

Introduction to Electrodynamics by David J. Griffiths Notes

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1 Vector Algebra

1.6 The Theory of Vector Fields

1.6.1 The Helmholtz Theorem

- The **Helmholtz theorem** states that a vector field \mathbf{F} is uniquely determined if you're given its divergence $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}$, curl $\nabla \times \mathbf{F}$, and sufficient boundary conditions.

1.6.2 Potentials

- If the curl of a vector field vanishes everywhere, then it can be expressed as the gradient of a **scalar potential**

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{F} = -\nabla V.$$

- If the divergence of a vector field vanishes everywhere, then it can be expressed as the curl of a **vector potential**

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{F} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}.$$

2 Electrostatics

2.1 The Electric Field

2.1.2 Coulomb's Law

- **Coulomb's law** gives the force between two point charges q and Q

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{qQ}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$$

where

$$\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2/(\text{N m}^2)$$

is the **permittivity of free space** and \mathbf{r} is the separation vector between the two charges.

2.1.3 The Electric Field

- The **electric field** \mathbf{E} is a vector field that varies from point to point and gives the force per unit charge that would be exerted on a test charge if placed at a particular point.
- For a collection of n source charges q_i at displacements \mathbf{r}_i from a test charge, the electric field is

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_i.$$

2.1.4 Continuous Charge Distributions

- Coulomb's law for a continuous charge distribution is

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{1}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}} dq.$$

2.2 Divergence and Curl of Electrostatic Fields

2.2.1 Field Lines, Flux, and Gauss's Law

- **Gauss's law** states that the electric field flux through a closed surface is proportional to the amount of charge within that surface

$$\oint \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} Q_{\text{enc}}$$

or

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho.$$

2.2.4 The Curl of \mathbf{E}

- The curl of an electric field is $\mathbf{0}$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{0}.$$

2.3 Electric Potential

2.3.1 Introduction to Potential

- The **electric potential** at a point \mathbf{r} is defined as

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = - \int_{\mathcal{O}}^{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l}$$

where \mathcal{O} is an agreed origin.

- The potential difference between two points \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} is

$$V(\mathbf{b}) - V(\mathbf{a}) = - \int_{\mathbf{a}}^{\mathbf{b}} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l}.$$

- The electric field and potential are also related by the equation

$$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V.$$

2.3.2 Comments on Potential

- The choice of origin \mathcal{O} in the definition of vector potential only affects the absolute potential values, not potential differences. Typically it is chosen to be “at infinity” unless the charge distribution itself extends to infinity.
- Electric potential obeys the superposition principle.
- The units of electric potential is $\text{N m/C} = \text{J/C} = \text{V}$.

2.3.3 Poisson’s Equation and Laplace’s Equation

- If

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

and

$$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot (-\nabla V) &= \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \\ \nabla^2 V &= -\frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}. \end{aligned}$$

This is known as **Poisson’s equation**. In regions where $\rho = 0$ it reduces to **Laplace’s equation**

$$\nabla^2 V = 0.$$

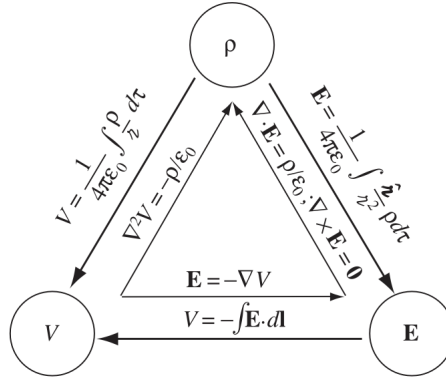
2.3.4 The Potential of a Localized Charge Distribution

- The potential of a continuous charge distribution is

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}')}{r} d\tau'$$

where the reference point is set to infinity.

2.3.5 Boundary Conditions



- The normal component of the electric field is discontinuous by an amount σ/ϵ_0 at any boundary, i.e.

$$E_{\text{above}} - E_{\text{below}} = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}.$$

- The tangential component of the electric field is always continuous at any boundary.
- The electric potential is always continuous at any boundary, however because $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V$, the gradient of the electric potential inherits the discontinuity at boundaries with surface charge, i.e.

$$\nabla V_{\text{above}} - \nabla V_{\text{below}} = -\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

or

$$\frac{\partial V_{\text{above}}}{\partial n} - \frac{\partial V_{\text{below}}}{\partial n} = -\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}$$

where

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial n} = \nabla V \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}.$$

2.4 Work and Energy in Electrostatics

2.4.1 The Work It Takes to Move a Charge

- The work required to move a charge Q from infinity to a point \mathbf{r} is

$$W = Q[V(\mathbf{r}) - V(\infty)] = QV(\mathbf{r}).$$

In that sense, the electric potential is the energy per unit charge required to assemble a system of point charges.

2.4.2 The Energy of a Point Charge Distribution

- If you bring a first charge in from infinity you do no work because there are no other charges. If you bring a second charge in from infinity you do work against the electric field of the first charge. The third does work against the first and second, and so on. Thus the total work required to assemble a collection of charges is

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}} + \frac{q_1 q_3}{r_{13}} + \dots + \frac{q_1 q_n}{r_{1n}} + \frac{q_2 q_3}{r_{23}} + \dots \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j>i}^n \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}} \end{aligned}$$

or if we count each pair of charges twice and divide by two

$$W = \frac{1}{8\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}.$$

If we pull q_i out the front we get

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n q_i \left(\sum_{j \neq i}^n \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{ij}} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n q_i V(\mathbf{r}_i).$$

2.4.3 The Energy of a Continuous Charge Distribution

- For a volume charge density ρ the work to assemble a continuous charge distribution is

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \int \rho V d\tau$$

or equivalently

$$W = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \int E^2 d\tau$$

where the integral is taken over all space.

2.4.4 Comments on Electrostatic Energy

- The energy of an electrostatic field does not obey the superposition principle.

2.5 Conductors

2.5.1 Basic Properties

- $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{0}$ inside a conductor because any net electric field causes charges to move, resulting in an induced charge that cancels the electric field.
- $\rho = 0$ inside a conductor. By Gauss's law, if $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{0}$ then ρ must also be 0.
- Any net charge resides on the surface of a conductor.
- A conductor is an equipotential, i.e. the electric potential is the same everywhere in the conductor.
- \mathbf{E} is perpendicular to the surface of the conductor. If there was a tangential component, charge would move to cancel it.

2.5.2 Induced Charges

- If you hold a charge near an uncharged conductor, the two will attract one another. This is because the external charge causes charges within the conductor to move in order to cancel its magnetic field — like charges are repelled and unlike charges are attracted. This results in unlike charges being closer to the external charge and like charges being further away, resulting in a net attraction.
- If you place a charge in a cavity within a conductor, a charge will be induced on the inner surface of the conductor to negate the charge's field within the conductor. If you apply Gauss's law to a Gaussian surface that contains the inner charge and inner surface but not the outer surface, the enclosed charge must be 0. Thus there must be an induced charge of q on the outer surface which communicates the presence of the inner charge to the outside world.
- If a cavity within a conductor contains no charge, $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{0}$ within the cavity.

2.5.3 Surface Charge and Force on a Conductor

- Because the field inside a conductor is zero, the boundary condition $E_{\text{above}} - E_{\text{below}} = \sigma/\epsilon_0$ requires that the field immediately outside the conductor is

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}.$$

In terms of potential this is

$$\sigma = -\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial n}.$$

- In the presence of an electric field, a surface charge will experience a force per unit area

$$\mathbf{f} = \sigma \mathbf{E}_{\text{average}} = \frac{1}{2} \sigma (\mathbf{E}_{\text{above}} + \mathbf{E}_{\text{below}}).$$

This applies to any surface charge, however for a conductor $\mathbf{E}_{\text{below}} = \mathbf{0}$ so

$$\mathbf{f} = \frac{1}{2} \sigma \mathbf{E}_{\text{above}} = \frac{\sigma^2}{2\epsilon_0} \hat{\mathbf{n}}.$$

Notice that this is independent of the sign of σ . This results in an outward **electrostatic pressure** on the surface

$$P = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} E^2$$

tending to draw the conductor into the field.

2.5.4 Capacitors

- If you have two conductors and place a charge of $+Q$ on one and $-Q$ on the other, an electric field will be induced between them. By Coulomb's law the electric field is proportional to the charge so doubling the charge doubles the electric field and thus the electric potential. The constant of proportionality between the charge and the potential difference between the conductors is called their **capacitance**

$$C = \frac{Q}{V}$$

the unit of which is **farads** (F).

