

Electric fields, weighting fields, signals and charge diffusion in detectors including resistive materials

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Electric fields, weighting fields, signals and charge diffusion in detectors including resistive materials

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Abstract

In this report we discuss static and time dependent electric fields in detector geometries with an arbitrary number of parallel layers of a given permittivity and weak conductivity. We derive the Green's functions i.e. the field of a point charge, as well as the weighting fields for readout pads and readout strips in these geometries. The effect of 'bulk' resistivity on electric fields and signals is investigated. The spreading of charge on thin resistive layers is also discussed in detail, and the conditions for allowing the effect to be described by the diffusion equation is discussed. We apply the results to derive fields and induced signals in Resistive Plate Chambers, Micromega detectors including resistive layers for charge spreading and discharge protection as well as detectors using resistive charge division readout like the MicroCAT detector. We also discuss in detail how resistive layers affect signal shapes and increase crosstalk between readout electrodes.

Keywords: RPC, Micromega, MicroCat, electric fields, weighting fields, signals, charge diffusion

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Quasistatic Approximation

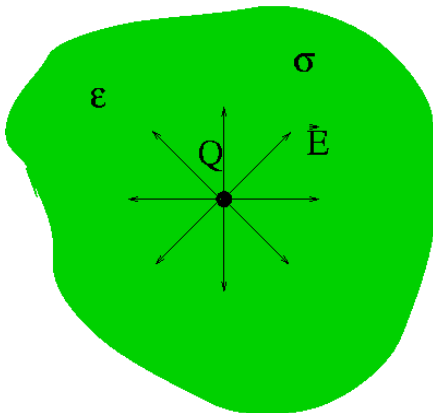
equations: Knowing the solution of the Poisson equation for a charge distribution $\rho(\vec{x})$ embedded in a geometry of a given permittivity $\varepsilon(\vec{x})$, we find the time dependent solution (in the Laplace domain with parameter s) for an 'externally impressed' charge density $\rho_e(\vec{x}, s)$ and a geometry that in addition includes a finite (weak) conductivity $\sigma(\vec{x})$ by replacing $\varepsilon(\vec{x})$ with $\varepsilon(\vec{x}) + \sigma(\vec{x})/s$ and $\rho(\vec{x})$ with $\rho_e(\vec{x}, s)$. For detector applications the volume resistivity $\rho(\vec{x}) = 1/\sigma(\vec{x})$ is traditionally used.

As an example we look at the potential of a point charge Q in a medium of constant permittivity ε , which is given by

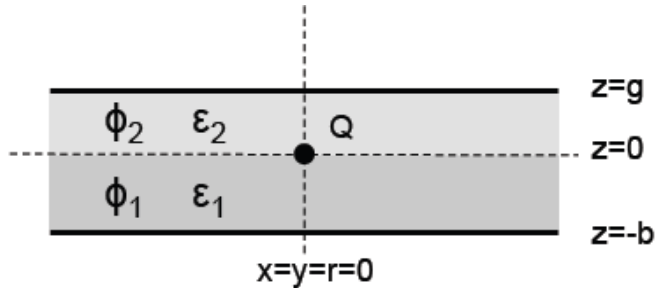
$$\phi(r) = \frac{Q}{4\varepsilon\pi r} \quad (1)$$

In case the medium has a conductivity σ and we place the 'external' charge Q at $t = 0$, i.e. $Q(t) = Q\Theta(t)$ and therefore $Q(s) = Q_0/s$, we replace ε by $\varepsilon + \sigma/s$ and Q by Q/s and perform the inverse Laplace transform, which gives

$$\phi(r, s) = \frac{Q}{4\pi(s\varepsilon + \sigma)r} \quad \rightarrow \quad \phi(r, t) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\varepsilon r} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} \quad \tau = \varepsilon/\sigma = \rho\varepsilon \quad (2)$$



Point charge in a double layer



$$\phi_1(r, z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty J_0(kr) [A_1(k)e^{kz} + B_1(k)e^{-kz}] dk \quad -b < z < 0$$

$$\phi_2(r, z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty J_0(kr) [A_2(k)e^{kz} + B_2(k)e^{-kz}] dk \quad 0 < z < g$$

$z = -b$ and $z = g$ define the conditions $\phi_1(-b, r) = 0$ and $\phi_2(g, r) = 0$, which gives

$$A_1 e^{-kb} + B_1 e^{kb} = 0$$

$$A_2 e^{kg} + B_2 e^{-kg} = 0$$

$\phi_1(r, 0) = \phi_2(r, 0)$ which gives

$$A_1 + B_1 = A_2 + B_2$$

and the ϵE component perpendicular to the sheet 'jumps' by $q(r)$

$$\epsilon_1 \frac{\partial \phi_1(r, z)}{\partial z} \Big|_{z=0} - \epsilon_2 \frac{\partial \phi_2(r, z)}{\partial z} \Big|_{z=0} = q(r) \quad (7)$$

The surface charge density corresponding to the point charge Q at $r = 0$ is $q(r) = Q\delta(r)/2\pi r$, so this last equation reads as

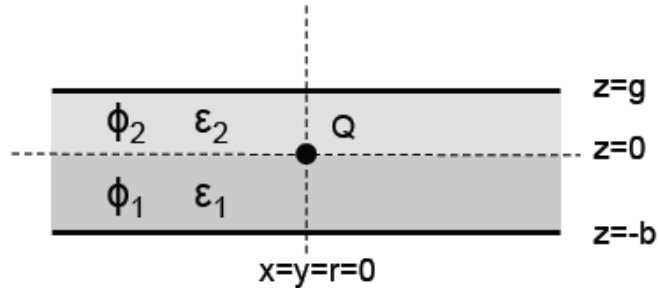
$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty J_0(kr) k [\epsilon_1(A_1 - B_1) - \epsilon_2(A_2 - B_2)] dk = \frac{Q}{2\pi r} \delta(r)$$

Multiplying both sides of the equation with $rJ_0(k'r)$, integrating them over r from 0 to ∞ and using the relation $\int_0^\infty rJ_0(kr)J_0(k'r)dr = \delta(k - k')/k$ [18] we have

$$\epsilon_1(A_1 - B_1) - \epsilon_2(A_2 - B_2) = Q \quad (8)$$

→ 4 equations that define A_1, B_1, A_2, B_2

Point charge in a double layer



$$D(k) = 4[\varepsilon_1 \cosh(bk) \sinh(gk) + \varepsilon_2 \sinh(bk) \cosh(gk)] \quad (10)$$

The solutions then read as

$$\phi_1(r, z) = \frac{Q}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty J_0(kr) \frac{4 \sinh(gk) \sinh(k(b+z))}{D(k)} dk \quad -b < z < 0 \quad (11)$$

$$\phi_2(r, z) = \frac{Q}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty J_0(kr) \frac{4 \sinh(bk) \sinh(k(g-z))}{D(k)} dk \quad 0 < z < g \quad (12)$$

Expressing the solution as a point charge with a correction term:

$$\frac{e^{kz}}{\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2} + \frac{4 \sinh(gk) \sinh(k(b+z))}{D(k)} - \frac{e^{kz}}{\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2} = \frac{e^{kz}}{\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2} + f_1(k, z)$$

and arrive with Eq. [13](#) at

$$\phi_1(r, z) = \frac{Q}{2\pi(\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2)} \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + z^2}} + \frac{Q}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty J_0(kr) f_1(k, z) dk$$

Point charge potential and weighting field of a pixel or pad in a plane condenser

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ABSTRACT

We derive expressions for the potential of a point charge as well as the weighting potential and weighting field of a rectangular pad for a plane condenser, which are well suited for numerical evaluation. We relate the expressions to solutions employing the method of image charges, which allows discussion of convergence properties and estimation of errors, providing also an illuminating example of a problem with an infinite number of image charges.

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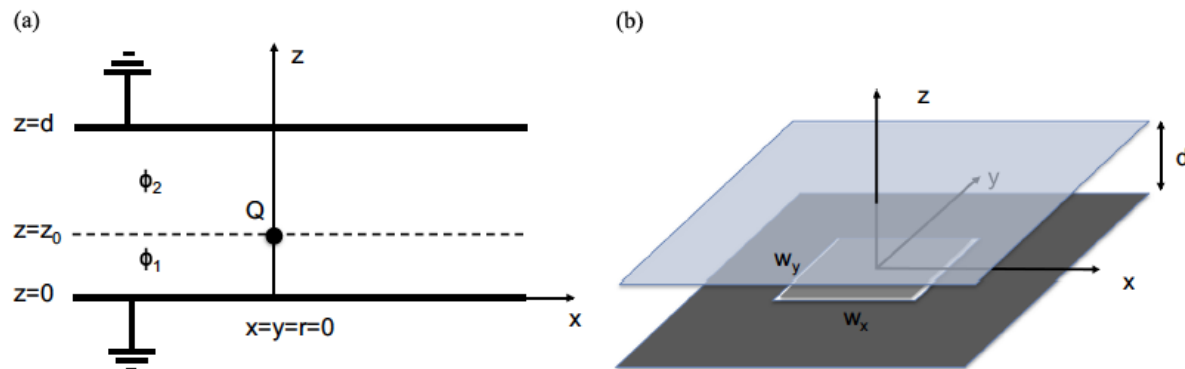


Fig. 1. (a) Point charge Q between two grounded metal planes. (b) Readout pad or pixel of dimension w_x and w_y centred at the origin.

