

Green's function for the wave equation

We want to begin exploring wave generation resulting from oscillating currents and charges. To do this we need to calculate the Green's function response of a wave equation to a specified source. This will allow us to explore how Maxwell's eqns respond to oscillatory sources. We have the generic form

$$\nabla^2 \psi - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \psi = -4\pi \delta(x, t)$$

To solve this equation for $\psi(x, t)$ we need the Green's function

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

where $G = 0$ for $t \leq t'$. Namely, G is the response function source that turns on at $t = t'$. Take the Fourier transform of the equation in space and the Laplace transform in time,

$$\hat{G}(k, \omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \int_0^{\infty} dt e^{-ikx} e^{-i\omega t} G(x, t)$$

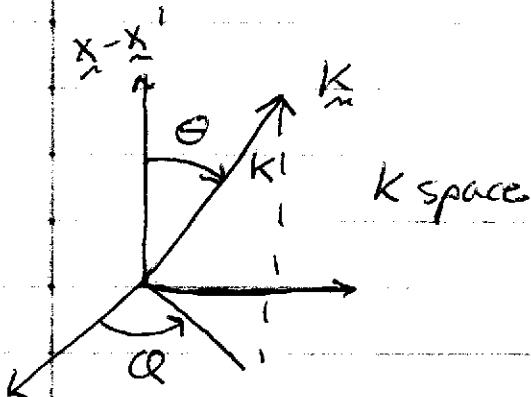
Operating on the wave equation,

$$\left(-k^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}\right) \hat{G}_r = -4\pi e^{-ik_0 x'} e^{i\omega t'}$$

~~where~~ where $G_r = 0$ for $t=0 < t'$.

$$\hat{G}_r = \frac{4\pi}{e} \frac{e^{i\omega t' - ik_0 x'}}{k^2 - \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}}$$

$$G_r(x, t) = 4\pi \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dw \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{e^{-i\omega(t-t')} e^{ik_0(x-x')}}{k^2 - \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}}$$



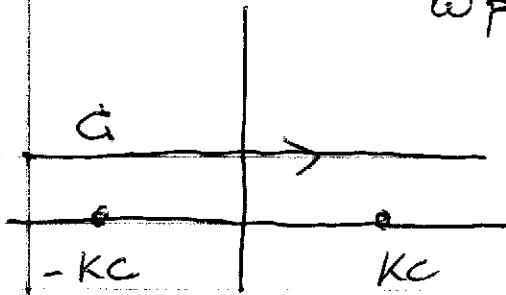
$$dk = d(\cos\theta) d\phi k^2 dk$$

$$G_r = \frac{4\pi (2\pi)}{(2\pi)^4} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dw \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk k^2 e^{-i\omega(t-t')} \int_{-1}^1 d(\cos\theta) e^{ik|x-x'| \cos\theta}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int_0^{\infty} dk k^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dw \frac{e^{-i\omega(t-t')}}{k^2 - \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}} \left(\frac{e^{ik|x-x'|} - e^{-ik|x-x'|}}{ik|x-x'|} \right)$$

Require $G_r = 0$ for $t < t'$.

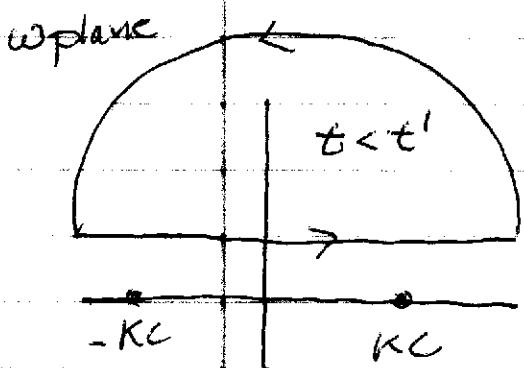
w plane



C must lie above the singularities at $\pm kc$

For $t < t'$, $e^{-i\omega(t-t')} = e^{i\omega(t'-t)}$
can close the contour in the UHP where $e^{i\omega(t'-t)} \rightarrow 0$

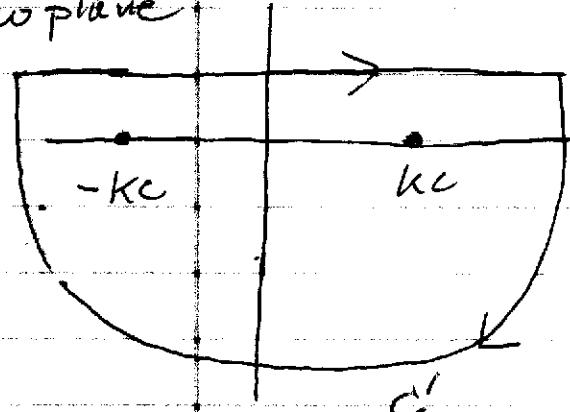
since $\text{Im}(\omega) > 0$ and $t' > t$.