- The work required to fully charge a capacitor to potential difference V is

$$W = \frac{1}{2} CV^2.$$

3 Potentials

3.1 Laplace's Equation

3.1.1 Introduction

- The primary task of electrostatics is to find the electric field of a stationary charge distribution. In theory this is possible using Coulomb's law, but the integrals are often too difficult. It's often easier to first calculate the potential, but sometimes these too are too difficult. In those cases we can instead try to solve Poisson's equation

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

or Laplace's equation

$$\nabla^2 V = 0.$$

3.1.2 Laplace's Equation in One Dimension

- The solution to Laplace's equation in one dimension

$$\frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = 0$$

is

$$V = mx + b.$$

- Under this solution $V(x)$ is the average of $V(x + a)$ and $V(x - a)$ for any a

$$V(x) = \frac{1}{2}[V(x + a) + V(x - a)].$$

- Laplace's equation tolerates no maxima or minima between the endpoints.

3.1.3 Laplace's Equation in Two Dimensions

- If you draw a circle of radius R about a point the average value of V on the circle is equal to the value at the centre

$$V = \frac{1}{2\pi R} \oint_{\text{circle}} V dl.$$

- V has no maxima or minima — all extrema occur at the boundaries.

3.1.4 Laplace's Equation in Three Dimensions

- The value of V at a point \mathbf{r} is the average value of V over a spherical surface of radius R centred at \mathbf{r}

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi R^2} \oint_{\text{sphere}} V da.$$

- V has no maxima or minima — all extrema occur at the boundaries.

3.1.5 Boundary Conditions and Uniqueness Theorems

- The **first uniqueness theorem** states that the solution to Laplace's equation in some volume \mathcal{V} is uniquely determined if V is specified on the boundary surface \mathcal{S} .
- A corollary to the first uniqueness theorem is that the potential in a volume \mathcal{V} is uniquely determined if (a) the charge density throughout the region, and (b) the value of V on all boundaries, are specified.

3.1.6 Conductors and the Second Uniqueness Theorem

- The **second uniqueness theorem** states that in a volume \mathcal{V} surrounded by conductors and containing a specified charge density ρ , the electric field is uniquely determined if the total charge on each conductor is given.

3.2 The Method of Images

3.2.1 The Classic Image Problem

- By the first uniqueness theorem for solutions to Poisson's equation and Laplace's equation, if we can construct a solution that meets the boundary conditions in the region of interest even if it's different outside the region of interest, that's the solution.
- For example, if a point charge q is placed a distance a above an infinite grounded conducting plane it will induce some charge in the plane so it's difficult to calculate the potential. However if we consider an alternate scenario where there's a second point charge $-q$ a distance a below the plane and the plane is removed, the potential is much easier to calculate. Because the boundary conditions in the region $z > 0$ are the same, this potential must be a solution to the original problem.

3.2.2 Induced Surface Charge

- In the problem above, the surface charge induced on the plane can be calculated as

$$\sigma = -\epsilon_0 \left. \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \right|_{z=0}.$$

3.2.3 Force and Energy

- As potential is the same under the method of images, so is force. Energy however is not the same.

3.2.4 Other Image Problems

- In general, **the method of images** can be applied when a stationary charge distribution is in the vicinity of an infinite grounding plane by mirroring the charges across the plane and negating their charges.
- You can't place image charges in the region where you're trying to calculate the potential — that would change ρ and thus you're solving Poisson's equation with different sources.

3.3 Separation of Variables

- The method of separation of variables can be used to solve Laplace's equation when the potential V or the charge density σ is specified on the boundaries of some region.

3.3.2 Spherical Coordinates

- We assume the problems have **azimuthal symmetry** so that V is independent of ϕ .
- The solutions to the equation

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) = -l(l+1) \sin \theta \Theta$$

are the **Legendre polynomials** in the variable $\cos \theta$

$$\Theta(\theta) = P_l(\cos \theta).$$

Although there should be two solutions to $\Theta(\theta)$ for each value of l , the second set of solutions “blow up” at $\theta = 0$ and/or $\theta = \pi$ so can be excluded on physical grounds. If those values of θ are excluded from the region of interest, then these second solutions must be considered.

- Thus, in the case of azimuthal symmetry, the most general separable solution to Laplace’s equations is

$$V(r, \theta) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left(Ar^l + \frac{B}{r^{l+1}} \right) P_l(\cos \theta).$$

3.4 Multipole Expansion

3.4.1 Approximate Potentials at Large Distances

- A **physical electric dipole** consists of two equal and opposite charges $\pm q$ separated by a distance d .
- The potential of a dipole at distance $r \gg d$ is

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{qd \cos \theta}{r^2}$$

where θ is the angle between the line connecting the charges and the line from the centre of the charges to \mathbf{r} .

- If we place a pair of dipoles next to each other to make a **quadrupole**, the potential goes like $1/r^3$. A pair of quadrupoles back to back makes an **octopole**, and the potential goes like $1/r^4$, etc.
- The **multipole expansion** of a charge distribution is an expansion of its potential in terms of powers of $1/r$

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{r^{(n+1)}} \int (r')^n P_n(\cos \alpha) \rho(\mathbf{r}') d\tau'.$$

3.4.2 The Monopole and Dipole Terms

- The dipole term in the multipole expansion is

$$V_{\text{dip}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^2} \int r' \cos \alpha \rho(\mathbf{r}') d\tau'$$

or, since $\cos \alpha$ is the angle between \mathbf{r} and \mathbf{r}'

$$V_{\text{dip}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \int \mathbf{r}' \rho(\mathbf{r}') d\tau'.$$

This integral (which doesn't depend on \mathbf{r}) is called the **dipole moment** of the distribution

$$\mathbf{p} = \int \mathbf{r}' \rho(\mathbf{r}') d\tau',$$

and the dipole term simplifies to

$$V_{\text{dip}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\mathbf{p} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2}.$$

- The dipole moment for a collection of point charges is

$$\mathbf{p} = \sum^n q_i \mathbf{r}_i'$$

and for physical dipole is

$$\mathbf{p} = q\mathbf{d}$$

where \mathbf{d} is the vector from the negative charge to the positive charge.

- A **perfect dipole** is one whose potential is described exactly by the dipole term (no higher terms are needed). This occurs when $d \rightarrow 0$ and $q \rightarrow \infty$ while maintaining $qd = p$.
- Dipole moments are vectors and add accordingly, e.g. if you have two dipoles \mathbf{p}_1 and \mathbf{p}_2 the total dipole is $\mathbf{p}_1 + \mathbf{p}_2$.

3.4.3 Origin of Coordinates in Multipole Expansions

- Because the multipole expansion is a power series in inverse powers of r (the distance to the origin), moving the charge or the origin can affect the expansion. For example, a monopole q at the origin has potential $q/4\pi\epsilon_0 r$ — exactly the monopole term in the multipole expansion — but if it is moved a distance d from the origin it gains a dipole moment qd .
- If the total charge is 0 the dipole moment doesn't change when you move the distribution or the origin.

3.4.4 The Electric Field of a Dipole

- The electric field of a dipole with \mathbf{p} pointing in the z direction is

$$\mathbf{E}_{\text{dip}}(r, \theta) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{p}{r^3} (2 \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \sin \theta \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}).$$

4 Electric Fields in Matter

4.1 Polarization

4.1.1 Dielectrics

- **Conductors** have an effectively unlimited number of free electrons — typically one or two per atom aren't bound and can move around.
- **Insulators** or **dielectrics** have no free electrons — they're all bound to atoms.

4.1.2 Induced Dipoles

- When a neutral atom is placed in an electric field \mathbf{E} the positive nucleus experiences a force in the direction of \mathbf{E} and the negative electron cloud experiences a force in the opposite direction to \mathbf{E} . This causes them to separate slightly and the atom is said to be **polarized**. This also results in a small dipole moment

$$\mathbf{p} = \alpha \mathbf{E}$$

where α is called the **atomic polarizability**.

- Molecules may have different atomic polarizability constants in different directions. In that case, to calculate the resulting dipole moment you must decompose \mathbf{E} into the relevant directions and multiply them by the relevant constants.
- The most general equation for the induced dipole moment of a molecule is

$$\begin{aligned} p_x &= \alpha_{xx} E_x + \alpha_{xy} E_y + \alpha_{xz} E_z \\ p_y &= \alpha_{yx} E_x + \alpha_{yy} E_y + \alpha_{yz} E_z \\ p_z &= \alpha_{zx} E_x + \alpha_{zy} E_y + \alpha_{zz} E_z \end{aligned}$$

where the set of nine constants α_{ij} constitute the **polarizability tensor**. The values of the polarizability tensor depend on the axes you choose, but it's always possible to choose axes such that it is a diagonal matrix.

4.1.3 Alignment of Polar Molecules

- Some molecules have a “built-in” dipole moment. These are called **polar molecules**.
- A dipole $\mathbf{p} = q\mathbf{d}$ in a uniform electric field \mathbf{E} experiences a torque

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{E}.$$

This aligns \mathbf{p} with \mathbf{E} .

