

Scalar and Vector Potential Functions in Time-Varying EM

Remember,

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \quad (4^{\text{th}} \text{ eqn. of M.E.s})$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{U}) \equiv 0 \quad (\text{null identity})$$

any vector field!

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}}$$

where \vec{A} is the vector potential function.

Also,

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A})}{\partial t} = -\vec{\nabla} \times \left(\frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} + \vec{\nabla} \times \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times \left(\vec{E} + \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{E} + \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} = -\vec{\nabla} V}$$

(null identity) $\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \phi) \equiv 0$

any scalar field!

where V is the scalar potential function.

In other words, \vec{E} and \vec{B} fields can be computed from the scalar and vector potential fields as follows:

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \vec{B} &= \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \\ \vec{E} &= -\vec{\nabla} V - \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \end{aligned}}$$

(Note that in static problems we have $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow \vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} V$.)

Now, let's obtain the partial differential equations for the potential fields \bar{A} and V in a simple medium:

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{3rd law} \\ \text{of M.E.S} \end{array} \right) \left. \begin{array}{l} \bar{\nabla} \cdot \bar{D} = f_v \\ \bar{D} = \epsilon \bar{E} \\ \epsilon \text{ a constant} \end{array} \right\} \left. \begin{array}{l} \bar{\nabla} \cdot \bar{E} = \frac{f_v}{\epsilon} \\ \downarrow \\ (-\bar{\nabla} V - \frac{\partial \bar{A}}{\partial t}) \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \boxed{\nabla^2 V + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\bar{\nabla} \cdot \bar{A}) = -\frac{f_v}{\epsilon}} \quad (*)$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{2nd law} \\ \text{of M.E.S} \end{array} \right) \left. \begin{array}{l} \bar{\nabla} \times \bar{H} = \bar{J} + \frac{\partial \bar{D}}{\partial t} \\ \downarrow \\ \frac{1}{\mu} \bar{B} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\mu} \bar{\nabla} \times \bar{B} = \bar{J} + \epsilon \frac{\partial \bar{E}}{\partial t} \quad \begin{array}{l} \downarrow \\ \bar{\nabla} \times \bar{A} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \nearrow \\ -\bar{\nabla} V - \frac{\partial \bar{A}}{\partial t} \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\bar{\nabla} \times (\bar{\nabla} \times \bar{A})}_{\bar{\nabla}(\bar{\nabla} \cdot \bar{A}) - \nabla^2 \bar{A}} = \mu \bar{J} - \underbrace{\mu \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\bar{\nabla} V + \frac{\partial \bar{A}}{\partial t})}_{\bar{\nabla}(\frac{\partial V}{\partial t}) + \frac{\partial^2 \bar{A}}{\partial t^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\nabla^2 \bar{A} - \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \bar{A}}{\partial t^2} - \bar{\nabla} \left[\bar{\nabla} \cdot \bar{A} + \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} \right] = -\mu \bar{J}} \quad (**)$$

Partial differential equations (pde's) (*) and (**) are difficult to solve as each of them contains both V and \bar{A} ! To decouple V and \bar{A} , we may set the term

$$\boxed{\bar{\nabla} \cdot \bar{A} + \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = 0} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Lorentz Condition} \\ \text{(Lorentz Gauge)} \end{array}$$

which turns out to be consistent with the rest of the EM theory. Remember, curl of \bar{A} is specified by $\bar{B} = \bar{\nabla} \times \bar{A}$ eqn. Now, divergence of \bar{A} is specified to be $\bar{\nabla} \cdot \bar{A} = -\mu \epsilon \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$ by the Lorentz condition (remember the Helmholtz Theorem!)

Using Lorentz Condition in pde's (*) and (**), we will we will get:

$$\text{from (*)} \rightarrow \nabla^2 V + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(-\mu \epsilon \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} \right) = -\frac{\rho_v}{\epsilon}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\nabla^2 V - \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{\rho_v}{\epsilon}}$$

} nonhomogeneous wave equations for $V(\vec{r}, t)$ and $\bar{A}(\vec{r}, t)$.

$$\text{and from (**)} \rightarrow \boxed{\nabla^2 \bar{A} - \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \bar{A}}{\partial t^2} = -\mu \bar{J}}$$

(same for $\bar{A}(\vec{r}, t)$)