From Jordan's lemma can discard contribution from circle \Rightarrow integrand $\sim \frac{1}{\omega^2}$.
 \Rightarrow no singularities in UHP
so $G = 0$ for $t' > t$.

For $t \geq t'$, can close the contour C in the LHP and evaluate the residues at $w = \pm kc$.

w plane



$$G = -\frac{c^2}{2\pi^2} \int_0^\infty dk k \left(\frac{e^{ik(x-x')}-e^{-ik(x-x')}}{i(x-x')} \right)$$

$$\times \int_{C'} dw \frac{e^{-i\omega(t-t')}}{(\omega-kc)(\omega+kc)}$$

$$- 2\pi i \left(\frac{e^{-ikc(t-t')}}{2kc} + \frac{e^{ikc(t-t')}}{-2kc} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_r &= \frac{c}{\pi} \int_0^\infty dk \frac{\sin(k|x-x'|)}{|x-x'|} \underbrace{\sin[kc(t-t')]}_{\text{Im } e^{ikc(t-t')}} \\
 &= \frac{c}{\pi} \frac{1}{|x-x'|} \text{Im} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{dk c e^{ikc(t-t')}}{c} \left(e^{\frac{i k |x-x'| - i k |x-x'|}{c}} - e^{-\frac{i k |x-x'| - i k |x-x'|}{c}} \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{|x-x'|} \text{Im}(-i) \left[\delta \left[\frac{|x-x'|}{c} + t - t' \right] \cancel{-} \delta \left[\frac{|x-x'|}{c} - t + t' \right] \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

The argument in the first δ -function is positive since $t > t'$ so is discarded

$$G_r = \frac{1}{|x-x'|} \delta \left[t' - \left(t - \frac{|x-x'|}{c} \right) \right]$$

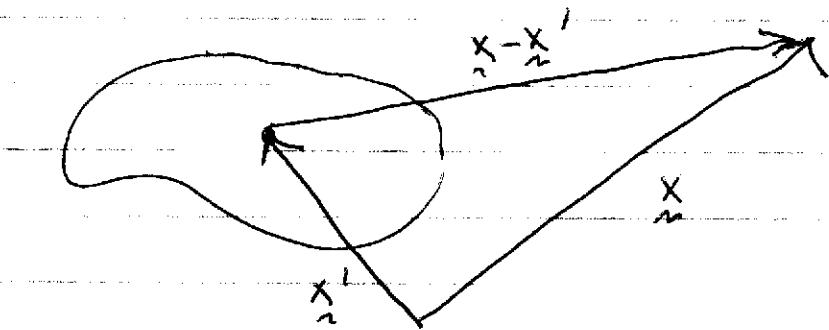
This is the retarded Green's function. At the position $|x-x'|$ the source is evaluated at the earlier time

$$t - \frac{|x-x'|}{c} \Rightarrow \text{retarded time}$$

due to the fact that the signal takes a finite time to propagate a distance $|x-x'|$ from the source.

Thus, the solution $\psi(x, t)$ is given by

$$\psi = \frac{\int dx' dt' \delta(x'_i, t')}{|x - x'|} \delta[t' - (t - \frac{|x - x'|}{c})]$$



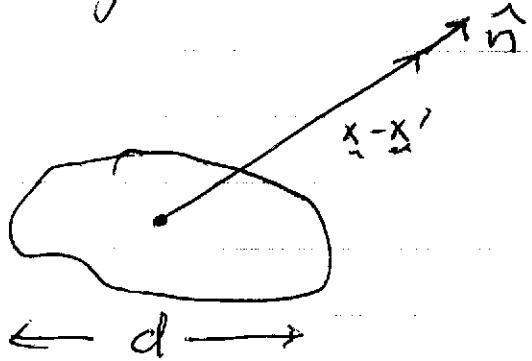
At the point x , we observe the effect of δ from an earlier time $t - |x - x'|/c$. This accounts for the delay in the propagation of a wave of velocity c from x' to x . At $t' = t - |x - x'|/c$ the source emits a signal that arrives at x at t .