- A dipole \mathbf{p} in a nonuniform electric field \mathbf{E} also experiences a net force

$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}_+ + \mathbf{F}_- = q(\mathbf{E}_+ - \mathbf{E}_-) = q(\Delta\mathbf{E})$$

where $\Delta\mathbf{E}$ is the difference in electric field between the ends of the dipole. If the dipole is very short then

$$\mathbf{F} = (\mathbf{p} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{E}.$$

- The energy of an ideal dipole \mathbf{p} in an electric field \mathbf{E} is

$$U = -\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{E}.$$

4.1.4 Polarization

- When an external electric field is applied to a material that consists of neutral atoms or nonpolar molecules, the field will induce in each a small dipole moment pointing in the same direction as the field. If the material consists of polar molecules each will experience a torque aligning it with the field. The net result is that there are many small dipoles pointing in the same direction — the material becomes **polarized**. A measure of this is **polarization** \mathbf{P} which is the dipole moment per unit volume.

4.2 The Field of a Polarized Object

4.2.1 Bound Charges

- The potential of a polarized object is equal to that produced by a surface charge density

$$\sigma_b = \mathbf{P} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

and volume charge density

$$\rho_b = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}$$

, i.e.

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \oint_S \frac{\sigma_b}{r} da' + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V \frac{\rho_b}{r} d\tau'.$$

These are called **bound charges**.

4.3 The Electric Displacement

4.3.1 Gauss's Law in the Presence of Dielectrics

- Any charge that is not a result of polarization is called **free charge** ρ_f .
- The total charge density is thus

$$\rho = \rho_b + \rho_f$$

and Gauss's law reads

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_0 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} &= \rho \\ &= \rho_b + \rho_f \\ &= -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P} + \rho_f.\end{aligned}$$

If we introduce the **electric displacement**

$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P}$$

then Gauss's law reads

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho_f$$

or

$$\oint \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = Q_{f_{\text{enc}}}.$$

4.3.2 A Deceptive Parallel

- The curl of \mathbf{D} is not always zero because

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0(\nabla \times \mathbf{E}) + (\nabla \times \mathbf{P}) = \nabla \times \mathbf{P}.$$

- As it's curl isn't always zero, there is no scalar potential for \mathbf{D} . If a problem doesn't exhibit the required symmetry to apply Gauss's law for dielectrics we can't fall back on an equivalent of Coulomb's law.

4.3.3 Boundary Conditions

- Like \mathbf{E} , \mathbf{D} exhibits discontinuities across boundaries

$$\begin{aligned}D_{\text{above}}^{\perp} - D_{\text{below}}^{\perp} &= \sigma_f \\ \mathbf{D}_{\text{above}}^{\parallel} - \mathbf{D}_{\text{below}}^{\parallel} &= \mathbf{P}_{\text{above}}^{\parallel} - \mathbf{P}_{\text{below}}^{\parallel}.\end{aligned}$$

4.4 Linear Dielectrics

4.4.1 Susceptibility, Permittivity, Dielectric Constant

- A **linear dielectric** is a material whose polarization is linearly proportional to the applied electric field

$$\mathbf{P} = \epsilon_0 \chi_e \mathbf{E}$$

where χ_e is a dimensionless proportionality constant called the **electric susceptibility** of the material and \mathbf{E} is the total electric field (including that produced by the polarization itself).

- The displacement field in linear dielectrics is also proportional to the total electric field

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{D} &= \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P} \\ &= \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \epsilon_0 \chi_e \mathbf{E} \\ &= \epsilon_0 (1 + \chi_e) \mathbf{E} \\ &= \epsilon \mathbf{E} \end{aligned}$$

where $\epsilon = \epsilon_0 (1 + \chi_e)$ is the **permittivity** of the material.

- Dividing the permittivity of a material by ϵ_0 gives its **relative permittivity** or **dielectric constant**

$$\epsilon_r = \frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon_0} = 1 + \chi_e.$$

- The line integral of \mathbf{P} around a closed path that crosses the boundary between two materials may not be zero (e.g. if one material is polarized and the other is not). By Stokes' theorem this means that the curl of \mathbf{P} is nonzero and thus \mathbf{D} is nonzero.
- In a space filled by a homogeneous linear dielectric then the above doesn't apply and $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho_f$ and $\nabla \times \mathbf{D} = \mathbf{0}$ so \mathbf{D} can be found from the free charge as if the dielectric weren't there

$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}_{\text{vac}}$$

and

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \mathbf{D} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_r} \mathbf{E}_{\text{vac}}.$$

4.4.2 Boundary Value Problems with Linear Dielectrics

- In a linear dielectric the bound charge density is proportional to the free charge density

$$\rho_b = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P} = -\nabla \cdot \left(\epsilon_0 \frac{\chi_e}{\epsilon} \mathbf{D} \right) = - \left(\frac{\chi_e}{1 + \chi_e} \right) \rho_f.$$

This means that, unless charges are embedded in the material, $\rho = 0$, all the charge lies on the surface, and the electric potential within the material obeys Laplace's equation.

- Rewriting the boundary conditions for linear dielectrics gives

$$\epsilon_{\text{above}} E_{\text{above}}^{\perp} - \epsilon_{\text{below}} E_{\text{below}}^{\perp} = \sigma_f$$

or

$$\epsilon_{\text{above}} \frac{\partial V_{\text{above}}}{\partial n} - \epsilon_{\text{below}} \frac{\partial V_{\text{below}}}{\partial n} = -\sigma_f.$$

4.4.3 Energy in Dielectric Systems

- The work required to assemble a system containing linear dielectric material is

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \int \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{E} d\tau.$$

5 Magnetostatics

5.1 The Lorentz Force Law

5.1.2 Magnetic Forces

- The force experienced by a charge Q moving at velocity \mathbf{v} due to a magnetic field \mathbf{B} is

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{mag}} = Q(\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}).$$

- The **Lorentz force law** gives the net force on a charge Q moving at velocity \mathbf{v} in an electric field \mathbf{E} and a magnetic field \mathbf{B}

$$\mathbf{F} = Q(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}).$$

- Magnetic forces do no work. They may change the direction in which a particle moves, but can't speed it up or slow it down.

5.1.3 Currents

- The **current** in a wire is the charge per unit time passing a given point.
- Current is measured in coulombs per second or **amperes** (A).
- Current is a vector \mathbf{I} .
- The magnetic force on a segment of current-carrying wire is

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{mag}} = \int (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) dq = \int (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) \lambda dl = \int (\mathbf{I} \times \mathbf{B}) dl.$$

If \mathbf{I} and $d\mathbf{l}$ point in the same direction then

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{mag}} = \int I(d\mathbf{l} \times \mathbf{B})$$

and if I is constant over the wire then

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{mag}} = I \int (d\mathbf{l} \times \mathbf{B}).$$

- When charge flows over a surface we describe it by the **surface current density \mathbf{K}** . This is the current per unit width.
- When charge flows through a volume we describe it by the **volume current density \mathbf{J}** . This is the current per unit area.
- Due to conservation of charge, a net outward flow of current from a volume results in a decrease in the charge density in the volume and a net inflow results in an increase

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}.$$

This is called the **continuity equation**.

5.2 The Biot-Savart Law

5.2.1 Steady Currents

- Electrostatic is the study of stationary electric charges and their constant electric fields. Magnetostatics is the study of steady electric currents and their constant magnetic fields.
- Under magnetostatics the magnitude of a current must be the same all along a wire, otherwise it would pile up somewhere and wouldn't be a steady current. In other words,

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = 0.$$

5.2.2 Magnetic Field of a Steady Current

- The magnetic field of a steady current is given by the **Biot-Savart Law**

$$\mathbf{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int \frac{\mathbf{I} \times \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2} dl' = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} I \int \frac{d\mathbf{l}' \times \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2}$$

where $\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N/A}^2$ is the **permeability of free space**.

- The units of a magnetic field \mathbf{B} are **teslas (T)** where

$$1 \text{ T} = 1 \text{ N}/(\text{A m})$$

or **gauss** where

$$10^4 \text{ gauss} = 1 \text{ T}.$$

- The magnetic field a distance s from a wire carrying a constant current I is

$$\mathbf{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi s} \hat{\phi}.$$

- The superposition principle applies to magnetic fields as it does to electric fields.

5.3 The Divergence and Curl of \mathbf{B}

5.3.2 The Divergence and Curl of \mathbf{B}

- The divergence of a magnetic field is

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0.$$

5.3.3 Ampère's Law

- **Ampère's law** gives the curl of a magnetic field

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{J}$$

or in integral form

$$\oint \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \mu_0 I_{\text{enc}}$$

where I_{enc} is the amount of current flowing through a surface enclosed by the integral path and the right-hand rule is used to determine what constitutes a positive current (if the fingers of the right hand wrap in the direction of integration then the thumb points in the direction of positive current).