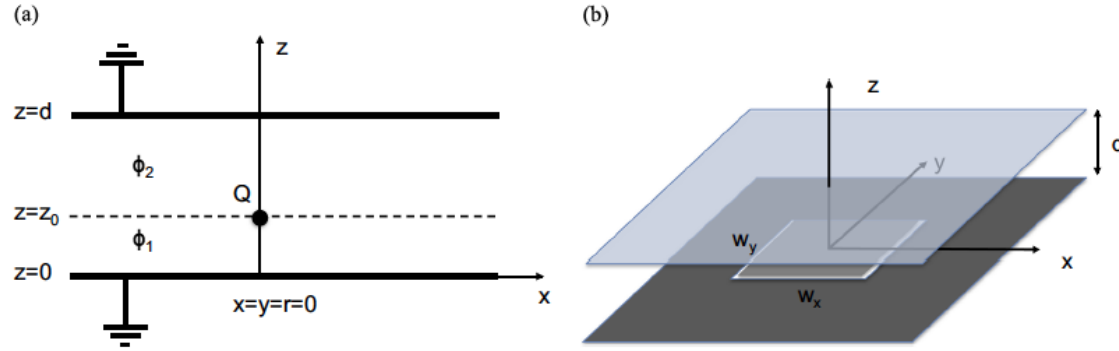


Fig. 1. (a) Point charge Q between two grounded metal planes. (b) Readout pad or pixel of dimension w_x and w_y centred at the origin.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{4\pi\epsilon_0}{Q} \phi(r, z) = & \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + (z - z_0)^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + (z + z_0)^2}} \\ & + \sum_{n=1}^N \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + (z + 2nd - z_0)^2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + (z - 2nd - z_0)^2}} \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + (z - 2nd + z_0)^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + (z + 2nd + z_0)^2}} \right] \\ & - \int_0^\infty 2J_0(kr) e^{-k(2N+1)d} \frac{\sin h(kz) \sin h(kz_0)}{\sin h(kd)} dk \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\phi_w(x, y, z)}{V_w} = & \frac{1}{2\pi} f(x, y, z) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{n=1}^N [f(x, y, 2nd - z) - f(x, y, 2nd + z)] \\ & - \frac{4}{\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \cos(k_x x) \sin\left(k_x \frac{w_x}{2}\right) \cos(k_y y) \\ & \times \sin\left(k_y \frac{w_y}{2}\right) \frac{e^{-k(2N+1)d} \sin h(kz)}{k_x k_y \sin h(kd)} dk_x dk_y \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y, u) = & \int_{x-w_x/2}^{x+w_x/2} \int_{y-w_y/2}^{y+w_y/2} \frac{u}{(x'^2 + y'^2 + u^2)^{3/2}} dx' dy' \\ = & \arctan\left(\frac{x_1 y_1}{u \sqrt{x_1^2 + y_1^2 + u^2}}\right) + \arctan\left(\frac{x_2 y_2}{u \sqrt{x_2^2 + y_2^2 + u^2}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Point charges in a geometry with N dielectric layers

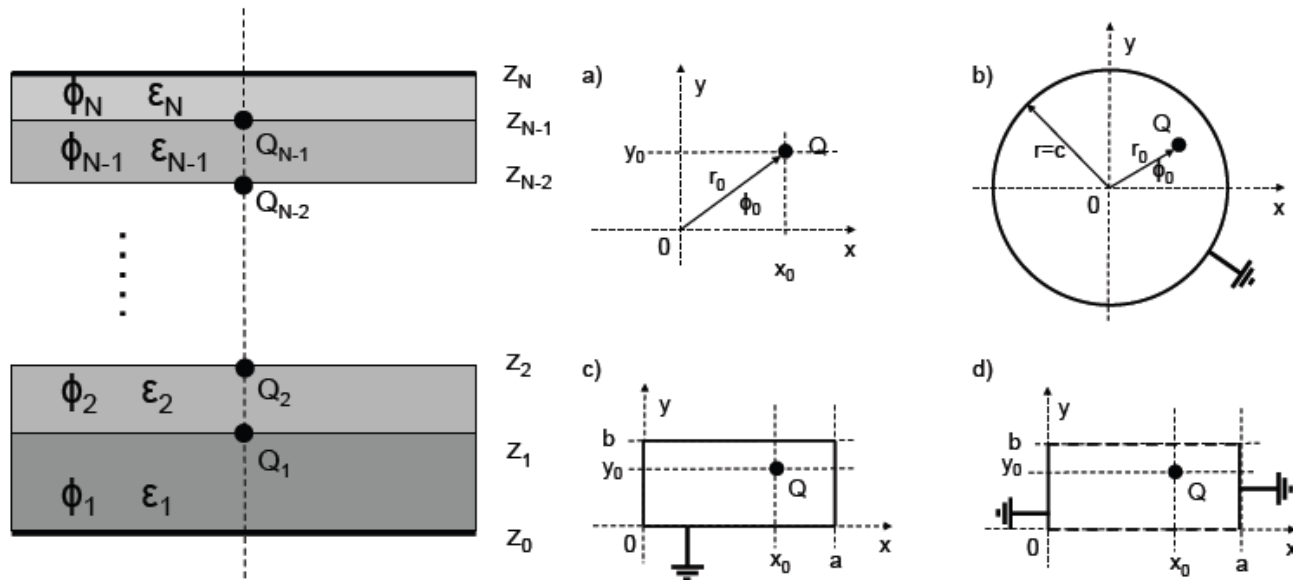


Figure 3: Left: A geometry of N dielectric layers enclosed by grounded metal plates. On the boundary between two layers at $r = 0$ there are point charges Q_n . Right: Different boundary conditions in the x - y plane.

$$\text{a) } \phi_n(r, \varphi, z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{im(\varphi-\varphi_0)} J_m(kr) J_m(kr_0) f_n(k, z) dk$$

$$\text{a) } \phi_n(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \cos[k_x(x-x_0)] \cos[k_y(y-y_0)] \frac{f_n(k, z)}{k} dk_x dk_y$$

$$\text{b) } \phi_n(r, z) = \frac{1}{c\pi} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{im(\varphi-\varphi_0)} \frac{J_m(k_{ml}r) J_m(k_{ml}r_0)}{j_{ml} [J_{m+1}(j_{ml})]^2} f_n(k_{ml}, z)$$

$$f_n(k, z) = A_n e^{kz} + B_n e^{-kz} \quad n = 1 \dots N$$

$$\text{c) } \phi_n(x, y, z) = \frac{4}{ab} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sin\left(l\pi \frac{x}{a}\right) \sin\left(l\pi \frac{x_0}{a}\right) \sin\left(m\pi \frac{y}{b}\right) \sin\left(m\pi \frac{y_0}{b}\right) \frac{f_n(k_{lm}, z)}{k_{lm}}$$

$$\text{d) } \phi_n(x, y, z) = \frac{4}{ab} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sin\left(l\pi \frac{x}{a}\right) \sin\left(l\pi \frac{x_0}{a}\right) \cos\left(m\pi \frac{y}{b}\right) \cos\left(m\pi \frac{y_0}{b}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\delta_{0m}}{2}\right) \frac{f_n(k_{lm}, z)}{k_{lm}}$$

Point charges in a geometry with N dielectric layers

$$f_n(k, z) = A_n e^{kz} + B_n e^{-kz} \quad n = 1 \dots N$$

The $2N$ coefficients $A_n(k)$ and $B_n(k)$ are defined by the two conditions at the grounded plates and at the $2(N - 1)$ conditions at the $N - 1$ dielectric interfaces

$$A_1 e^{kz_0} + B_1 e^{-kz_0} = 0 \quad A_N e^{kz_N} + B_N e^{-kz_N} = 0 \quad (49)$$

$$A_n e^{kz_n} + B_n e^{-kz_n} = A_{n+1} e^{kz_n} + B_{n+1} e^{-kz_n}$$

$$\varepsilon_n A_n e^{kz_n} - \varepsilon_n B_n e^{-kz_n} = \varepsilon_{n+1} A_{n+1} e^{kz_n} - \varepsilon_{n+1} B_{n+1} e^{-kz_n} + Q_n$$

Inclusion of resistivity:

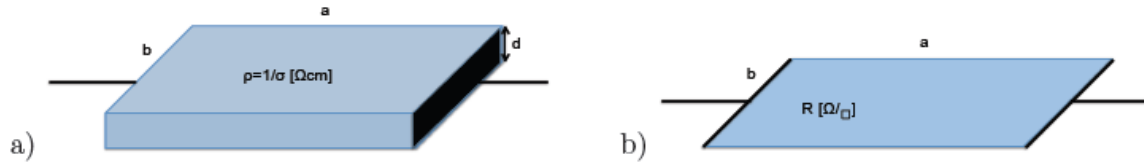


Figure 5: a) A block of material with volume resistivity ρ [Ωcm]. b) A thin sheet of material with surface resistivity R [Ω/square].

The resistance represented by the resistive sheet in Fig. 5b is given by $R a/b$. We can therefore conclude that for layers that have finite conductivity $\sigma_n = 1/\rho_n$, where ρ_n represents the volume resistivity of the layer, we find the fields in the Laplace domain by replacing ε_n by $\varepsilon_n + 1/(\rho_n s)$ in all expressions. In case we want a specific layer m i.e. $z_{m-1} < z < z_m$ to represent a thin sheet of a given surface resistivity R [Ω/square], we have to replace ε_m of this layer by

$$\varepsilon_m \rightarrow \varepsilon_m + \frac{1}{(z_m - z_{m-1})Rs} \quad (66)$$

In case we want to make this layer infinitely thin we have to perform the limit $\lim_{z_m \rightarrow z_{m-1}} \phi_n$ for all expressions.

Weighting fields in a geometry with N dielectric layers

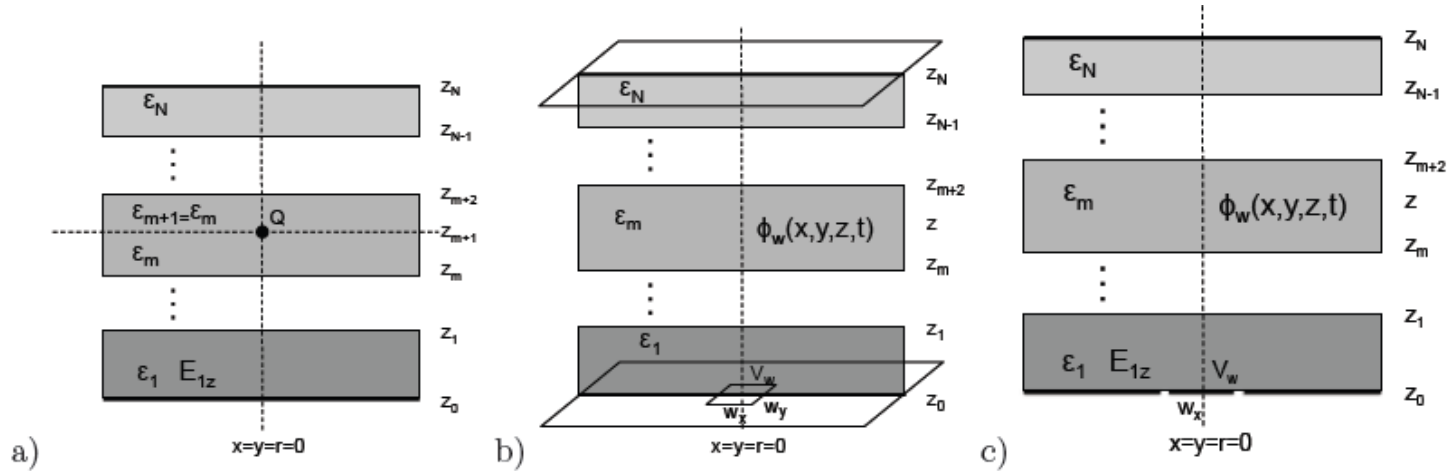


Figure 6: a) Point charge in a N layer geometry. b) Potential ϕ_w due to a rectangular pad at potential of V_w . c) Potential ϕ_w due to an infinitely extended strip at potential V_w .

