

Physics 4500
Final Examination

15 April 2005

Duration of the examination: 120 minutes. *Either* attempt one question from Part A and three questions from Part B, *or* attempt two questions from Part A and two questions from Part B. All questions have equal value.

Part A

1. Find the non-zero components of the Maxwell stress tensor for a monochromatic plane wave travelling in the x -direction and linearly polarised in the y -direction (remember that \mathbf{T} represents the momentum flux density). How is the momentum flux density related to the energy density?
2. Consider two equal charges q , separated by a distance $2d$.
 - (a) By integrating Maxwell's stress tensor over this plane, determine the force of one charge on the other.
 - (b) Do the same for two charges of equal magnitude but opposite sign.

Part B

1. Suppose that an electron is harmonically bound to an atom with spring constant $k = m_e \omega_0^2$, and is subject to an electric field $E_0 e^{-i\omega t}$ in the x direction, and is displaced x from its equilibrium position. Assuming the presence of a drag or damping force proportional to the negative of the electron's velocity, so that it is of the form $-m_e \gamma (dx/dt)$, find and solve the equation of motion of the electron. How does the phase difference between the electron motion and the electric field depend on the damping coefficient γ ?
2. Show that if $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}, t)$, $\varphi(\mathbf{x}, t)$ obey the Lorentz gauge condition then both satisfy inhomogeneous wave equations. Hence find an expression for $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}, t)$ in terms of the (localised) current density using the appropriate retarded potential or Green function. Specialise this for the case that $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}, t) = -i\omega \boldsymbol{\omega} \delta(\mathbf{x}) e^{-i\omega t}$ where $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ is a constant vector.
3. Find the electromagnetic field from a point charge moving with constant 3-velocity in some inertial frame. You may assume that the Faraday tensor is covariant under Lorentz transformations.
4. (a) Show that the expression

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - (ct)^2$$

is invariant under a boost. Show also that nonrelativistic equations of motion, say

$$\frac{d^2 \mathbf{x}_1}{dt^2} = -\kappa \frac{\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2}{|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2|^3}$$
$$\frac{d^2 \mathbf{x}_2}{dt^2} = -\kappa \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{x}_1}{|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2|^3}$$

with κ a constant, are invariant under a Galilean transformation but not under a boost.

- (b) Show that the equations

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\alpha} \mathcal{F}_{\beta\gamma} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\beta} \mathcal{F}_{\gamma\alpha} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\gamma} \mathcal{F}_{\alpha\beta} = 0$$

are equivalent to two of the Maxwell equations.

9 The spherical Bessel functions

Bessel's equation:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dx} + \left(1 - \frac{\nu^2}{x^2}\right) = 0. \quad (16)$$

Spherical Bessel, Neumann, and Hankel functions:

$$j_l(x) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}} J_{l+\frac{1}{2}}(x) \quad (17)$$

$$n_l(x) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}} N_{l+\frac{1}{2}}(x) \quad (18)$$

$$h_l^{(1,2)}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}} H_{l+\frac{1}{2}}^{(1,2)}(x). \quad (19)$$

For small x

$$j_l(x) = \frac{x^l}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (2l+1)} (1 + \mathcal{O}(x^2)), \quad l = 0, 1, \dots \quad (20)$$

$$n_0(x) = -\frac{1}{x} (1 + \mathcal{O}(x^2)) \quad (21)$$

$$n_l(x) = \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (2l-1)}{x^l} (1 + \mathcal{O}(x^2)), \quad l = 1, 2, \dots \quad (22)$$

For large x

$$j_l(x) \sim \frac{1}{x} \sin\left(x - \frac{l\pi}{2}\right) \quad (23)$$

$$n_l(x) \sim -\frac{1}{x} \cos\left(x - \frac{l\pi}{2}\right) \quad (24)$$

$$h_l^{(1)}(x) \sim (-i)^{l+1} \frac{e^{ix}}{x}. \quad (25)$$

Formulae

Spherical coordinates:

$$d\mathbf{l} = dr \hat{\mathbf{r}} + r d\vartheta \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\vartheta} + r \sin \vartheta d\varphi \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\varphi}; \quad dV = r^2 \sin \vartheta dr d\vartheta d\varphi$$

