## 1 Radiation from a relativistic electron

Consider a relativistic electron (of charge $e$ ) traveling with an initial speed of $v_{o}$ along the $z$-axis. At time $t=0$ it slows down to a stop over a time $\tau$ while moving along the $z$-axis

$$
\begin{equation*}
v(t)=v_{o}\left(1-\frac{t}{\tau}\right), \quad 0 \leq t \leq \tau \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

Recall that the electric field in the far field radiated from a point charge following a trajectory with position $\boldsymbol{x}(t)$, and velocity $\boldsymbol{v}(T)=\boldsymbol{x}^{\prime}(t)$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{E}_{\mathrm{rad}}(t, \boldsymbol{r})=\frac{e}{4 \pi c^{2}}\left[\frac{\boldsymbol{n} \times(\boldsymbol{n}-\boldsymbol{\beta}) \times \boldsymbol{a}}{R(1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})^{3}}\right]_{\mathrm{ret}}, \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where all quantities in square brackets are evaluated at the retarded time, $T(t, \boldsymbol{r})$ (which you will define below). The other symbols are defined as $\boldsymbol{n} \equiv(\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{x}(T)) /|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{x}(T)|$, $R \equiv|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{x}(T)|$, and $\boldsymbol{\beta}=\boldsymbol{v} / c$.
(a) (3 points) Define the retarded time and compute the derivatives $\partial T / \partial t$ and $\partial T / \partial \boldsymbol{r}^{i}$
(b) (3 points) The radiation field $\boldsymbol{E}_{\mathrm{rad}}$ is derived from the Lienard-Wiechert potentials

$$
\begin{align*}
\varphi(t, \boldsymbol{r}) & =\frac{e}{4 \pi}\left[\frac{1}{R(1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})}\right]_{\mathrm{ret}}  \tag{3}\\
\boldsymbol{A}(t, \boldsymbol{r}) & =\frac{e}{4 \pi c}\left[\frac{\boldsymbol{v}}{R(1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})}\right]_{\mathrm{ret}} \tag{4}
\end{align*}
$$

Using far field approximations, show that the Lorenz gauge condition is satisfied by these potentials.
(c) (6 points) For the decelerating electron described above, compute:
(i) the energy radiated per solid angle per retarded time.
(ii) the energy radiated per solid angle per time.

Describe in what physical situations you would be interested in (i) and (ii) respectively. Use no more than two sentences to describe each case.
(d) (4 points) Now consider a relativistic electron with initial energy of 1 GeV .

Examining your results of part (c), you should find that at $t=0$ the radiation is initially emitted (predominantly) at a characteristic angle. Give an order of magnitude estimate for this angle. Explain your estimate by pointing to specific terms in the formula from part (c).
(e) (4 points) Determine the total energy per solid angle emitted as the electron decelerates to a stop.

## Solution

(a) The retarded time is the time that light was emitted at the source such that it arrives at space-time observation point $(t, \boldsymbol{r})$. It satisfies the implicit equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
t-T=|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{x}(T)| / c \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

Differentiating

$$
\begin{align*}
1-\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} & =-\frac{(\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{x}(T))^{\ell}}{|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{x}(T)|} v_{\ell}(T) / c \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}  \tag{6}\\
1-\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} & =-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \beta(T) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} \tag{7}
\end{align*}
$$

Thus

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\partial T}{\partial t}=\frac{1}{1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}(T)} \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Similarly,

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\frac{\partial T}{\partial r^{k}}=\frac{(\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{x}(T))^{\ell}}{|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{x}(T)|}\left(\delta_{\ell k}-\frac{v_{o}(T)_{\ell}}{c} \frac{\partial T}{\partial r^{k}}\right) \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\partial T}{\partial r^{k}}=\frac{-n_{k}}{(1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}(T))} \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

(b) The Lorenz gauge condition reads

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} \varphi+\partial_{i} A^{i}=0 . \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

In the far field we neglect differentiating $1 / R$ and $\boldsymbol{n}$ which lead to subleading terms in $1 / R$. Then in the far field we differentiate

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} \varphi & =\frac{e}{4 \pi R c^{2}} \frac{\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{a}}{(1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})^{2}} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}  \tag{12}\\
& =\frac{e}{4 \pi R c^{2}} \frac{\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{a}}{(1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})^{3}} \tag{13}
\end{align*}
$$

Similarly,

$$
\begin{align*}
\partial_{i} \boldsymbol{A}^{i} & =\frac{e}{4 \pi R c^{2}}\left[\frac{a^{i}}{(1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})} \frac{\partial T}{\partial r^{i}}+\frac{\beta^{i}}{(1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})^{2}}(\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{a}) \frac{\partial T}{\partial r^{i}}\right],  \tag{14}\\
& =\frac{e}{4 \pi R c^{2}}\left[\frac{-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{a}}{(1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})^{2}}+\frac{-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}}{(1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})^{3}}(\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{a})\right],  \tag{15}\\
& =\frac{e}{4 \pi R c^{2}}\left[\frac{-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{a}}{(1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})^{3}}\right] . \tag{16}
\end{align*}
$$

So we verify that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} \varphi+\partial_{i} \boldsymbol{A}^{i}=0 \tag{17}
\end{equation*}
$$

(c) In this case $\boldsymbol{\beta} \times \boldsymbol{a}=0,|\boldsymbol{n} \times \boldsymbol{n} \times \boldsymbol{a}|=a \sin (\theta)$, and thus the magnitude of $\boldsymbol{E}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
E=\frac{e}{4 \pi R c^{2}} \frac{a \sin \theta}{(1-\beta(T) \cos \theta)^{3}} \tag{18}
\end{equation*}
$$

So the energy per time per solid angle

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{d W}{d t d \Omega} & =\lim _{r \rightarrow \infty} c|r \boldsymbol{E}|^{2}  \tag{19}\\
& =\frac{e}{(4 \pi)^{2} c^{3}} \frac{a^{2} \sin ^{2} \theta}{(1-\beta(T) \cos \theta)^{6}} \tag{20}
\end{align*}
$$

where $a=v_{o} / \tau$, and $\beta(T)=\beta_{o}(1-T / \tau)$. The energy per retarded time per solid angle is

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{d W}{d T d \Omega} & =\frac{d W}{d t d \Omega} \frac{d t}{d T}  \tag{21}\\
& =\frac{e^{2}}{(4 \pi)^{2} c^{3}} \frac{a^{2} \sin ^{2} \theta}{(1-\beta(T) \cos \theta)^{5}} \tag{22}
\end{align*}
$$

