

Lecture 23 outline:

- Separation of Variables in Spherical Coords
 - Legendre Polynomials
 - Applying boundary conditions

What is the general solution to Laplace in spherical coordinates?

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

$$V(r, \theta) = \left(Ar^L + \frac{B}{r^{L+1}} \right) \sum_{L=0}^{L=\infty} P_L(\cos \theta)$$

Legendre Polynomials

$$P_0(x)=1$$

$$P_1(x)=x$$

$$P_2(x)=\frac{(3x^2-1)}{2}$$

$$P_3(x)=\frac{(5x^3-3x)}{2}$$

$$P_4(x)=\frac{(35x^4-30x^2+3)}{8}$$

$$P_0(\cos \theta)=1$$

$$P_1(\cos \theta)=\cos \theta$$

$$P_2(\cos \theta)=\frac{(3\cos^2 \theta-1)}{2}$$

$$P_3(\cos \theta)=\frac{(5\cos^3 \theta-3\cos \theta)}{2}$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 P_L(x) P_{L'}(x) dx = \frac{2}{2L+1} \delta_{LL'}$$

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$$\cos(3\theta) = 4\cos^3(\theta) - 3\cos\theta$$

On the surface of a sphere of radius R ,
the potential is $V(\theta) = 70 \cos^4 \theta + 10 \cos \theta - 14$
What is the potential inside and outside the sphere? [skipped]