

PHYSICS 323: Second midterm May 21, 2019, Solutions

Name: _____ Score _____/20

1. *Maxwell's Equations and Potentials*

(a) (4) Write down Maxwell's equations in the presence of time-dependent charge and current sources, using ϵ_0, μ_0 for simplicity.

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} &= \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{B} &= \mu_0 \mathbf{J} + \frac{1}{\epsilon_0 \mu_0} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}, \quad \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}\end{aligned}$$

(b) (8) Which of the above Maxwell's equations allows one to derive expressions for $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ and $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ in terms of scalar $V(\mathbf{r}, t)$ and vector $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ potentials. Why?

$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$ and $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$ because these are independent of the sources ρ and \mathbf{J} .

(c) (8) Suppose you are given potentials $V(\mathbf{r}, t)$ and $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ that are expressed in the Lorentz gauge. Determine the potentials in the Coulomb gauge.

$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V - \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t}$, $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$. Another set of potentials yielding the same fields is given by $\mathbf{A}_C = \mathbf{A} + \nabla \Lambda$, $V_C = V - \frac{\partial \Lambda}{\partial t}$ where C stands for Coulomb. In the Lorentz gauge $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = 0$. In the Coulomb gauge $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}_C = 0 = \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{A} + \nabla \Lambda) = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \nabla^2 \Lambda$ so

$\nabla^2 \Lambda = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$, which means that $\Lambda = \frac{-1}{4\pi c^2} \int \frac{\partial V(\mathbf{r}', t)}{\partial t} d^3 r'$ Knowing Lambda gives both V and \mathbf{A} .

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2. Vector Potential in the Radiation Zone

A source of current and charge oscillates with angular frequency ω . The current density is written in complex notation as $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}, t) = J_0 e^{-r^2/R^2} \hat{\mathbf{z}} e^{-i\omega t}$, where $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ represents the direction of the z -axis.

(a) (7) Determine the (time-dependent) charge density $\rho(\mathbf{r}, t)$.

Use current conservation (CC) $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = 0$. Must have $\rho(\mathbf{r}, t) = \rho(\mathbf{r}) e^{-i\omega t}$ for CC to hold,

so $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -i\omega \rho = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = \frac{\partial J_z(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial z}$. Use $\frac{\partial r}{\partial z} = z/r$ to find $\rho = \frac{i}{\omega} \frac{z}{r} J_0 e^{-r^2/R^2} e^{-i\omega t}$.

(b) (7) Compute the resulting vector potential $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ for positions \mathbf{r} such that $r \gg R$. You may express your answer in terms of a well-defined **one**-dimensional integral.

(5) $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \hat{\mathbf{z}} \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi r} e^{ikr} \int d^3r' e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}'} J_0 e^{-r'^2/R^2}$, with $k = \omega/c$, $\mathbf{k} \equiv k\hat{\mathbf{z}}$

Doing the rest is worth 2.

To get this to a one-dimensional form one needs to evaluate. $\int d\Omega' e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}'}$ let the z -axis be the direction of \mathbf{k} . Then $\int d\Omega' e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}'} = \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^\pi d\theta \sin \theta e^{ik \cos \theta r'} = 4\pi \frac{\sin kr'}{kr'}$ Using this gives

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \hat{\mathbf{z}} J_0 \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi r} e^{ikr} \int_0^\infty \frac{r' dr'}{k} \sin kr' e^{-r'^2/R^2}$$

(c) (6) Determine the electric field for positions along the z -axis (for $r \gg R$). Explain your result.

$\mathbf{E}=0$ because $B = \nabla \times \mathbf{A} = i\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{A}$ and from Maxwell $\mathbf{E} = -c^2/\omega \mathbf{k} \times (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{A})$. For positions along the z -axis, \mathbf{k} is parallel to the z axis and parallel to \mathbf{A} and $\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{A} = 0$

3. Angular distribution of radiated power.

Suppose that a source of charge and current, existing in a finite region of space-time, oscillates with an angular frequency ω . Furthermore, measurements made at positions very far from the sources can be summarized by a vector potential given in complex notation by $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mu_0 \frac{i\omega}{c} \frac{e^{i(kr - \omega t)}}{r} I_0 L^2 (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$, where $k = \omega/c$, and I_0, L are a given current and length, and $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$, represents the direction of the z -axis, and (as usual in spherical coordinates) θ is the angle between \mathbf{r} and the z -axis.

(a) (4) Explain why the factor in the expression for \mathbf{A} is given as $I_0 L^2$.

This is needed for proper dimensions. The vector potential must have units of $\mu_0 I$. The expression here has units of $\mu I_0 L^2 \frac{\omega}{cr}$ ω/c has units inverse length, so that the given expression has the proper units.

(b) (5) Determine \mathbf{B} for the given vector potential.

$\mathbf{B} = i\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{A}$, with $\mathbf{k} \equiv k\hat{\mathbf{r}}$ so $\mathbf{B} = (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \mu_0 i \left(\frac{\omega}{c}\right)^2 \frac{e^{i(kr - \omega t)}}{r} I_0 L^2 (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$ Then finish with

$$(\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}) = \hat{\phi}, \text{ so } \mathbf{B} = \hat{\phi} \mu_0 i \left(\frac{\omega}{c}\right)^2 \frac{e^{i(kr - \omega t)}}{r} I_0 L^2 (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$$

(c) (5) Determine \mathbf{E} for the given vector potential. from Maxwell

$$\mathbf{E} = ic^2/\omega \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{B} = ic\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \mathbf{B} = icB\hat{\theta}$$

(d) (6) Determine the angular distribution of radiated power.

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \frac{1}{2\mu_0} r^2 (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}^*) = \frac{c}{2\mu_0} |B|^2 = \frac{c}{2\mu_0} [\mu_0 \left(\frac{\omega}{c}\right)^2 I_0 L^2 (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)]^2 (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \cdot (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}})$$

$$(\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \cdot (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}) = \sin^2 \theta \text{ so}$$

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{\mu_0 c}{2} \left(\frac{\omega}{c}\right)^4 I_0^2 L^4 \sin^2 \theta (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)^2$$