The energy per time is useful if you want to know whether a remote detector will burn up. The energy per retarded time is useful if you want to calculate how much energy is lost to radiation over a given element of a particles trajectory, $d \boldsymbol{x}=\boldsymbol{v}(T) d T$.
(d) We see that the denominator function, $1-\beta_{o} \cos \theta$, is approaching zero at small angle since $\beta_{o} \simeq 1$. Expanding $\beta_{o} \simeq 1-\frac{1}{2 \gamma^{2}}$ and $\cos \theta \simeq 1-\frac{\theta^{2}}{2}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}} \simeq \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2 \gamma_{o}^{2}}+\frac{\theta^{2}}{2}}=\frac{2 \gamma_{o}^{2}}{1+\left(\gamma_{o} \theta\right)^{2}} . \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

So the characteristic angle is $\theta \sim 1 / \gamma_{o}$. For a 1 GeV electron, $\gamma \simeq E / m_{e} c^{2} \sim 2000$. So $\theta \sim 1 / 2000$.
(e) The total energy is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d W}{d \Omega}=\int_{0}^{\tau} d T \frac{d W}{d T d \Omega} \tag{24}
\end{equation*}
$$

So with the result of Eq. 21 we have

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{d W}{d \Omega} & =\frac{e^{2}}{(4 \pi)^{2} c^{3}}\left(a^{2} \sin ^{2} \theta\right) \int_{0}^{\tau} d T \frac{1}{\left(1-\beta_{o}\left(1-\frac{T}{\tau}\right) \cos \theta\right)^{5}}  \tag{25}\\
& =\frac{e^{2}}{(4 \pi)^{2} c^{3}} \frac{\tau\left(a^{2} \sin ^{2} \theta\right)}{4 \beta_{o} \cos \theta}\left[\frac{-1}{\left(1-\beta_{o}\left(1-\frac{T}{\tau}\right) \cos \theta\right)^{4}}\right]_{0}^{\tau}  \tag{26}\\
& =\frac{e^{2}}{(4 \pi)^{2} c^{3}} \frac{\tau\left(a^{2} \sin ^{2} \theta\right)}{4 \beta_{o} \cos \theta}\left[\frac{1}{\left(1-\beta_{o} \cos \theta\right)^{4}}-1\right] \tag{27}
\end{align*}
$$

In the ultra relativistic limit we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{1-\beta_{o} \cos \theta} \simeq \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2 \gamma_{o}^{2}}+\frac{\theta^{2}}{2}}=\frac{2 \gamma_{o}^{2}}{1+\left(\gamma_{o} \theta\right)^{2}} \tag{28}
\end{equation*}
$$

and thus

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d W}{d \Omega} \simeq \frac{e^{2} a^{2} \tau}{(4 \pi)^{2} c^{3}} 4 \gamma_{o}^{2}\left[\frac{\left(\gamma_{o} \theta\right)^{2}}{\left(1+\left(\gamma_{o} \theta\right)^{2}\right)^{4}}\right] \tag{29}
\end{equation*}
$$

## 2 Scattering at different scales

Consider the scattering of an electromagnetic plane wave of wavenumber $k$ and frequency $\omega$ propagating in the $z$ direction. The incident light is linearly polarized in the $y$ direction, $\boldsymbol{E}(t, \boldsymbol{r})=\hat{\boldsymbol{y}} E_{0} e^{i k z-i \omega t}$. The light is scattered by two small dielectric spheres of radius $a$ separated by a distance $b$ with $b \gg a$. The first sphere is centered at the origin, while the second sphere is located on the $z$ axis with $z=b$. The two spheres have dielectric constant $\epsilon=1+\chi$ with $\chi \ll 1$.

(a) (5 points) Consider the scattering of long wavelength light $k b \ll 1$. Determine the total cross section of the two spheres to leading order in $k b$.
(i) How does the cross section of the two spheres compare to the cross section of a single sphere?
(b) (5 points) Remaining in the long wavelength limit $k b \ll 1$, determine the electric field as a function of time at a specific point along the $x$ axis, $\boldsymbol{r}=(x, y, z)=(2 b, 0,0)$. Hint: is this point in the near or far field?
(c) (5 points) Now consider the scattering of shorter wavelength light with $k b \sim 1$ but still $k a \ll 1$. Determine the differential cross section $d \sigma / d \Omega$ of the two spheres for light scattered at an angle $\theta$ in the $z, x$ plane (see diagram above).

- Sketch the differential cross section $d \sigma / d \Omega$ for scattering at $\theta=\pi / 2$ (along the $x$ axis) as a function of $k$ for $k b=0 \ldots 8 \pi$.
(d) (5 points) Now instead of a plane wave of light, consider the scattering of a wave packet with mean wavenumber $\bar{k}$ and bandwidth $\Delta k$, with $\Delta k / k \simeq 1 / 10$. The differential cross section is the energy scattered per solid angle divided by the total energy in the wave packet.
- Qualitatively sketch the differential cross section $d \sigma / d \Omega$ for scattering at $\theta=\pi / 2$ as a function of $\bar{k}$, and contrast this sketch with the $\Delta k=0$ limit drawn in the second part of $(c)$. At large $k$ how does the cross section for the two spheres compare to the cross section for one sphere?


## Solution

(a) To leading order in $k b$ the external field induces an identical dipole moment in each sphere of magnitude $\chi V E_{0}$. The two dipoles then radiate electromagnetic radiation via dipole radiation The total electric dipole moment of the two spheres is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{p}=2 \chi V E_{0} e^{-i \omega t} \hat{\mathrm{y}} \tag{30}
\end{equation*}
$$

The radiated power for dipole radiation

$$
\begin{equation*}
P=\frac{\omega^{4}}{4 \pi c^{3}} \frac{|\boldsymbol{p}|^{2}}{3} \tag{31}
\end{equation*}
$$

So the cross section is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma=\frac{P}{\frac{c}{2}\left|E_{0}\right|^{2}}=\frac{\omega^{4}}{4 \pi c^{2}} \frac{2}{3}\left|p_{0}\right|^{2} \tag{32}
\end{equation*}
$$

Collecting all factors

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma=\frac{P}{\frac{c}{2}\left|E_{0}\right|^{2}}=\frac{\omega^{4}}{4 \pi c^{4}} \frac{8}{3} \chi^{2} V^{2} \tag{33}
\end{equation*}
$$

(i) The total dipole moment is twice as large as a single sphere. The cross goes as the square of the dipole moment and is therefore four times as large
(b) This is in the near field. The electric field is just the electric field of two dipoles, one situated at the origin and one situated at $z=b$. The field from an electric dipole is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{E}=\frac{3(\boldsymbol{p} \cdot \boldsymbol{n}) \boldsymbol{n}-\boldsymbol{p}}{4 \pi r^{3}} \tag{34}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\boldsymbol{n}$ is the vector from the dipole origin to the observation point, and $\boldsymbol{p}$ is the dipole moment. In the current setup, $\boldsymbol{p}$ points in the $y$ direction and $\boldsymbol{n}$ lies in the $x, z$ plane for both dipoles. Thus the sum of the fields from the two dipoles is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{E}=\frac{-\boldsymbol{p}}{4 \pi r_{1}^{3}}+\frac{-\boldsymbol{p}}{4 \pi r_{2}^{3}} \tag{35}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $r_{1}$ and $r_{2}$ are the distances to the two induced dipole moments.

