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## HOMWORK 3

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# 1 Planar electromagnetic waves

## A Maxwell equations for the four-potential

The components of the contravariant four potential are  $A^\mu = (\varphi, \mathbf{A})$  ( $A_\mu = (-\varphi, \mathbf{A})$  for the covariant components) where  $\varphi$  is the electric potential and  $\mathbf{A}$  is the magnetic potential vector. The sources generating each component of  $A^\mu$  can be grouped in a current four vector  $j^\mu = (\rho, \mathbf{j})$  ( $j_\mu = (-\rho, \mathbf{j})$  for the covariant components) where  $\rho$  is the charge density and  $\mathbf{j}$  is the current observed in the reference frame where we solve for  $A^\mu$ . In the lorentz gauge  $0 = \nabla_\mu A^\mu$ , the Maxwell equations for  $A^\mu$  with sources  $j^\mu$  read  $\square A^\mu = -4\pi j^\mu$  ( $\square A_\mu = -4\pi j_\mu$  for the covariant components).

## B Plane wave Ansatz

We now solve the Maxwell equations in the Lorentz gauge, by introducing the plane wave ansatz  $A_\mu(t, \mathbf{x}) = a_\mu \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu)$  where  $k^\mu = (\mu, \mathbf{k})$  is the four-wave vector and  $a^\mu$  is the four amplitude. On one hand, substituting this ansatz in the Lorentz gauge condition, we get

$$0 = \nabla_\mu A^\mu = \nabla_\mu (a^\mu \exp(ik_\nu x^\nu)) = a^\mu i \delta_\mu^\nu k_\nu \exp(ik_\nu x^\nu) = (a^\mu k_\mu) \exp(ik_\nu x^\nu) \iff a^\mu k_\mu = 0.$$

On the other hand, substituting the ansatz in the vacuum Maxwell equations ( $j_\mu$ ) yields

$$0 = \nabla^\mu \nabla_\mu A_\nu = i \delta_\mu^\rho k_\rho \nabla^\mu (\exp(ik^\rho x_\rho)) = -k^\mu k_\mu \exp(ik^\rho x_\rho) \iff k^\mu k_\mu = 0$$

so the four-wave vector is light-like in the vacuum.

## C Electric and Magnetic fields

In terms of  $A_\mu$ , the electric and magnetic fields  $\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B}$  can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E} &= \nabla_j A_0 - \nabla_0 \mathbf{A} = a_0 \nabla_j \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu) - \mathbf{a} \nabla_0 \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu) = (ia_0 \mathbf{k} - i\mathbf{a} k_0) \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu), \\ \mathbf{B} &= \varepsilon_i^{jk} \nabla_j A_k = i \varepsilon_i^{jk} k_j a_k \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu) = i \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{a} \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu) \end{aligned}$$

with  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{k}$  are respectively the spatial components of  $A_\mu, a_\mu$  and  $k_\mu$ . We consider the projection of  $\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B}$  along  $\mathbf{k}$ . We define  $\mathbf{n} := \mathbf{k}/k$  to write the projections

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{E} &= \mathbf{k}/k \cdot \mathbf{E} = (ia_0 k^2 - i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{a} k_0) \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu) / k = (ia_0(k_0^2) - i(k_0 a_0) k_0) \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu) / k = 0, \\ \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{B} &= \mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{a} \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu)) / k = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, we can relate  $\mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{B} / k_0 &= i \mathbf{k} \times (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{a}) \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu) \\ &= i ((\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{a}) \mathbf{k} - (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k}) \mathbf{a}) \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu) / k_0 \\ &= i ((k_0 a_0) \mathbf{k} - (k_0^2) \mathbf{a}) \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu) / k_0 \\ &= i (a_0 \mathbf{k} - k_0 \mathbf{a}) \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu) = \mathbf{E}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $k_0^2 - \mathbf{k}^2 = 0$  and  $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{k}/\sqrt{\mathbf{k}^2}$ ,  $\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{B} / k_0 = \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{E}$ . These calculations conclude that  $\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B}$  are orthogonal to each other and to the direction of propagation of the wave given by  $\mathbf{k}$ . To analyze the phase difference between  $\mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ , we notice that the global phase in  $\mathbf{E}$  is the phase of the complex quantity  $a_0 \mathbf{k} - k_0 \mathbf{a}$  and that the global phase in  $\mathbf{B}$  is the phase in  $\mathbf{a}$ .

