

Electrodynamics is the first gauge theory known ⁽⁴⁾
to people.

\Rightarrow By choosing various scalar functions $\Lambda(\vec{x}, t)$ can satisfy different gauge conditions:

(I) Lorentz gauge: $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial t} = 0$

Does it exist? Start from some random $\vec{\Phi}, \vec{A}$.

Is there $\Lambda(\vec{x}, t)$ such that $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}' + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \Phi'}{\partial t} = 0$?

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot [\vec{A} + \vec{\nabla} \Lambda] + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [\Phi - \frac{\partial \Lambda}{\partial t}] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 \Lambda - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \Lambda}{\partial t^2} = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial t}$$

\Rightarrow can always solve this to find $\Lambda(\vec{x}, t)$

Λ is not unique: can always shift $\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda + \tilde{\Lambda}$

where $\nabla^2 \tilde{\Lambda} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{\Lambda}}{\partial t^2} = 0 \Rightarrow$ wave in empty

space $\Rightarrow \tilde{\Lambda} \neq 0$ (does not have to be \emptyset). \Rightarrow Lorentz

gauge condition is not fully restrictive,

there is a residual gauge freedom left, but

that's ok, it happens with most gauges.

Using Lorentz gauge condition we rewrite

Maxwell equations as

$$\nabla^2 \Phi - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial t^2} = - \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

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

Maxwell eqns in Lorentz gauge

II Another interesting gauge is Coulomb gauge:

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

Coulomb gauge condition

Maxwell equations become:

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = - \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

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

Maxwell eqns in Coulomb gauge

$$\Phi(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int d^3x' \frac{\rho(\vec{x}', t)}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}$$

just like in statics

Note: time is the same on both sides, interaction is "instantaneous" => hence the name Coulomb gauge.

③ Other notable gauges: $x_\mu A^\mu = 0$ (Schwinger gauge),

$$A_0 + A_z = 0 \Rightarrow \Phi + c A_z = 0 \quad (\text{light cone gauge})$$

$$A_0 = \Phi = 0 \quad (\text{axial gauge})$$

Green Function for Wave Equation.

In solving Maxwell equations in, say, Lorentz gauge one often encounters equations of the

type:
$$\boxed{\nabla^2 \Psi - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial t^2} = -4\pi f(\vec{x}, t)}$$
 Inhomogeneous wave eqn.

with $f(\vec{x}, t)$ some known function (source).

The strategy for solving those is the same as in electrostatics: find the Green function.

$$\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) G(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') = -4\pi \delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{x}') \delta(t - t')$$

$$\text{Then } \Psi(\vec{x}, t) = \int d^3x' dt' G(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') f(\vec{x}', t')$$

is a solution of the inhomogeneous wave equation. (in unlimited space-time).

In empty space: $G(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') = G(\vec{x} - \vec{x}', t - t')$

\Rightarrow need to solve $\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}\right) G(\vec{r}, t) = -4\pi \delta^3(\vec{r}) \delta(t)$

\Rightarrow go to momentum space

$$G(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3k e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} G(\vec{k}, t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(-k^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}\right) G(\vec{k}, t) = -4\pi \delta(t)$$

A. Retarded (causal) Green function:

demand that $G(\vec{k}, t) = 0$ for $t < 0$

$$\Rightarrow \text{at } t > 0: \left(k^2 + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}\right) G = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow G(\vec{k}, t) = A e^{ikct} + B e^{-ikct}, \quad t > 0.$$

