  So,  $\sigma = -\epsilon_o \frac{\partial V}{\partial n} \Big|_{\text{surface}}$

In this case,  $\sigma = -\epsilon_o \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \Big|_{z=0} = -\frac{q_o}{4\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (z - z'_o)^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (z + z'_o)^2}} \right) \Big|_{z=0}$



$$\sigma = -\frac{q_o}{4\pi} \left( \frac{-\frac{1}{2}}{(x^2 + y^2 + (z - z'_o)^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \frac{2(z - z'_o)}{1} - \frac{-\frac{1}{2}}{(x^2 + y^2 + (z + z'_o)^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \frac{2(z + z'_o)}{1} \right) \Big|_{z=0}$$

$$\sigma = -\frac{q_o}{4\pi} \left( \frac{(z'_o)}{(x^2 + y^2 + (z'_o)^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} + \frac{(z'_o)}{(x^2 + y^2 + (z'_o)^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right)$$

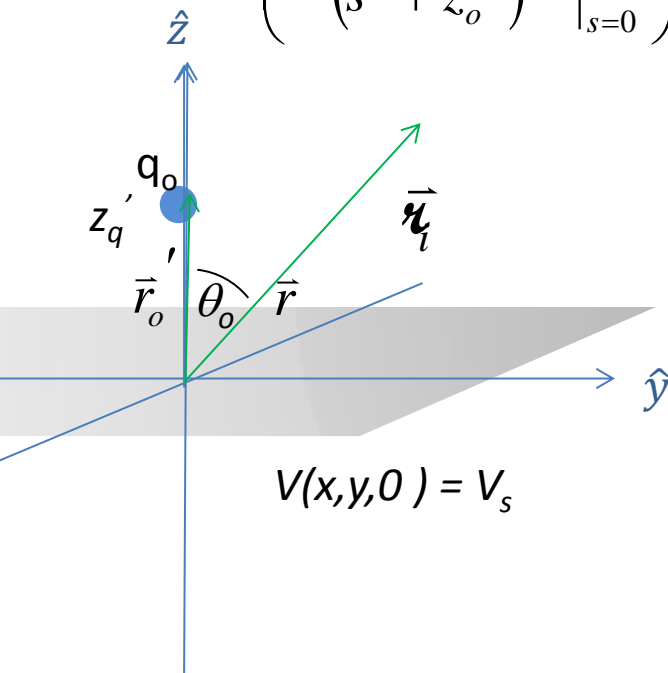
$$\sigma = -\frac{q_o}{2\pi} \frac{z'_o}{(x^2 + y^2 + z'^2_o)^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$

# Surface Charge

$$q_{surf} = \int \sigma da$$

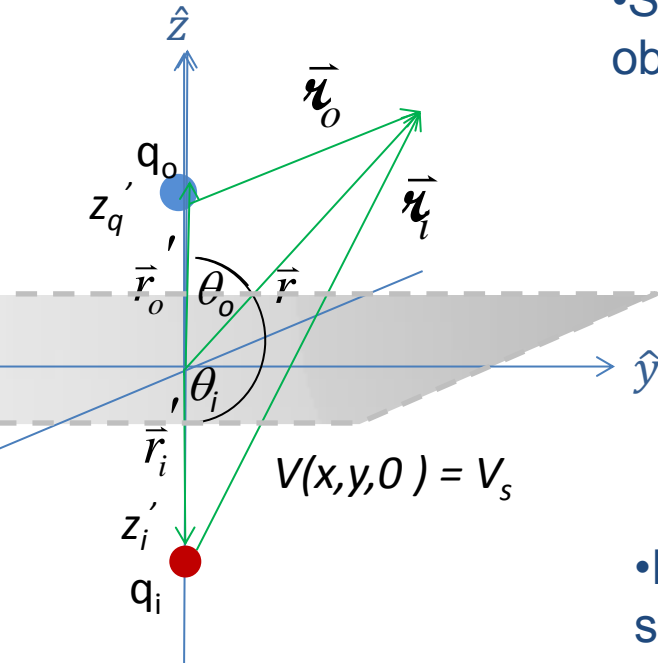
$$q_{surf} = \int -\frac{q_o}{4\pi} \frac{2z'_o}{(x^2 + y^2 + z'_o{}^2)^{3/2}} dx dy = -\frac{q_o}{4\pi} \int \frac{2z'_o}{(s^2 + z'_o{}^2)^{3/2}} s d\phi ds = -q_o \int \frac{z'_o}{(s^2 + z'_o{}^2)^{3/2}} \frac{1}{2} ds^2$$

$$q_{surf} = -q_o \left( -\frac{z'_o}{(s^2 + z'_o{}^2)^{1/2}} \Big|_{s=0}^{s=\infty} \right) = q_o \left( 0 - \frac{z'_o}{(z'_o{}^2)^{1/2}} \right) = -q_o$$



# General Approach

- Draw picture
- Appeal to symmetry (and intuition about mirrors)
- Apply the condition  $\sum \frac{q_o}{r_o} + \sum \frac{q_i}{r_i} = \text{const}$  on conductor
- See what you've got to do to remove dependence on the observation location on conductor.