## D Linearly polarized waves

In what follows, we set  $A^0 = -\varphi = 0$ ,  $a^0 = 0$  which corresponds to having a 0 electric potential everywhere. The time derivative of the spatial components of four potentials is

$$\dot{\mathbf{A}} = i k_0 \mathbf{a} \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu).$$

It can be used to express  $\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B}$  when the  $a^0 = 0$ . Indeed

$$\mathbf{E} = -\dot{\mathbf{A}} = (i(0) \mathbf{k} - i\mathbf{a} k_0) \exp(ik_\mu x^\mu), \quad \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{n} \times \dot{\mathbf{A}}$$

## E Poynting vector

The energy-momentum transport associated with the electromagnetic field is described by the Poynting vector  $\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ . Here, we want to relate  $\mathbf{S}$  to the electromagnetic energy density  $\varepsilon = (\mathbf{E}^2 + \mathbf{B}^2)/2$ . To do so, we differentiate  $\varepsilon$  concerning time to get

$$\frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} = \mathbf{E} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{B} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{E} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) - \mathbf{B} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{E}) = -\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}) \iff 0 = \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{S}$$

where we have used the Faraday and Vacuum Ampere laws to express the partial derivatives. A continuity equation is found and we interpret  $\mathbf{S}$  as the energy current density.

## F Asymptotic Power

Following the analogy with the charge continuity equation, we can write an integral form of the energy continuity equation. We choose a spherical volume  $V$  surrounded by a sphere surface  $\partial V$  at radius  $R$  with outgoing normal  $\mathbf{n}_p$ . Integrating the continuity equation for  $\varepsilon$  and  $\mathbf{S}$ , we get

$$0 = \int_V d^3r \left( \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{S} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \int_V d^3r \varepsilon \right) + \int_V d^3r \nabla \cdot \mathbf{S} = \frac{dE}{dt} + R^2 \int_{\partial V} \sin(\theta) d\phi d\theta (\mathbf{n}_p \cdot \mathbf{S})$$

Where  $E$  represents the total electromagnetic energy in  $V$ . If  $R$  is big enough compared to the characteristic size of the emitting system, only radiation directed to infinity goes through it and  $\frac{dE}{dt}$  represents the total radiation power of the system.

## G Poynting vector for planar waves

For planar waves, we have the following Poynting vector:

$$\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B} = -\mathbf{B} \times (\mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{B}) = -(\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{n})\mathbf{B} + (\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{B})\mathbf{n} = \frac{\mathbf{B}^2 + \mathbf{E}^2}{2} \mathbf{n} = \varepsilon \mathbf{n}$$

where we used  $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{B}$ ,  $0 = \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{B}^2 = (\mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{B})^2 = \mathbf{E}^2$ .

# 2 Radiation of an isolated system

## A Lienard-Wiechert potential with isolated sources

The Lienard-Wiechert potential provides an expression for the four-potential generated by a charge moving on a world line.

Supposing the charges are moving slowly compared to the speed of light, the three potential  $\mathbf{A}$  contributions at time  $t$  and position  $\mathbf{r}$  of a point charge  $q$  with three-velocity  $\mathbf{v}$  and three-position  $\mathbf{r}'$  at time  $t_R = t - |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|$  reads:

$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{q\mathbf{v}(t_R)}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'| - \mathbf{v}(t_R) \cdot (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')} \approx \frac{q\mathbf{v}(t_R)}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} + O(|\mathbf{v}|^2)$$

Here we are interested in the integrated potential generated by a continuum of charges described by charge density  $\rho(t, \mathbf{r})$  and a three-current  $\mathbf{j}(t, \mathbf{r})$  at time  $t$  and cartesian three-position  $\mathbf{r}$ . In the limit of small velocities, the previous expression can be formulated in the charge continuum by replacing  $q\mathbf{v}(t_R)$  by the integral expression of the magnetic potential given by  $\mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}')$  and integrating over a space-slice to combine the contribution of all sources. We have

$$\mathbf{A}(t, \mathbf{r}) = \int d^3r' \frac{\mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}.$$