$$
\begin{align*}
& r_{1}=2 b  \tag{36}\\
& r_{2}=\sqrt{(2 b)^{2}+b^{2}}=\sqrt{5} b \tag{37}
\end{align*}
$$

This leads to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{E}(t)=-\hat{\boldsymbol{y}} \frac{\chi V}{4 \pi b^{3}} E_{0} e^{-i \omega t}\left[\frac{1}{8}+\frac{1}{5 \sqrt{5}}\right] \tag{38}
\end{equation*}
$$

(c) In this case the two dipoles are out of phase

$$
\begin{align*}
& \boldsymbol{p}_{1}=\hat{\boldsymbol{y}} \chi V E_{0} e^{-i \omega t}  \tag{39}\\
& \boldsymbol{p}_{2}=\hat{\boldsymbol{y}} \chi V E_{0} e^{-i \omega t+i k b} \tag{40}
\end{align*}
$$

The radiation is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{A}_{\mathrm{rad}}=\frac{e^{-i \omega(t-r / c)}}{4 \pi r c} \int d^{3} \boldsymbol{r}_{o} \boldsymbol{J}\left(\boldsymbol{r}_{o}\right) e^{-i k n \cdot \boldsymbol{r}_{o}} \tag{41}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus examining this integral we see that there is an overall phase difference between the two dipoles

$$
\begin{equation*}
-k \boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{r}_{o}=-k b \cos \theta \tag{42}
\end{equation*}
$$

So

$$
\begin{align*}
& \boldsymbol{E}_{1}=\frac{-\omega^{2} e^{-i \omega(t-r / c)}}{4 \pi r c^{2}} \boldsymbol{n} \times \boldsymbol{n} \times \boldsymbol{p}_{1}  \tag{43}\\
& \boldsymbol{E}_{2}=\frac{-\omega^{2} e^{-i \omega(t-r / c)}}{4 \pi r c^{2}} \boldsymbol{n} \times \boldsymbol{n} \times \boldsymbol{p}_{2} e^{-i k b \cos \theta} \tag{44}
\end{align*}
$$

For $\boldsymbol{n}$ in the $x, z$ plane and $\boldsymbol{p}_{1}$ and $\boldsymbol{p}_{2}$ oriented in the $y$ direction we have $\boldsymbol{n} \times \boldsymbol{n} \times \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}$ $=-\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}$

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{d P}{d \Omega} & =\frac{c}{2}\left|\boldsymbol{E}_{1}+\boldsymbol{E}_{2}\right|^{2}  \tag{45}\\
& =\frac{c k^{4}}{32 \pi^{2}}(\chi V)^{2} E_{0}^{2}\left|1+e^{i k b(1-\cos \theta)}\right|^{2} \tag{46}
\end{align*}
$$

So the cross section is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d \sigma}{d \Omega}=\frac{k^{4}}{16 \pi^{2}}(\chi V)^{2}\left|1+e^{i k b(1-\cos \theta)}\right|^{2} \tag{47}
\end{equation*}
$$

To make a graph we first note that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|1+e^{i k b(1-\cos \theta)}\right|^{2}=\left|2 \cos \left(k b \sin ^{2}(\theta / 2)\right)\right|^{2} . \tag{48}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus at $\theta=\pi / 2$ we are plotting

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left.\frac{d \sigma}{d \Omega}\right|_{\theta=\pi / 2} \propto(k b)^{4} \cos ^{2}(k b / 2) \tag{49}
\end{equation*}
$$

We graph this function below

(d) If the wave packet has a finite band width $\Delta k$, it has a spatial size of order $\Delta x \sim$ $\frac{1}{\Delta k}$. When this size comes comparable to the spacing $b$, i.e. $\Delta x \sim b$ or $\Delta k b \sim 1$, the interference between the scattering centers will not be complete. Indeed, when the mean Fourier compment of the wave packet $\bar{k} b$ is at an interference maximum, most of the Fourier components in the packet, $k \sim(\bar{k} \pm \Delta k) b$, will not be at an interference maximum if $\Delta k b \sim 1$. In the limit $\Delta x \ll b$ (or $\Delta k b \gg 1$ ) the wave packet will scatter off the first sphere and then scatter of the second sphere. The cross section for scattering off of the two spheres is thus twice the cross section for scattering off one of the spheres in this limit.

Since $\Delta k / \bar{k} \sim 10$, when

$$
\begin{equation*}
\bar{k} b \sim 10 \tag{50}
\end{equation*}
$$

the interference betweeen the two scattering centers will begin to wash out. A schematic sketch of the cross section in this case is shown below. In the coherent limit (part (c)) the cross section varies between zero and four times the cross section for the scattering off a single sphere correspoinding to destructive and constructive interference respectively. If there is a finite coherence length $\Delta x$ then the cross section transitions from the coherent limit to the incoherent limit. In the incoherent limit the cross section is twice the cross section of a single sphere.


## 3 Fields of a non-relativistic particle

A charge particle of charge $q$ moves non-relativistically with trajectory $\boldsymbol{R}(t)$ :
(a) (6 pnts) Show that two of the four Maxwell equations are satisfied by expressing the fields $\boldsymbol{E}, \boldsymbol{B}$ in terms of the scalar and vector potentials, $A^{\mu}=(\varphi, \boldsymbol{A})$. Use the remaining Maxwell equations to derive the equations for the scalar and vector potentials in the Lorentz gauge.
(b) (8 pnts) Recall that the Green function of the wave equation is ${ }^{1}$

$$
\begin{equation*}
G\left(t-t_{o}, \boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{r}_{o}\right)=\frac{\theta\left(t-t_{o}\right)}{4 \pi\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{r}_{o}\right|} \delta\left(t-t_{o}-\frac{\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{r}_{o}\right|}{c}\right) . \tag{52}
\end{equation*}
$$

Use this Green function to derive the potential, $\varphi$ and $\boldsymbol{A}$, that are appropriate in the far field and the non-relativistic limit. Explicitly explain how the non-relativistic and far-field approximations are used at various points in the derivation to arrive at the final result.
(c) (4 pnts) If the particle is speeding up along the $z$ axis

$$
\boldsymbol{R}(t)=\left(v_{o} t+\frac{1}{2} a t^{2}\right) \hat{\boldsymbol{z}},
$$

determine the electric field in the far field as measured on the $x$-axis. What is the polarization of the radiated field when measured on this axis?
(d) (2 pnts) Assuming the motion as in part (c), determine the power radiated per solid angle in the $\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}$ direction.

