## METÓDY RIEŠENIA FYZIKÁLNYCH ÚLOH 3 leto21 – Príklady 1

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Príklad 1

(a) The electric potential V satisfies the Laplace equation,  $\nabla^2 V = 0$ . Given the boundary conditions

$$V(x, y = 0) = 0 = V(x, y = a)$$
, and  $V(x = 0, y) = V_0$ ,

the solution is of the form

$$V(x,y) = V_0 \sin\left(\frac{\pi y}{a}\right) e^{ikx}.$$

Inserting this solution into the Laplace equation, we have

$$-\left(\frac{\pi}{a}\right)^2 - k^2 = 0,$$

or  $k = \pm i\pi/a$ . Thus, the solution (for  $x \ge 0$ ) is

$$V(x, y) = V_0 \sin\left(\frac{\pi y}{a}\right) e^{-\pi x/a}.$$

(We can ignore  $x \ge L/2$  since  $e^{-piL/2a} \ll 1$  for  $L/a \gg 1$ .)

(b) To find the charge density  $\sigma$  at the surface of the conductors, we need the electric field  $\vec{E}$  at the surface. The latter can be obtained from the potential V(x,y) as

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}V = \frac{\pi V_0}{a} \left[ \sin\left(\frac{\pi y}{a}\right) \hat{x} - \cos\left(\frac{\pi y}{a}\right) \hat{y} \right] e^{-\pi x/a}.$$

At the surfaces of the conducting plates at y = 0 and y = a, the induced charge densities are the same, with

$$\sigma(x, y = 0) = \sigma(x, y = a) = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} \cdot \hat{n} = -\frac{\epsilon_0 \pi V_0}{a} e^{-\pi x/a}, \qquad x \ge 0$$

for both plates.

(c) Force exerted on a conductor is given by

$$\vec{F} = \int \sigma \vec{E}_{\text{ext}} dA$$
,

integrated over the surface area of the conductor, with  $E_{\text{ext}} = E_{\text{self}} = E/2$ .

On the upper plate (and  $x \ge 0$ ),

$$\begin{split} \vec{F} &= L \int_0^{L/2 \to \infty} dx \, \sigma(x, y = a) \cdot \frac{1}{2} \vec{E}(x, y = a) \\ &= -\frac{\epsilon_0 \pi^2 V_0^2 L}{2a^2} \left[ \int_0^{\infty} e^{-2\pi x/a} dx \right] \hat{y} \\ &= -\frac{\pi}{4} \epsilon_0 V_0^2 L \, \hat{y} \end{split}$$

Including also the part from  $x \leq 0$ , the total force exerted on the top plate is

$$\vec{F}_{\text{upper}} = -\frac{\pi}{2} \epsilon_0 V_0^2 L \, \hat{y},$$

i.e., the top plate is attracted towards the lower plate.

By symmetry, the lower plate is attracted towards the upper plate with force of the same magnitude, i.e.,

$$\vec{F}_{lower} = +\frac{\pi}{2}\epsilon_0 V_0^2 L \,\hat{y}.$$

Príklad 3

The potential due to a uniformal spherical volume with net charge e and radius  $r_0$  is

$$U = -\frac{er^2}{2r_0^3} + \frac{3e}{2r_0}, \qquad (r < r_0)$$
$$= \frac{e}{r}, \qquad (r > r_0)$$

where the constant of integration in the first expression has been chosen to make U continuous at  $r_0$ .

The perturbation V in the Hydrogen atom potential is

$$\Delta V = \frac{e^2 r^2}{2r_0^3} - \frac{3e^2}{2r_0} + \frac{e^2}{r}, \qquad (r < r_0)$$
  
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The energy shift is

$$\Delta E = \langle \Delta V \rangle$$

to first order in perturbation theory. For the 1s state,

$$\Delta E = \int |\psi|^2 \Delta V = \int_0^{r_0} 4\pi r^2 dr |\psi|^2 \Delta V$$

Since  $r_0 \ll a_0$ , the typical scale of variation of the wavefunction,  $\psi \approx \psi(0)$ , and

$$\Delta E \; \approx \; |\psi(0)|^2 \int_0^{r_0} 4\pi r^2 \mathrm{d}r \; \left[ \frac{e^2 r^2}{2 r_0^3} - \frac{3 e^2}{2 r_0} + \frac{e^2}{r} \right] = \frac{2}{5} e^2 \pi r_0^2 \, |\psi(0)|^2$$

For the 1s state,

$$\psi = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\pi a_0^3}} e^{-r/a_0}$$

so

$$\Delta E \approx \frac{2}{5} \frac{e^2 r_0^2}{a_0^3} = \frac{2}{5} \frac{e^2}{a_0} \frac{r_0^2}{a_0^2}$$

The ground state energy of H is  $-e^2/(2a_0) = -13.6$  eV, and  $a_0 = 0.529 \times 10^{-10}$  m, so

$$\Delta E = \frac{2}{5} (2 \times 13.6 \,\mathrm{eV}) \frac{r_0^2}{a_0^2} = 3.9 \times 10^{-9} \,\mathrm{eV}$$

The wavefunction of the 2p state vanishes at the orgin. This suppresses  $\Delta E$  by an additional factor of  $r^2/a_0^2 \sim 10^{-10}$ 

## Príklad 4

SOLUTION: For a non-interacting ideal gas,

$$E = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} N \ln \zeta \,,$$

where  $\zeta$  is the single-molecule partition function

$$\zeta = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) \exp(-\beta n\varepsilon).$$

This partition function can be evaluated as follows  $(x \equiv \beta \varepsilon)$ :

$$\zeta = -e^x \frac{d}{dx} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \exp\left(-(n+1)x\right) = -e^x \frac{d}{dx} \frac{e^{-x}}{1 - e^{-x}} = [1 - \exp(-\beta \varepsilon)]^{-2}.$$

Hence, the sought contribution to the energy is

$$E = \frac{2N\varepsilon}{\exp(\varepsilon/kT) - 1}.$$

Alternatively, one can reproduce this result as follows. One can imagine that every molecule has two independent internal degrees of freedom of harmonic oscilator type, with energy spacing  $\varepsilon$  each. It is easy to see that this model gives the same spectrum and degeneracies if the energy is counted from the ground state. With this convention, the average energy of a single harmonic oscillator is  $\varepsilon n_B(\varepsilon)$ , where  $n_B(\varepsilon)$  is the Bose-Einstein occupation number. Therefore, for the entire gas we get  $E = 2N\varepsilon n_B(\varepsilon)$ , in agreement with the first derivation.

