

Electrodynamics III: Assignment 6.

Due May 24 at 11:00am in class or 10:45am in the instructor's mailbox.

1. Short exercise. Show that the electromagnetic stress tensor is indeed traceless.
2. More field transformations. In the unprimed frame there are \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} fields at a certain point. Find the velocity (direction and speed) of a primed frame relative to the unprimed frame where those \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} fields are aligned in the same direction.
3. Massive photons.
 - a. Show that the source-free form of the Proca Lagrangian (Jackson eqn 12.91 without the interaction term) leads to the source-free Proca Equation (Jackson eqn 12.92 without the source term).
 - b. Show that the source-free Proca Equation leads to a Klein-Gordon equation for the massive vector field. Notice the mass appears in the usual way in this Klein-Gordon equation. This suggests incorporating mass in the form of the Lagrangian in (a) is sensible.
 - c. Show that the Klein-Gordon equation in (b) contains the appropriate dispersion relation for a particle with mass. Notice the mass, too, appears in the usual way in this dispersion relation. This, too, suggests the form of the Lagrangian is sensible.
4. Consider a particle of mass m and charge e moving in the field of a fixed-position charge e .
 - a. What is the appropriate Lagrangian for this system?
 - b. Show that the angular momentum and total energy are constants of the motion.
 - c. Show that the equation of motion is $(E - e/r)^2 = \vec{p}^2 + m^2$ with \vec{p} the particle momentum and E the total energy.

If we had carried this further, we'd find the orbits do not have a 2π periodicity, as they would non-relativistically. Another difference is that for relativistic attractive forces, the particle spirals inwards,

eventually reaching the origin in a finite time, this wouldn't happen in the non-relativistic case (except for zero angular momentum).

[ver 17may19 15:30]