

# Electrodynamics Homework\_2

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## 1

Let

$$r = \sqrt{(x - x')^2 + (y - y')^2 + (z - z')^2}$$

be the distance between the point of the source  $\vec{x}'$  and the point to measure the field  $\vec{x}$ . Furthermore, let us define  $\vec{r} = \vec{x}' - \vec{x}$ . Show the following relations

### 1.1

$$\nabla r = -\nabla' r = \frac{\vec{r}}{r}$$

pf:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla r &= \frac{\partial \sqrt{(x - x')^2 + (y - y')^2 + (z - z')^2}}{\partial x} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial \sqrt{(x - x')^2 + (y - y')^2 + (z - z')^2}}{\partial y} \vec{j} \\ &\quad + \frac{\partial \sqrt{(x - x')^2 + (y - y')^2 + (z - z')^2}}{\partial z} \vec{k} \\ &= \frac{x - x'}{\sqrt{(x - x')^2 + (y - y')^2 + (z - z')^2}} \vec{i} + \frac{y - y'}{\sqrt{(x - x')^2 + (y - y')^2 + (z - z')^2}} \vec{j} \\ &\quad + \frac{z - z'}{\sqrt{(x - x')^2 + (y - y')^2 + (z - z')^2}} \vec{k} \\ &= \frac{(x - x')\vec{i} + (y - y')\vec{j} + (z - z')\vec{k}}{\sqrt{(x - x')^2 + (y - y')^2 + (z - z')^2}} \\ &= \frac{\vec{r}}{r} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
-\nabla' r &= -\frac{\partial \sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}}{\partial x'} \vec{i} - \frac{\partial \sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}}{\partial y'} \vec{j} \\
&\quad - \frac{\partial \sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}}{\partial z'} \vec{k} \\
&= \frac{x-x'}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} \vec{i} + \frac{y-y'}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} \vec{j} \\
&\quad + \frac{z-z'}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} \vec{k} \\
&= \frac{(x-x')\vec{i} + (y-y')\vec{j} + (z-z')\vec{k}}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} \\
&= \frac{\vec{r}}{r} \\
\therefore \nabla r &= -\nabla' r = \frac{\vec{r}}{r}
\end{aligned}$$

1.2

$$\nabla \frac{1}{r} = -\nabla' \frac{1}{r} = -\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}$$

pf:

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla \frac{1}{r} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} \vec{j} \\
&\quad + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} \vec{k} \\
&= -\frac{x-x'}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \vec{i} - \frac{y-y'}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \vec{j} \\
&\quad - \frac{z-z'}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \vec{k} \\
&= -\frac{(x-x')\vec{i} + (y-y')\vec{j} + (z-z')\vec{k}}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{3/2}} \\
&= -\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} \\
-\nabla' \frac{1}{r} &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial x'} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} \vec{i} - \frac{\partial}{\partial y'} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} \vec{j} \\
&\quad - \frac{\partial}{\partial z'} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} \vec{k} \\
&= -\frac{x-x'}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \vec{i} - \frac{y-y'}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \vec{j} \\
&\quad - \frac{z-z'}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} \vec{k} \\
&= -\frac{(x-x')\vec{i} + (y-y')\vec{j} + (z-z')\vec{k}}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{3/2}} \\
&= -\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} \\
\therefore \nabla \frac{1}{r} &= -\nabla' \frac{1}{r} = -\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}
\end{aligned}$$

### 1.3

$$\nabla \times \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} = 0$$

pf:

$$\nabla \times \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} = (\nabla \frac{1}{r^3}) \times \vec{r} + \frac{1}{r^3} \nabla \times \vec{r}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \frac{1}{r^3} &= \frac{\partial \frac{1}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{3/2}}}{\partial x} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial \frac{1}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{3/2}}}{\partial y} \vec{j} \\ &\quad + \frac{\partial \frac{1}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{3/2}}}{\partial z} \vec{k} \\ &= - \frac{3(x-x')}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{5/2}} \vec{i} - \frac{3(y-y')}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{5/2}} \vec{j} \\ &\quad - \frac{3(z-z')}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{5/2}} \vec{k} \\ &= -3 \frac{(x-x')\vec{i} + (y-y')\vec{j} + (z-z')\vec{k}}{[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{5/2}} \\ &= -\frac{3\vec{r}}{r^5} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \vec{r} &= \left( \frac{\partial(z-z')}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial(y-y')}{\partial z} \right) \vec{i} + \left( \frac{\partial(x-x')}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial(z-z')}{\partial x} \right) \vec{j} + \left( \frac{\partial(y-y')}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(x-x')}{\partial y} \right) \vec{k} \\ &= \vec{0} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} &= -3 \frac{\vec{r}}{r^5} \times \vec{r} + \vec{0} \\ &= \vec{0} \end{aligned}$$

### 1.4

$$\nabla \cdot \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} = -\nabla' \cdot \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} = 0$$

pf:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} &= \left( \nabla \frac{1}{r^3} \right) \cdot \vec{r} + \frac{1}{r^3} \nabla \cdot \vec{r} \\ &= -\frac{3\hat{r}}{r^4} \cdot \vec{r} + \frac{3}{r^3} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\nabla \frac{1}{r^3} = -\frac{3\vec{r}}{r^5}$$

and

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{r} = \frac{\partial(x-x')}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(y-y')}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(z-z')}{\partial z} = 3$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} &= -\frac{3\hat{r}}{r^5} \cdot \vec{r} + \frac{3}{r^3} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla' \cdot \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} &= -(\nabla' \frac{1}{r^3}) \cdot \vec{r} - \frac{1}{r^3} \nabla' \cdot \vec{r} \\ &= -\frac{3\hat{r}}{r^5} \cdot \vec{r} + \frac{3}{r^3} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\nabla \cdot \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} = -\nabla' \cdot \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} = 0$$

## 2

Show that the interaction between two fixed current loops obeys Newton's third law.