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## Solution

(a) The source free Maxwell are satisfied beacuase partial derivatives commute:

$$
\begin{align*}
\partial_{i} B^{i}=\partial_{i} \epsilon^{i j k} \partial_{j} A_{k} & =0  \tag{53}\\
-\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} B^{i}-(\nabla \times E)^{i} & =-\partial_{t} \epsilon^{i j k} \partial_{j} A_{k}-\epsilon^{i j k} \partial_{j}\left(-\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} A_{k}-\partial_{k} \varphi\right)  \tag{54}\\
& =0 \tag{55}
\end{align*}
$$

The first sourced maxwell equations

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{E}=\rho \tag{56}
\end{equation*}
$$

becomes with $\boldsymbol{E}=-\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} \boldsymbol{A}-\nabla \varphi$

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\square \varphi-\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t}\left(\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} \varphi+\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{A}\right)=\rho \tag{57}
\end{equation*}
$$

Then, writing the second sourced maxwell equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\nabla \times \boldsymbol{B}=\frac{\boldsymbol{j}}{c}+\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} \boldsymbol{E} \tag{58}
\end{equation*}
$$

in terms of $\boldsymbol{A}$ and $\phi$, using

$$
\begin{equation*}
\nabla \times \nabla \times \boldsymbol{A}=-\nabla^{2} \boldsymbol{A}+\nabla(\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{A}) \tag{59}
\end{equation*}
$$

yields

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\square \boldsymbol{A}+\frac{1}{c} \nabla\left(\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} \varphi+\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{A}\right)=\frac{\boldsymbol{j}}{c} . \tag{60}
\end{equation*}
$$

In the Lorentz gauge,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} \varphi+\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{A}=0 \tag{61}
\end{equation*}
$$

we find two wave equations

$$
\begin{align*}
& -\square \varphi=\rho,  \tag{62}\\
& -\square \boldsymbol{A}=\frac{\boldsymbol{j}}{c} . \tag{63}
\end{align*}
$$

(b) Using the green function of the wave equation

$$
\begin{align*}
\varphi(t, \boldsymbol{r}) & =\int d t_{o} d^{3} \boldsymbol{r}_{o} \frac{1}{4 \pi\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{r}_{o}\right|} \delta\left(t-t_{o}-\frac{\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{r}_{o}\right|}{c}\right) e \delta^{3}\left(\boldsymbol{r}_{o}-\boldsymbol{R}_{o}\left(t_{o}\right)\right)  \tag{64}\\
\boldsymbol{A}(t, \boldsymbol{r}) & =\int d t_{o} d^{3} \boldsymbol{r}_{o} \frac{1}{4 \pi\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{r}_{o}\right|} \delta\left(t-t_{o}-\frac{\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{r}_{o}\right|}{c}\right) e \boldsymbol{v}\left(t_{o}\right) \delta^{3}\left(\boldsymbol{r}_{o}-\boldsymbol{R}_{o}(t)\right) \tag{65}
\end{align*}
$$

Integrating over $\boldsymbol{r}_{o}$

$$
\begin{align*}
\varphi(t, \boldsymbol{r}) & =\int d t_{o} \frac{1}{4 \pi\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{R}\left(t_{o}\right)\right|} \delta\left(t-t_{o}-\frac{\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{R}\left(t_{o}\right)\right|}{c}\right) e  \tag{66}\\
\boldsymbol{A}(t, \boldsymbol{r}) & =\int d t_{o} d^{3} \boldsymbol{r}_{o} \frac{1}{4 \pi\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{R}\left(t_{o}\right)\right|} \delta\left(t-t_{o}-\frac{\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{R}\left(t_{o}\right)\right|}{c}\right) e \boldsymbol{v}\left(t_{o}\right) \tag{67}
\end{align*}
$$

In the far field we approximate

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{4 \pi\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{R}\left(t_{o}\right)\right|} \simeq \frac{1}{4 \pi r} \tag{68}
\end{equation*}
$$

Integrating over $t_{o}$ involves

$$
\begin{equation*}
\delta\left(t-t_{o}-\frac{\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{R}\left(t_{o}\right)\right|}{c}\right)=\frac{1}{1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \beta(T)} \delta\left(t_{o}-T\right) \tag{69}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $T$ (the retarded time) satisfies

$$
\begin{equation*}
T=t-\frac{|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{R}(T)|}{c} \simeq t-r / c-\frac{\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{R}(T)}{c} \tag{70}
\end{equation*}
$$

The last approximation is a far field approximation. In a non relativistic limit

$$
\begin{equation*}
T \approx t-\frac{r}{c} \tag{71}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\delta\left(t-t_{o}-\frac{\left|\boldsymbol{r}-\boldsymbol{R}\left(t_{o}\right)\right|}{c}\right) \approx(1+\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \beta(t-r / c)) \delta\left(t_{o}-(t-r / c)\right) \tag{72}
\end{equation*}
$$

So to linear order in $v / c$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{A}(t, \boldsymbol{r}) \simeq \frac{1}{4 \pi r} e \frac{\boldsymbol{v}(t-r / c)}{c} \tag{73}
\end{equation*}
$$

For the scalar potential $\varphi$, we integrate over $t_{o}$ and expand to first order in $v / c$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varphi(t, \boldsymbol{r})=\frac{1}{4 \pi r} \frac{e}{1-\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}(T) / c} \simeq \frac{e}{4 \pi r}(1+\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}(t-r / c) / c) \tag{74}
\end{equation*}
$$

(c) Computing the electric field we have to leading order in $1 / r$

$$
\begin{align*}
\boldsymbol{E} & =-\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} \boldsymbol{A}-\nabla \varphi,  \tag{75}\\
& \approx \frac{e}{4 \pi r c^{2}}(-\boldsymbol{a}+\boldsymbol{n}(\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{a})), \tag{76}
\end{align*}
$$

where we used

$$
\begin{equation*}
\nabla r=\boldsymbol{n} \tag{77}
\end{equation*}
$$

when differentiating the potentials of part (b).
Then for a particle speeding up in the $z$-direction, $\boldsymbol{n}=\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}$ and we see that $\boldsymbol{E}$ is polarized in the negative $z$ direction. The electric field on the $x$-axis is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{E}=-\frac{1}{4 \pi r c^{2}} a \hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \tag{78}
\end{equation*}
$$

(d) The power radiated on the $x$-axis is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d P}{d \Omega}=c|r E|^{2}=\frac{e^{2}}{16 \pi^{2} c^{3}} a^{2} \tag{79}
\end{equation*}
$$