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vartheta} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\vartheta} + \frac{1}{r \sin \vartheta} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \varphi} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\varphi}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 v_r) + \frac{1}{r \sin \vartheta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \vartheta} (\sin \vartheta v_{\vartheta}) + \frac{1}{r \sin \vartheta} \frac{\partial v_{\varphi}}{\partial \varphi}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{r \sin \vartheta} \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial \vartheta} (\sin \vartheta v_{\varphi}) - \frac{\partial v_{\vartheta}}{\partial \varphi} \right\} \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{1}{r} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sin \vartheta} \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \varphi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r v_{\varphi}) \right\} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\vartheta} + \frac{1}{r} \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r v_{\vartheta}) - \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \vartheta} \right\} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\varphi}$$

$$\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \vartheta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \vartheta} \left(\sin \vartheta \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vartheta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \vartheta} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \varphi^2}$$

Cylindrical coordinates:

$$d\mathbf{l} = ds \hat{\mathbf{s}} + s d\varphi \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\varphi} + dz \hat{\mathbf{z}}; \quad dV = s ds d\varphi dz$$

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \hat{\mathbf{s}} + \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \varphi} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\varphi} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} (s v_s) + \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial v_{\varphi}}{\partial \varphi} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}) = \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial \varphi} - \frac{\partial v_{\varphi}}{\partial z} \right\} \hat{\mathbf{s}} + \left\{ \frac{\partial v_s}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial s} \right\} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\varphi} + \frac{1}{s} \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial s} (s v_{\varphi}) - \frac{\partial v_s}{\partial \varphi} \right\} \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left(s \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \right) + \frac{1}{s^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \varphi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2}$$

Gradient theorem: $\int_a^b (\nabla f) \cdot d\mathbf{l} = f(\mathbf{b}) - f(\mathbf{a})$

Divergence theorem: $\int_V (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) dV = \oint_S \mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$

Stokes's theorem: $\int_S (\nabla \times \mathbf{v}) \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \oint_P \mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{l}$

Electrostatics:

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') dV'$$

$$\varphi(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} dV'$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = -\nabla V(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = 0$$

$$\int_V (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) dV = \oint_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} Q_{\text{enclosed}}$$

Magnetostatics:

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int \frac{\mathbf{I}(\mathbf{r}') \times (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} dl' = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} I \int \frac{d\mathbf{l}' \times (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int \frac{\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}') \times (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} dV'$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int_V \frac{\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} dV' \text{ in Coulomb gauge}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = \mu_0 \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\int_S (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \oint_P \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \mu_0 I_{\text{enclosed}}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = 0 \quad \text{Coulomb gauge condition}$$

Equation of continuity:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \frac{\partial \rho(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t} = 0.$$

Maxwell's equations where permeability and permittivity are close to their vacuum values:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \rho(\mathbf{r}, t) / \epsilon_0 \quad (\text{M1})$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = 0, \quad (\text{M2})$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t} \quad (\text{M3})$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mu_0 \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \epsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t} \quad (\text{M4})$$

Neumann's formula:

$$M_{12} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \oint \oint \frac{d\mathbf{l}_1 \cdot d\mathbf{l}_2}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|}$$

Poynting vector:

$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$$

Constants:

$$\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2 \cdot \text{N}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$$

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N} \cdot \text{A}^{-2}$$

$$c = 3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$$

Formula Sheet

1 Maxwell equations

The Maxwell equations in vacuo are:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \rho/\epsilon_0 \quad (2)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} - \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} = \mu_0 \mathbf{J} \quad (4)$$

where

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N} \cdot \text{A}^{-2}$$

$$\epsilon_0 = \frac{1}{\mu_0 c^2} = 8.85410^{-12} \text{ C}^2 \cdot \text{N}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}.$$