If the observation point  $\mathbf{r}$  of the three-potential is far from the sources, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}(t, \mathbf{r}) &= \int_{\mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}') \sim 0, |\mathbf{r}| \sim |\mathbf{r}'|} d^3 r' \frac{\mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} + \int_{\mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}') \neq 0, |\mathbf{r}| \gg |\mathbf{r}'|} d^3 r' \frac{\mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \\ &\approx \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \int_{\mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}') \sim 0, |\mathbf{r}| \sim |\mathbf{r}'|} d^3 r' \underbrace{\mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}')}_{\sim 0} + \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \int_{\mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}') \neq 0, |\mathbf{r}| \gg |\mathbf{r}'|} d^3 r' \mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}') = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \int d^3 r' \mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}') \\ &\approx \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \int d^3 r' \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}') + \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \int d^3 r' \left( \mathbf{r}' \cdot \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|} \right) \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}') \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the expansions

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'| &= |\mathbf{r}| \left( \left| \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}' \right|_{|\mathbf{r}'|=0} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} + \frac{\mathbf{r}'}{|\mathbf{r}|} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{r}'} \left| \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}' \right|_{|\mathbf{r}'|=0} + O(|\mathbf{r}'|^2/|\mathbf{r}|^2) \right) = |\mathbf{r}| \left( 1 - \frac{\mathbf{r}'}{|\mathbf{r}|} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|} + O(|\mathbf{r}'|^2/|\mathbf{r}|^2) \right), \\ \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} &= \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \frac{1}{1 - \mathbf{r}' \cdot \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} + O(|\mathbf{r}'|^2/|\mathbf{r}|^2)} = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \left( 1 + \mathbf{r}' \cdot \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} + O(|\mathbf{r}'|^2/|\mathbf{r}|^2) \right) \approx \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|}, \quad |\mathbf{r}| \gg |\mathbf{r}'|, \\ \mathbf{j}(t_R, \mathbf{r}') &= \mathbf{j} \left( t - |\mathbf{r}| + \mathbf{r}' \cdot \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|} + O(|\mathbf{r}'|^2) \right) = \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}') + \mathbf{r}' \cdot \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|} \frac{\partial \mathbf{j}}{\partial t'} \Big|_{(t', \mathbf{r}')} + O(|\mathbf{r}'|^2) \text{ with } t' = t - |\mathbf{r}|. \end{aligned}$$

## B Dipole moment

Using the divergence theorem we can write

$$A_i(t, \mathbf{r}) \approx \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \int d^3 r' [\nabla(r'_i) \cdot \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}')] = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \int d^3 r' [\nabla \cdot (r'_i \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}'))] - \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \int d^3 r' [r'_i \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}')] = 0$$

where we indexed the components of relevant three-vectors by  $i$ . We used the fact  $\nabla(r'_i)$  is the unit vector in the  $i$  direction to project  $\mathbf{j}$  to its  $i$  component and extract the contribution to the  $i$  component of  $\mathbf{A}$ . Using the divergence theorem for the first integral of the right-hand side can be converted to an integral on a surface  $S$  with unit outgoing normal  $\mathbf{n}_S$  enclosing the three-volume of the current density system (our system is infinite so we imagine pushing  $S$  to infinity). Since we are trying to approximate  $\mathbf{A}$  far from regions with significant  $\mathbf{j}$ , we take  $\mathbf{j} \sim 0$  on  $S$  to write

$$A_i(t, \mathbf{r}) \approx \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \int_S dS [\mathbf{n}_S \cdot \underbrace{(r'_i \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}'))}_{\sim 0}] - \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \int d^3 r' [r'_i \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}')] = -\frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \int d^3 r' [r'_i \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}')] = 0$$