5.4 Magnetic Vector Potential

5.4.1 The Vector Potential

- In the same way that $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0$ permits a scalar electric potential $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V$, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$ permits a vector magnetic potential

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

- This says nothing about the divergence of \mathbf{A} , however in the same way that you can add any constant to V without affecting \mathbf{E} you can add the gradient of any scalar to \mathbf{A} without affecting \mathbf{B} as the curl of a gradient is 0. If $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} \neq 0$, adding $\nabla \lambda$ where $\nabla^2 \lambda = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}$ (which can be solved using the same methods as Laplace or Poisson's equations) results in a divergence of 0. This means it's always possible to choose \mathbf{A} such that $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$.

- With the condition that $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$, Ampère's law becomes

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \times \mathbf{B} &= \mu_0 \mathbf{J} \\ \nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) &= \mu_0 \mathbf{J} \\ \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{A} &= \mu_0 \mathbf{J} \\ \nabla^2 \mathbf{A} &= -\mu_0 \mathbf{J}.\end{aligned}$$

This is effectively Poisson's equation three times — one for each dimension

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla^2 A_x &= -\mu_0 J_x \\ \nabla^2 A_y &= -\mu_0 J_y \\ \nabla^2 A_z &= -\mu_0 J_z.\end{aligned}$$

Note that in non-cartesian coordinates the unit vectors may also need to be differentiated, meaning the equation can't be split in three like this.

- The integral form of Ampère's law using the magnetic potential is

$$\oint \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \Phi$$

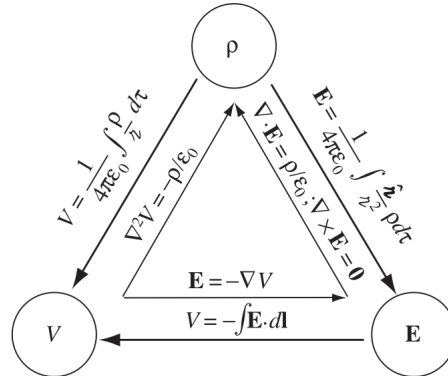
where Φ is the flux of \mathbf{B} through the loop formed by the integral path.

- The solutions to Ampère's law using the magnetic potential for line, surface, and volume currents are

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A} &= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int \frac{\mathbf{I}}{r} dl' \\ \mathbf{A} &= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int \frac{\mathbf{K}}{r} da' \\ \mathbf{A} &= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int \frac{\mathbf{J}}{r} d\tau' .\end{aligned}$$

- In general, the direction of \mathbf{A} will match the direction of the current.

5.4.2 Boundary Conditions



- Just as the electric field experiences a discontinuity at a surface charge, the magnetic field experiences a discontinuity at a surface current. The continuity of each component can be described as:

- the components perpendicular to the surface are equal

$$B_{\text{above}}^{\perp} = B_{\text{below}}^{\perp},$$

- the components parallel to the surface and parallel to the current are equal, and
- the components parallel to the surface and perpendicular to the current experience a discontinuity of $\mu_0 K$.

- The above can be summarised as

$$\mathbf{B}_{\text{above}} - \mathbf{B}_{\text{below}} = \mu_0(\mathbf{K} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}})$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ is a unit vector perpendicular to the surface.

- Like the electric potential V , the magnetic potential \mathbf{A} is continuous across all boundaries but its derivative is not

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}_{\text{above}}}{\partial n} - \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}_{\text{below}}}{\partial n} = -\mu_0 \mathbf{K}.$$

5.4.3 Multipole Expansion of the Vector Potential

- The multipole expansion of a localised current distribution is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \oint \frac{1}{r} d\mathbf{l} \\ &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{r^{n+1}} \oint (r')^n P_n(\cos \alpha) d\mathbf{l}' \\ &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \left[\frac{1}{r} \oint d\mathbf{l}' + \frac{1}{r^2} \oint r' \cos \alpha d\mathbf{l}' + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

where α is the angle between \mathbf{r} and \mathbf{r}' .

- In the multipole expansion of the vector potential, the term that goes like $1/r$ is called the **monopole** term, $1/r^2$ the **dipole** term, etc.
- The magnetic monopole term is always zero because

$$\oint d\mathbf{l}' = 0.$$

This reflects the fact that magnetic monopoles don't exist.

- That being the case, the magnetic dipole term dominates the expansion

$$\mathbf{A}_{\text{dip}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{\mathbf{m} \times \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2}$$

where

$$\mathbf{m} = I \int d\mathbf{a} = I\mathbf{a}$$

is the **magnetic dipole moment** and \mathbf{a} is the vector area of the current loop.

- The magnetic field of a dipole can be written as

$$\mathbf{B}_{\text{dip}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0 m}{4\pi r^3} (2 \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \sin \theta \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}})$$

or in coordinate-free form

$$\mathbf{B}_{\text{dip}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{1}{r^3} [3(\mathbf{m} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}})\hat{\mathbf{r}} - \mathbf{m}].$$

6 Magnetic Fields in Matter

6.1 Magnetization

6.1.1 Diamagnets, Paramagnets, Ferromagnets

- In a way, the electrons orbiting an atom form a current, resulting in a magnetic dipole. Thus a material is made up of many small magnetic dipoles. Normally they point in different directions and cancel each other out but if they're aligned the material becomes magnetically polarized or **magnetized**.
- Some materials acquire magnetization parallel to \mathbf{B} (**paramagnets**) and some opposite to \mathbf{B} (**diamagnets**). A few substances (called **ferromagnets**) retain their magnetization after the external field is removed.

6.1.2 Torques and Forces on Magnetic Dipoles

- The torque experienced by a localised current distribution in a uniform magnetic field (or the torque experienced by a perfect dipole in a nonuniform magnetic field) is

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{B}.$$

- The torque above tends to align atomic dipoles with an external magnetic field and explains the phenomenon of paramagnetism.
- An infinitesimal loop with dipole moment \mathbf{m} in a magnetic field \mathbf{B} experiences a force

$$\mathbf{F} = \nabla(\mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{B}).$$

6.1.3 Effect of a Magnetic Field on Atomic Orbits

- When subject to an external magnetic field, an electron's orbital speed changes and consequently its magnetic dipole moment. The dipole moment change is opposite to \mathbf{B} and this the mechanism responsible for **diamagnetism**.

6.1.4 Magnetisation

- The **magnetisation** \mathbf{M} of a material is defined as its magnetic dipole moment per unit volume.

6.2 The Field of a Magnetised Object

6.2.1 Bound Currents

- The potential of a magnetised object is the same as would be produced by a volume current

$$\mathbf{J}_b = \nabla \times \mathbf{M}$$

and a surface current

$$\mathbf{K}_b = \mathbf{M} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}},$$

i.e.

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int_V \frac{\mathbf{J}_b(\mathbf{r}')}{r} d\tau' + \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \oint_S \frac{\mathbf{K}_b(\mathbf{r}')}{r} da'.$$

The terms \mathbf{J}_b and \mathbf{K}_b are called the bound volume and surface current, respectively.

6.3 The Auxiliary Field \mathbf{H}

6.3.1 Ampère's Law in Magnetised Materials

- In a magnetised material the total current is

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{J}_f + \mathbf{J}_b$$

and thus Ampère's law can be written

$$\frac{1}{\mu_0}(\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{J} = \mathbf{J}_f + \mathbf{J}_b = \mathbf{J}_f + \nabla \times \mathbf{M}.$$

Moving the curls to one side gives

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \left(\frac{1}{\mu_0} \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{M} \right) &= \mathbf{J}_f \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{H} &= \mathbf{J}_f \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{B}/\mu_0 - \mathbf{M}$.

- The integral form of Ampère's law in a material is

$$\oint \mathbf{H} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = I_{f\text{enc}}.$$

6.3.3 Boundary Conditions

- The boundary conditions on \mathbf{H} are

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\text{above}}^{\perp} - H_{\text{below}}^{\perp} &= -(M_{\text{above}}^{\perp} - M_{\text{below}}^{\perp}) \\ \mathbf{H}_{\text{above}}^{\parallel} - \mathbf{H}_{\text{below}}^{\parallel} &= \mathbf{K}_f \times \hat{\mathbf{n}} \end{aligned}$$

6.4 Linear and Nonlinear Media

6.4.1 Magnetic Susceptibility and Permeability

- For many materials, magnetisation is proportional to the strength of the applied magnetic field. You would expect this to be expressed as a relation between \mathbf{M} and \mathbf{B} but it is typically written

$$\mathbf{M} = \chi_m \mathbf{H}$$

where χ_m is called the **magnetic susceptibility** of the material — positive for paramagnetic materials, negative for diamagnetic.

