

6. Special relativity and electromagnetism

Just a brief introduction, no worries.

We have spacetime four vector (ct, \mathbf{r}) , who has dot product with itself as

$$\begin{aligned}
 x^\mu x_\mu &= c^2 t^2 - r^2 \\
 \tau^2 &= t^2 \left(1 - \frac{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}{c^2 t^2} \right) \\
 &= t^2 \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right) \\
 \Rightarrow \tau &= \frac{t}{\gamma} \\
 \gamma &= \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\
 t &= \gamma \tau \quad \text{time dilation}
 \end{aligned}$$

We also have momentum four vector $(\frac{E}{c}, \mathbf{p})$, who has dot product with itself as

$$p^\mu p_\mu = \frac{E^2}{c^2} - p^2 = m^2 c^2$$

since $E^2 = p^2 c^2 + m^2 c^2$ ($m = \text{rest mass}$)

We also have differential operator ∂_μ which is written as

$$\partial_\mu = \left(\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \nabla \right)$$

We would just introduce this here

Then, we could have current density four vector

$$J_\mu = (c\rho, \mathbf{J})$$

We would consider charge at rest, then

$$J^\mu = (c\rho, 0)$$

This could be "boosted" to a moving frame with speed v

$$J'^\mu = (\rho' c, \mathbf{J}')$$

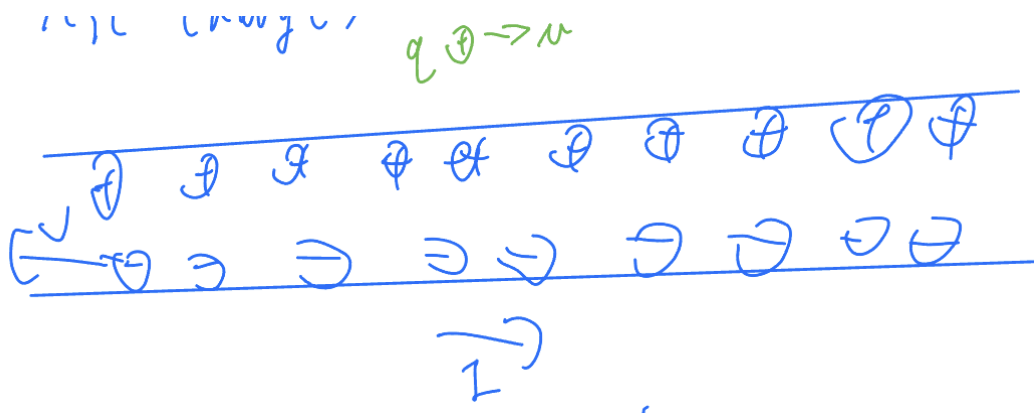
Where $\rho' = \gamma \rho_0$ due to length contraction and $\mathbf{J}' = -\gamma \rho_0 \mathbf{v}$

Then, we could have continuity equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} &= 0 \\
 \partial_\mu J^\mu &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

In lab frame S, then, we could have

- Line of charge, with density $+\lambda$ which is stationary
- Line of charge, with density $-\lambda$ which is moving with speed $-v$
- Test charge q moving with speed $+u$



remember that the wire itself has no net charge

$$\lambda_{\text{tot}} = +\lambda - \lambda = 0$$

In the test charge frame S' , we could have

- Test charge is stationary
- + charges move backwards at speed $u \Rightarrow \gamma_+ = \gamma_u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{u^2}{c^2}}}$
- - charges move back at

$$v' = \frac{v+u}{1+\frac{vu}{c^2}} \Rightarrow \gamma_- = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{c^2(v+u)^2}{(c^2+uv)^2}}} = \frac{c^2+uv}{\sqrt{(c^2-v^2)(c^2-u^2)}} = \frac{c^2+uv}{\sqrt{(c^2-v^2)(c^2-u^2)}} = \gamma_v \gamma_u \left(1 + \frac{vu}{c^2}\right)$$

$$\text{Hence } \gamma'_{\text{tot}} = \gamma_+ \lambda - \gamma_- \left(-\frac{\lambda}{\gamma_v}\right)$$

In the rest frame of negative charges, they have charge density of $\frac{-\lambda}{\gamma_v}$

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda'_{\text{tot}} &= \gamma_u \lambda - \lambda \gamma_u \cdot \left(1 + \frac{uv}{c^2}\right) \\ &= -\lambda \gamma_u \frac{uv}{c^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$E' = \frac{\lambda'_{\text{tot}}}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r} = \frac{-\lambda uv \gamma_u}{2\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 r}$$

$$F' = qE' = \frac{-\lambda uv \gamma_u q}{2\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 r}$$

$$F = \frac{F'}{\gamma_u} = \frac{-(\lambda v) u q}{2\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 r} \quad \text{note that } \lambda v = I$$

$$= -qu \left(\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r} \right) \quad \text{note that } \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r} = B$$

$$= -quB \quad \text{Which is lorentz force}$$

Lets remember Maxwell's equations

$$\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$$

$$E = -\nabla V - \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t}$$

$$\text{If } V \rightarrow V - \frac{\partial \chi}{\partial t}$$

$$\text{and } \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{A} + \nabla \chi$$

Where χ is a scalar field

$$A^\mu = \left(\frac{V}{c}, \mathbf{A} \right)$$

$$A_\mu = \left(\frac{V}{c}, -\mathbf{A} \right)$$

$$A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu - \partial_\mu \chi \quad \text{gauge transformation}$$

We would, therefore, need a new object called the field strength tensor

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$$

Where μ, ν are indices

$$F_{\mu\nu} \rightarrow F_{\mu\nu} - \partial_\mu \partial_\nu \chi + \partial_\nu \partial_\mu \chi = F_{\mu\nu}$$

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{E_x}{c} & \frac{E_y}{c} & \frac{E_z}{c} \\ -\frac{E_x}{c} & 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ -\frac{E_y}{c} & B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ -\frac{E_z}{c} & -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$F^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{E_x}{c} & -\frac{E_y}{c} & -\frac{E_z}{c} \\ \frac{E_x}{c} & 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ \frac{E_y}{c} & B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ \frac{E_z}{c} & -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

And the function $\partial_\mu F^{\mu\nu} = \mu_0 J^\nu$ gives us the four maxwell's equations. The first half would be simple to deduce, but the second half would be a bit more complicated so we are not going to do it here.

First two:

$$\partial_i F^{i0} = \mu_0 J^0$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\partial_\mu F^{\mu i} = \mu_0 J^i$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{c^2} \mathbf{E} + \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{J}$$