## 4 EM Comps Problem, Fall 2015, JV

A current is driven through a ring of radius $R$ in the $x y$ plane (see below). Using a complex notation, the current has a harmonic time dependence, $\boldsymbol{J}(t, \boldsymbol{r})=e^{-i \omega t} \boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{r})$, and the spatial dependence is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{r})=I_{0} \sin (\phi) \delta(\rho-R) \delta(z) \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \tag{80}
\end{equation*}
$$



1. (4 pnts) Sketch the current flow at time $t=0$ and $t=\pi / \omega$, and determine the charge density $\rho(t, \boldsymbol{r})$. Show that it corresponds to an oscillating electric dipole, and determine the electric dipole moment.
2. In the long wavelength limit, and in the radiation zone, determine each of the following quantities in the $x z$ plane $^{2}$ :
(a) (6 pnts) The vector potential $\boldsymbol{A}(t, \boldsymbol{r})$ in the Lorentz gauge.
(b) (4 pnts) The $\boldsymbol{B}(t, \boldsymbol{r})$ field.
(c) (4 pnts) The (time averaged) angular distribution of the radiated power, $d P / d \Omega$.
3. (2 pnts) What is the polarization of the radiated electric field when viewed along the $z$ axis?
[^1]
## Solution

We use Heavyside-Lorentz units.

1. Using current conservation, $\partial_{t} \rho+\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{J}=0$ and a harmonic time dependence, $\rho(t, \boldsymbol{r})=$ $e^{-i \omega t} \rho(\boldsymbol{r})$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
-i \omega \rho(\boldsymbol{r})=-\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{r})=-\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} J^{\phi} \tag{81}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus

$$
\begin{equation*}
\rho(\boldsymbol{r})=-\frac{I_{o} \cos \phi}{-i \omega R} \delta(z) \delta(\rho-R) \tag{82}
\end{equation*}
$$

Note, the charge distribution gives rise to a net dipole moment

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{p}=\int d^{3} \boldsymbol{r} \rho(\boldsymbol{r}) \boldsymbol{r}=\frac{I_{o} R}{-i \omega}(-\pi \hat{\boldsymbol{x}}) \tag{83}
\end{equation*}
$$

pointed along the negative $\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}$ direction. If this is recognized then the remainder of this problem is just quoting the results of the electric dipole radiation.
2. a) In the dipole approximation we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{A}(t, \boldsymbol{r})=\frac{e^{-i \omega t+i k r}}{4 \pi r} \int d^{3} \boldsymbol{r}^{\prime} \boldsymbol{J}\left(\boldsymbol{r}^{\prime}\right) / c=\frac{e^{-i \omega t+i i k r}}{4 \pi r} \int \rho d \rho d \phi d z \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}\left(I_{0} / c\right) \sin \phi \delta(\rho-R) \delta(z) \tag{84}
\end{equation*}
$$

With $\hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}=-\sin \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{x}}+\cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}$ we obtain

$$
\begin{align*}
\boldsymbol{A}(t, \boldsymbol{r}) & =\frac{e^{-i \omega t+i k r}}{4 \pi r} R\left(I_{0} / c\right) \pi(-\hat{\boldsymbol{x}})  \tag{85}\\
& =\frac{e^{-i \omega t+i k r}}{4 \pi r} \frac{-i \omega}{c} \boldsymbol{p} \tag{86}
\end{align*}
$$

b) Then

$$
\begin{align*}
\boldsymbol{B} & =\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A}  \tag{87}\\
& =\boldsymbol{n} \times \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \boldsymbol{A}(t, \boldsymbol{r}),  \tag{88}\\
& =\frac{e^{-i \omega t+i k r}}{4 \pi r}(\boldsymbol{n} \times-\hat{\boldsymbol{x}})(-i k R)\left(I_{0} / c\right)  \tag{89}\\
& =\frac{e^{-i \omega t+i k r}}{4 \pi r} \cos \theta(-\hat{\boldsymbol{y}})(-i k \pi R)\left(I_{0} / c\right) \tag{90}
\end{align*}
$$

c) The radiated power is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d P}{d \Omega}=\frac{c}{2} \operatorname{Re}\left(r^{2} \boldsymbol{n} \cdot\left(\boldsymbol{E} \times \boldsymbol{B}^{*}\right)\right) \tag{91}
\end{equation*}
$$

With $\boldsymbol{E}=-\boldsymbol{n} \times \boldsymbol{B}$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{n} \cdot(-\boldsymbol{n} \times \boldsymbol{B}) \times \boldsymbol{B}^{*}=|\boldsymbol{B}|^{2} \tag{92}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{d P}{d \Omega} & =\frac{c}{2} r^{2}|\boldsymbol{B}|^{2}  \tag{93}\\
& =\frac{c}{32 \pi^{2}} \cos ^{2} \theta\left(\pi k R I_{0} / c\right)^{2} \tag{94}
\end{align*}
$$

It is perhaps useful to convert to MKS units:

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{I_{0}}{c} & \rightarrow \sqrt{\mu_{o}} I  \tag{95}\\
c & \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_{o} \epsilon_{o}}} \tag{96}
\end{align*}
$$

and using $\sqrt{\mu_{o} / \epsilon_{o}}=376$ Ohm we find

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d P}{d \Omega}=376 \text { Watts }\left(\frac{I_{0}}{\mathrm{amps}}\right)^{2} \frac{(k R)^{2}}{32} \cos ^{2} \theta \tag{97}
\end{equation*}
$$

3. Since the magnetic field is in the $-\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}$ direction, for light propagating along the $z$ axis the electric field is in the $-\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}$ direction, i.e. along the direction of the dipole moment.


## 5 Physics of the relativistic stress tensor

Consider a capacitor at rest. The area of each plate is $A$, and the electric field between the plates is $E$. The plates are orthogonal to the $x$-axis (see figure). The rest mass of each plate is $M_{\mathrm{pl}}$. The plates are kept a distance $d$ apart by four thin columns (not shown). We assume that each of these columns have mass $M_{\text {col }}$, and there is a stress tensor in the columns due to the electric attraction of the plates. (There is also a surface stress tensor in the plates due to the electric repulsion of the charges on the plates, but you won't need this.)