- Materials that obey the above relation are called **linear media**.
- For linear media

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H} &= \frac{1}{\mu_0} \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{M} \\ \mathbf{B} &= \mu_0 (\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{M}) \\ &= \mu_0 (1 + \chi_m) \mathbf{H} \\ &= \mu \mathbf{H} \end{aligned}$$

and thus \mathbf{B} is also proportional to \mathbf{H} where μ is called the **permeability** of the material and $\mu_r = \mu/\mu_0$ is called the **relative permeability** of the material.

- In a homogeneous linear material the volume bound current density is proportional to the free current density

$$\mathbf{J}_b = \chi_m \mathbf{J}_f.$$

6.4.2 Ferromagnetism

- Ferromagnetic materials have several properties that result in the macroscale behaviour:
 - Their alignment of magnetic dipoles persists after the external magnetic field is removed — it is “frozen in.”
 - Each dipole “likes” to point in the same direction as its neighbors.

- The material contains many **domains** in which the dipoles are aligned, however the dipoles of different domains are not aligned. This is why not all objects made of ferromagnetic materials exhibit magnetic properties — the random orientation of the domains cancel each other out.
- When the material is placed in an external magnetic field, domains whose dipoles are closely aligned with the field grow by “converting” dipoles from neighboring domains. Once all dipoles are aligned with the external field the material is said to be **saturated**. This is how you create a permanent magnet.

7 Electrodynamics

7.1 Electromotive Force

7.1.1 Ohm’s Law

- To make a current flow, you have to push on the charges. In most substances the current density \mathbf{J} is proportional to the force per unit charge \mathbf{f}

$$\mathbf{J} = \sigma \mathbf{f}$$

where σ is a proportionality constant that differs between materials called the **conductivity**.

- The reciprocal of conductivity is **resistivity**

$$\rho = \frac{1}{\sigma}.$$

- For practical purposes, perfect conductors like metals can be considered to have $\sigma = \infty$ ($\rho = 0$) and insulators can be considered to have $\sigma = 0$ ($\rho = \infty$).
- For our purposes the force per unit charge \mathbf{f} is the electromagnetic force and

$$\mathbf{J} = \sigma(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}).$$

However \mathbf{v} is usually very small and the second term can be ignored leaving

$$\mathbf{J} = \sigma \mathbf{E}.$$

This is called **Ohm’s law**.

- A more familiar version of Ohm’s law reads

$$V = IR$$

where V is the potential difference between the two electrodes, I is the current between them, and R is the resistance between them (a proportionality constant determined by the geometry and properties of the medium).

- Resistance is measured in **Ohms** where

$$1 \Omega = 1 \text{ V/A}.$$

- The **Joule heating law** states that the power delivered by a current I travelling across a potential difference V is

$$P = VI = I^2 R.$$

7.1.2 Electromotive Force

- There are two forces responsible for driving current around a circuit: the source \mathbf{f}_s (e.g. inside a battery), and the electrostatic force \mathbf{E} that “communicates” the force from the battery to the rest of the circuit.
- The net effect of these forces are described by their line integral around the circuit

$$\mathcal{E} = \oint \mathbf{f} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \oint \mathbf{f}_s \cdot d\mathbf{l}$$

where \mathbf{f} can be replaced with \mathbf{f}_s because $\oint \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = 0$. This is called the **electromotive force** of the circuit and can be thought of as the energy transferred to the circuit per unit charge.

7.1.3 Motional emf

- The **flux rule** for motional emf states that when the magnetic flux through a loop of wire changes, an emf is generated

$$\mathcal{E} = -\frac{d\Phi}{dt}.$$

- The direction of these quantities is determined by the right-hand rule: if the fingers of your right hand define the positive direction of the loop, then your thumb indicates the direction of $d\mathbf{a}$. If the emf is positive it's in the same direction as the loop, negative is opposite.

7.2 Electromagnetic Induction

7.2.1 Faraday's Law

- **Faraday's law** states that a changing magnetic field induces an electric field. The integral form is

$$\oint \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = - \int \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \cdot d\mathbf{a}$$

and the differential form is

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}.$$

- When a loop of wire moves through a stationary magnetic field the mobile charges in the wire experience an electromagnetic force which causes an emf.
- When a magnetic field moves over a stationary loop of wire, the changing magnetic field induces an electric field which causes an emf.
- When a loop of wire is in a magnetic field and the strength of the magnetic field changes, the changing magnetic field induces an electric field which causes an emf.
- All three cases above can be described by the **universal flux rule**: whenever (and for whatever reason) the magnetic flux through a loop changes, an emf

$$\mathcal{E} = -\frac{d\Phi}{dt}$$

will appear in the loop.

- **Lenz's law** states that nature abhors a change in flux. This helps determine the direction of induced emf — the flux it produces will be such to cancel the original change.

7.2.2 The Induced Electric Field

- The divergence of \mathbf{E} is given by Gauss's law

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$$

and the curl of \mathbf{E} is given by Faraday's law

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}.$$

- If \mathbf{E} is a pure Faraday field, i.e. $\rho = 0$, then

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0 \text{ and } \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

which is mathematically identical to magnetostatics

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \text{ and } \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{J}.$$

This means we can use the same techniques to solve for a pure Faraday field \mathbf{E} as we do for a magnetostatic field \mathbf{B} .

- The analog to the Biot-Savart law is

$$\mathbf{E} = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int \frac{(\partial \mathbf{B} / \partial t) \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}}{r^2} d\tau = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int \frac{\mathbf{B} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}}{r^2} d\tau.$$

- If symmetry permits we can use the tricks of Ampère's law in integral form, but now it's Faraday's law in integral form

$$\oint \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = -\frac{d\Phi}{dt}.$$

7.2.3 Inductance

- If you have two wire loops and run a current through one of them, it will generate a magnetic field and thus a magnetic flux through the other loop. Because the magnetic field of the first loop is proportional to its current, so too is the magnetic flux through the second loop

$$\Phi_2 = MI_1$$

where M is known as the **mutual inductance** of the two loops.

- The mutual inductance is a proportionality constant that is a purely geometrical quantity, having to do with the sizes, shapes, and relative positions of the two loops. It's also the case that when you swap the roles of the two loops, i.e. run a current through the second loop, the first loop sees the same flux.
- If you vary the current through one of the loops the flux through the other will change and an emf will be generated

$$\mathcal{E}_2 = -\frac{d\Phi_2}{dt} = -M\frac{dI_1}{dt}.$$

- A current through a loop generates a flux in itself

$$\Phi = LI$$

where L is known as the **self inductance** of the loop and, again, it depends only on the geometry of the loop.

- If the current changes through the loop a **back emf** is generated

$$\mathcal{E} = -\frac{d\Phi}{dt} = -L\frac{dI}{dt}.$$

- Inductance is measured in **henries** where

$$1 \text{ H} = 1 \text{ V s/A}.$$

7.2.4 Energy in Magnetic Fields

- The following equations give the energy stored in the magnetic fields of a circuit

$$W = \frac{1}{2}LI^2$$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \oint (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{I}) dl$$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \int_V (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{J}) d\tau$$

$$W = \frac{1}{2\mu_0} \int_{\text{all space}} B^2 d\tau.$$

- In some situations the last equation above provides an easier way to calculate the self inductance of a circuit L : you first calculate the energy stored in the circuit's magnetic fields, then equate the result to the expression $W = \frac{1}{2}LI^2$ to determine L .

7.3 Maxwell's equations

7.3.1 Electrodynamics Before Maxwell

- Before Maxwell, Ampère's law read

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{J}.$$

Taking the divergence of both sides gives

$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) = \mu_0 (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}).$$

The left side is zero because the divergence of a curl is zero, but the right side isn't necessarily zero for nonsteady currents.

- Another way to see this problem is to imagine a circuit containing a capacitor. Applying Ampère's law to an Amperian loop around the wire near one of the plates of the capacitor, the value of I_{enc} depends on the surface you choose. If you choose the simplest surface — flat within the loop — $I_{\text{enc}} = I$. However if you choose a surface that goes between the plates of the capacitor $I_{\text{enc}} = 0$. Something is wrong here.

7.3.2 How Maxwell Fixed Ampère's Law

- Applying the continuity equation and Gauss's law gives

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\epsilon_0 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) = -\nabla \cdot \left(\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right).$$

So if we change Ampère's law to

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \mathbf{B} &= \mu_0 \mathbf{J} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \\ &= \mu_0 (\mathbf{J} + \mathbf{J}_d) \end{aligned}$$

the second term negates the excess divergence and preserves Ampère's Law under magnetostatics because $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0$. The term

$$\mathbf{J}_d = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$

is called the **displacement current**.

- The implication of this is that a changing electric field induces a magnetic field.