Fields from a localized oscillating source

Consider a localized region of currents and charges

$$e(x) e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$\vec{J}(x) e^{-i\omega t}$$



We want to calculate \vec{E}, \vec{B} produced by these sources

→ assume the Lorenz gauge

$$(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}) \vec{A} = -\mu_0 \vec{J}$$

$$\text{with } \nabla \cdot \vec{A} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{A} = 0$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{A} &= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int dx' dt' \frac{\vec{J}(x') e^{-i\omega t'}}{|x-x'|} \delta[t' - (t - \frac{|x-x'|}{c})] \\ &= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int dx' \frac{\vec{J}(x')}{|x-x'|} e^{-i\omega [t - \frac{|x-x'|}{c}]} \\ &= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} e^{-i\omega t} \int dx' \frac{\vec{J}(x')}{|x-x'|} e^{ik|x-x'|} \end{aligned}$$

with $k \equiv \omega/c$.

Thus, the dependence of A on $|x-x'|$ depends both on the distance $|x-x'|$ from the source but $k|x-x'|$. That is, there is a new scale

$$|x-x'| \sim \frac{1}{k}$$

Outside of the source we can evaluate

$$\vec{B} = \nabla \times \vec{A}_{\text{in}}$$

and

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = - \frac{i\omega}{c^2} \vec{E}$$

$$\vec{E} = i c \frac{1}{k} \nabla \times \vec{B}$$

Near zone: $k|x-x'| \ll 1$ but $|x-x'| \gg d$

$$\vec{A} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \vec{e}^{i\omega t} \int dx' J(x') \frac{1}{|x-x'|}$$

This is the same as the result from magneto statics

\Rightarrow when light travels the distance $|x-x'|$ on a time scale short compared with $1/\omega$, have the quasi-static solution.

$\Rightarrow B$ falls off as $1/x^2$

Far zone: take $|x'| \approx d$ but $k|x| \gg 1$
with $|x| \gg |x'|$

$$|x - x'| = \sqrt{x^2 - 2x \cdot x' + x'^2}^{1/2}$$

$$\approx x \left(1 - 2 \frac{\hat{n} \cdot \hat{x}'}{x} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\approx x - \hat{n} \cdot \hat{x}' = |x| - \hat{n} \cdot \hat{x}'$$

$$A = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} e^{-i\omega t} \frac{e^{ik|x|}}{|x|} \underbrace{\int dx' J(x') e^{-ikx' \cdot \hat{n}}}_{\text{Independent of } |x|, t}$$

Independent of $|x|, t$
but depends on the
angle of the source
compared with the
observation location
(through \hat{n}).

\Rightarrow corresponds to an outward
propagating wave with phase

$$\delta = k|x| - \omega t = k(|x| - ct)$$

\Rightarrow phase front propagates at
 $|x| = ct$

$\Rightarrow E, B \sim \frac{1}{|x|}$, $S \sim \frac{1}{|x|^2}$, energy flux
 $\sim |x|^2 S \sim \text{const.}$

Electric Dipole Fields

In the limit where \mathbf{J} is localized over a distance small compared with $k = c/\omega$ the source integral is easily evaluated

⇒ dipole limit

⇒ source small compared with

For $k d \ll 1$, free-space wavelength

$$e^{-i\mathbf{x} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}} k} \approx (1 - i k \mathbf{x}' \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} + \dots)$$

$$\mathbf{A} \approx \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{e^{ik|\mathbf{x}|}}{|\mathbf{x}|} e^{-i\omega t} \underbrace{\int d\mathbf{x}' J(\mathbf{x}')}_{\text{unit tensor}}$$

$$\int d\mathbf{x}' J(\mathbf{x}') \cdot \nabla' \frac{\mathbf{x}'}{|\mathbf{x}'|}$$

unit tensor

$$= \underbrace{\int d\mathbf{x}' \mathbf{x}' \nabla' \cdot J}_{\text{integration by parts}}$$

integration by parts

But

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = 0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = i \omega \mathbf{E}$$

$$\hat{A} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{e^{ik|\vec{x}|}}{|\vec{x}|} e^{-i\omega t} \int d\vec{x}' (-i\omega \rho(\vec{x}') \vec{x}')$$