Pixel:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_n^w(x, y, z) = & \varepsilon_1 \frac{V_w}{Q} \frac{4}{\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \frac{\cos(k_x x) \sin(k_x w_x / 2) \cos(k_y y) \sin(k_y w_y / 2)}{k_x k_y} \\ & \times [A_1(k, z_{n+1} = z) e^{kz_0} - B_1(k, z_{n+1} = z) e^{-kz_0}] dk_x dk_y \end{aligned} \quad (70)$$

For the case of an infinitely long strip, i.e. $w_y \rightarrow \infty$ we change variables to $s_y = k_y w_y / 2$, let $w_y \rightarrow \infty$ and use $\int_0^\infty \sin(s_y) / s_y ds_y = \pi / 2$ which gives

Strip:

$$\phi_n^w(x, z) = \varepsilon_1 \frac{V_w}{Q} \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\cos(kx) \sin(kw_x / 2)}{k} \times [A_1(k, z_{n+1} = z) e^{kz_0} - B_1(k, z_{n+1} = z) e^{-kz_0}] dk \quad (71)$$

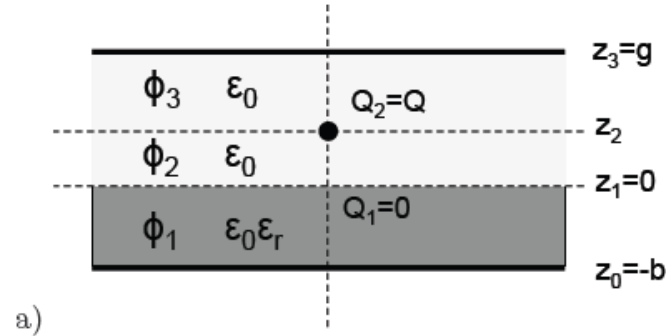
In case also w_x goes to infinity we have the weighting potential of the entire electrode which becomes

Plane:

$$\phi_n^w(z) = \varepsilon_1 \frac{V_w}{Q} [A_1(k = 0, z_{n+1} = z) - B_1(k = 0, z_{n+1} = z)] \quad (72)$$

Examples

Single Gap RPC



$$\phi_2(r, z) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0\sqrt{r^2 + (z_2 - z)^2}} + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty J_0(kr) \left[f_2(k, z) - \frac{Q}{2\epsilon_0} e^{-k(z_2 - z)} \right] dk$$

$$\phi_3(r, z) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0\sqrt{r^2 + (z - z_2)^2}} + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty J_0(kr) \left[f_3(k, z) - \frac{Q}{2\epsilon_0} e^{-k(z - z_2)} \right] dk$$

$$f_1(k, z) = Q \sinh(k(b + z)) \sinh(k(g - z_2)) / (\epsilon_0 D(k))$$

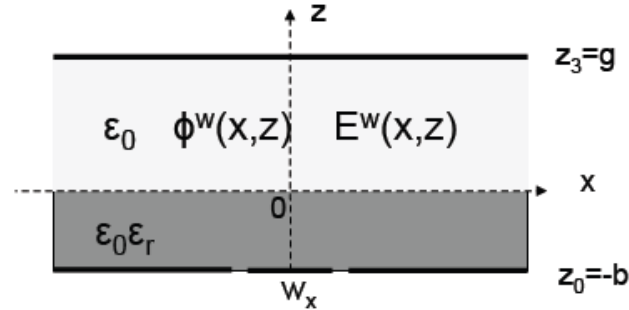
$$f_2(k, z) = Q \sinh(k(g - z_2)) [\sinh(bk) \cosh(kz) + \epsilon_r \cosh(bk) \sinh(kz)] / (\epsilon_0 D(k))$$

$$f_3(k, z) = Q \sinh(k(g - z)) [\sinh(bk) \cosh(kz_2) + \epsilon_r \cosh(bk) \sinh(kz_2)] / (\epsilon_0 D(k))$$

with

$$D(k) = \sinh(bk) \cosh(gk) + \epsilon_r \cosh(bk) \sinh(gk)$$

Single Gap RPC



$$\phi^w(x, y, z) = \frac{4\varepsilon_r V_w}{\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \frac{\cos(k_x x) \sin(k_x w_x/2) \cos(k_y y) \sin(k_y w_y/2) \sinh(k(g-z))}{k_x k_y D(k)} dk_x dk_y$$

$$\phi^w(x, z) = \frac{2\varepsilon_r V_w}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\cos(kx) \sin(kw_x/2) \sinh(k(g-z))}{kD(k)} dk$$

$$\phi^w(z) = \frac{\varepsilon_r V_w (g-z)}{b + \varepsilon_r g} \quad E_z^w = \frac{\varepsilon_r V_w}{b + \varepsilon_r g}$$

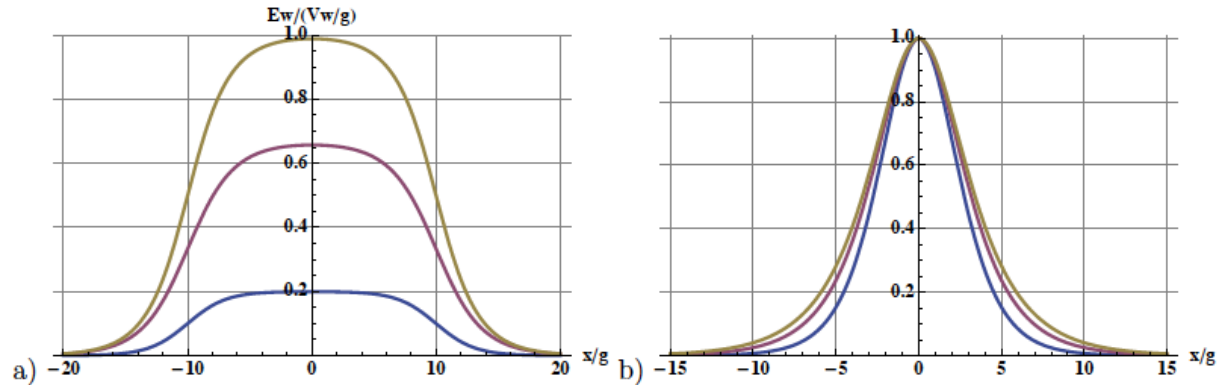
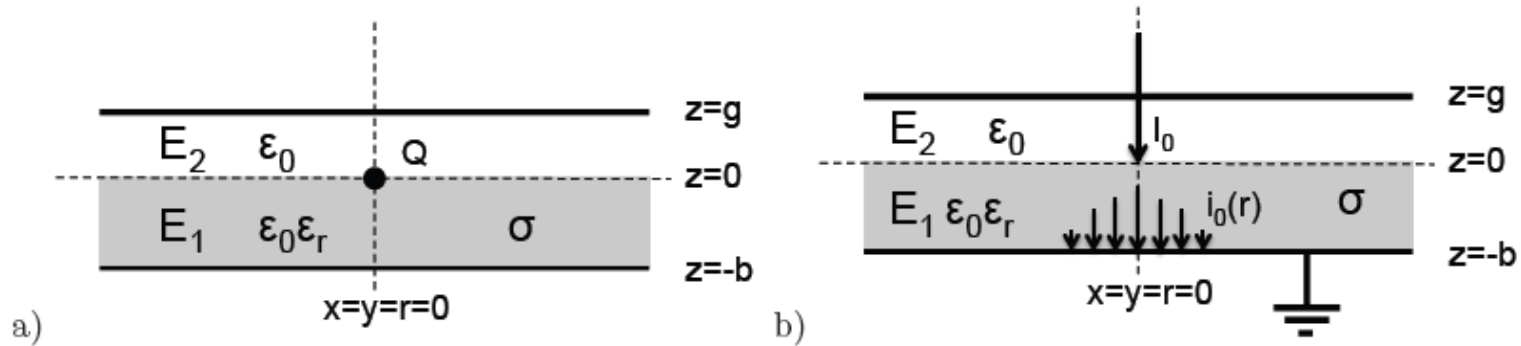


Figure 8: a) Weighting field E_z at position $z = g/2$ for $b = 4g$ and $w_x = 20g$. The three curves represent $\varepsilon_r = 1$ (bottom), $\varepsilon_r = 8$ (middle) and $\varepsilon_r = \infty$ (top). b) Normalized weighting field for the same geometry with $w_x = g$ for $\varepsilon_r = 1$ (inner), $\varepsilon_r = 8$ (middle) and $\varepsilon_r = \infty$ (outer).