Note that in static problems $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \equiv 0$, so these pde's reduce to

$$\boxed{\nabla^2 V = -\frac{\rho_v}{\epsilon}}$$

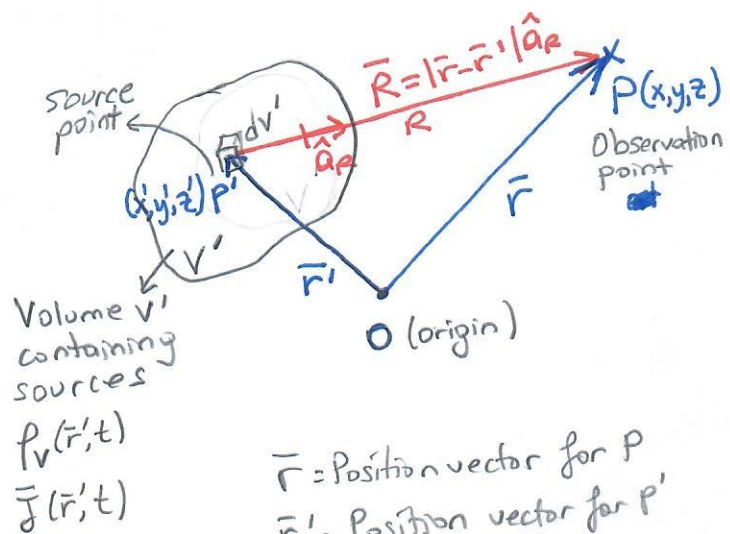
$$\text{and } \boxed{\nabla^2 \bar{A} = -\mu \bar{J}}$$

Poisson's equations with solutions $V(\vec{r})$ and $\bar{A}(\vec{r}) \Rightarrow$

(shown in EE 224 class)

$$\boxed{V(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon} \int_{V'} \frac{\rho_v(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} dv'}$$

$$\boxed{\bar{A}(\vec{r}) = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \int_{V'} \frac{\bar{J}(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} dv'}$$



$$\vec{R} = \hat{a}_R R \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{cases} R = |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'| = |\vec{R}| \\ \hat{a}_R = \frac{\vec{R}}{R} \end{cases}$$

Time-varying potential function solutions can be shown to be "Retarded Scalar and Vector Potentials"

$$V(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon} \int_{V'} \frac{\rho_v(\vec{r}', t - \frac{R}{u})}{R} dv' \quad (\text{Volts})$$

and

$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \int_{V'} \frac{\vec{J}(\vec{r}', t - \frac{R}{u})}{R} dv' \quad (\text{Weber/m})$$

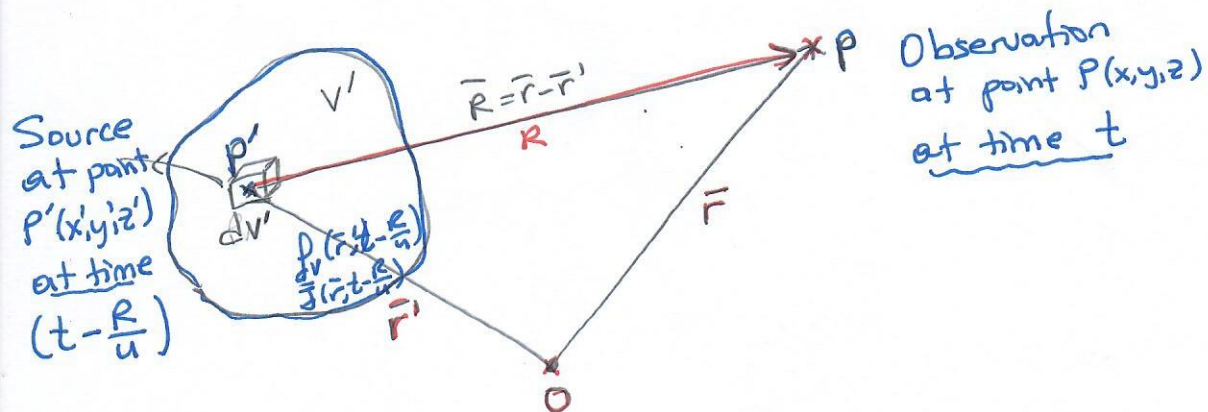
which are in the same form as static $V(\vec{r})$ and $\vec{A}(\vec{r})$ solution except for the "time delay" term $\frac{R}{u}$ where

$u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu\epsilon}} \triangleq \frac{dR}{dt}$ is the velocity of wave propagation

in a simple lossless medium with parameters (ϵ, μ) .