$\vec{P} = \int d\vec{x}' \vec{x}' \rho(\vec{x}') = \text{electric dipole moment}$

$$\hat{A} = -i\omega \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \vec{P} \frac{e^{ik|\vec{x}|}}{|\vec{x}|} e^{-i\omega t}$$

When evaluating $\hat{B} = \nabla \times \hat{A}$, ∇ acts on $e^{ik|\vec{x}|}$ in the "fan zone"

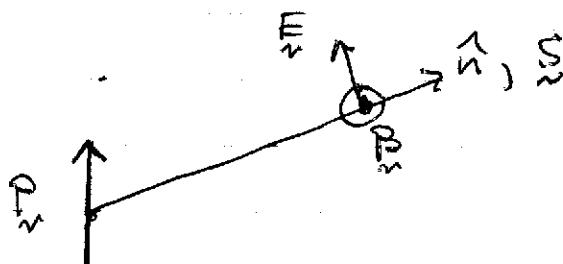
$$\Rightarrow \nabla e^{ik|\vec{x}|} = ik \nabla |\vec{x}| = ik \hat{n}$$

$$\hat{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \omega k \hat{n} \times \vec{P} e^{ik|\vec{x}|} e^{-i\omega t} \frac{1}{|\vec{x}|}$$

$$= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} k^2 c \hat{n} \times \vec{P} e^{ik|\vec{x}|} e^{-i\omega t} \frac{1}{|\vec{x}|}$$

\Rightarrow falls off as $\frac{1}{|\vec{x}|}$

$$\hat{E} = i \frac{c}{R} \nabla \times \hat{B} = c \hat{B} \times \hat{n} \sim \frac{1}{|\vec{x}|}$$



Power radiated

$$\vec{S} \cdot \hat{n} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\mu_0} \hat{n} \cdot \vec{E}_0 \times \vec{B}_0^*$$

$$= \frac{c}{2\mu_0} \hat{n} \cdot (\vec{B}_0 \times \hat{n}) \times \vec{B}_0^* = \frac{|\vec{B}_0|^2}{2\mu_0} c$$

$\underbrace{\quad}_{\bar{u}}$

$$= \frac{c \epsilon_0 \mu_0^2}{2\mu_0} \frac{k^4 c^2}{16\pi^2} \frac{|\hat{n} \times \vec{P}|^2}{\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{|x|^2}$$

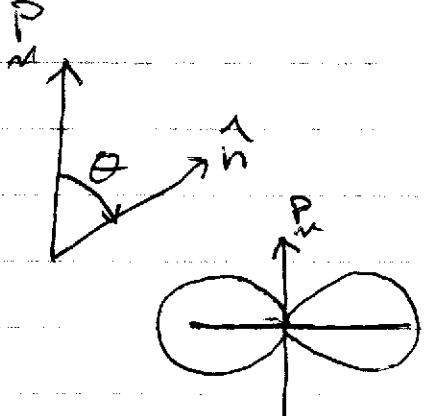
$$= \frac{c}{32\pi^2} k^4 |\hat{n} \times \vec{P}|^2 \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{|x|^2}$$

$$\frac{\text{Power}}{\text{solid angle}} = |x|^2 \vec{S} \cdot \hat{n} = \frac{dP}{d\Omega}$$

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{c}{32\pi^2} k^4 \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} |\hat{n} \times \vec{P}|^2$$

\Rightarrow independent of $|x|$

\Rightarrow Power flux from radiation field is (\hat{n}) independent.



$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{c}{32\pi^2} k^4 \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} |\vec{P}|^2 \sin^2 \theta$$

\Rightarrow peaks \perp to P

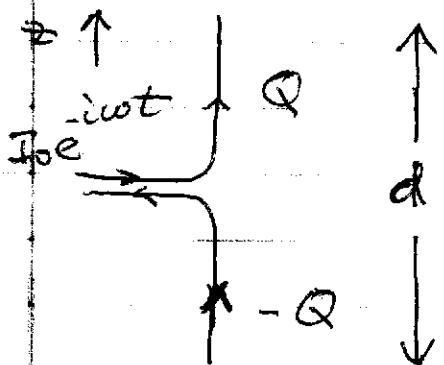
Integrate over all angles

$$P = -\frac{c}{32\pi^2} k^4 |P|^2 \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \int_{-1}^1 d\cos(\theta) (1 - \cos^2 \theta) 2\pi$$

$$2 - 2\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$\boxed{P = \frac{c}{12\pi} k^4 |P|^2 \frac{1}{\epsilon_0}}$$