Single Gap RPC



$$\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r + \sigma/s \quad \epsilon_2 = \epsilon_0 \quad Q(t) = I_0 t \text{ i.e. } Q(s) = I_0/s^2 \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \overline{E}(r, z, t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} sE(r, z, s)$$

$$i_0(r) = -\sigma E_1(r, z = -b) = \frac{I_0}{b^2 \pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{2} J_0 \left(y \frac{r}{b} \right) \frac{y}{\cosh(y)} dy \quad r_{50\%} \approx b \quad r_{90\%} \approx 2.3b \quad r_{99\%} \approx 3.9b$$

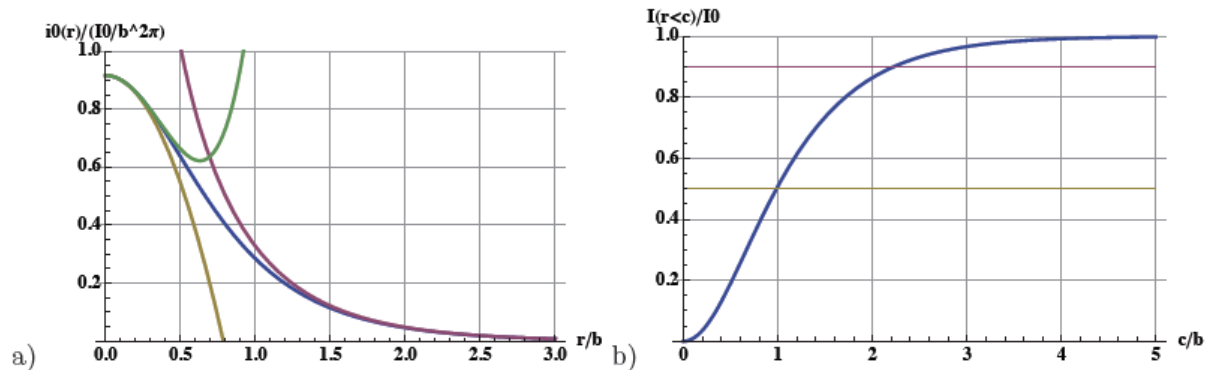
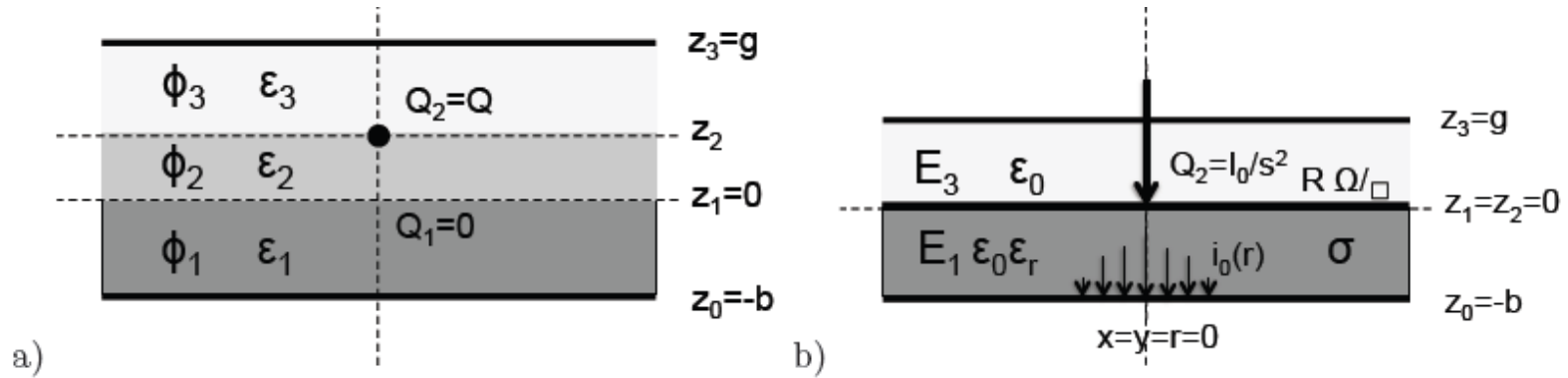


Figure 11: a) Current density $i_0(r)$ at $z = -b$. The exact curve together with the 2nd order and 4th order approximation from Eq. [94] and the exponential approximation from Eq. [96]. b) Total current at $z = -b$ flowing inside a radius r from Eq. [97].

Single Gap RPC, increasing rate capability by a surface R



$$i_0(r) = -\sigma E_1(r, z = -b) = \frac{I_0}{b^2 \pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{2} J_0\left(\frac{y r}{b}\right) \frac{y}{\cosh(y) + \frac{y}{\beta^2} \sinh(y)} dy \quad \beta^2 = R\sigma b$$

$$R < 1/(\sigma b) \rightarrow \beta^2 \ll 1$$

$$\tau_{50\%} \approx 1.26 \sqrt{\frac{b}{R\sigma}} \quad \tau_{90\%} \approx 3.21 \sqrt{\frac{b}{R\sigma}} \quad \tau_{99\%} \approx 5.77 \sqrt{\frac{b}{R\sigma}}$$

Infinitely extended thin resistive layer

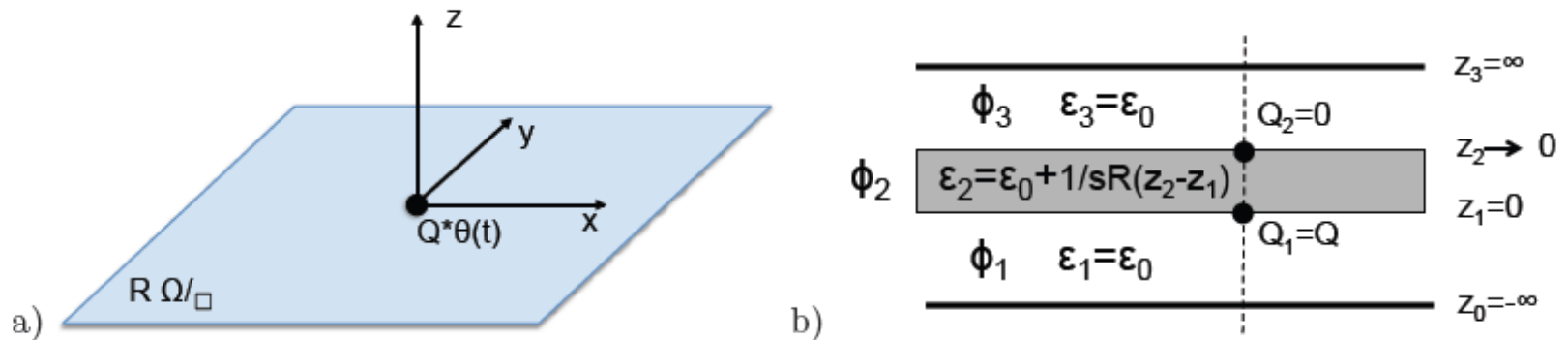


Figure 15: a) A resistive layer with surface resistance R [Ω /square]. b) The fields for this single layer can be calculated from the indicated 3-layer geometry by performing the indicated limits of the expressions for z_0, z_2, z_3 .

Infinitely extended resistive layer

First we investigate an infinitely extended layer as shown in Fig. 12a. The charge Q will cause

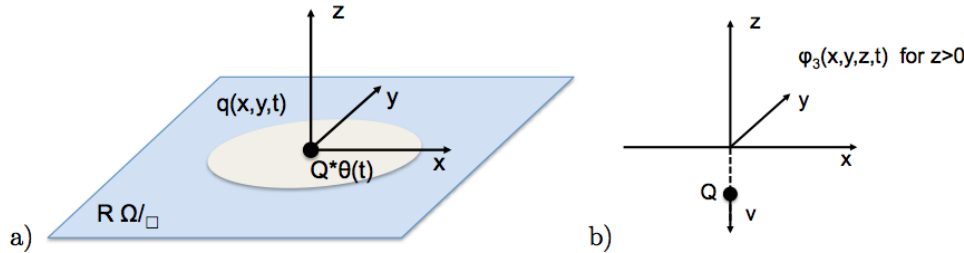


Figure 12: a) A point charge placed at an infinitely extended resistive layer at $t = 0$. b) The solution for the time dependent potential is equal to a point charge moving with velocity v along the z -axis.

$$\phi_1(r, z, t) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + (-z + vt)^2}} \quad \phi_3(r, z, t) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + (z + vt)^2}} \quad (111)$$

We therefore conclude that the field due to a point charge placed on an infinite resistive layer at $t = 0$ is equal to the field of a charge Q that is moving with a velocity $v = 1/2\epsilon_0 R$ away from the layer along the z -axis. As an example for a surface resistivity of $R = 1 \text{ M}\Omega/\text{square}$ the velocity is $5.6 \text{ cm}/\mu\text{s}$.

The time dependent surface charge density on the resistive surface is given by

$$q(r, t) = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial z} \Big|_{z=0} - \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \phi_3}{\partial z} \Big|_{z=0} \quad (112)$$

which evaluates to

$$q(r, t) = \frac{Q}{2\pi} \frac{vt}{\sqrt{(r^2 + v^2 t^2)^3}} \quad (113)$$

The total charge on the resistive surface $Q_{tot} = \int_0^\infty 2r\pi q(r, t) dr$ is equal to Q at any time. The peak and the FWHM of the charge density are given by

$$q_{max} = \frac{Q}{2\pi} \frac{1}{v^2 t^2} \quad FWHM = 2(4^{1/3} - 1)^{1/2} \approx 1.53vt \quad (114)$$

The charge is therefore 'diffusing' with a velocity v , and does not assume a gaussian shape as expected from a diffusion effect but has $1/r^3$ tails for large values of r . The radial current $I(r)$ at distance r are given by

$$I(r) = \frac{2r\pi}{R} E(r) = -\frac{2r\pi}{R} \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial r} \Big|_{z=0} = \frac{Qvr^2}{(r^2 + v^2 t^2)^{3/2}} \quad (115)$$

It is easily verified that the rate of change of the total charge inside a radius r i.e. $dQ_r(t)/dt = d/dt \int_0^r 2r'\pi q(r', t) dr'$ is equal to the current $I(r)$.

A point charge Q is placed on an infinitely extended resistive layer with surface resistivity of R Ohms/square at $t=0$.

What is the charge distribution at time $t>0$?

Note that this is not governed by any diffusion equation.

The solution is far from a Gaussian.