7.3.5 Maxwell's Equations in Matter

- When the polarisation of an object changes, bound charges move. This movement is called the **polarisation current**

$$\mathbf{J}_p = \frac{\partial \mathbf{P}}{\partial t}.$$

- Charge density can be separated into two parts

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= \rho_f + \rho_b \\ &= \rho_f - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}\end{aligned}$$

and Gauss's law can be written as

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0}(\rho_f - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{P})$$

or

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0}\rho_f.$$

- Current density can be separated into three parts

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{J} &= \mathbf{J}_f + \mathbf{J}_b + \mathbf{J}_p \\ &= \mathbf{J}_f + \nabla \times \mathbf{M} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{P}}{\partial t}\end{aligned}$$

and Ampère's law can be written as

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left(\mathbf{J}_f + \nabla \times \mathbf{M} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{P}}{\partial t} \right) + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$

or

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J}_f + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}.$$

7.3.6 Boundary Conditions

- In general, the fields \mathbf{E} , \mathbf{B} , \mathbf{D} , and \mathbf{H} will be discontinuous at a boundary between two different media, or at a surface that carries a charge density ρ or a current density \mathbf{K} .
- If a surface carries a free charge density ρ_f , the component of \mathbf{D} that is perpendicular to the surface suffers a discontinuity

$$D_1^\perp - D_2^\perp = \sigma_f$$

but the component of \mathbf{B} that is perpendicular to the surface suffers no discontinuity

$$B_1^\perp - B_2^\perp = 0.$$

- If a surface carries a free current density \mathbf{K}_f , the component of \mathbf{E} parallel to the surface and perpendicular to \mathbf{K}_f suffers no discontinuity

$$\mathbf{E}_1^{\parallel} - \mathbf{E}_2^{\parallel} = \mathbf{0}$$

but the component of \mathbf{H} parallel to the surface and perpendicular to \mathbf{K}_f suffers a discontinuity of

$$\mathbf{H}_1^{\parallel} - \mathbf{H}_2^{\parallel} = \mathbf{K}_f \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}.$$

- In the case of linear media, the above boundary conditions can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_1 E_1^{\perp} - \epsilon_2 E_2^{\perp} &= \sigma_f \\ B_1^{\perp} - B_2^{\perp} &= 0 \\ \mathbf{E}_1^{\parallel} - \mathbf{E}_2^{\parallel} &= \mathbf{0} \\ \frac{1}{\mu_1} \mathbf{B}_1^{\parallel} - \frac{1}{\mu_2} \mathbf{B}_2^{\parallel} &= \mathbf{K}_f \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}\end{aligned}$$

and if there's no free charge or current at the interface then

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_1 E_1^{\perp} - \epsilon_2 E_2^{\perp} &= 0 \\ B_1^{\perp} - B_2^{\perp} &= 0 \\ \mathbf{E}_1^{\parallel} - \mathbf{E}_2^{\parallel} &= \mathbf{0} \\ \frac{1}{\mu_1} \mathbf{B}_1^{\parallel} - \frac{1}{\mu_2} \mathbf{B}_2^{\parallel} &= \mathbf{0}.\end{aligned}$$

8 Conservation Laws

8.1 Charge and Energy

8.1.1 The Continuity Equation

- Global conservation of charge states that the total charge in the universe is constant. Local conservation of charge states that if the charge in some region changes, exactly that amount of charge must have passed through the surface. This is formalised by the **continuity equation**

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}.$$

8.1.2 Poynting's Theorem

- **Poynting's theorem** defines the rate at which work is done on a collection of charges to be

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dW}{dt} &= -\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathcal{V}} \frac{1}{2} \left(\epsilon_0 E^2 + \frac{1}{\mu_0} B^2 \right) d\tau - \frac{1}{\mu_0} \oint_{\mathcal{S}} (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}) \cdot d\mathbf{a} \\ &= -\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathcal{V}} u d\tau - \oint_{\mathcal{S}} \mathbf{S} \cdot d\mathbf{a}.\end{aligned}$$

where the first term is the total energy stored in the fields and the second term is the rate at which energy is transported out of \mathcal{V} through its surface \mathcal{S} . In other words, the work done on the collection of charges is equal to the decrease in the energy in the fields minus the energy that flowed out through the surface.

- The quantity

$$u = \frac{1}{2} \left(\epsilon_0 E^2 + \frac{1}{\mu_0} B^2 \right)$$

is the energy stored in the electromagnetic fields per unit volume and

$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B})$$

is the **Poynting vector** or the **energy flux density** such that $\mathbf{S} \cdot d\mathbf{a}$ is the amount of energy crossing the infinitesimal surface $d\mathbf{a}$ in unit time.

8.2 Momentum

8.2.1 Newton's Third Law in Electrodynamics

- Newton's third law holds under electrostatics and magnetostatics but not under electrodynamics.
- If you only consider the forces between particles momentum isn't conserved under electrodynamics. However, if you consider the fields themselves to have momentum then it is conserved.

8.2.2 Maxwell's Stress Tensor

- **Maxwell's stress tensor** is defined as

$$T_{ij} = \epsilon_0 \left(E_i E_j - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} E^2 \right) + \frac{1}{\mu_0} \left(B_i B_j - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} B^2 \right)$$

where i and j take on the dimensions x , y , and z . A component T_{ij} represents the force in the i th direction on an area oriented in the j th direction, for example T_{xx} is the force in the x direction experienced by an area oriented in the x direction (pressure) while T_{xy} is the force in the x direction experienced by an area oriented in the y direction (shear).

- The total electromagnetic force on the charges in a volume \mathcal{V} is

$$\mathbf{F} = \oint_S \overleftrightarrow{\mathbf{T}} \cdot d\mathbf{a} - \epsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathcal{V}} \mathbf{S} d\tau$$

or in the static case

$$\mathbf{F} = \oint_S \overleftrightarrow{\mathbf{T}} \cdot d\mathbf{a}.$$

8.2.3 Conservation of Momentum

- Newton's second law says that the force on an object is equal to the rate of change of its momentum, so the above equation can be rewritten as

$$\frac{d\mathbf{p}_{\text{mech}}}{dt} = -\epsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathcal{V}} \mathbf{S} d\tau + \oint_S \overleftrightarrow{\mathbf{T}} \cdot d\mathbf{a}$$

where \mathbf{p}_{mech} is the mechanical momentum of the particles in the volume. The first integral represents the momentum stored in the fields

$$\mathbf{p} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \int_{\mathcal{V}} \mathbf{S} d\tau$$

and the second integral represents the momentum per unit time flowing in through the surface.

- The momentum density of the fields is thus

$$\mathbf{g} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \mathbf{S} = \epsilon_0 (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B})$$

and the momentum flux transported by the fields is $-\overleftrightarrow{\mathbf{T}}$.

- If the mechanical momentum in a region isn't changing then

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial t} d\tau &= \oint \overleftrightarrow{\mathbf{T}} \cdot d\mathbf{a} \\ &= \int (\nabla \cdot \overleftrightarrow{\mathbf{T}}) d\tau \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial t} &= \nabla \cdot \overleftrightarrow{\mathbf{T}}. \end{aligned}$$

This is the continuity equation for electromagnetic momentum — the change in momentum density of the fields is equal to the momentum flowing in through the surface.

- In general, the field momentum and mechanical momentum aren't conserved on their own. Only the total amount of momentum is conserved.

8.2.4 Angular Momentum

- The angular momentum density of electromagnetic fields is

$$\ell = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{g} = \epsilon_0 [\mathbf{r} \times (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B})].$$

9 Electromagnetic Waves

9.1 Waves in One Dimension

9.1.1 The Wave Equation

- The **classical wave equation**

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2}$$

describes all functions of the form

$$f(z, t) = g(z - vt)$$

i.e. functions that have a particular shape at $t = 0$ and are subsequently translated along the z axis at speed v .

- Small disturbances on a string with mass per unit length μ under tension T satisfy the wave equation with

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}.$$

- Because the velocity is squared in the wave equation its sign doesn't matter and functions of the form

$$f(z, t) = g(z + vt)$$

are also solutions to the wave equation, i.e. functions that “move to the left.”

- The wave equation is linear so the sum of any two solutions is itself a solution. Every solution can be expressed in this form.

9.1.2 Sinusoidal Waves

- Using Euler's formula, a wave function

$$f(z, t) = A \cos(kz - \omega t + \delta)$$

can be written in complex notation as

$$f(z, t) = \text{Re} \left[A e^{i(kz - \omega t + \delta)} \right].$$

This invites the **complex wave function**

$$\tilde{f}(z, t) = \tilde{A} e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$$

where

$$\tilde{A} = A e^{i\delta}$$

is the **complex amplitude** that has absorbed the phase constant.