Center fed antenna :



$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = I_0 e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$Q = \frac{I_0 e^{-i\omega t}}{-i\omega}$$

$$\frac{Q}{d/2} = \frac{2 I_0 e^{-i\omega t}}{-i\omega d} = \frac{\text{charge}}{\text{length}}$$

$\Rightarrow \frac{Q}{d}$ independent of z

\Rightarrow For $k d \ll 1$, charge has time to spread uniformly along antenna $d/2$

$$P_z = 2 \int_0^d dz \neq \frac{2 I_0}{-i\omega d} = i \frac{I_0 d}{2\omega}$$

$$P = \frac{c}{12\pi} k^4 \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \frac{I_0^2 d^2}{4\omega^2} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sqrt{\frac{I_0}{\epsilon_0}} (kd)^2 I_0^2$$

The power increases as $(kd)^2 = \frac{\omega^2 d^2}{c^2}$.

Assumed $kd \ll 1$ in dipole limit. Can calculate radiation for arbitrary kd

\Rightarrow radiation peaks for $kd \approx 1$

Radiation resistance:

The power dissipated in a simple circuit is

$$P = \langle I^2 R \rangle_t = \frac{I_0^2}{2} R$$

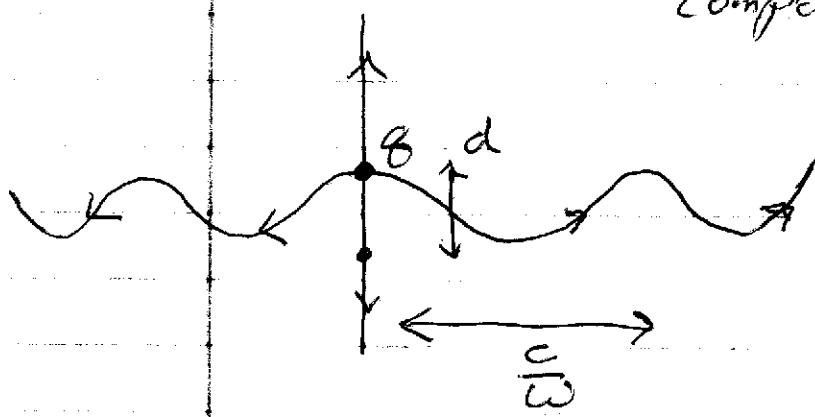
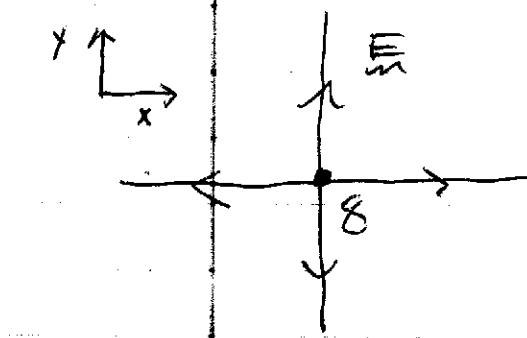
\Rightarrow radiation resistance of antenna

$$R_p = \frac{1}{24\pi} \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}} (kd)^2$$

\Rightarrow Power is radiated from the antenna so from the point of view of the circuit connected to the antenna there is an effective resistance.

Physical picture of radiation

Consider a charge q . At rest E points radially outwards. Suppose that q oscillates vertically (y) with frequency ω and amplitude d . Because the propagation velocity of E at c , the E takes a sinusoidal form with components of E along y .

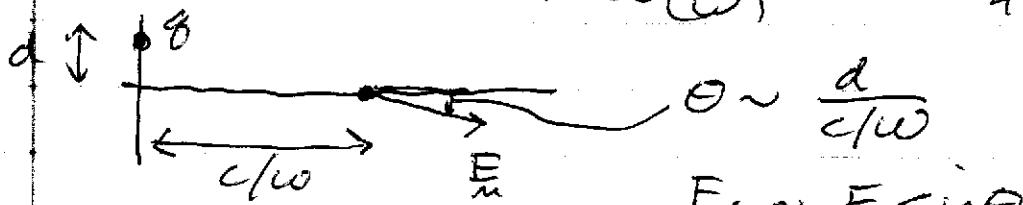


Information about the direction E propagates outward at velocity c .