Using the continuity equation  $-\nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}') = \frac{\partial \rho(t', \mathbf{r}')}{\partial t'}$  (The retarded charge and current densities appearing in this equation satisfy it because they represent continuity of charges and currents in a past distant enough to be received at  $\mathbf{r}$  at approximate time  $t$ . This is equivalent to saying the change of variable  $t \rightarrow t' = t - |\mathbf{r}|$  doesn't change the structure of the continuity equation), we relate the current density to the charge density to obtain

$$A_i(t, \mathbf{r}) \approx + \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \int d^3 r' [r'_i \rho(t', \mathbf{r}')] \iff \mathbf{A}(t, \mathbf{r}) \approx \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \int d^3 r' [\mathbf{r}' \rho(t', \mathbf{r}')] = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \frac{\partial \mathbf{d}(t')}{\partial t'} := \frac{\dot{\mathbf{d}}}{|\mathbf{r}|}$$

where we have introduced the time dependant electric dipole moment of the charge distribution  $\mathbf{d}(t') := \int d^3 r' [\mathbf{r}' \rho(t', \mathbf{r}')] = 0$ .

## C Asymptotic power

The electromagnetic field far from sources will solve the vacuum Maxwell equations and our considerations of the previous question apply. The total power  $P$  emitted through the spherical boundary (with outgoing unit vector  $\mathbf{n}_p = \mathbf{r}(\phi, \theta)/R$ ) of the ball with radius  $R$  enclosing the system is obtained with the result of item F of the previous question. It reads

$$P = R^2 \int_0^\pi d\theta \sin(\theta) \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \mathbf{n}_p \cdot \mathbf{S} = 2\pi \int_0^\pi d\theta \sin(\theta) \left( (1 - \cos^2(\theta)) \frac{|\dot{\mathbf{d}}|^2 R^2}{R^2} + \left[ \sim \frac{R^2}{R^3} \right] \right) = 4\pi \frac{2|\dot{\mathbf{d}}|^2}{3}.$$

where  $\theta, \phi$  are respectively the polar angle and longitudinal angles of a parametrization of the boundary sphere. The Poynting vector was computed assuming the electric potential decreases faster than  $1/|\mathbf{r}|$  so that it doesn't contribute to the power at infinity (a decrease at rate  $1/|\mathbf{r}|$  would be consistent with the presence of net point charges which we do not consider here). Using the expression of the electric and magnetic fields in terms of  $\mathbf{A}$ , we can write

$$\mathbf{S} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = -\frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \frac{\partial \dot{\mathbf{d}}}{\partial t} \times (\nabla \times \dot{\mathbf{d}}) - \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \frac{\partial \dot{\mathbf{d}}}{\partial t} \times \left( \nabla \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \times \dot{\mathbf{d}} \right) = -\frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \frac{\partial \dot{\mathbf{d}}}{\partial t} \times (\nabla \times \dot{\mathbf{d}}) + \left[ \sim \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^3} \right] = -\frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \dot{\mathbf{d}}(t') \times \left( \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|} \times \dot{\mathbf{d}}(t') \right) + \left[ \sim \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^3} \right]$$

where we have used

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \dot{\mathbf{d}}(t')}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial \dot{\mathbf{d}}(t')}{\partial t'} \frac{\partial t'}{\partial t} = \ddot{\mathbf{d}}(t'), \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial r_i} \dot{\mathbf{d}}(t') &= \frac{\partial \dot{\mathbf{d}}(t')}{\partial t'} \frac{\partial t'}{\partial r_i} = -\ddot{\mathbf{d}}(t') \frac{r_i}{|\mathbf{r}|} \implies \varepsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial r_i} \dot{d}_j(t') = -\varepsilon_{ijk} \ddot{d}_j(t') \frac{r_i}{|\mathbf{r}|} \implies \nabla \times \dot{\mathbf{d}}(t') = -\frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|} \times \ddot{\mathbf{d}}(t').\end{aligned}$$

To compute the result of the double cross product, we set our spherical coordinate system to have  $z$  axis aligned with  $|\ddot{\mathbf{d}}|$  to get

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{s} &= \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \ddot{\mathbf{d}} \times \left( \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|} \times \ddot{\mathbf{d}} \right) + \left[ \sim \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^3} \right] = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} (\ddot{\mathbf{d}} \cdot \ddot{\mathbf{d}}) \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|} - \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \ddot{\mathbf{d}} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|} \right) \ddot{\mathbf{d}} + \left[ \sim \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^3} \right] = \left( -\cos(\theta) \frac{\ddot{\mathbf{d}}}{|\ddot{\mathbf{d}}|} + \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|} \right) \frac{|\ddot{\mathbf{d}}|^2}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} + \left[ \sim \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^3} \right], \\ \mathbf{n}_p \cdot \mathbf{s} &= (1 - \cos(\theta)^2) \frac{|\ddot{\mathbf{d}}|^2}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} + \left[ \sim \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^3} \right].\end{aligned}$$