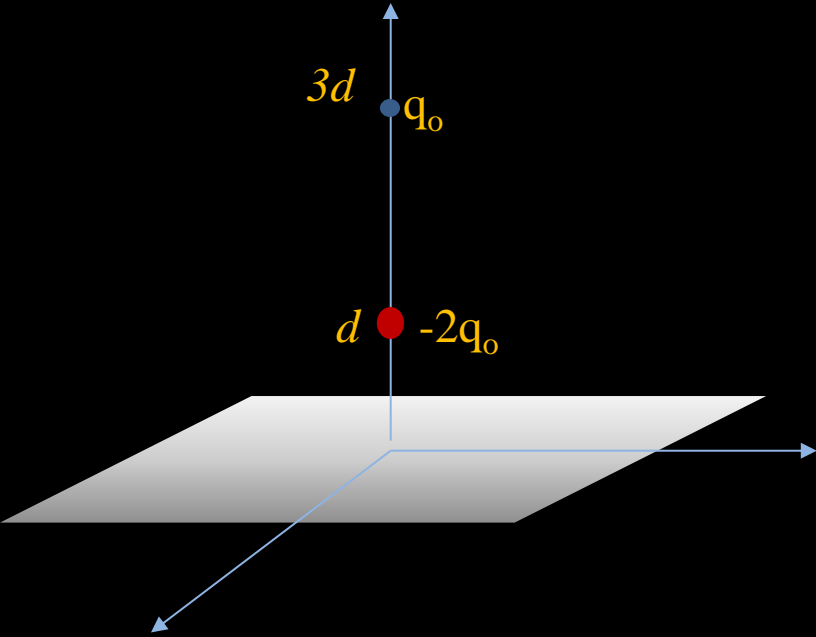
1) Mathematically, you've got 3 free parameters: the constant, the image charge's value, and the image charge's location.

2) Since the relation should be true for *all* observation locations on the conducting surface, choose easy ones to help you determine the three parameter's values.

- If you've got a solution that works for the boundary and satisfies Poisson's equation, then you've got *the* solution.



# Exercise: where and what are the image charges?

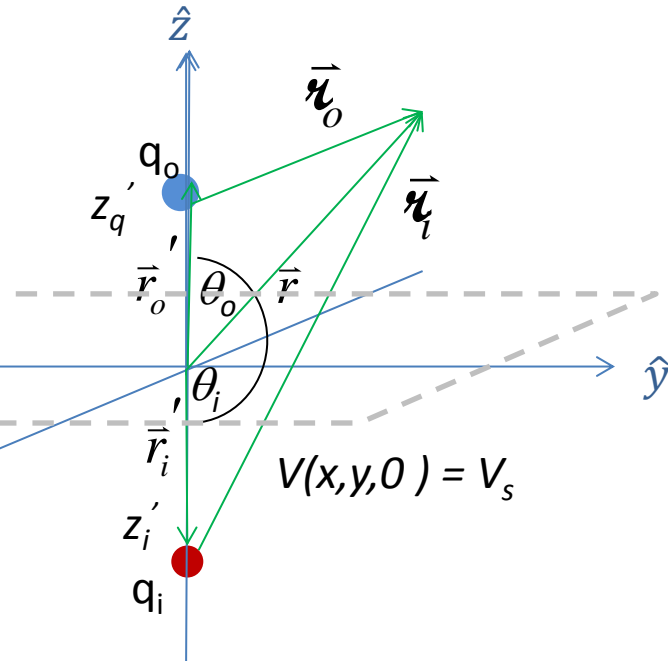


Wed.	3.1-.2 Laplace & Images	<i>Poster Session: Hedco 7pm~9pm</i>	
Thurs.			HW3
Fri.	<b>3.2</b> Images <b>T4</b> Relaxation Method		
Mon.	<b>3.4.1-.4.2</b> Multipole Expansion		

# Charge Images Reflected in Conductors

Example: a charge  $q_o$  suspended distance  $z_o$  above a flat conducting surface that's held at voltage  $V_s$ . Find expression for  $V$  anywhere above the conducting surface.

In gory detail (for the experience), determine image's charge and location



For observation location anywhere (above the conductor)

$$\frac{q_o}{r_o} + \frac{q_i}{r_i} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V(\vec{r})$$

$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{(\vec{r} - \vec{r}'_o)^2}} + \frac{q_i}{\sqrt{(\vec{r} - \vec{r}'_i)^2}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V(\vec{r})$$

$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + r_o'^2 - 2rr_o' \cos \theta_o}} + \frac{q_i}{\sqrt{r^2 + r_i'^2 - 2rr_i' \cos \theta_i}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V(\vec{r})$$

$$\frac{q_o}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_o'^2 - 2rz_o' \cos \theta_o}} + \frac{q_i}{\sqrt{r^2 + z_i'^2 - 2rz_i' \cos \theta_i}} = 4\pi\epsilon_o V(\vec{r})$$