

**Homework #5 (10 points) - Show all work on the following problems:**

**Problem 1 (2 points):** Find the average potential over a spherical surface of radius  $R$  due to a point charge located inside the sphere (not at the center).

**Problem 2 (2 points):** In 1-d, the functional form of the general solution to Laplace's equation is  $V(x) = mx + b$ .

**2a (1 point):** Find the functional form of the general solution to Laplace's equation in 3-d spherical coordinates for the case where  $V$  only depends on the radial coordinate  $r$ .

**2b (1 point):** Find the functional form of the general solution to Laplace's equation in 3-d cylindrical coordinates for the case where  $V$  only depends on the radial coordinate  $s$ .

**Problem 3 (2 points):** Consider an infinite grounded conducting plane with two charges above the plane:  $-2q$  at height  $d$ , and  $+q$  at height  $3d$ . Use image charges to determine the force on the upper charge ( $+q$ ).

**Problem 4 (4 points):** Consider a point charge  $q$  at a distance  $a$  from the center of a grounded conducting sphere of radius  $R$  (with  $a > R$ ), as in Example 3.2 in Griffiths.

**4a (1 point):** Use the law of cosines to show that you can write

$$V(r, \theta) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q}{\sqrt{r^2 + a^2 - 2racos\theta}} - \frac{q}{\sqrt{R^2 + \left(\frac{ra}{R}\right)^2 - 2racos\theta}} \right]$$

**4b (1 point):** Use the boundary conditions on the electric field (and thus the normal derivative of  $V$ ) at the surface of the sphere to find the induced surface charge density  $\sigma$  on the sphere, as a function of  $\theta$ .

**4c (1 point):** Integrate the charge density over the surface of the sphere to find the total induced charge.

**4d (1 point):** Calculate the energy of this configuration by determining the energy required to bring the charge  $q$  from infinity.