The timescale is governed by the velocity $v=1/(2\epsilon_0 R)$

Resistive layer grounded on a circle

If we now assume the geometry to be grounded at a radius $r = c$ as shown in Fig. 13a, we use Eq. 41 with $r_0 = 0$ and have the solution

$$\phi_1(r, z, t) = \frac{Q}{2\pi\epsilon_0 c} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{J_0(j_{0l} \frac{r}{c})}{j_{0l} J_1^2(j_{0l})} e^{-j_{0l}(t/T - z/c)} \quad T = c/v \quad (116)$$

and $\phi_3(r, z, t) = \phi_1(r, -z, t)$. The charge inside the radius c is not a constant but it will disappear with a characteristic time constant $T = c/v$ by currents flowing into the 'grounded' ring at $r = c$. As before we can calculate the surface charge density and charge inside the radius r , which evaluate to

$$q(r, t) = \frac{Q}{c^2\pi} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{J_0(j_{0l} r/c)}{J_1^2(j_{0l})} e^{-j_{0l} t/T} \quad Q_{tot}(t) = 2Q \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j_{0l} J_1(j_{0l})} e^{-j_{0l} t/T} \quad (117)$$

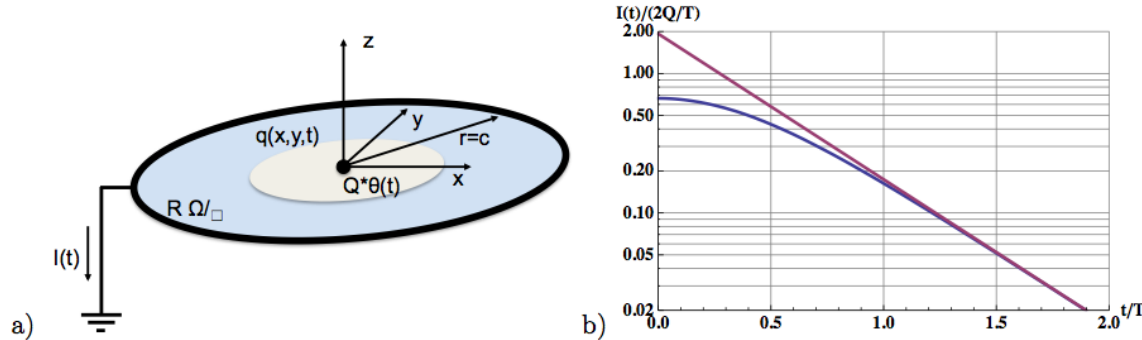


Figure 13: a) A point charge placed in the center of a resistive layer that is grounded at $r = c$. b) Current flowing to ground, where the straight line corresponds to the approximation from Eq. 119.

The current flowing into the 'grounded' ring is then again

$$I(t) = -\frac{dQ_{tot}}{dt} = \frac{2r\pi}{R} E_r(r, t) = \frac{2Q}{T} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{J_1(j_{0l})} e^{-j_{0l} t/T} \quad (118)$$

One can verify that the total amount of charge flowing to ground $\int_0^{\infty} I(t) dt$ is again Q . The current can be pictured to decay with an infinite number of time constants $\tau_l = T/j_{0l}$, so for large times the longest one i.e. $T/j_{01} \approx 0.42T$ will dominate and the current decays as $I(t)$. The current is plotted in Fig. 13b.

$$I(t) \approx \frac{2Q}{T J_1(j_1)} e^{-j_{01} t/T} \quad t \gg T \quad (119)$$

A point charge Q is placed on a resistive layer with surface resistivity of $R \Omega/\text{square}$ that is grounded on a circle

What is the charge distribution at time $t > 0$?

Note that this is not governed by any diffusion equation.

The solution is far from a Gaussian.

The charge disappears 'exponentially' with a time constant of $T=c/v$ (c is the radius of the ring)

Resistive layer grounded on a rectangle

Next we assume a rectangular grounded boundary Q at position x_0, y_0 at $t = 0$ as indicated in Fig. 14a

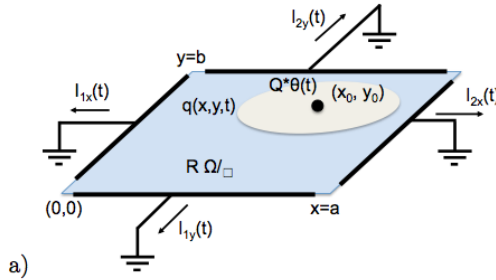


Figure 14: a) A point charge placed on a resistive layer that is grounded on at $x = 0$ and $x = a$ but in:

expression Eq. 42. Assuming the currents pointing to the outside of the boundary, the currents flowing through the 4 boundaries are

$$I_{1x} = -\frac{1}{R} \int_0^b -\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} dy \quad I_{2x} = \frac{1}{R} \int_0^b -\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=a} dy \quad (120)$$

$$I_{1y} = -\frac{1}{R} \int_0^a -\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial x} \Big|_{y=0} dx \quad I_{2y} = \frac{1}{R} \int_0^a -\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial x} \Big|_{y=b} dx \quad (121)$$

which evaluates to

$$I_{1x}(t) = \frac{4Qv}{a^2} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{l}{m} \frac{1}{k_{lm}} [1 - (-1)^m] \sin \frac{l\pi x_0}{a} \sin \frac{l\pi y_0}{b} e^{-k_{lm}vt} \quad (122)$$

$$I_{2x}(t) = \frac{4Qv}{a^2} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{l}{m} \frac{1}{k_{lm}} (-1)^l [(-1)^m - 1] \sin \frac{l\pi x_0}{a} \sin \frac{l\pi y_0}{b} e^{-k_{lm}vt} \quad (123)$$

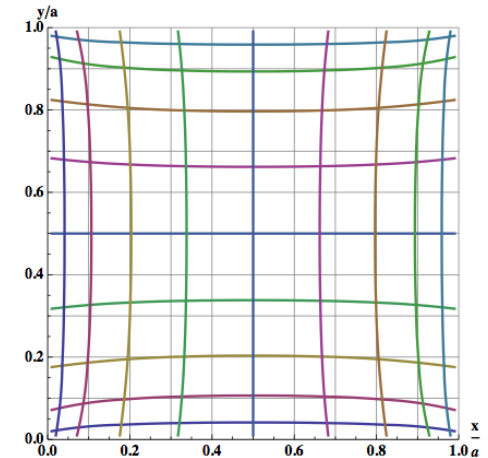
$$I_{1y}(t) = \frac{4Qv}{b^2} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{m}{l} \frac{1}{k_{lm}} [1 - (-1)^l] \sin \frac{l\pi x_0}{a} \sin \frac{l\pi y_0}{b} e^{-k_{lm}vt} \quad (124)$$

$$I_{2y}(t) = \frac{4Qv}{b^2} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{m}{l} \frac{1}{k_{lm}} (-1)^m [(-1)^l - 1] \sin \frac{l\pi x_0}{a} \sin \frac{l\pi y_0}{b} e^{-k_{lm}vt} \quad (125)$$

In case we want to know the total charge flowing through the grounded sides we have to integrate the above expressions from $t = 0$ to ∞ which results in the same expressions and just $e^{-k_{lm}vt}$ replaced by $1/(k_{lm}v)$. These measured currents can be used to find the position of the charge, a principle that is applied in the MicroCat detector. As an example, Fig. 15 shows the correction map that has to be applied in case one just uses linear interpolation of the measured charges.

A point charge Q is placed on a resistive layer with surface resistivity of R Ohms/square that is grounded on 4 edges

What are the currents induced on these grounded edges for time $t > 0$?



for the case where the position of the charge is determined by linear interpolation of the measured charges on the boundaries of the geometry in Fig. 14a.

Resistive layer grounded on two sides and i

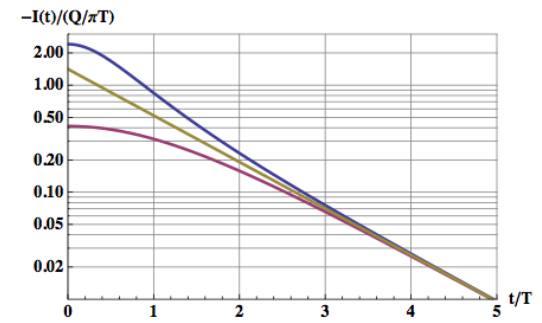
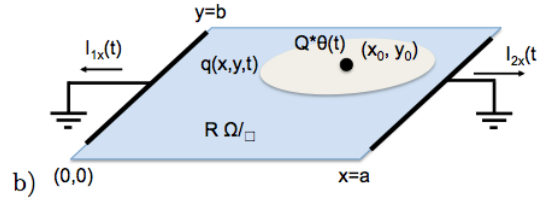


Figure 16: Currents for the geometry of Fig. 14b for $x_0 = a/4$.

5.4. Resistive layer grounded at $\pm a$ and insulated at $\pm b$.

In case the resistive layer is grounded at $x = 0, x = a$ and insulated at $y = 0, y = b$, as shown in Fig. 14, the currents are only flowing into the grounded elements at $x = 0$ and $x = a$. We use Eq. 43 and with some effort the summation can be achieved and evaluates to

$$I_{1x}(t) = -\frac{1}{R} \int_0^b -\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} dy = -\frac{Q}{\pi T} \frac{\sin(\pi \frac{x_0}{a})}{\cosh(\frac{t}{T}) - \cos(\pi \frac{x_0}{a})} \quad (126)$$

$$I_{2x}(t) = \frac{1}{R} \int_0^b -\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=a} dy = -\frac{Q}{\pi T} \frac{\sin(\pi \frac{x_0}{a})}{\cosh(\frac{t}{T}) + \cos(\pi \frac{x_0}{a})} \quad (127)$$

with $T = \frac{2a\epsilon_0 R}{\pi} = \frac{a}{\pi v}$. For large times both expressions tend to

$$I_{1x}(t) = I_{2x}(t) \approx -\frac{2Q}{\pi T} \cos\left(\pi \frac{x_0}{a}\right) e^{-t/T} \quad (128)$$

Fig. 16 shows the two currents for a charge deposit at position $x_0 = a/4$ together with the asymptotic expression from Eq. 128. The total charge that is flowing through the grounded ends is given by

$$q_1 = \int_0^\infty I_{1x}(t) dt = Q \frac{a - x_0}{a} \quad q_2 = \int_0^\infty I_{2x}(t) dt = Q \frac{x_0}{a} \quad (129)$$

so we learn that the charges are just shared in proportion to the distance from the grounded boundary, equal to the resistive charge division.

Possibility of position measurement in RPC and Micromegas

A point charge Q is placed on a resistive layer with surface resistivity of R Ohms/square that is grounded on 2 edges and insulated on the other two.