\Rightarrow transition from near to far zone at a distance c/ω .

Estimate of $E_t = E_y$:

$$E_t \sim \left(\frac{d}{c/\omega}\right) \frac{8}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (\frac{c}{\omega})^2} \sim \frac{P}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (c/\omega)^3}$$



$$E_t \sim E \sin \theta$$

$$E \sim \frac{8}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (c/\omega)^2}$$

$$\sin \theta \sim d/(c/\omega)$$

Estimate of B_t :

Vertical oscillation of charge produces B_t in the z direction. From Faraday's law

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} + \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$B_t \approx \frac{k}{\omega} E_t \approx \frac{1}{c} E_t$$

$$S \sim E_t H_t \sim E_t \left(\frac{1}{\mu_0 c} E_t \right) \sim \frac{E_t^2}{\mu_0 c}$$

$$P \sim \underbrace{\left(\frac{E_t^2}{\mu_0 c} \right)}_{\text{Poynting flux}} \underbrace{4\pi \frac{c^2}{\omega^2}}_{\text{area}}$$

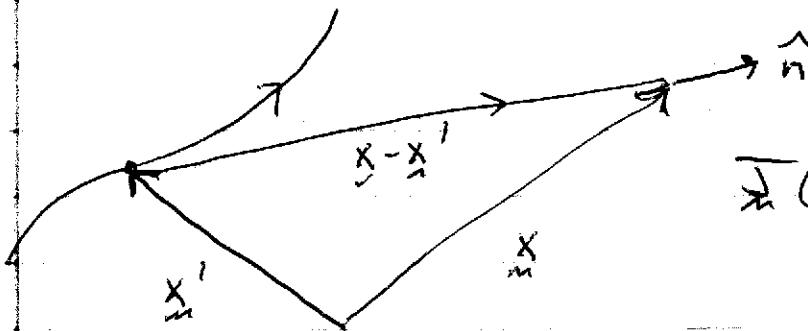
$$P \sim \frac{P^2}{16\pi^2 \epsilon_0^2} \frac{1}{(c/\omega)^6} 4\pi \left(\frac{c}{\omega} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\mu_0 c}$$

$$\sim \frac{k^4 P^2 c}{4\pi \epsilon_0} \quad \text{with } k = \frac{\omega}{c} \text{ and } \mu_0 \epsilon_0 = \frac{1}{c^2}$$

\Rightarrow same as power radiated in the dipole limit.

Radiation from an accelerating charge

Consider a charge g moving with velocity $\vec{v}(t)$ and at a position $\vec{r}(t)$.



$$\vec{x}(x', t') = g \vec{v}(t')$$

$$\textcircled{X} \delta[x' - \vec{r}(t')]$$

The vector potential A associated with the charge is given by the retarded Green's function,

$$A = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int dt' dx' \frac{\vec{x}(x', t')}{|x - x'|} \delta[t' - (t - \frac{|x - x'|}{c})]$$

$$= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \left(dt' \frac{\delta \vec{x}(t')}{R(t')} \right) \delta[t' - t + \frac{1}{c} R(t')]$$

with $R(t') = |x - \vec{r}(t')| \approx |x| - \hat{n} \cdot \vec{r}(t')$
for $|x| \gg |\vec{r}|$. Define

$$t_{\text{ret}} + \frac{1}{c} R(t_{\text{ret}}) = t$$

Recall that $\int dt' \delta[t' - t] = \frac{1}{|\partial t'/\partial t|} \Big|_{t_{\text{ret}}}^t$

so

$$\underline{A} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \left(\frac{\underline{\underline{\epsilon}} \underline{v}}{R} \frac{1}{|1 + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\underline{\underline{\epsilon}}}{\underline{\underline{\epsilon}}} \underline{v} \cdot \underline{n}|} \right) \Big|_{t' = t_{\text{ret}}}$$

$$\frac{\underline{\underline{\epsilon}}}{\underline{\underline{\epsilon}}} \underline{v} \cdot \underline{n} = - \hat{n} \cdot \frac{\underline{\underline{\epsilon}}}{\underline{\underline{\epsilon}}} \underline{v}' = - \hat{n} \cdot \underline{v}$$

$$\underline{A} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \left(\frac{\underline{\underline{\epsilon}} \underline{v}}{R} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{c} \underline{n} \cdot \underline{v}} \right) \Big|_{t_{\text{ret}}}$$