If G is continuous at $t=0$, then

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=+0} - \frac{\partial G}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=-0} = 4\pi c^2.$$

$$\text{We get } G(\vec{k}, t=0) = 0 = A + B \Rightarrow \boxed{A = -B}$$

$$\Rightarrow G(\vec{k}, t) = 2A i \sin(ckt), \quad t > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial G}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=+0} =$$

$$= 2A i \cdot kc = 4\pi c^2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow A = -i 2\bar{a} \frac{c}{k} \Rightarrow G(\vec{k}, t) = \frac{4\bar{a}c}{k} \sin(ckt), t > 0 \quad (8)$$

$$\Rightarrow G(\vec{k}, t) = \Theta(t) \frac{4\bar{a}c}{k} \sin(ckt)$$

where $\Theta(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & t > 0 \\ 0, & t < 0 \end{cases}$

$$G(\vec{r}, t) = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} G(\vec{k}, t) = \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}}$$

$$\cdot \Theta(t) \frac{2\bar{a}c}{ik} \left(e^{ickt} - e^{-ickt} \right) = \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{choose } z\text{-axis } \parallel \vec{k} \\ \Rightarrow \vec{k}\cdot\vec{r} = kr \cos\theta \end{array} \right. =$$

$$= -2\bar{a}ic \Theta(t) \int_0^\infty \frac{dk \cdot k^2}{(2\pi)^3} \cdot \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi e^{ikr \cos\theta}$$

$$\cdot \frac{1}{k} \left(e^{ickt} - e^{-ickt} \right) = -i \frac{c \Theta(t)}{2\bar{a}} \int_0^\infty dk \cdot k \cdot \frac{1}{ikr}$$

$$\cdot \left(e^{ikr} - e^{-ikr} \right) \left(e^{ickt} - e^{-ickt} \right) = - \frac{c \Theta(t)}{4\bar{a}r}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^\infty dk \left(e^{ikr} - e^{-ikr} \right) \left(e^{ickt} - e^{-ickt} \right) =$$

$$= - \frac{c \Theta(t)}{2r} \left[\delta(r+ct) - \delta(r-ct) - \delta(r-ct) + \delta(r+ct) \right]$$

$$= \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{as } t > 0 \\ r > 0 \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \delta(r+ct) = 0 = \frac{c \Theta(t)}{r} \delta(r-ct) = \frac{1}{r} \delta\left(t - \frac{r}{c}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{G(\vec{r}, t)_{ret} = \frac{1}{r} \delta(t - \frac{r}{c})} \quad \text{or}$$

$$\boxed{G(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') = \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} \delta(t - t' - \frac{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}{c})}$$

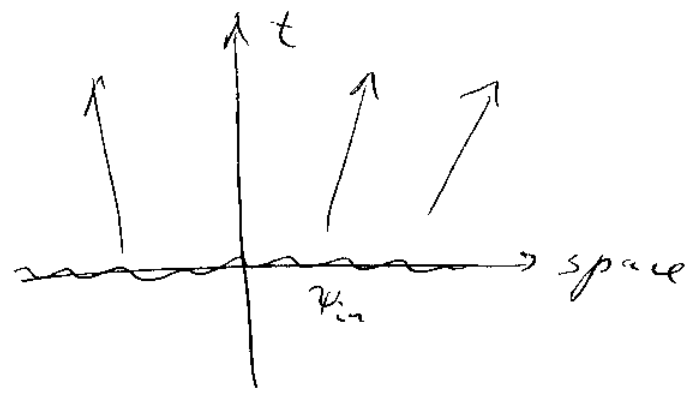
Retarded Green function

Given the source $f(\vec{x}, t)$ and initial condition $\Psi_{in}(\vec{x}, t)$ satisfying homogeneous eq., $\square \Psi_{in} = 0$. we can write the solution

$$\Psi(\vec{x}, t) = \Psi_{in}(\vec{x}, t) + \int d^3x' dt' G_{ret}(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') f(\vec{x}', t')$$

Retarded Green ftn

is causal ~ gives the solution in the future due to sources in the past.



B. Advanced Green function:

Solve $(\vec{k}^2 + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}) G(\vec{k}, t) = 4\pi \delta(t)$ by demanding

$G(\vec{k}, t) = 0$ for $t > 0 \Rightarrow$ just replace $\theta(t) \rightarrow -\theta(-t)$

$$\Rightarrow G_{adv.}(\vec{k}, t) = -\theta(-t) \frac{4\pi c}{k} \sin(ckt) \Rightarrow$$

$$G_{adv.}(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{c\theta(-t)}{r} [s(r+ct) - s(r-ct)] = \frac{1}{r} \delta(t + \frac{r}{c})$$

as $t < 0$ and $r > 0$.