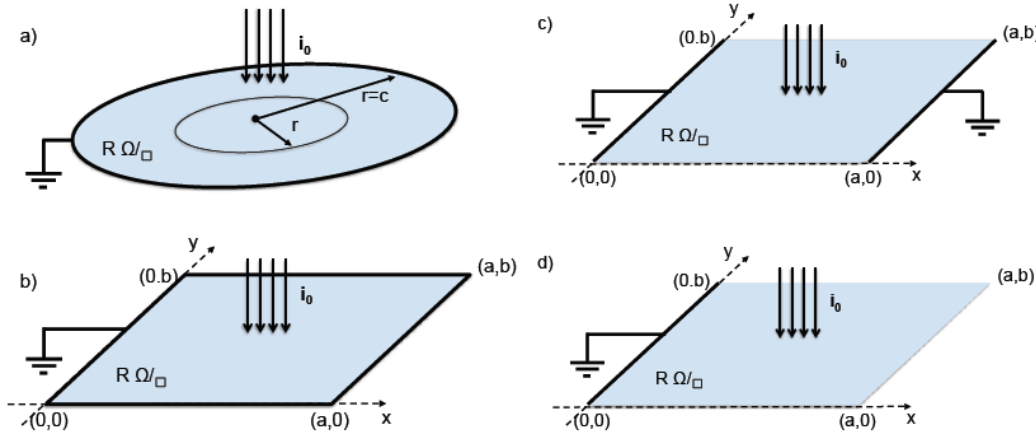
What are the currents induced on these grounded edges for time $t > 0$?

The currents are monotonic.

Both of the currents approach exponential shape with a time constant T.

The measured total charges satisfy the simple resistive charge division formulas.

Uniform currents on resistive layers



Uniform illumination of the resistive layers results in 'chargeup' and related potentials.

Figure 25: A uniform current 'impressed' on the resistive layer will result in a potential distribution that depends strongly on the boundary conditions. The 4 geometries shown in this figure are discussed.

In this section we want to discuss the potentials that are created on thin resistive layers for uniform charge deposition. In detectors like RPCs and Resistive Micromegas such resistive layers are used for application of the high voltage and for spark protection. The resistivity must be chosen small enough to ensure that potentials that are established on these layers due to charge-up are not influencing the applied electric fields responsible for the proper detector operation. If such detectors are in an environment of uniform particle irradiation the situation can be formulated by placing a uniform 'externally impressed' current per unit area i_0 [A/cm²] on the resistive layer. For illustration we use the example of a resistive layer in the absence of any grounded planes from Section 5. First we want to investigate the geometry shown in Fig. 25a) where the layer is grounded on a circle at $r = c$. The charge dq placed on an infinitesimal area at position r_0, ϕ_0 after time t is given by $dq(t) = i_0 r_0 dr_0 d\phi_0 t$, or in the Laplace domain $dq(s) = i_0 r_0 dr_0 d\phi_0 / s^2$. We therefore have to replace Q/s in Eq. 119 by $q(s)$, which results in

$$f_1(k, z, s) = \frac{i_0 R r_0 dr_0 d\phi_0}{s k + 2\varepsilon_0 R s} e^{kz} \quad f_2(k, z, s) = \frac{i_0 R r_0 dr_0 d\phi_0}{s k + 2\varepsilon_0 R s} e^{-kz} \quad (160)$$

Since we want to know the steady situation for long times i.e. for $t \rightarrow \infty$ we $f(k, z, t \rightarrow \infty) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s f(k, z, s)$ and have

$$f_1(k, z) = \frac{R i_0 r_0 dr_0 d\phi_0}{k} e^{kz} \quad f_2(k, z) = \frac{R i_0 r_0 dr_0 d\phi_0}{k} e^{-kz} \quad (161)$$

$$\phi_1(r, z) = \phi_3(r, -z) = 2c^2 Ri_0 \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{J_0(j_{0l}r/c)}{j_{0l}^3 J_1(j_{0l})} e^{j_{0l}z/c} \quad (162)$$

For $z = 0$ i.e. on the surface of the resistive layer, the expression can be summed and we have

$$\phi_1(r, z = 0) = \phi_3(r, z = 0) = \frac{1}{4} Ri_0 (c^2 - r^2) \quad (163)$$

This expression can also be derived in an elementary way: the total current on a disc of radius r i.e. $r^2 \pi i_0$, is equal to the total radial current flowing at radius r i.e. $2r\pi E_r/R$. This defines the radial field inside the layer to $E_r = Ri_0 r/2$. With the boundary condition $\phi(c) = \int_0^c E_r(r) dr = 0$ we find back the above expression. The maximum potential is therefore in the centre of the disc and is equal to

$$\phi(r = 0) = \frac{c^2 \pi Ri_0}{4\pi} = \frac{1}{4\pi} RI_{tot} \approx 0.08 RI_{tot} \quad (164)$$

To find the potentials in the rectangular geometry of Fig. 25b we again have f_1, f_2 from Eq. 161 we just have to replace $r_0 dr_0 d\phi_0$ by $dx_0 dy_0$ and perform the integration $\int_0^a dx_0 \int_0^b dy_0$ of Eq. 47, which results in

$$\phi_1(x, y, z) = \phi_3(x, y, -z) = ab Ri_0 \frac{4}{\pi^4} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{[1 - (-1)^l][1 - (-1)^m] \sin(l\pi x/a) \sin(m\pi y/b)}{l^3 mb/a + m^3 la/b} e^{k_{lm}z} \quad (165)$$

The expression cannot be written in closed form but converges quickly, so numerical evaluation is straight forward. The peak of the potential can be found by setting $d\phi_1/dx = 0, d\phi_1/dy = 0$ and is found at $x = a/2, y = b/2$, which is also evident by the symmetry of the geometry. The maximum potential on the resistive layer is then

$$\phi_{max} = \phi(a/2, b/2, z = 0) = \frac{1}{8} Ri_0 a^2 b^2 \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{128}{\pi^4} \frac{(-1)^{l+m}}{b^2(2l-1)^3(2m-1) + a^2(2m-1)^3(2l-1)} \quad (166)$$

For a square geometry ($b = a$) the sum evaluates to ≈ 0.59 so the peak voltage in the center is

$$\phi_{max} \approx 0.074 Ri_0 a^2 = 0.074 RI_{tot} \quad (167)$$

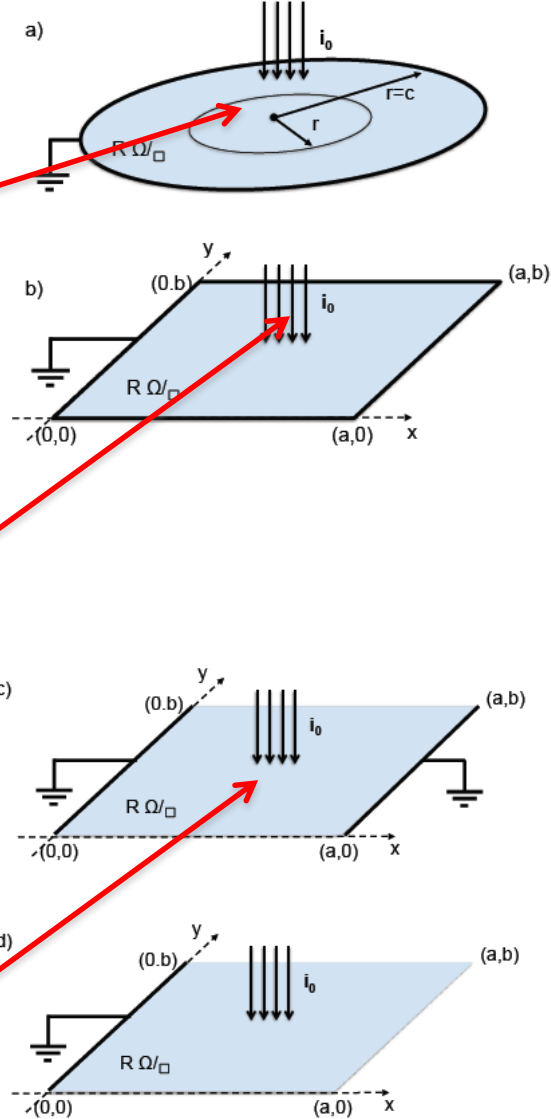
We see that the value is only less than 10% different from the peak voltage for the circular boundary in Eq. 164.

For uniform illumination of the geometry Fig. 25c that is grounded at $x = 0, a$ and insulated at $y = 0, b$ we use expression Eq. 48 and proceed as before and find

$$\phi_1(x, z) = \phi_3(x, -z) = 2Ri_0 a^2 \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - (-1)^l) \sin(l\pi x/a)}{l^3 \pi^3} e^{l\pi z/a} \quad (168)$$

The potential is independent of y and for $z = 0$ the sum can be written inclosed form

$$\phi_1(x, z = 0) = \frac{1}{2} Ri_0 (ax - x^2) \quad \phi_{max} = \frac{1}{8} a^2 Ri_0 \quad (169)$$



Infinitely extended resistive layer with parallel ground plane

Assuming an infinitely extended geometry, the time dependent charge density evaluates to

$$q(r, t) = \frac{Q}{b^2\pi} \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty \kappa J_0\left(\kappa \frac{r}{b}\right) \exp\left[-\kappa(1 - e^{-2\kappa}) \frac{t}{T}\right] d\kappa \quad T = \frac{b}{v} = 2b\epsilon_0 R \quad (134)$$

It can be verified that $\int_0^\infty 2r\pi q(r, t) dr = Q$ at any time. For long times i.e. large values of t/T we can approximate the exponent of the above expression by

$$-\kappa(1 - e^{-2\kappa}) \frac{t}{T} \approx -2\kappa^2 \frac{t}{T} \quad (135)$$

and the integral evaluates to

$$q(r, t) = \frac{Q}{b^2\pi} \frac{1}{8t/T} e^{-\frac{r^2}{8b^2t/T}} \quad (136)$$

