

58. We treat the system as a superposition of a disk of surface charge density σ and radius R and a smaller, oppositely charged, disk of surface charge density $-\sigma$ and radius r . For each of these, Eq 25-37 applies (for $z > 0$)

$$V = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \left(\sqrt{z^2 + R^2} - z \right) + \frac{-\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \left(\sqrt{z^2 + r^2} - z \right) .$$

This expression does vanish as $r \rightarrow \infty$, as the problem requires. Substituting $r = R/5$ and $z = 2R$ and simplifying, we obtain

$$V = \frac{\sigma R}{\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{5\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{101}}{10} \right) \approx \frac{\sigma R}{\epsilon_0} (0.113) .$$