In material media:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho \quad (6)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = 0 \quad (7)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} - \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{J} \quad (8)$$

and

$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{M}$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P}$$

2 Vector calculus

Laplacian:

$$\nabla^2 F \equiv \frac{1}{r^2} \left\{ [\mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla + 1] \mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla F + (\mathbf{x} \times \nabla)^2 F \right\} \quad (9)$$

A useful rule: in three dimensions, $\epsilon_{ijk}\epsilon_{ilm} = \delta_{jl}\delta_{km} - \delta_{jm}\delta_{kl}$.

3 SR

The general boost:

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{x} + (\gamma - 1) \mathbf{v} \frac{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}}{v^2} - \gamma \beta ct. \quad (10)$$

Setting $x_0 = ct$ in an extended Cartesian tensor notation,

$$x'_0 = \gamma (x_0 - \beta_i x_i) \quad (11)$$

$$x'_i = x_i + (\gamma - 1) \frac{v_i v_j}{v^2} x_j - \gamma \beta_i x_0 \quad (12)$$

with $i, j = 1, 2, 3$ and summation convention used.

Line element, using proper co/contravariant notation, with $x^0 = ct$:

$$ds^2 = dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2 - c^2 dt^2 = -(dx^0)^2 + (dx^1)^2 + (dx^2)^2 + (dx^3)^2 \quad (13)$$

Faraday tensor:

$$\mathcal{F}^{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -E_x & -E_y & -E_z \\ E_x & 0 & -cB_z & cB_y \\ E_y & cB_z & 0 & -cB_x \\ E_z & -cB_y & cB_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & E_x & E_y & E_z \\ -E_x & 0 & -cB_z & cB_y \\ -E_y & cB_z & 0 & -cB_x \\ -E_z & -cB_y & cB_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

4 Gauge

Coulomb, transverse, or radiation gauge:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$$

Lorentz gauge:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} = 0.$$

$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{A}$

5 Green functions

Electrostatic:

$$\nabla^2 \frac{-1}{4\pi |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|} = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')$$

Wave equation:

$$\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) G(\mathbf{x}, t; \mathbf{x}', t') = -4\pi \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}') \delta(t - t')$$

$$G_k^{(\pm)}(R) e^{i\omega t'} = \frac{e^{\pm ikR}}{R} e^{i\omega t'}$$

$$G^{(\pm)}(\mathbf{x}, t; \mathbf{x}', t') = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{\pm ikR}}{R} e^{-i\omega(t-t')} d\omega$$

$$G^{(\pm)}(R, \tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{\pm ikR}}{R} e^{-i\omega\tau} d\omega$$

For a nondispersive medium

$$G^{(\pm)}(R, \tau) = \frac{1}{R} \delta\left(\tau \mp \frac{R}{c}\right). \quad (14)$$