In analogy to the one dimensional transmission line, the discussed geometry is often assumed to be defined by the two dimensional diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} = h \left(\frac{\partial^2 q}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 q}{\partial y^2} \right) \quad h = 1/RC \quad C = \frac{\epsilon_0}{b} \quad (137)$$

where C is the capacitance per unit area between the resistive layer and the grounded plate. The solution of this equation for a point charge Q put at $r = 0, t = 0$ evaluates exactly to the above Gaussian expression. In Fig. 19 the charge distribution from Eq. 134 is compared to the above Gaussian as well as Eq. 113 for the geometry without a ground plane. Although the order of magnitude is similar, the solution of the diffusion equation does not work very well. The reason for the discrepancy can be understood when investigating how Eq. 135 is derived: the current $\vec{j}(x, y, t)$ flowing inside the resistive layer is related to the electric field $\vec{E}(x, y, t)$ in the resistive layer by $\vec{j} = \vec{E}/R$. The relation between the current and the charge density $q(x, y, t)$ is $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j} = -\partial q / \partial t$. With $\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} \phi$ we then get

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{R} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} \right) \quad (138)$$

If we set $q = C\phi$ we have the diffusion equation Eq. 135. This relation between voltage and charge ($Q = CU$) is however only a good approximation if the charge distribution does not have a significant gradient over distances of the order of b . For small times when the charge distribution is very peaked around zero this is certainly not a good approximation. It means that for long times when the distribution is very broad when compared to the distance b the two solutions should approach each other. Indeed this can be seen if we calculate the current that is induced on the grounded plate, which we do next. The presence of the charge on the resistive layer induces a charge on the grounded metal plane. If we assume that the metal plane is segmented into strips, as shown in Fig. 20b, we can calculate the induced charge through the electric field on the surface of the plane. Assuming a strip centred at $x = x_p$ with a width of w and infinite extension in y direction, we find the induced charge to

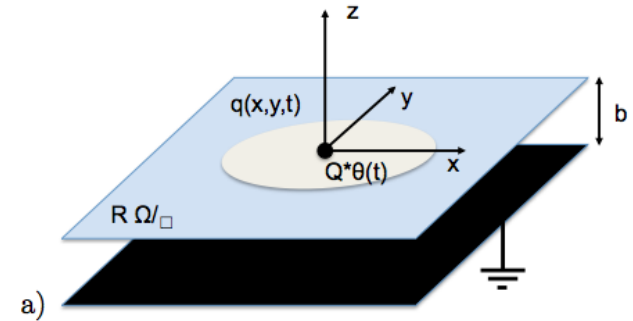


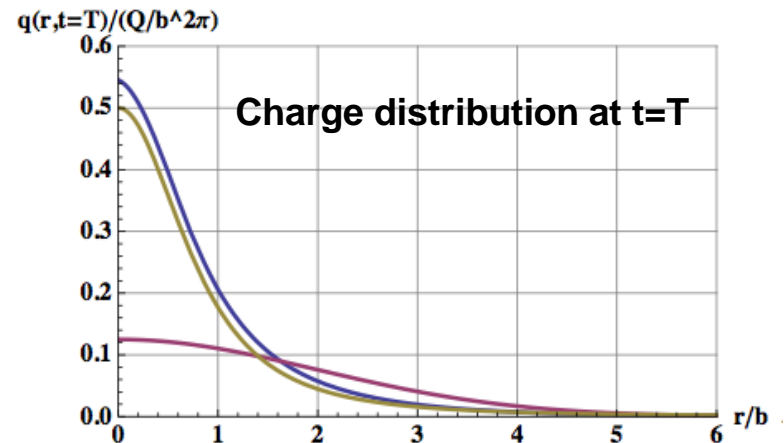
Figure 18: a) An infinitely extended resistive layer in presence radius $r = c$.

A point charge Q is placed on an infinitely extended resistive layer with surface resistivity of R Ohms/square and a parallel ground plane at $t=0$.

What is the charge distribution at time $t>0$?

This process is in principle NOT governed by the diffusion equation.

In practice is is governed by the diffusion equation for long times.



Infinitely extended resistive layer with parallel ground plane

What are the charges induced metallic readout electrodes by this charge distribution?

$$Q_{ind}(t) = \int_{x_p-w/2}^{x_p+w/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} -\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial z} \Big|_{z=-b} dy dx \quad (139)$$

which evaluates to

$$Q_{ind}(t) = \frac{2Q}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{\kappa} \cos(\kappa \frac{x_p}{b}) \sin(\kappa \frac{w}{2b}) \exp \left[-\kappa - \kappa(1 - e^{-2\kappa}) \frac{t}{T} \right] d\kappa \quad (140)$$

The solution of the diffusion equation assumes the relation of a capacitor where the ground plate should just carry the charge density $-q(x, y, t)$, so the total charge on the strip is

$$Q_{ind}^g(t) = \int_{x_p-w/2}^{x_p+w/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} q_g(x, y) dx dy = \frac{Q}{2} \left[\operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{2x_p + w}{4b\sqrt{2t/T}} \right) - \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{2x_p - w}{4b\sqrt{2t/T}} \right) \right] \quad (141)$$

Both expressions are shown in Fig. 19b. Although there are significant differences at small times the curves approach each other for longer times when the charge distribution becomes broad. Indeed, if take Eq. 139 we see that for large values of t/T only small values of κ contribute to the integral, so if we expand the exponent as

$$-\kappa - \kappa(1 - e^{-2\kappa}) \frac{t}{T} \approx -2\kappa^2 \frac{t}{T} \quad (142)$$

the integral evaluates precisely to expression Eq. 140.

broad. The solutions still do not represent a detector signal due to the unphysical assumption that the charge is created 'out of nowhere' at $t = 0$. The correct signal on a strip due to a pair of charges $\pm Q$ moving in a detector will be discussed in Section 8.

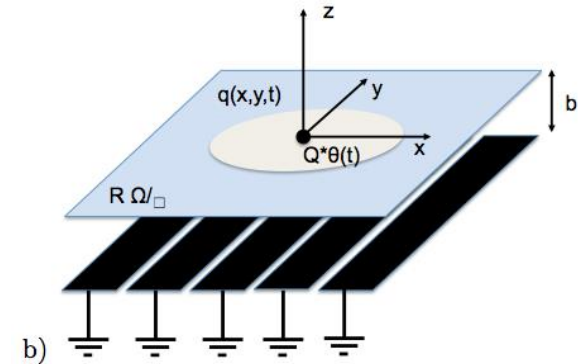
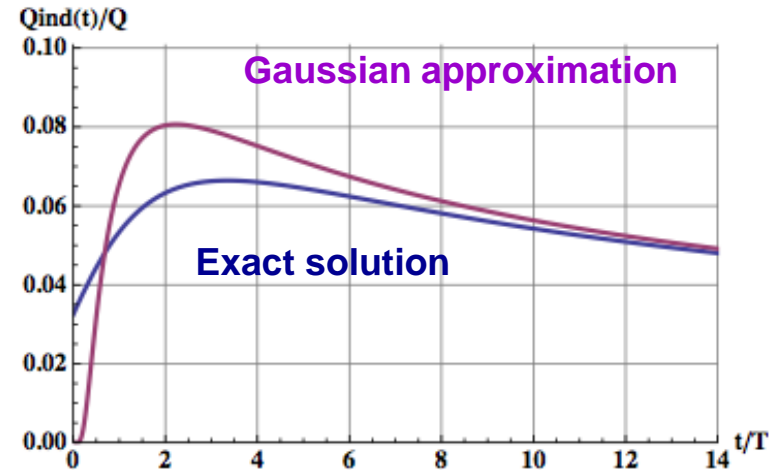


Figure 19. a) Geometry of a grounded layer. b) The same geometry grounded at a



Charge spread in e.g. a Micromega with bulk or surface resistivity

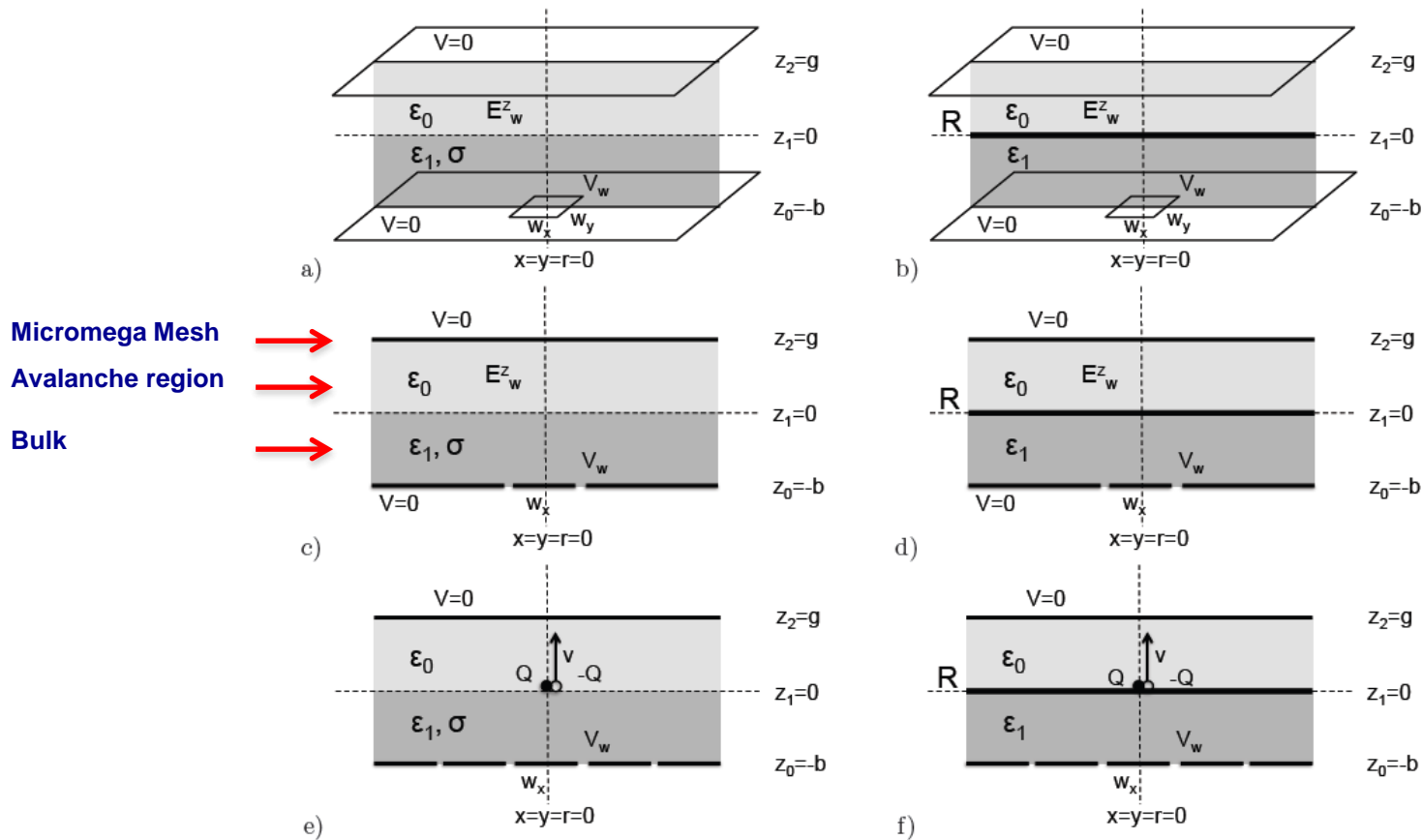
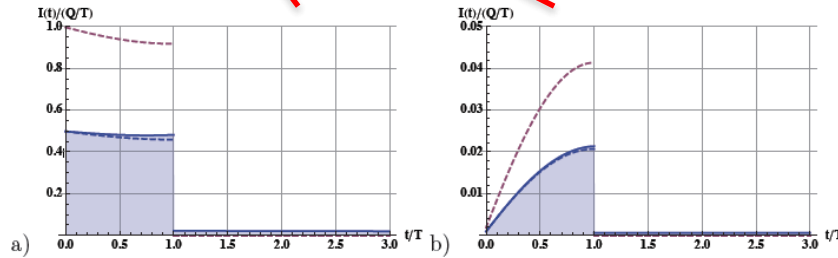
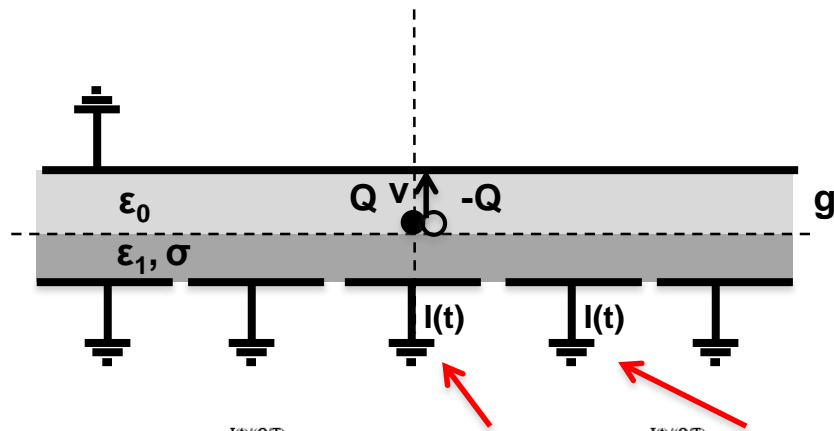