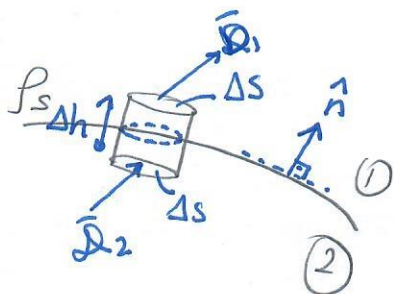
$R = |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|$: Distance between the "source" and "observation" points.

$\frac{R}{u}$: Time duration needed for the propagating electromagnetic wave to travel from source point to observation point.



Boundary Conditions for Time-Varying Electromagnetic Fields

(i) B.C.'s for normal components:



\hat{n} : Unit normal vector at the boundary pointing from medium (2) to medium (1)

Start with $\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \rho_v \iff \oint_S \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{S} = Q_{\text{enclosed free within } S}$

$$\lim_{\Delta h \rightarrow 0} \oint_S \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{S} = \underbrace{\hat{n} \cdot \vec{D}_1}_{D_{1n}} \Delta S + \underbrace{(-\hat{n}) \cdot \vec{D}_2}_{-D_{2n}} \Delta S = \rho_s \Delta S$$

↳ free surface charge density at the boundary

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{D_{1n} - D_{2n} = \rho_s} \quad \text{or vectorially} \quad \boxed{\hat{n} \cdot (\vec{D}_1 - \vec{D}_2) = \rho_s}$$

i.e. D_{normal} is discontinuous at the boundary by the surface charge density ρ_s . ($D_{1n} = D_{2n}$ if $\rho_s = 0$ at the surface)

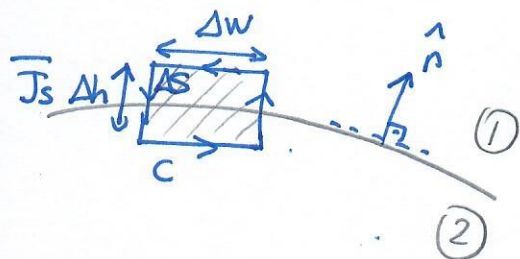
Similarly, starting with $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \iff \oint_S \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{S} = 0$

we can obtain

$$\boxed{B_{1n} = B_{2n}} \quad \text{or vectorially} \quad \boxed{\hat{n} \cdot (\vec{B}_1 - \vec{B}_2) = 0}$$

B_{normal} is always continuous across a boundary.

(ii) B.C.'s for tangential components:



Start with

$$\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \quad \text{express it in integral form}$$

$$\oint_C \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_{\Delta S} \vec{J} \cdot d\vec{S} + \int_{\Delta S} \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \cdot d\vec{S}$$

C : rectangular contour

$d\vec{l}$: tangent to C

ΔS : rectangular area enclosed by C .

$d\vec{S}$: normal to surface S

($d\vec{S}$ and $d\vec{l}$ are related by the Right Hand Rule)

$$\text{as } \Delta h \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \Delta S \rightarrow 0$$

as $\frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$ term in the integrand remains finite (as physically expected)

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{\substack{\Delta h \rightarrow 0 \\ \Delta S \rightarrow 0}} \int_{\Delta S} \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \cdot d\vec{S} \rightarrow 0 !$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{\Delta h \rightarrow 0} \oint_C \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{l} = \vec{H}_1 \cdot \Delta \vec{w} + \vec{H}_2 \cdot (-\Delta \vec{w}) = \vec{J}_{sn} \Delta w + 0$$

\swarrow direction of contours on the edges (ab) and (cd) are opposite to each other

\downarrow Component of the surface current density vector \vec{J}_s , which is perpendicular to area ΔS .
 (Due to $\vec{J}_s \cdot d\vec{S}$ term)

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\vec{H}_1 \cdot \hat{l}}_{H_{1tan}} \Delta w + \underbrace{\vec{H}_2 \cdot (-\hat{l})}_{-H_{2tan}} \Delta w = \vec{J}_{sn} \Delta w$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{H_{1tan} - H_{2tan} = J_{sn}} \quad \left(\frac{\text{Amp}}{\text{m}} \right)$$

or vectorially

$$\boxed{\hat{n} \times (\vec{H}_1 - \vec{H}_2) = \vec{J}_s}$$

i.e. the tangential component of \vec{H} field is discontinuous by the current density component J_{sn} .