Similarly for $\underline{\phi}$,

$$\underline{\phi} = \frac{1}{4\pi\mu_0} \left[\frac{\underline{\underline{\epsilon}}}{(1 - \frac{1}{c} \underline{n} \cdot \underline{v}) R} \frac{1}{R} \right] \Big|_{t_{\text{ret}}}$$

 \Rightarrow Lénard-Wiechart potentials \Rightarrow valid for arbitrary v/c \Rightarrow consider $|v/c| \ll 1$ and evaluate \underline{E} and \underline{B}

$$\underline{B} = \nabla \times \underline{A}$$

 \Rightarrow can neglect v/c correction in denominator $\Rightarrow 1 - \frac{1}{c} \underline{n} \cdot \underline{v} \approx 1$

\Rightarrow recall at t_{ret} depends on (X)

$$\vec{B} \approx \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{\vec{S}}{R} \nabla \times \vec{v}(t_{\text{ret}})$$

\Rightarrow neglect $\nabla \frac{1}{R}$ \Rightarrow radiation field dominates near
field $\sim \frac{1}{R^2}$

$$\vec{B} \approx \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{\vec{S}}{R} \nabla(t_{\text{ret}}) \times \vec{i}$$

To calculate $\nabla(t_{\text{ret}})$,

$$t_{\text{ret}} + \frac{R(t_{\text{ret}})}{c} = \tau$$

$$t_{\text{ret}} + \frac{(X)}{c} - \hat{n} \cdot \vec{v}(t_{\text{ret}}) \frac{1}{c} = \tau$$

$$\nabla(t_{\text{ret}}) + \frac{\hat{n}}{c} - \hat{n} \cdot \vec{v} \frac{1}{c} \nabla(t_{\text{ret}}) = 0$$

$$\nabla(t_{\text{ret}}) = - \frac{\frac{\hat{n}}{c}}{1 - \frac{\hat{n} \cdot \vec{v}}{c}} \approx - \frac{\hat{n}}{c}$$

$$\vec{B} = - \frac{\vec{S}}{R} \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{1}{c} \hat{n} \times \vec{i} \Big|_{t_{\text{ret}}}$$

Calculate E from the displacement current,

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{E}$$

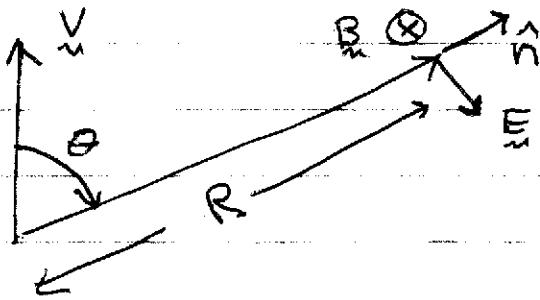
$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = - \frac{\mu_0}{R} \frac{1}{4\pi c} \nabla(t_{\text{ret}}) \times (\hat{n} \times \vec{v})$$

$$= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{1}{c^2 R} \hat{n} \times (\hat{n} \times \vec{v})$$

$$= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{1}{\partial t} \frac{1}{c^2 R} \hat{n} \times (\hat{n} \times \vec{v})$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \left[\frac{1}{R} \hat{n} \times (\hat{n} \times \vec{v}) \right] \Big|_{t_{\text{ret}}}$$

$$= -c \hat{n} \times \vec{B} \quad \text{or} \quad \vec{B} = \frac{1}{c} \hat{n} \times \vec{E}$$



$$E = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{1}{R} \sin \theta \Big|_{t_{\text{ret}}} \quad CB = E$$

Poynting flux :

$$S = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \vec{E} \times \vec{B} = \frac{1}{\mu_0 c} \vec{E} \times (\hat{n} \times \vec{E}) \frac{\epsilon_0}{\epsilon_0}$$

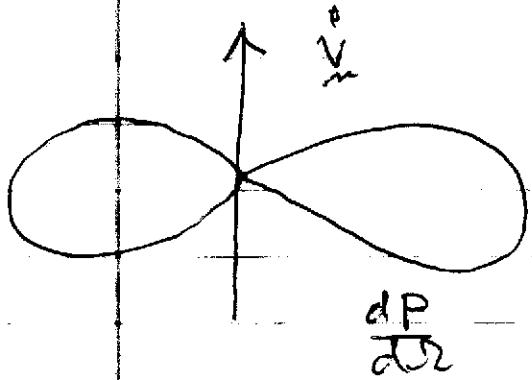
$$= \hat{n} \epsilon_0 |E|^2 c \Big|_{t_{\text{ret}}}$$

$$S = \hat{n} \epsilon_0 c \left(\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \right)^2 \frac{1}{R^2} \sin^2 \theta \vec{v}^2 \Big|_{t_{\text{ret}}}$$