## D Discussion

- i. The power previously calculated does not depend on the radius  $R$  at which we collect the emitted radiation for sufficiently large  $R$ . This is because the power scales locally by an inverse square law in the radial distance. This is consistent with the fact that waves propagating towards infinity traverse spheres at all  $R$  with the same velocity. The conservation of the energy density they carry implies that the same amount of energy must flow through all spheres. Furthermore, the constance of their velocity in the vacuum implies the rate of the flow only depends on  $R$  through the retarded time  $t'$  (we can follow waves by looking at  $t, \mathbf{r}$  that make  $t'$  and see that the rate at which their energy traverse spheres is constant).
- ii. For a system of  $N$  point charges  $q_\alpha$  with trajectories  $\mathbf{r}'_\alpha(t')$ , the retarded dipole moment has the following expression

$$\mathbf{d}(t') = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N q_\alpha \mathbf{r}'_\alpha(t').$$

The radiated power at infinity found earlier only depends on the second retarded time derivative of  $\mathbf{d}$  which reads

$$\ddot{\mathbf{d}}(t') = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N q_\alpha \ddot{\mathbf{r}}'_\alpha(t').$$

and we see that the radiated power vanishes if no charge is moving on an accelerated trajectory.

- iii. Suppose we have a system of point charges that all have the same charge  $q_\alpha$  to mass  $m_\alpha$  ratio  $s$ . Using Newton's second law we find that for this system:

$$\ddot{\mathbf{d}}(t') = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N q_\alpha \ddot{\mathbf{r}}'_\alpha(t') = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \frac{q_\alpha}{m_\alpha} \mathbf{F}_\alpha(t') = s \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \mathbf{F}_\alpha(t') = 0.$$

The last sum vanished because no net external force is exerted on the system and the sum of internal forces must vanish by the action-reaction law.

- iv. A system with an equal mass ratio is not physically relevant because it necessarily contains only positive (or negative) charges making it very unstable in nature.

## 3 Beyond radiation

### A Three-vector Potential Refinement

We now work on the second term of the approximation of  $\mathbf{A}$  obtained in item A of the previous question. The goal of this section is to express this contribution to  $\mathbf{A}$  in terms of

$$\mathbf{Q}_{ij} = \int d^3 r' \rho(\mathbf{r}', t') (3\mathbf{r}'_i \mathbf{r}'_j - \delta_{ij} |\mathbf{r}'|^2), \quad \text{Quadrupole Moment}$$

$$\mathbf{m} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3 r' \mathbf{r}' \times \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}', t'). \quad \text{Magnetic Moment}$$

Proceeding in an analogous way to item B of the previous question we find

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_j^r &= \frac{\mathbf{r}_i}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \int d^3 r' \mathbf{r}'_i \mathbf{j}_j(t', \mathbf{r}') \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{r}_i}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \int d^3 r' \mathbf{r}'_i \nabla(\mathbf{r}'_j) \cdot \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}') = \frac{\mathbf{r}_i}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \int d^3 r' [\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{r}'_j \mathbf{r}'_i \mathbf{j}) - \mathbf{r}'_j \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{r}'_i \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}'))] \\ &= -\frac{\mathbf{r}_i}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \int d^3 r' [\mathbf{r}'_j \nabla(\mathbf{r}'_i) \cdot \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}') + \mathbf{r}'_j \mathbf{r}'_i \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}(t', \mathbf{r}')] \quad \text{Divergence theorem} \\ &= -\frac{\mathbf{r}_i}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \cdot \int d^3 r' [\mathbf{r}'_j \dot{\mathbf{j}}_i(t', \mathbf{r}') - \mathbf{r}'_j \mathbf{r}'_i \dot{\rho}(t', \mathbf{r}')]. \quad \text{Continuity Equation} \end{aligned}$$