(If $J_{sn} = 0 \Rightarrow H_{1tan} = H_{2tan}$)

Similarly, starting with $\nabla \times \bar{E} = -\frac{\partial \bar{B}}{\partial t}$ having the integral form $\oint_C \bar{E} \cdot d\bar{l} = -\int_{\Delta S} \frac{\partial \bar{B}}{\partial t} \cdot d\bar{S}$

and letting $\Delta h \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \Delta S \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \int_{\Delta S} \frac{\partial \bar{B}}{\partial t} \cdot d\bar{S} \rightarrow 0$
for finite valued integrand,

we can obtain

$$\boxed{\bar{E}_{1tan} = \bar{E}_{2tan}}$$

or
vectorially

$$\boxed{\hat{n} \times (\bar{E}_1 - \bar{E}_2) = 0}$$

i.e., tangential component of \bar{E} field is always continuous across the boundary.

Note: The B.C.'s obtained above have the same form as the B.C.'s of the static problems. However, only two of those four boundary conditions are independent.

$$\boxed{\bar{E}_{1tan} = \bar{E}_{2tan}}$$

is equivalent to

$$\boxed{B_{1n} = B_{2n}}$$

and

$$\boxed{\hat{n} \times (\bar{H}_1 - \bar{H}_2) = \bar{J}_s}$$

is equivalent to

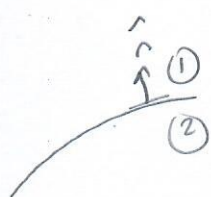
$$\boxed{\hat{n} \cdot (\bar{D}_1 - \bar{D}_2) = f_s}$$

Boundary Conditions in Two Important Special Cases

Case I: Boundary between lossless ($\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = 0$) linear media with parameters (ϵ_1, μ_1) and (ϵ_2, μ_2) .

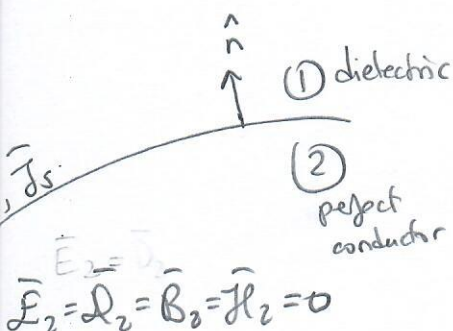
At such boundaries, $\rho_s = 0$, $\bar{J}_s = 0$ (free sources are zero!)

$$\Rightarrow \begin{aligned} E_{1tan} &= E_{2tan} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{D_{1tan}}{\epsilon_1} = \frac{D_{2tan}}{\epsilon_2} \right) \\ H_{1tan} &= H_{2tan} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{B_{1tan}}{\mu_1} = \frac{B_{2tan}}{\mu_2} \right) \\ D_{1n} &= D_{2n} \Rightarrow \epsilon_1 E_{1n} = \epsilon_2 E_{2n} \\ B_{1n} &= B_{2n} \Rightarrow \mu_1 H_{1n} = \mu_2 H_{2n} \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} E_{1tan} &= E_{2tan} \\ H_{1tan} &= H_{2tan} \\ D_{1n} &= D_{2n} \\ B_{1n} &= B_{2n} \end{aligned}} \right\} \text{for linear media.}$$



Case II: Boundary between a lossless dielectric ($\mu_1, \epsilon_1, \sigma_1 = 0$) and a perfect conductor ($\mu_2, \epsilon_2, \sigma_2 \rightarrow \infty$)

We know that all fields must be zero within a perfectly conducting medium. However, non-zero free sources ρ_s and \bar{J}_s can be maintained at the boundary!



On the dielectric side of the boundary

$$E_{1tan} = 0$$

$$\hat{n} \times \bar{H}_1 = \bar{J}_s$$

$$\hat{n} \cdot \bar{D}_1 = \rho_s$$

$$B_{1n} = 0$$

On the perfect conductor side of the boundary

$$E_{2tan} = 0$$

$$H_{2tan} = 0$$

$$D_{2n} = 0$$

$$B_{2n} = 0$$