**pf:** Suppose the two fixed current loops are marked as 1 and 2 respectively.

The Ampere force on a short part of the current loop 2 is

$$d\vec{F}_{12} = I_2 d\vec{l}_2 \times \vec{B}_1 = I_2 d\vec{l}_2 \times \left( \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \oint_{L_1} \frac{I_1 d\vec{l}_1 \times \vec{r}_{12}}{r_{12}^3} \right)$$

The total Ampere force on the current loop 2 is

$$\begin{aligned} F_{12} &= \oint_{L_2} d\vec{F}_2 = \frac{\mu_0 I_1 I_2}{4\pi} \oint_{L_2} \oint_{L_1} \frac{d\vec{l}_2 \times (d\vec{l}_1 \times \vec{r}_{12})}{r_{12}^3} \\ &= \frac{\mu_0 I_1 I_2}{4\pi} \oint_{L_2} \oint_{L_1} \frac{(d\vec{l}_2 \cdot \vec{r}_{12}) d\vec{l}_1 - (d\vec{l}_2 \cdot d\vec{l}_1) \vec{r}_{12}}{r_{12}^3} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_{L_2} \oint_{L_1} \frac{(d\vec{l}_2 \cdot \vec{r}_{12}) d\vec{l}_1}{r_{12}^3} &= \oint_{L_1} d\vec{l}_1 \oint_{L_2} \frac{\vec{r}_{12} \cdot d\vec{l}_2}{r_{12}^3} \\ &= \oint_{L_1} d\vec{l}_1 \iint_{S_2} \nabla \times \left( \frac{\vec{r}_{12}^2}{r_{12}^3} \right) \cdot d\vec{S}_2 \\ &= \oint_{L_1} d\vec{l}_1 \iint_{S_2} \vec{0} \cdot d\vec{S}_2 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

So we have

$$F_{12} = -\frac{\mu_0 I_1 I_2}{4\pi} \oint_{L_2} \oint_{L_1} \frac{(\vec{dl}_2 \cdot \vec{dl}_1) \vec{r}_{12}}{r_{12}^3}$$

Similarly, the Ampere force on current loop 1 is

$$F_{21} = -\frac{\mu_0 I_2 I_1}{4\pi} \oint_{L_1} \oint_{L_2} \frac{(\vec{dl}_1 \cdot \vec{dl}_2) \vec{r}_{21}}{r_{21}^3} = \frac{\mu_0 I_1 I_2}{4\pi} \oint_{L_2} \oint_{L_1} \frac{(\vec{dl}_2 \cdot \vec{dl}_1) \vec{r}_{12}}{r_{12}^3}$$

Therefore,

$$\vec{F}_{12} = -\vec{F}_{21}$$

which means the interaction between two fixed current loops obeys Newton's third law.

### 3

Use the equation below to find the related equation for the conduction current  $\vec{J} = n_f e \vec{v}$ . Solve this equation for  $\vec{E}(t) = \vec{E}_0 \delta(t)$  if  $\vec{J}(t < 0) = 0$ . What is  $\vec{J}$  immediately after  $t = 0$ ? Connect this with the sum rule.

$$\frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = -\gamma \vec{v} + \frac{e}{m} \vec{E}$$

**Sol:** Multiply both side of the equation with  $e^{\gamma t}$  and move the items with  $\vec{v}$  to the left side to get

$$\begin{aligned} e^{\gamma t} \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} + \gamma e^{\gamma t} \vec{v} &= \frac{e}{m} e^{\gamma t} \vec{E} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{d(e^{\gamma t} \vec{v})}{dt} &= \frac{e}{m} e^{\gamma t} \vec{E} \end{aligned}$$

Integrate both side of the equation about  $t$  from  $-\infty$  to  $t$  to get

$$\begin{aligned} e^{\gamma t} \vec{v}(t) &= \frac{e}{m} \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\gamma \tau} \vec{E}(\tau) d\tau \\ \Rightarrow \vec{v}(t) &= \frac{e}{m} \cdot e^{-\gamma t} \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\gamma \tau} \vec{E}(\tau) d\tau \end{aligned}$$

The related equation for the conduction current is

$$\vec{J}(t) = n_f e \vec{v}(t) = \frac{n_f e^2}{m} \cdot e^{-\gamma t} \int_{-\infty}^t e^{\gamma \tau} \vec{E}(\tau) d\tau$$

The electricity density immediately after  $t = 0$  is

$$\vec{J}(0^+) = \frac{n_f e^2}{m} \cdot e^{-\gamma t} \int_{-\infty}^{0^+} e^{\gamma \tau} E_0 \delta(\tau) d\tau = \frac{n_f e^2 E_0}{m}$$