\Rightarrow radiation maximizes at $\theta = \pi/2$

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \hat{n} \cdot \vec{\Omega} R^2 = \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \epsilon_0 \mu_0 g^2 \sin^2 \theta \dot{v}^2 \frac{E}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{16\pi^2 \epsilon_0 c^3} g^2 \dot{v}^2 \sin^2 \theta$$



$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} \sim \sin^2 \theta$$

\Rightarrow peaked \perp to \vec{V}

Can average over solid angle

$$d\Omega = 2\pi d(\cos\theta)$$

$$P = \frac{1}{16\pi^2 \epsilon_0 c^3} g^2 \dot{v}^2 2\pi \underbrace{\int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta (1 - \cos^2\theta)}_{2 - \frac{2}{3}} = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$P = \frac{1}{6\pi} \frac{g^2}{\epsilon_0 c^3} \dot{v}^2 \Big|_{\text{net}}$$

\Rightarrow Larmor formula for radiation from non-relativistic accelerated charge

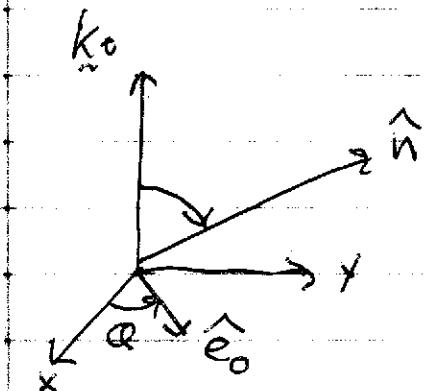
Thomson scattering

An incoming light wave will accelerate electrons. Accelerated electrons will radiate at the frequency of the incident radiation

→ scattering of incident radiation

Consider an incident wave $E_0 = E_0 \hat{e}_0$ the k_0 along \hat{z} direction

$$V_0 = -\frac{e}{m_e} E_0 \hat{e}_0 e^{ik_0 z - i\omega t}$$



$$\langle V^2 \rangle_t = \frac{1}{2} V_0 \cdot V_0^*$$

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{e^2}{16\pi^2 E_0 c^2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2}{m_e^2} |E_0|^2$$

$$\times |\hat{n} \times \hat{e}_0|^2$$

Choose $\hat{n} = (0, \sin\theta, \cos\theta)$

$$\hat{e}_0 = (\cos\phi, \sin\phi, 0)$$

$$|\hat{n} \times \hat{e}_0|^2 = \cos^2\theta + \sin^2\theta \cos^2\phi$$

For unpolarized light, \hat{e}_0 can have any angle

\Rightarrow average over θ

$$\begin{aligned} \langle |\hat{n} \times \hat{e}_0|^2 \rangle_{\theta} &= \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos^2 \theta) \end{aligned}$$

Define a scattering cross section

$$\frac{dG}{d\Omega} = \frac{\text{energy radiated / time - solid angle}}{\text{incident energy / area - time}} \sim \frac{\text{area}}{\text{solid angle}}$$

$$\frac{dG}{d\Omega} = \frac{\frac{e^2}{16\pi^2 \epsilon_0 c^3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2}{m^2} |E_0|^2 (1 + \cos^2 \theta)}{\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 |E_0|^2 c}$$

$$\frac{dG}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{e^2}{4\pi \epsilon_0 c^2 m} \right)^2 \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos^2 \theta)$$

\Rightarrow Thomson formula

Can average over solid angle to find total cross section.

$$\sigma_T = \left(\frac{e^2}{4\pi \epsilon_0 c^2} \right)^2 \cdot \frac{2\pi}{2} \left(1 + \frac{2}{3} \right)$$

$$= \frac{8\pi}{3} \left(\frac{e^2}{4\pi \epsilon_0 m c^2} \right)^2$$

= Thomson cross section

$$= .665 \times 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2$$

$\frac{e^2}{4\pi \epsilon_0 m c^2}$ = classical electron radius

⇒ radius at which electron potential energy is equal to rest mass energy.