9.1.3 Boundary Conditions: Reflection and Transmission

- If an **incident wave**

$$\tilde{f}(z, t) = \tilde{A}_I e^{i(k_1 z - \omega t)}$$

encounters a boundary, e.g. where a string with one mass per unit length is tied to a string with a different mass per unit length, this gives rise to a **reflected wave**

$$\tilde{f}_R(z, t) = \tilde{A}_R e^{i(-k_1 z - \omega t)}$$

and a **transmitted wave**

$$\tilde{f}_T(z, t) = \tilde{A}_T e^{i(k_2 z - \omega t)}.$$

- The three waves all oscillate at the same frequency.
- The relationship between the wavelengths, wavenumbers, and velocities of the waves on the two strings is

$$\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2} = \frac{k_2}{k_1} = \frac{v_1}{v_2}.$$

- The strings are joined at $z = 0$ so it must be the case that

$$f(0^-, t) = f(0^+, t).$$

- If the knot is of negligible mass, then the derivative of f must also be continuous

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right|_{0^-} = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right|_{0^+}$$

otherwise there would be a net force on the knot and thus infinite acceleration.

- These boundary conditions also apply to the complex form of the wave equations and allow us to calculate the reflected and transmitted amplitudes in terms of the incident

$$\tilde{A}_R = \left(\frac{k_1 - k_2}{k_1 + k_2} \right) \tilde{A}_I, \quad \tilde{A}_T = \left(\frac{2k_1}{k_1 + k_2} \right) \tilde{A}_I$$

or in terms of the wave velocities

$$\tilde{A}_R = \left(\frac{v_2 - v_1}{v_2 + v_1} \right) \tilde{A}_I, \quad \tilde{A}_T = \left(\frac{2v_2}{v_2 + v_1} \right) \tilde{A}_I.$$

- If the second string is lighter than the first ($\mu_2 < \mu_1$), all three waves have the same phase angle and

$$A_R = \left(\frac{v_2 - v_1}{v_2 + v_1} \right) A_I, \quad A_T = \left(\frac{2v_2}{v_2 + v_1} \right) A_I.$$

- If the second string is heavier than the first ($\mu_2 > \mu_1$) the reflected wave is “upside down” and

$$A_R = \left(\frac{v_1 - v_2}{v_2 + v_1} \right) A_I, \quad A_T = \left(\frac{2v_2}{v_2 + v_1} \right) A_I.$$

- If the second string is infinitely massive or, equivalently, that end of the string is nailed down, there is no transmitted wave and all the energy is reflected back.

9.1.4 Polarization

- Waves in which the displacement is perpendicular to the direction of propagation are called **transverse**.
- Waves in which the displacement is parallel to the direction of propagation are called **longitudinal**.
- If a transverse wave travels in the $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ direction, the displacement could be in the $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ direction (“vertical”), the $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ direction (“horizontal”), or any combination thereof. This is called the **polarization** of the wave.
- The **polarization vector** $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ defines the plane of vibration. It can be expressed in terms of the **polarization angle**

$$\hat{\mathbf{n}} = \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{y}}.$$

- A transverse wave can be considered a superposition of two waves — one vertically polarized and one horizontally polarized

$$\tilde{\mathbf{f}}(z, t) = (\tilde{A} \cos \theta) e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \hat{\mathbf{x}} + (\tilde{A} \sin \theta) e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \hat{\mathbf{y}}.$$

9.2 Electromagnetic Waves in Vacuum

9.2.1 The Wave Equation for \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B}

- Maxwell’s equations in a region of space where there is no charge or current form a set of coupled, first-order, partial differential equations in \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} . They can be decoupled by taking the curl of Faraday’s law and Ampère’s law, giving

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2}, \quad \nabla^2 \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{B}}{\partial t^2}.$$

Thus, in a vacuum, each Cartesian component of \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} satisfies the three-dimensional wave equation

$$\nabla^2 f = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2}$$

where

$$\frac{1}{v^2} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \Rightarrow v^2 = \frac{1}{\mu_0 \epsilon_0} = c^2.$$

9.2.2 Monochromatic Plane Waves

- Waves comprised of a single frequency ω are called **monochromatic**. This is because different frequencies in the visible spectrum correspond to different colours.
- Waves travelling in the z direction with no x or y dependence are called **plane waves** because the fields are uniform over every plane perpendicular to the direction of propagation.
- Gauss's laws in the absence of charge and current apply additional conditions on electromagnetic waves, namely

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \nabla \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{E}} \\ &= \nabla \cdot [\tilde{\mathbf{E}}_0 e^{i(kz - \omega t)}] \\ &= iz(\tilde{\mathbf{E}}_0)_z e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \end{aligned}$$

and a similar condition on $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$. This implies that the z components of $\tilde{\mathbf{E}}_0$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}_0$ are both 0 — electromagnetic waves are transverse.

- Faraday's law $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\partial \mathbf{B} / \partial t$ implies a relation between the amplitudes of the electric and magnetic fields

$$\tilde{\mathbf{B}}_0 = \frac{k}{\omega} (\hat{\mathbf{z}} \times \tilde{\mathbf{E}}_0).$$

\mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} are in phase and mutually perpendicular, with their (real) amplitudes related by

$$B_0 = \frac{k}{\omega} E_0 = \frac{1}{c} E_0.$$

- We can describe waves travelling in an arbitrary direction by introducing the **propagation** (or **wave**) **vector** \mathbf{k} which points in the direction of propagation and whose magnitude is the wave number k . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbf{E}}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \tilde{E}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)} \hat{\mathbf{n}} \\ \tilde{\mathbf{B}}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \tilde{B}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)} (\hat{\mathbf{k}} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}) \\ &= \frac{1}{c} \hat{\mathbf{k}} \times \mathbf{E} \end{aligned}$$

9.2.3 Energy and Momentum in Electromagnetic Waves

- In a monochromatic wave travelling in the z direction
 - the energy per unit volume is

$$u = \epsilon_0 E^2 = \epsilon_0 E_0^2 \cos^2(kz - \omega t + \delta),$$

- the energy flux density (energy per unit area per unit time, aka the Poynting vector) is

$$\mathbf{S} = cu \hat{\mathbf{z}},$$

and

- the momentum density is

$$\mathbf{g} = \frac{1}{c}u \hat{\mathbf{z}}.$$

- In the case of light, the time periods and wavelengths involved are so small that we're mostly interested in the average value of these quantities. The average value of $\cos^2 x$ over any number of cycles is $\frac{1}{2}$ so

$$\begin{aligned}\langle u \rangle &= \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 E_0^2 \\ \langle \mathbf{S} \rangle &= \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 c E_0^2 \hat{\mathbf{z}} \\ \langle \mathbf{g} \rangle &= \frac{1}{2c}\epsilon_0 E_0^2 \hat{\mathbf{z}}.\end{aligned}$$

- The average power per unit area transported by an electromagnetic wave is called the **intensity**

$$I = \langle S \rangle = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 c E_0^2.$$

- When light falls at perfect incidence on a perfect absorber it delivers all of its momentum. In a time Δt on a surface of area A the momentum transfer is

$$\Delta \mathbf{p} = \langle \mathbf{g} \rangle A c \Delta t$$

so the **radiation pressure** (average force per unit area) is

$$P = \frac{1}{A} \frac{\Delta p}{\Delta t} = gc = \frac{I}{c}.$$

On a perfect reflector the pressure is twice as great because the momentum changes twice as much (once to “stop” the light and again to reflect it).

9.3 Electromagnetic Waves in Matter

9.3.1 Propagation in Linear Media

- In a linear, homogeneous region containing no free charge or free current:
 - electromagnetic waves propagate at speed $v = c/n$ where

$$n = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon\mu}{\epsilon_0\mu_0}}$$

is the **index of refraction** which can be approximated as $\sqrt{\epsilon_r}$,

– the energy density is

$$u = \frac{1}{2} \left(\epsilon E^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} B^2 \right),$$

– the Poynting vector is

$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{\mu} (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}),$$

and

– the intensity is

$$I = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon v E_0^2.$$

9.3.2 Reflection and Transmission at Normal Incidence

- If a plane wave meets the intersection between two linear, homogenous media at a perpendicular angle the boundary conditions of the \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{B} fields between those media determine the amplitudes of the reflected and transmitted waves

$$\tilde{E}_{0R} = \left(\frac{1 - \beta}{1 + \beta} \right) \tilde{E}_{0I}, \text{ and } \tilde{E}_{0T} = \left(\frac{2}{1 + \beta} \right) \tilde{E}_{0I}$$

where

$$\beta = \frac{\mu_1 v_1}{\mu_2 v_2} = \frac{\mu_1 n_2}{\mu_2 n_1}.$$

- If the permeabilities of the media are close to their values in a vacuum (as is the case for most media) then $\beta = v_1/v_2$ and

$$\tilde{E}_{0R} = \left(\frac{v_2 - v_1}{v_2 + v_1} \right) \tilde{E}_{0I}, \text{ and } \tilde{E}_{0T} = \left(\frac{2v_2}{v_2 + v_1} \right) \tilde{E}_{0I}.$$

- If $v_2 > v_1$ then the reflected wave is in phase. If $v_2 < v_1$ it's out of phase (“upside down”).
- If $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \mu_0$ the ratio of the reflected intensity to the incident intensity is

$$R = \frac{I_R}{I_I} = \left(\frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2} \right)^2$$

and the ratio of the transmitted intensity to the incident intensity is

$$T = \frac{I_T}{I_I} = \frac{4n_1 n_2}{(n_1 + n_2)^2}.$$

R is called the **reflection coefficient**, T is called the **transmission coefficient**, and $R + T = 1$.