1. Write down the expression for the energy-momentum tensor of the electromagnetic field $\Theta_{\mathrm{em}}^{\mu \nu}$ in terms of the Maxwell field strength $F^{\mu \nu}$. Show that the total rest mass $M c^{2}=\int \mathrm{d}^{3} r \Theta_{\text {tot }}^{00}$ of the capacitor setup is:

$$
\begin{equation*}
M_{\mathrm{tot}} c^{2}=2 M_{\mathrm{pl}} c^{2}+4 M_{\mathrm{col}} c^{2}+\frac{1}{2} E^{2} A d \tag{98}
\end{equation*}
$$

Remark. In practice the field term is very small compared to the first two terms, but we will include its effect in this problem.
2. Determine the non-vanishing components of the electromagnetic stress tensor integrated over space:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int \mathrm{d}^{3} r \Theta_{\mathrm{em}}^{\alpha \beta} . \tag{99}
\end{equation*}
$$

(Hints: $\int \Theta_{\text {em }}^{x x}, \int \Theta_{e m}^{y y}, \int \Theta_{e m}^{z z}, \int \Theta_{\text {em }}^{00}$ are non-zero. )
3. Show that for a stationary configuration that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int \mathrm{d}^{3} r \Theta_{\text {tot }}^{i j}(\boldsymbol{r})=0 \tag{100}
\end{equation*}
$$

(Hints: Explain why $\partial_{k} \Theta_{\text {tot }}^{k j}=0$, and then study the expression $\partial_{k}\left(x^{i} \Theta_{\text {tot }}^{k j}\right)$ )
4. Determine $\int_{\text {col }} \Theta_{\text {mech }}^{z z}$ in the columns, and interpret your result physically by showing the forces involved with a free body diagram.
5. Consider now an observer in frame $K$ who is moving in the positive $z$-direction with velocity $v$ relative to the rest frame of the capacitor. According to special relativity the energy of the capacitor in frame $K$ is $\gamma M c^{2}$ where $\gamma=\left(1-(v / c)^{2}\right)^{1 / 2}$.
(a) Show that the integrated electromagnetic stress tensor in frame $K, \underline{\Theta}_{\mathrm{em}}^{00}$, is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int d^{3} \underline{r} \underline{\Theta}_{\mathrm{em}}^{00}(\underline{r})=\frac{1}{2} E^{2} A d \sqrt{1-(v / c)^{2}} \tag{101}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here $\underline{r}$ are the boosted coordinates.
(b) Show that the integrated mechanical stress tensor including the plates and the columns

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int d^{3} \underline{r} \underline{\Theta}_{\mathrm{mech}}^{00}(\underline{r})=\gamma\left(2 M_{\mathrm{pl}} c^{2}+4 M_{\mathrm{col}} c^{2}\right)+\frac{1}{2} E^{2} A d \frac{(v / c)^{2}}{\sqrt{1-(v / c)^{2}}} \tag{102}
\end{equation*}
$$

(c) Use these results to compute

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int d^{3} \underline{r} \underline{\Theta}_{\mathrm{tot}}^{00}(\underline{r}) \tag{103}
\end{equation*}
$$

in frame $K$ and comment on the simple result.

## 6 Torques in Relativity

After the Michelson-Morley experiment of 1887, there was another experiment to measure the velocity of the earth through the aether: the Trouton-Noble experiment of 1903. It seemed to show that Maxwell's theory of electromagnetism is inconsistent. In this problem we will study a simplified version of this experiment and show how special relativity removes this inconsistency.

A neutral square loop of wire with sides of length $a$ carries a current $I$. The square lies flat in the $x y$ plane and is centered at the origin. Directly below the square is an infinite line of positive charge with charge per length $\lambda_{o}$. The line is parallel to the $x$-axis, but is displaced by a distance $a$ below the origin in the negative $z$ direction (see below). The positive charges in the infinite line move to the right with velocity $v$, producing a net current $I_{o}=\lambda_{o} v$. The neutral square can rotate around the $x$-axis

(a) (4 points) Calculate the net torque on the square due to the line of charge.
(b) (6 points) An observer moving to the right along the $x$-axis with velocity $v$ measures a charge density in the square loop. Determine the charge per length in all four legs of the square loop. Make a sketch illustrating the distribution of charges in each leg.
(c) (3 points) Qualitatively explain the origin of the net torque according the right moving observer of part (b).
(d) (3 points) Determine the torque according to the right moving observer of part (b).
(e) (4 points) Compare the torques computed in parts $(a)$ and $(d)$. Are they equal? How does the Lorentz force per volume (i.e. $\boldsymbol{f}=\rho \boldsymbol{E}+\frac{\boldsymbol{J}}{c} \times \boldsymbol{B}$ ) transform under Lorentz transformation. Transform the Lorentz forces per volume in part (a) to explain results of part (d).


Figure 1: (a) The magnetic forces and geometry in the lab frame. The $x$-axis comes out of the page. (b) The geometry of the square in the boosted frame, together with the charge density in each wire.

## Solution

(a) Fig. 1 shows a head-on view of the square loop of wire with the $x$-axis coming out of the page. The magnetic field from the line of moving charge is

$$
\begin{equation*}
B_{\phi}=\frac{I_{o} / c}{2 \pi \rho} \tag{104}
\end{equation*}
$$

which is later evaluated at

$$
\begin{equation*}
\rho_{o} \equiv \sqrt{(a)^{2}+(a / 2)^{2}}=\sqrt{(5 / 4)} a . \tag{105}
\end{equation*}
$$

There are two torques around the $x$-axis due to the magnetic forces $F_{B}$ on the legs of the square (leg $A$ and $C$ as shown in Fig. 1). The net torque is directed along the $x$-axis and has magnitude

$$
\begin{align*}
\tau & =2 r F_{B} \sin (\theta)  \tag{106}\\
& =2\left(\frac{a}{2}\right)\left(\frac{I}{c} \ell B\right) \sin (\theta),  \tag{107}\\
& =2\left(\frac{a}{2}\right)\left(\frac{I}{c} a \frac{\left(I_{o} / c\right)}{2 \pi \rho_{o}}\right) \frac{a}{\rho_{o}},  \tag{108}\\
& =\frac{I I_{o}}{c^{2}} \frac{a^{3}}{2 \pi \rho_{o}^{2}} \tag{109}
\end{align*}
$$

(b) There are four legs of the square $A, B, C, D$ as shown in Fig. 1. The four-current in the rest frame of the square takes the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
J^{\mu}=(c \rho, \boldsymbol{j})=(0, \boldsymbol{j}) . \tag{110}
\end{equation*}
$$

since the square is neutral in the rest frame, $\rho=0$. Making a boost

$$
\begin{equation*}
\underline{J}^{\mu}=L_{\nu}^{\mu} J^{\nu} . \tag{111}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $L_{3}^{0}=-\gamma \beta$

$$
\begin{equation*}
c \underline{\rho}=-\gamma \beta j^{z} . \tag{112}
\end{equation*}
$$

For a current carrying wire the current per area is $j^{z}=I^{z} / A$, and we will quote the charge per length $\underline{\lambda}=\underline{\rho} \underline{A}$. Thus

$$
\begin{equation*}
\underline{\lambda}=-\gamma \beta\left(I^{z} / c\right) \tag{113}
\end{equation*}
$$

In the four cases we find

- Wire A:

$$
\begin{equation*}
I^{z}=I \quad \underline{\lambda}_{A}=-\gamma \beta(I / c) \tag{114}
\end{equation*}
$$