6 Stokes parameters

These are given by

$$s_0 \equiv |\hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \cdot \mathbf{E}|^2 + |\hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \cdot \mathbf{E}|^2 = a_1^2 + a_2^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
s_1 &\equiv |\hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \cdot \mathbf{E}|^2 - |\hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \cdot \mathbf{E}|^2 = a_1^2 - a_2^2 \\
s_2 &\equiv 2 \operatorname{Re} [(\hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \cdot \mathbf{E})^* (\hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \cdot \mathbf{E})] = 2a_1 a_2 \cos(\delta_2 - \delta_1) \\
s_3 &\equiv 2 \operatorname{Im} [(\hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \cdot \mathbf{E})^* (\hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \cdot \mathbf{E})] = 2a_1 a_2 \sin(\delta_2 - \delta_1).
\end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned}
s_0 &= |\hat{\mathbf{e}}_+^* \cdot \mathbf{E}|^2 + |\hat{\mathbf{e}}_-^* \cdot \mathbf{E}|^2 = a_+^2 + a_-^2 \\
s_1 &= 2 \operatorname{Re} [(\hat{\mathbf{e}}_+^* \cdot \mathbf{E})^* (\hat{\mathbf{e}}_-^* \cdot \mathbf{E})] = 2a_+ a_- \cos(\delta_+ - \delta_-) \\
s_2 &= 2 \operatorname{Im} [(\hat{\mathbf{e}}_+^* \cdot \mathbf{E})^* (\hat{\mathbf{e}}_-^* \cdot \mathbf{E})] = 2a_+ a_- \sin(\delta_+ - \delta_-) \\
s_3 &= |\hat{\mathbf{e}}_+^* \cdot \mathbf{E}|^2 - |\hat{\mathbf{e}}_-^* \cdot \mathbf{E}|^2 = a_+^2 - a_-^2.
\end{aligned}$$

7 Interface of two nondissipative linear media:

The boundary conditions are:

$$\left. \begin{aligned}
\mathbf{D} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} \text{ continuous:} & \quad [\epsilon (\mathbf{E}_0 + \mathbf{E}_0'') - \epsilon' \mathbf{E}_0'] \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = 0 \\
\mathbf{B} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} \text{ continuous:} & \quad [\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}_0 + \mathbf{k}'' \times \mathbf{E}_0'' - \mathbf{k}' \times \mathbf{E}_0'] \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = 0 \\
\mathbf{E} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}} \text{ continuous:} & \quad [\mathbf{E}_0 + \mathbf{E}_0'' - \mathbf{E}_0'] \times \hat{\mathbf{n}} = 0 \\
\mathbf{H} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}} \text{ continuous:} & \quad [(1/\mu) \{\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}_0 + \mathbf{k}'' \times \mathbf{E}_0''\} - (1/\mu') \{\mathbf{k}' \times \mathbf{E}_0'\}] \times \hat{\mathbf{n}} = 0
\end{aligned} \right\} \quad (15)$$

8 Spherical harmonics

The first several spherical harmonics are:

$$\begin{aligned}
Y_{00}(\vartheta, \varphi) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \\
Y_{11}(\vartheta, \varphi) &= -\sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} \sin \vartheta e^{i\varphi} = -\sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} \frac{x + iy}{r} \\
Y_{10}(\vartheta, \varphi) &= \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \cos \vartheta = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \frac{z}{r} \\
Y_{1,-1}(\vartheta, \varphi) &= \sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} \sin \vartheta e^{-i\varphi} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} \frac{x - iy}{r} \\
Y_{22}(\vartheta, \varphi) &= \sqrt{\frac{15}{32\pi}} \sin^2 \vartheta e^{2i\varphi} = \sqrt{\frac{15}{32\pi}} \frac{(x + iy)^2}{r^2} \\
Y_{21}(\vartheta, \varphi) &= -\sqrt{\frac{15}{8\pi}} \sin \vartheta \cos \vartheta e^{i\varphi} = -\sqrt{\frac{15}{8\pi}} \frac{(x + iy)z}{r^2} \\
Y_{20}(\vartheta, \varphi) &= \sqrt{\frac{5}{16\pi}} (3 \cos^2 \vartheta - 1) = \sqrt{\frac{5}{16\pi}} \frac{2z^2 - x^2 - y^2}{r^2} \\
Y_{2,-1}(\vartheta, \varphi) &= -Y_{21}^*(\vartheta, \varphi) = \sqrt{\frac{15}{8\pi}} \frac{(x - iy)z}{r^2} \\
Y_{2,-2}(\vartheta, \varphi) &= Y_{22}^*(\vartheta, \varphi) = \sqrt{\frac{15}{32\pi}} \frac{(x - iy)^2}{r^2}.
\end{aligned}$$