Then, adding the first line to the last one yields

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_j^r &= \frac{\mathbf{r}_i}{2|\mathbf{r}|^2} \cdot \int d^3 r' [\mathbf{r}'_i \dot{\mathbf{j}}_j(t', \mathbf{r}') - \mathbf{r}'_j \dot{\mathbf{j}}_i(t', \mathbf{r}') + \mathbf{r}'_j \mathbf{r}'_i \dot{\rho}(t', \mathbf{r}')] \\ &= \frac{1}{2|\mathbf{r}|^2} \cdot \int d^3 r' [(\mathbf{r}' \cdot \mathbf{r}) \dot{\mathbf{j}}_j(t', \mathbf{r}') - (\dot{\mathbf{j}}(t', \mathbf{r}') \cdot \mathbf{r}) \mathbf{r}_j + \mathbf{r}'_j \mathbf{r}'_i \dot{\rho}(t', \mathbf{r}')] \\ &= \frac{1}{2|\mathbf{r}|^2} \cdot \int d^3 r' [((\mathbf{r}' \times \dot{\mathbf{j}}(t', \mathbf{r}')) \times \mathbf{r})_j + \mathbf{r}'_j \mathbf{r}'_i \dot{\rho}(t', \mathbf{r}')] = \frac{(\dot{\mathbf{m}} \times \mathbf{r})_j}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} + \frac{\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij}^* \mathbf{r}_i}{|\mathbf{r}|^2}. \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbf{Q}_{ij}^* = \int d^3 r' \rho(\mathbf{r}', t') (\mathbf{r}'_i \mathbf{r}'_j)$  I suspect that we do not get the  $\delta_{ij}$  term because it is second order in  $|\mathbf{r}'|/|\mathbf{r}|$  and is therefore hidden in truncated part of our expansion of  $\mathbf{A}$ . However, the procedure followed here allowed us to obtain the traceful quadrupole moment  $\mathbf{Q}_{ij}^*$  which is also second order. It could be obtained because the integration by parts step introduced another  $\mathbf{r}'_i$  factor. A more complete expansion in terms of the traceless quadrupole moment is

$$\mathbf{A}_j^r = \frac{(\dot{\mathbf{m}} \times \mathbf{r})_j}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} + \frac{\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij}^* \mathbf{r}_i}{6|\mathbf{r}|^2}.$$

### B Angular average

We now want to evaluate the total power radiated at infinity by a time dependent dipole, magnetic, and quadrupole moments. To simplify further computations, we define the angular averaging over the unit sphere  $S$  by

$$\langle \circ \rangle = \int_{S^2} (\circ) \sin(\theta) d\theta d\phi$$

which can be used to rewrite the total power through a radius  $R$  shell as  $P = R \langle \mathbf{S}_i \mathbf{n}_i \rangle$  with  $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{r}/|\mathbf{r}|$ . To express  $P$ , we start by writing the Poynting vector as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S} &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \left( \frac{\dot{\mathbf{d}}}{|\mathbf{r}|} + \frac{(\dot{\mathbf{m}} \times \mathbf{r})}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} + \frac{\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij}^* \mathbf{r}_i}{6|\mathbf{r}|^2} \right) \times \left( \nabla \times \left( \frac{\dot{\mathbf{d}}}{|\mathbf{r}|} + \frac{(\dot{\mathbf{m}} \times \mathbf{r})}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} + \frac{\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij}^* \mathbf{r}_i}{6|\mathbf{r}|^2} \right) \right) \\ &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \left( \frac{\dot{\mathbf{d}}}{|\mathbf{r}|} + \frac{(\dot{\mathbf{m}} \times \mathbf{r})}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} + \frac{\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij}^* \mathbf{r}_i}{6|\mathbf{r}|^2} \right) \times \left( \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \nabla \times \dot{\mathbf{d}} + \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \nabla \times (\dot{\mathbf{m}} \times \mathbf{r}) + \frac{1}{6|\mathbf{r}|^2} \nabla \times (\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij}^* \mathbf{r}_i) + \left[ \sim \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^3} \right] \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \ddot{\mathbf{d}} + \dot{\mathbf{m}} \times \mathbf{n} + \frac{\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij}^* \mathbf{n}_i}{6} \right) \times \left( \mathbf{n} \times \ddot{\mathbf{d}} + \mathbf{n} \times (\dot{\mathbf{m}} \times \mathbf{n}) + \frac{1}{6} \mathbf{n} \times (\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij}^* \mathbf{n}_i) + \left[ \sim \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^3} \right] \right) \end{aligned}$$