Therefore

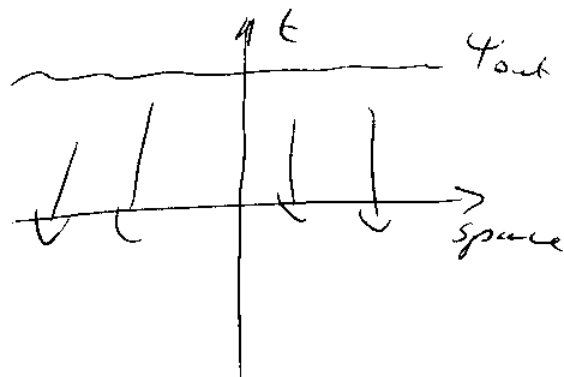
(10)

$$G_{adv}(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') = \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} \delta\left(t - t' + \frac{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}{c}\right)$$

Work opposite to $G_{ret} \sim$ acausal:

$$\Psi(\vec{x}, t) = \Psi_{out}(\vec{x}, t) +$$

$$+ \int d^3x' dt' G_{adv}(\vec{x}, t; \vec{x}', t') f(\vec{x}', t')$$



Solution of Maxwell equations in Lorentz gauge:

$$\begin{cases} \nabla^2 \Phi - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \Phi = -\frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \\ \nabla^2 \vec{A} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \vec{A} = -\mu_0 \vec{J} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{assume } \Phi_{in} = 0 \\ \vec{A}_{in} = 0 \text{ and use retarded Green fun.}$$

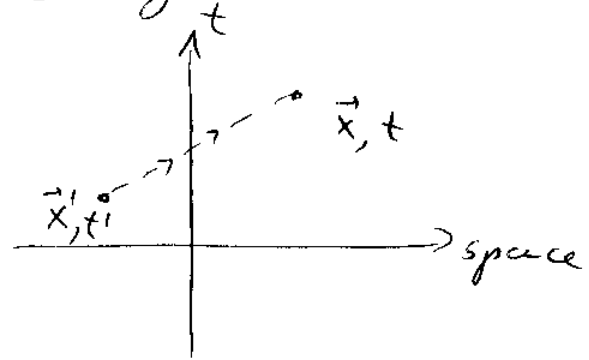
$$\Rightarrow \Phi(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int d^3x' \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} \rho(\vec{x}', t - \frac{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}{c})$$

$$\vec{A}(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int d^3x' \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} \vec{J}(\vec{x}', t - \frac{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}{c})$$

where we integrated over t' the δ -fun:

$$\delta\left(t - t' - \frac{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}{c}\right) \text{ to get } t' = t - \frac{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}{c}$$

Physical meaning of $t' = t - \frac{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}{c}$: for a source at time t' to affect the field at time t they need to be $c(t - t')$ away from each other ~ just far enough for light to travel!

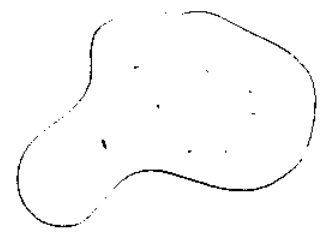


Poynting's Theorem and Conservation of Energy and Momentum.

Energy:

Consider several point charges q_1, \dots, q_N located at $\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_N$ & moving with velocities $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_N$ in external electromagnetic field:

The work on these charges due to EM field per unit time



$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{is } & \sum_{n=1}^N \vec{F}_n \cdot \vec{v}_n = \sum_{n=1}^N q_n \vec{E}(\vec{x}_n) \cdot \vec{v}_n = \\
 & = \int d^3x \left(\sum_{n=1}^N q_n \vec{v}_n \delta(\vec{x} - \vec{x}_n) \right) \cdot \vec{E}(\vec{x}) = \\
 & = \int d^3x \vec{J} \cdot \vec{E}
 \end{aligned}$$