- Wire B:

$$
\begin{equation*}
I^{z}=0 \quad \underline{\lambda}_{B}=0 \tag{115}
\end{equation*}
$$

- Wire C:

$$
\begin{equation*}
I^{z}=-I \quad \underline{\lambda}_{C}=+\gamma \beta(I / c) \tag{116}
\end{equation*}
$$

- Wire D:

$$
\begin{equation*}
I^{z}=0 \quad \underline{\lambda}_{D}=0 \tag{117}
\end{equation*}
$$

(c) In the boosted frame the torque arises because of the electrostatic attraction and repulsion of the wires $A$ and $C$ which are now charged. In particular there is an attractive coulomb force between wire $A$ and the line of charge, and a repulsive coulomb force between wire $C$ and the line of charge.
(d) To compute the torque in the moving frame we also need the linear charge density of the infinitely long wire. In this case the wire is not electrically neutral and $J^{0}=c \lambda_{o} / A$, and $J^{z}=I_{o} v / A$ Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
A \underline{J}^{0}=\gamma A J^{0}-\gamma \beta A J^{z} \tag{118}
\end{equation*}
$$

and thus

$$
\begin{align*}
\underline{\lambda}_{o} & =\gamma \lambda_{o}-\gamma \beta\left(I_{o} / c\right),  \tag{119}\\
& =\gamma \lambda_{o}-\gamma \beta^{2} \lambda,  \tag{120}\\
& =\frac{\lambda_{o}}{\gamma} . \tag{121}
\end{align*}
$$

The charge per length is modified by a factor of $1 / \gamma$, which reflects the length contraction of the infinite wire. The electric field from a line of charge is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\underline{E}_{\rho}=\frac{\underline{\lambda}_{o}}{2 \pi \rho} \tag{122}
\end{equation*}
$$

Then, since transverse distances are not changed under boosts, the torque on wire $A$ is

$$
\begin{align*}
\tau_{A} & =r F \sin (\theta)  \tag{123}\\
& =\frac{a}{2}\left[\frac{\left|Q_{A}\right| \underline{\lambda}_{o}}{2 \pi \rho_{o}}\right] \frac{a}{\rho_{o}} \tag{124}
\end{align*}
$$

where $Q_{A}$ is the magnitude of the charge in leg $A$. Remembering that a square of length $a$ is length contracted under boost - see Fig. 1

$$
\begin{equation*}
Q_{A}=\underline{\lambda}_{A}\left(\frac{a}{\gamma}\right)=-\beta a(I / c) \tag{125}
\end{equation*}
$$

and thus

$$
\begin{equation*}
\tau_{A}=\frac{a}{2}\left[\frac{(\beta(I / c) a)\left(\lambda_{o} / \gamma\right)}{2 \pi \rho_{o}}\right] \frac{a}{\rho_{o}} \tag{126}
\end{equation*}
$$

Multiplying by a factor of two to account for wire $C$ and recalling that $\beta \lambda_{o}=I_{o} / c$ the total torque is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\tau_{A}=\frac{I I_{o}}{2 \pi c^{2}} \frac{a^{3}}{\gamma \rho_{o}^{2}} \tag{127}
\end{equation*}
$$

(e) The torques in parts $(a)$ and $(d)$ are not equal. The Lorentz force per volume transforms as part of a four vector

$$
\begin{equation*}
f^{\mu}=F_{\nu}^{\mu} \frac{J^{\nu}}{c} \tag{128}
\end{equation*}
$$

The four-force is

$$
\begin{equation*}
f^{\mu}=\left(f^{0}, \boldsymbol{f}\right)=\left(\boldsymbol{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{J} / c, \rho \boldsymbol{E}+\frac{\boldsymbol{J}}{c} \times \boldsymbol{B}\right) \tag{129}
\end{equation*}
$$

In this case the forces per volume in part ( $a$ ) (the magnetic forces per volume shown in Fig. 1(a)) are transverse to the $x$-axis, and are therefore unmodified by a boost along the $x$-axis. However the square is length contracted by a factor of $\gamma$, and therefore the net force (not the force per volume) is reduced by a factor of $\gamma$ in legs $A$ and $C$.
The torque is similarly reduced by a factor of $\gamma$. The moment arms involved in computing the torque are transverse to the $x$-axis and are therefore unmodified by the boost. Only the reduction of the net force reduces the net torque.

## 7 Magnetic field on the surface of a star

A star (roughly modeled on the Crab Pulsar) has mass $M$ of $1.4 M_{\odot}\left(\right.$ or $\left.1.4 \times 2 \times 10^{30} \mathrm{~kg}\right)$ and radius $R$ of 10 km . It rotates (non-relativistically) with a period $\tau=2 \pi / \omega$ of 33 milliseconds. The period slowly decreases due to the emission of electromgnetic radiation. The change in period per time is, $|\dot{\tau}|=4.0 \times 10^{-13}$.

Model the star as a uniformly magnetized sphere spinning around the $z$-axis, with a magnetization $\boldsymbol{M}$ lying in the $x-y$ plane, and rotating with the star as shown below. At time $t=0$ the magnetic dipole moment points in the $x$ direction.

(a) (7 points) Determine the total magnetic dipole moment of the star $m_{o}=M \frac{4}{3} \pi R^{3}$ in terms of $\dot{\tau}$.
(b) (6 points) Determine the (time-averaged) magnitude of the magnetic field at the north pole of the the star. Check that your expression is dimensionally correct, and make a rough order of magnitude estimate for the magnetic field in Tesla.

Part $(c)$ and $(d)$ are indpendent of parts $(a)$ and $(b)$. Refer to the solution of part $(a)$ as $m_{o}$ :
(c) (5 points) Determine the electric field at the north pole of the star as a function of time. (Neglect the slow decrease of the rotational period with time.) Hint: what is the vector potential of the star?
(d) (2 points) Numerically estimate the ratio of the energy density in the magnetic field to the energy density in the electric field at the north pole of the star.