where we used the result obtained in item C of question 2 for the action of the rotational operator on a function of  $t - |\mathbf{r}|$  ( $\nabla \times \circ \rightarrow -\mathbf{n} \times (\dot{\circ})$ ). We also used the fact that any derivative acting on  $\mathbf{r}$  contributions in  $\dot{\mathbf{m}} \times \mathbf{r}$  and  $\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij}^* \mathbf{r}_i$  would remove factors of order of  $|\mathbf{r}|$  in the numerator

of expressions  $\sim 1/|\mathbf{r}|^2$  (making them  $\sim 1/|\mathbf{r}|^3$ ) and only terms  $\sim 1/|\mathbf{r}|^2$  will affect the total power for big enough  $R$ . We can now write the projection of the Poynting vector on the outgoing normal as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S}_l \mathbf{n}_l &= \mathbf{n}_l \varepsilon_{rql} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_r + \varepsilon_{sxx} \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \mathbf{n}_x + \frac{\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} \mathbf{n}_w}{6} \right) \left( \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_j + \varepsilon_{npq} \mathbf{n}_n (\varepsilon_{kjp} \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k \mathbf{n}_j) + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \mathbf{n}_i + \left[ \sim \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^3} \right] \right) \\ &= \mathbf{n}_l \varepsilon_{rql} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_r + \varepsilon_{sxx} \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \mathbf{n}_x + \frac{\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} \mathbf{n}_w}{6} \right) \left( \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_j + \varepsilon_{npq} \varepsilon_{kjp} \mathbf{n}_n \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k \mathbf{n}_j + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \mathbf{n}_i \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} + \left[ \sim \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^3} \right] \right) \\ &\approx \mathbf{n}_l \varepsilon_{rql} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_r + \varepsilon_{sxx} \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \mathbf{n}_x + \frac{\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} \mathbf{n}_w}{6} \right) \left( \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_j + \varepsilon_{npq} \varepsilon_{kjp} \mathbf{n}_n \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k \mathbf{n}_j + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \mathbf{n}_i \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Knowing that the angular average of odd products of  $\mathbf{n}$  component vanishes, we can identify terms that will contribute as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S}_l \mathbf{n}_l &\approx \mathbf{n}_l \varepsilon_{rql} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_r \right) \left( \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_j + \varepsilon_{npq} \varepsilon_{kjp} \mathbf{n}_n \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k \mathbf{n}_j + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \mathbf{n}_i \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \right) \\ &\quad + \mathbf{n}_l \varepsilon_{rql} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \varepsilon_{sxx} \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \mathbf{n}_x \right) \left( \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_j + \varepsilon_{npq} \varepsilon_{kjp} \mathbf{n}_n \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k \mathbf{n}_j + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \mathbf{n}_i \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \right) \\ &\quad + \mathbf{n}_l \varepsilon_{rql} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \frac{\ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} \mathbf{n}_w}{6} \right) \left( \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_j + \varepsilon_{npq} \varepsilon_{kjp} \mathbf{n}_n \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k \mathbf{n}_j + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{kjq} \mathbf{n}_k \mathbf{n}_i \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \right) \end{aligned}$$