9.3.3 Reflection and Transission at Oblique Incidence

- The three fundamental laws of geometric optics state:
 1. The incident, reflected, and transmitted wave vectors form a plane (called the **plane of incidence**) which also includes the normal to the surface.
 2. The angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection

$$\theta_I = \theta_R.$$

3. The relationship between the angles of incidence and transmission is given by

$$\frac{\sin \theta_T}{\sin \theta_I} = \frac{n_1}{n_2}.$$

- **Fresnel's equations** for the case of polarisation in the plane of incidence are

$$\tilde{E}_{0R} = \left(\frac{\alpha - \beta}{\alpha + \beta} \right) \tilde{E}_{0I}, \quad \tilde{E}_{0T} = \left(\frac{2}{\alpha + \beta} \right) \tilde{E}_{0I}$$

where

$$\alpha = \frac{\cos \theta_T}{\cos \theta_I} \text{ and } \beta = \frac{\mu_1 v_1}{\mu_2 v_2} = \frac{\mu_1 n_2}{\mu_2 n_1}.$$

- **Fresnel's equations** for the case of polarisation perpendicular to the plane of incidence are

$$\tilde{E}_{0R} = \left| \frac{1 - \alpha\beta}{1 + \alpha\beta} \right| E_{0I}, \quad \tilde{E}_{0T} = \left(\frac{1 - \alpha\beta}{1 + \alpha\beta} \right) E_{0I}$$

where

$$\alpha = \frac{\cos \theta_T}{\cos \theta_I} \text{ and } \beta = \frac{\mu_1 v_1}{\mu_2 v_2}.$$

- At normal incidence ($\theta_I = 0$), $\alpha = 1$ and we recover the equation at normal incidence. At grazing incidence ($\theta_I = 90^\circ$), α diverges and the wave is totally reflected. There is an intermediate angle θ_B called **Brewster's angle** at which the reflected wave is totally extinguished. This occurs when $\alpha = \beta$ or

$$\sin^2 \theta_B = \frac{1 - \beta^2}{(n_1/n_2)^2 - \beta^2}.$$

9.4 Absorption and Dispersion

9.4.1 Electromagnetic Waves in Conductors

- In a homogeneous, linear medium

$$\rho_f(t) = e^{-(\sigma/\epsilon)t} \rho_f(0),$$

i.e. any initial free charge dissipates in a characteristic time $\tau = \sigma/\epsilon$.

- If we wait until any free charge has dissipated we get the modified wave equations

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\mathbf{E}}(z, t) &= \tilde{\mathbf{E}}_0 e^{i(\tilde{k}z - \omega t)} \\ \tilde{\mathbf{B}}(z, t) &= \tilde{\mathbf{B}}_0 e^{i(\tilde{k}z - \omega t)}\end{aligned}$$

where the wave number is now complex

$$\tilde{k}^2 = \mu\epsilon\omega^2 + i\mu\sigma\omega.$$

- Taking the square root of \tilde{k}^2 we find

$$\tilde{k} = k + i\kappa$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}k &= \omega \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon\mu}{2}} \left[\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon\omega}\right)^2} + 1 \right]^{1/2} \\ \kappa &= \omega \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon\mu}{2}} \left[\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon\omega}\right)^2} - 1 \right]^{1/2}.\end{aligned}$$

- The imaginary part of \tilde{k} results in an attenuation of the wave with increasing z

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\mathbf{E}}(z, t) &= \tilde{\mathbf{E}}_0 e^{-\kappa z} e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \\ \tilde{\mathbf{B}}(z, t) &= \tilde{\mathbf{B}}_0 e^{-\kappa z} e^{i(kz - \omega t)}.\end{aligned}$$

- The distance it takes to reduce the amplitude by a factor of $1/e$ is called the **skin depth**

$$d = \frac{1}{\kappa}$$

and it is a measure of how far the wave penetrates into the conductor.

- The wave number can be expressed using Euler's formula

$$\tilde{k} = K e^{i\phi}$$

and the electric and magnetic fields are no longer in phase with

$$\delta_B - \delta_E = \phi$$

so the magnetic field lags behind the electric field.

9.4.2 Reflection at a Conducting Surface

- When an incident wave strikes a conducting surface, the amplitudes of the reflected and transmitted waves are

$$\tilde{E}_{0_R} = \left(\frac{1 - \tilde{\beta}}{1 + \tilde{\beta}} \right) \tilde{E}_{0_I}, \text{ and } \tilde{E}_{0_T} = \left(\frac{2}{1 + \tilde{\beta}} \right) \tilde{E}_{0_I}$$

where

$$\tilde{\beta} = \frac{\mu_1 v_1}{\mu_2 \omega} \tilde{k}_2.$$

- For a perfect conductor $\tilde{\beta}$ is infinite and the wave is totally reflected with a 180° phase shift.

9.4.3 The Frequency Dependence of Permittivity

- Whenever the speed of a wave depends on its frequency, the medium is called **dispersive**.
- Because waves of different frequencies travel at different speeds in a dispersive medium, a wave form that incorporates a range of frequencies will change shape as it propagates.
- Each sinusoidal component of the overall wave form travels at the **wave** (or **phase**) **velocity**

$$v = \frac{\omega}{k}$$

while the packet as a whole (the “envelope”) travels at the **group velocity**

$$v_g = \frac{d\omega}{dk}.$$

- If we model an individual electron in a sinusoidally varying electric field we find its dipole moment is

$$\tilde{p}(t) = \frac{q^2/m}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega} E_0 e^{-i\omega t}.$$

The imaginary term in the denominator means \tilde{p} is out of phase with E .

- If there are f_j electrons with frequency ω_j and damping γ_j in each molecule and there are N molecules per unit volume then the polarization $\tilde{\mathbf{P}}$ is the real part of

$$\tilde{\mathbf{P}} = \frac{Nq^2}{m} \left(\sum_j \frac{f_j}{\omega_j^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma_j\omega} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{E}}.$$

- Under this model \mathbf{P} isn't proportional to \mathbf{E} because of the difference in phase, but $\tilde{\mathbf{P}}$ is proportional to $\tilde{\mathbf{E}}$ which lets us introduce the **complex susceptibility** $\tilde{\chi}_e$ such that

$$\tilde{\mathbf{P}} = \epsilon_0 \tilde{\chi}_e \tilde{\mathbf{E}}.$$

- Furthermore we can introduce the **complex permittivity**

$$\tilde{\epsilon} = \epsilon_0(1 + \tilde{\chi}_e)$$

such that

$$\tilde{\mathbf{D}} = \tilde{\epsilon} \tilde{\mathbf{E}}$$

and the **complex dielectric constant**

$$\tilde{\epsilon}_r = \frac{\tilde{\epsilon}}{\epsilon_0}.$$

- In a dispersive medium the wave equation for a given frequency is

$$\nabla^2 \tilde{\mathbf{E}} = \tilde{\epsilon} \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{\mathbf{E}}}{\partial t^2}$$

which has plane wave solutions

$$\tilde{\mathbf{E}}(z, t) = \tilde{\mathbf{E}}_0 e^{i(\tilde{k}z - \omega t)}$$

with the complex wave number

$$\tilde{k} = \sqrt{\tilde{\epsilon} \mu_0} \omega.$$

- If we write \tilde{k} in terms of its real and imaginary parts

$$\tilde{k} = k + i\kappa$$

the plane wave equation becomes

$$\tilde{\mathbf{E}}(z, t) = \tilde{\mathbf{E}}_0 e^{-\kappa z} e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$$

and we can see that the wave is attenuated.

- Because the intensity is proportional to E^2 and thus $e^{-2\kappa z}$, the quantity

$$\alpha = 2\kappa$$

is called the **absorption coefficient**.

- The wave velocity is

$$v = \frac{\omega}{k}$$

and the index of refraction is

$$n = \frac{ck}{\omega}.$$