## Solution

(a) The decrease in rotational energy of the star is the result of magnetic dipole radiation

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\frac{d}{d t}\left(\frac{1}{2} I \omega^{2}\right)=\bar{P} \tag{130}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here $P$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
P=\frac{1}{4 \pi c^{3}} \frac{2}{3} \ddot{\boldsymbol{m}}^{2} \tag{131}
\end{equation*}
$$

is the energy lost due to magnetic dipole radiation.
Now $\boldsymbol{m}$ is harmonic

$$
\begin{align*}
\boldsymbol{m}(t) & =m_{o}(\cos (\omega t) \hat{\boldsymbol{x}}+\sin (\omega t) \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}),  \tag{132}\\
& =m_{o} \operatorname{Re} e^{-i \omega t}(\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}+i \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}) \tag{133}
\end{align*}
$$

and we find after time averaging

$$
\begin{equation*}
\bar{P}=\frac{1}{4 \pi c^{3}} \frac{1}{3} \omega^{4} m_{o}^{2}|\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}+i \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}|^{2} . \tag{134}
\end{equation*}
$$

With $\dot{\omega}^{2}=-\omega^{3} \dot{\tau} / \pi$ (which follows from $\omega=2 \pi / \tau$ and the moment of inertia of a sphere $I=(2 / 5) M R^{2}$, we find

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{2}{5} M R^{2}\right) \frac{\omega^{3}|\dot{\tau}|}{\pi}=P \tag{135}
\end{equation*}
$$

Solving for $m_{o}$ we find

$$
\begin{equation*}
m_{o}=\sqrt{\frac{6}{5}} R\left(\frac{M c^{3} \dot{\tau}}{\omega}\right)^{1 / 2} \tag{136}
\end{equation*}
$$

(b) Outside of the sphere and in the radiation zone, the magnetic field at the north pole is just that of a time dependent magnetic dipole:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{B}(t)=\frac{3 \boldsymbol{n}(\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{m}(t))-\boldsymbol{m}(t)}{4 \pi r^{3}} . \tag{137}
\end{equation*}
$$

On the north pole of the star $\boldsymbol{n}=\hat{\boldsymbol{z}}$ and $\boldsymbol{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{m}(t)$ is zero. Thus

$$
\begin{align*}
|\boldsymbol{B}(t)| & =\frac{|-\boldsymbol{m}(t)|}{4 \pi R^{3}}  \tag{138}\\
& =\frac{m_{o}}{4 \pi R^{3}} \tag{139}
\end{align*}
$$

Substituting the magnetic moment from part (a), and converting to SI units, $B_{H L}=$ $B_{S I} / \sqrt{\mu_{o}}$, we find

$$
\begin{equation*}
B=\frac{1}{4 \pi} \sqrt{\frac{6}{5}}\left(\frac{\mu_{o} M c^{2}}{R^{3}}\right)^{1 / 2}\left(\frac{c \tau}{R(2 \pi)}\right)^{1 / 2}(\dot{\tau})^{1 / 2} \tag{140}
\end{equation*}
$$

The factor

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sqrt{\frac{\mu_{o} M c^{2}}{R^{3}}} \tag{141}
\end{equation*}
$$

has units of Tesla, since $\left[\mu_{o}\right]=T^{2} \mathrm{~m}^{3} / \mathrm{J}$ and $M c^{2} / R^{3}$ has dimension of $\mathrm{J} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$. The remaining factors are dimensionless. Substituting numbers

$$
\begin{array}{rlrl}
M & =2.8 \times 10^{30} \mathrm{~kg} & \mu & =\frac{4 \pi}{10} \times 10^{-6} T^{2} \mathrm{~m}^{3} / \mathrm{J} \\
\tau & =3.3 \times 10^{-2} \mathrm{~s} & R & =1.0 \times 10^{4} \mathrm{~m} \\
\dot{\tau} & =4.0 \times 10^{-13} & c & =3 \times 10^{8} \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s} \tag{144}
\end{array}
$$

we find

$$
\begin{equation*}
B=3.9 \times 10^{8} \mathrm{~T} \tag{145}
\end{equation*}
$$

A rough estimate is found by keeping powers of 10 in Eq. (140)

$$
\begin{equation*}
B \sim\left(\frac{10^{-6} \times 10^{30} \times\left(10^{8}\right)^{2}}{\left(10^{4}\right)^{3}} \times \frac{10^{8} \times 10^{-2}}{10^{4}} \times 10^{-14}\right)^{1 / 2} \text { Tesla } \sim \sqrt{10} \times 10^{8} \text { Tesla } \tag{146}
\end{equation*}
$$

(c) The vector potential of the magnetized sphere is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{A}=\frac{\boldsymbol{m}(t) \times \hat{\boldsymbol{r}}}{4 \pi r^{2}} \tag{147}
\end{equation*}
$$

The electric field is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{E}=-\frac{1}{c} \partial_{t} \boldsymbol{A} \tag{148}
\end{equation*}
$$

The dipole moment and its derivative are

$$
\begin{align*}
& \boldsymbol{m}(t)=m_{o} e^{-i \omega t}(\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}+i \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}),  \tag{149}\\
& \dot{\boldsymbol{m}}(t)=\omega m_{o} e^{-i \omega t}(-i \hat{\boldsymbol{x}}+\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}) . \tag{150}
\end{align*}
$$

Then for $\hat{\boldsymbol{r}}=\hat{\boldsymbol{z}}$ (i.e. at the north pole of the star), and $r=R$ we find

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{E}(t)=-\frac{\omega m_{o}}{4 \pi R^{2} c} e^{-i \omega t}(-i \hat{\boldsymbol{x}}+\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}) \times \hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \tag{151}
\end{equation*}
$$

Working out the elementary cross products (i.e. $\hat{\boldsymbol{x}} \times \hat{\boldsymbol{z}}=-\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}$ and $\hat{\boldsymbol{y}} \times \hat{\boldsymbol{z}}=\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}$ ) and taking the real part we find

$$
\begin{align*}
\boldsymbol{E}(t) & =-\frac{\omega m_{o}}{4 \pi R^{2} c} e^{-i \omega t}(-i \hat{\boldsymbol{x}}+\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}) \times \hat{\boldsymbol{z}}  \tag{152}\\
& =-\frac{\omega m_{o}}{4 \pi R^{2} c}[\sin (\omega t) \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}+\cos (\omega t) \hat{\boldsymbol{x}}] \tag{153}
\end{align*}
$$

(d) We can estimate the ratio of energy densities by noting that

$$
\begin{equation*}
E \sim \frac{\omega R}{c} B \tag{154}
\end{equation*}
$$

as expected on general grounds in the near field, quasi-static, regime. The dimensionless factor is small, and controls the quasi-static approximation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\omega R}{c} \sim 6 \times 10^{-3} \tag{155}
\end{equation*}
$$

The ratio of energy densities is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{u_{M}}{u_{E}}=\frac{B^{2}}{E^{2}} \sim\left(\frac{c}{\omega R}\right)^{2} \sim 2.5 \times 10^{4} \tag{156}
\end{equation*}
$$


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ The Green function satisfies

    $$
    \begin{equation*}
    \left(\frac{1}{c^{2}} \partial_{t}^{2}-\nabla^{2}\right) G(t, \boldsymbol{r})=\delta(t) \delta^{3}(\boldsymbol{r}) \tag{51}
    \end{equation*}
    $$

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ Specifically compute the fields and power at the spacetime point $\boldsymbol{r}=(x, y, z)=(r \sin \theta, 0, r \cos \theta)$.