Figure 27: Weighting field for a geometry with a resistive layer having a bulk resistivity of $\rho = 1/\sigma$ [Ωcm] (left) and a geometry with a thin resistive layer of value R [Ω/square] (right).

$$I(t) = -\frac{q}{V_w} \int_0^t \vec{E}_w(\vec{x}_1(t'), t-t') \vec{x}_1(t') dt' + \frac{q}{V_w} \int_0^t \vec{E}_w(\vec{x}_2(t'), t-t') \vec{x}_2(t') dt'$$

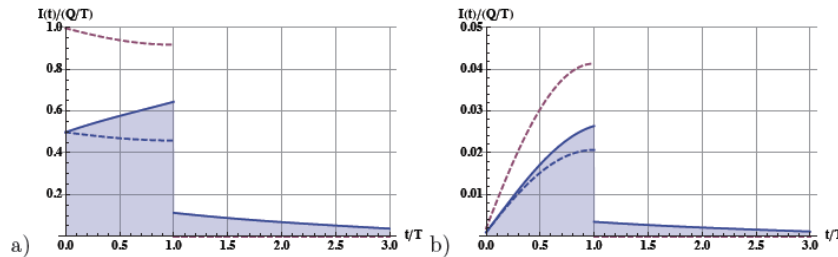
Charge spread in e.g. a Micromega with bulk resistivity



$$\tau_0 = \epsilon_0 / \sigma = \epsilon_0 \rho.$$

$$T = g / v$$

Figure 28: Uniform charge movement from $z = 0$ to $z = g$, with $\epsilon_r = 1, w_x = 4g, b = g, \tau_0 = 10T$ for a) $x = 0$ and b) $x = 4g$.



----- Zero Resistivity
 ----- Infinite Resistivity (insulator)

All signals are unipolar since the charge that compensates Q sitting on the surface is flowing from all the strips.

Figure 29: Uniform charge movement from $z = 0$ to $z = g$, with $\epsilon_r = 1, w_x = 4g, b = g, \tau_0 = T$ for a) $x = 0$ and b) $x = 4g$.

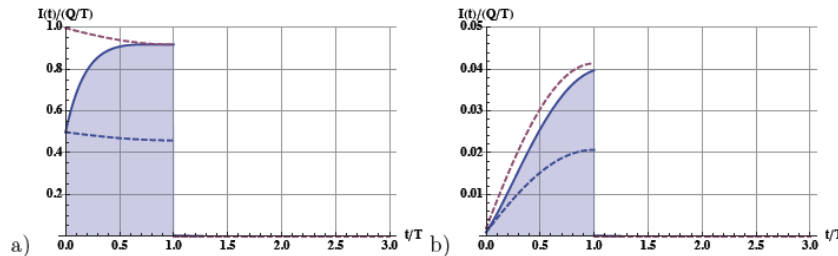


Figure 30: Uniform charge movement from $z = 0$ to $z = g$, with $\epsilon_r = 1, w_x = 4g, b = g, \tau_0 = 0.1T$ for a) $x = 0$ and b) $x = 4g$.

Charge spread in e.g. a Micromega with surface resistivity

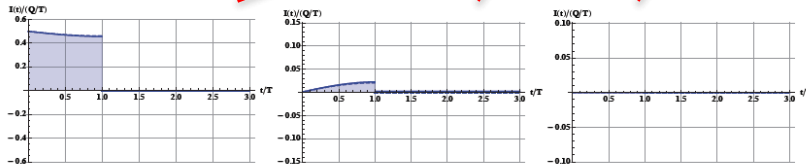
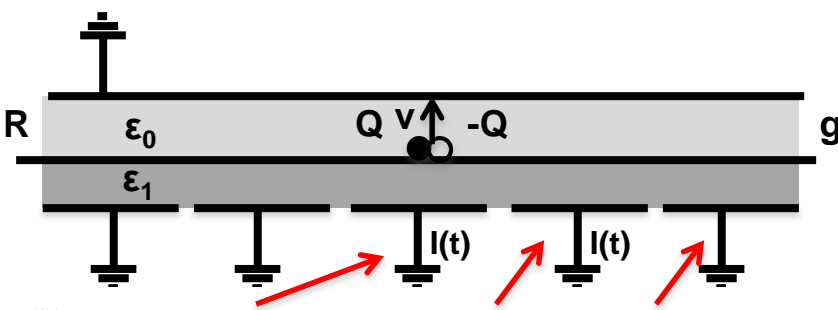


Figure 31: $\epsilon_r = 1, w_x = 4g, b = g, T_0 = 10T$ for $x = 0, x = 4g, x = 8g$

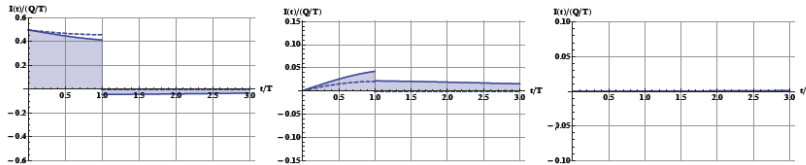


Figure 32: $\epsilon_r = 1, w_x = 4g, b = g, T_0 = T$ for $x = 0, x = 4g, x = 8g$

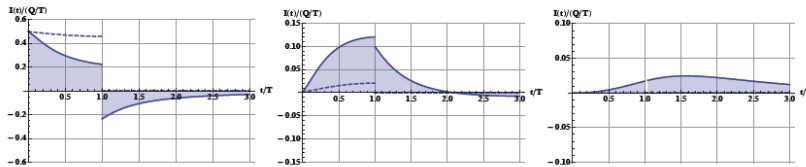


Figure 33: $\epsilon_r = 1, w_x = 4g, b = g, T_0 = 0.1T$ for $x = 0, x = 4g, x = 8g$

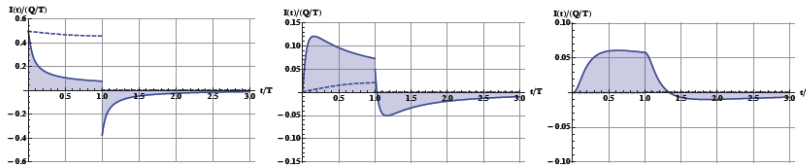


Figure 34: $\epsilon_r = 1, w_x = 4g, b = g, T_0 = 0.01T$ for $x = 0, x = 4g, x = 8g$

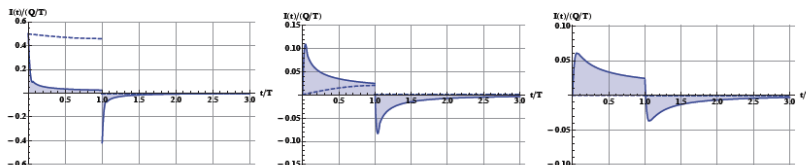


Figure 35: $\epsilon_r = 1, w_x = 4g, b = g, T_0 = 0.001T$ for $x = 0, x = 4g, x = 8g$

$$T_0 = \epsilon_0 R g :$$

$$T = g/v$$

----- Zero Resistivity

----- Infinite Resistivity (insulator)

All signals are bipolar since the charge that compensates Q sitting on the surface is not flowing from the strips.

Summary

Fields and signals for detectors with a multilayer geometry and containing weakly conducting materials can be calculated with the presented formalism.

Charge spread, the path of currents, charge-up, signals, crosstalk can be studied in detail.

The examples can also be used as accurate benchmarks for simulation programs that calculate these geometries numerically.