and we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathbf{S}_l \mathbf{n}_l \rangle &\approx \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{kjq} \langle \mathbf{n}_k \mathbf{n}_l \rangle \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_r \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_j \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{sxx} \varepsilon_{npq} \varepsilon_{kjp} \langle \mathbf{n}_n \mathbf{n}_x \mathbf{n}_l \mathbf{n}_j \rangle \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{sxx} \varepsilon_{kjq} \langle \mathbf{n}_k \mathbf{n}_x \mathbf{n}_l \mathbf{n}_i \rangle \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{6|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{npq} \varepsilon_{kjp} \langle \mathbf{n}_l \mathbf{n}_n \mathbf{n}_j \mathbf{n}_i \rangle \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{kjq} \langle \mathbf{n}_k \mathbf{n}_l \mathbf{n}_i \mathbf{n}_w \rangle \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} \right) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{3|\mathbf{r}|^2} \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{kjq} \delta_{kl} \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_r \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_j \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{15 \cdot |\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{sxx} \varepsilon_{npq} \varepsilon_{kjp} [\delta_{xn} \delta_{lj} + \delta_{xl} \delta_{nj} + \delta_{nl} \delta_{xj}] \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{sxx} \varepsilon_{kjq} [\delta_{kx} \delta_{li} + \delta_{xl} \delta_{ki} + \delta_{kl} \delta_{xi}] \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{15 \cdot 6|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{npq} \varepsilon_{kjp} [\delta_{ln} \delta_{ji} + \delta_{li} \delta_{nj} + \delta_{lj} \delta_{ni}] \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{kjq} [\delta_{kl} \delta_{iw} + \delta_{kw} \delta_{li} + \delta_{ki} \delta_{lw}] \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} \right) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{3|\mathbf{r}|^2} 2\delta_{rj} \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_r \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_j \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{15 \cdot |\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( [\varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{snr} \varepsilon_{npq} \varepsilon_{kjp} + \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{slr} \varepsilon_{jpq} \varepsilon_{kjp} + \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{sxx} \varepsilon_{lpq} \varepsilon_{kxp}] \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{sxx} \varepsilon_{kjq} [\varepsilon_{rqi} \varepsilon_{skr} \varepsilon_{kjq} + \varepsilon_{rqx} \varepsilon_{sxx} \varepsilon_{ijq} + \varepsilon_{rqk} \varepsilon_{sir} \varepsilon_{kjq}] \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{15 \cdot 6|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{npq} \varepsilon_{kjp} [\delta_{ln} \delta_{ji} + \delta_{li} \delta_{nj} + \delta_{lj} \delta_{ni}] \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} + \frac{1}{6} \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{kjq} [\varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{ljq} \delta_{iw} + \varepsilon_{rql} \varepsilon_{wjq} + \varepsilon_{rqw} \varepsilon_{ijq}] \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} \right) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{3|\mathbf{r}|^2} 2\delta_{rj} \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_r \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_j \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{15 \cdot |\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( [\dots + 4\delta_{sq} \delta_{kq}] \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k + \frac{1}{6} [\dots - \underbrace{(\delta_{ki} \delta_{kr} - \delta_{ki} \delta_{kr})}_{=0} \varepsilon_{sir}] \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_s \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{15 \cdot 6|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left( [\dots] \ddot{\mathbf{m}}_k \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} + \frac{1}{6} [2\delta_{rj} \delta_{iw} + \dots] \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{ij} \ddot{\mathbf{Q}}_{wr} \right) \\ &\approx \frac{2}{3|\mathbf{r}|^2} |\ddot{\mathbf{d}}|^2 + \frac{12}{15 \cdot |\mathbf{r}|^2} |\ddot{\mathbf{m}}|^2 + \frac{3}{15 \cdot 36|\mathbf{r}|^2} \ddot{\mathbf{Q}} : \ddot{\mathbf{Q}} \end{aligned}$$

where we used  $\langle \mathbf{n}_j \mathbf{n}_i \rangle = a \delta_{ij}$  (summing  $i = j$ ) we get  $1 = \langle \mathbf{n}_i \mathbf{n}_i \rangle = 3a$ . We also used  $\langle \mathbf{n}_j \mathbf{n}_i \mathbf{n}_k \mathbf{n}_l \rangle = (\delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} + \delta_{ik} \delta_{jl} + \delta_{il} \delta_{kj})/15$ . The dipole moment is the most important contribution because the magnetic moment depends on velocity over  $c$  so in sub-relativistic regimes it is weak and the quadrupole moment is affected by an even smaller sub-relativistic contribution.

## C Quadrupole in same charge ratio

Possible in the gravitational case because gravitational mass systems attract each other and are therefore stable systems (as opposed to same charge ratio systems).



## 4 Acknowledgement

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Thanks to Maita for a hint at the end of question 1. Thanks to Yale for help computing the average value of products of components of  $\mathbf{n}$ .

# References

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- [1] Aldo Riello. *Fourteen Lectures in CLASSICAL PHYSICS*. 2023.