# Advanced Electromagnetics

**Chapter 3 – Radiation** 

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#### **Outline**

#### 3.1 Radiation in Free Space

- 3.1.1 Potentials
- 3.1.2 Green Function
- 3.1.3 Radiation Solution
- 3.1.4 Far-Field Approximation
- 3.1.5 Stratton-Chu Formulation

#### 3.2 Hertzian Dipole Radiation

## 3.1 Radiation in Free Space

#### 3.1.1 Potentials

Consider no the magnetic sources, we have  $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$ . Thus, from vector identity, the magnetic flux density can be expressed as

$$\vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \tag{3.1.1}$$

where  $\bar{A}$  is called the magnetic vector potential. Substitute (3.1.1) into (1.5.5) with  $\vec{M}=0$ , we get

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{E} + i\omega \vec{A}) = 0 \tag{3.1.2}$$

from which we can express the electric field intensity as

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}\mathcal{V} - i\omega\vec{A} \tag{3.1.3}$$

where  $\mathcal{V}$  is called the electric scalar potential.

#### 3.1.1 Potentials

Substitute (3.1.1) and (3.1.3) into (1.5.6), we get

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} = \mu \vec{J} + \omega^2 \mu \epsilon \vec{A} - i\omega \mu \epsilon \vec{\nabla} \mathcal{V}$$
 (3.1.4)

Also, substitute (3.1.3) into (1.5.7), we get

$$\nabla^2 \mathcal{V} + i\omega \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = -\rho/\epsilon \tag{3.1.5}$$

Using the vector identity  $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} = \vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}) - \nabla^2 \vec{A}$ , and rearranging the terms, (3.1.4) and (3.1.5) can be re-expressed as

$$\nabla^2 \vec{A} + k^2 \vec{A} = -\mu \vec{J} + \vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} + i\omega \mu \epsilon \mathcal{V})$$
 (3.1.6)

$$\nabla^{2} \mathcal{V} + k^{2} \mathcal{V} = -\rho/\epsilon - i\omega (\overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot \overrightarrow{A} + i\omega \mu \epsilon \mathcal{V})$$
 (3.1.7)

#### 3.1.1 Potentials

where  $k^2 = \omega^2 \mu \epsilon$ . So far, we have specified the curl of  $\vec{A}$ , but not its divergence. To fully determine a vector field (up to a constant), both curl and divergence must be defined. We can use this freedom to simplify (3.1.6) and (3.1.7). Specifically, by choosing

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} + i\omega\mu\epsilon\mathcal{V} = 0 \tag{3.1.8}$$

which is known as the Lorenz gauge condition, the equations become decoupled:

$$\nabla^2 \vec{A} + k^2 \vec{A} = -\mu \vec{J} \tag{3.1.9}$$

$$\nabla^2 \mathcal{V} + k^2 \mathcal{V} = -\frac{1}{\epsilon} \rho = \frac{1}{i\omega \epsilon} \overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot \overrightarrow{J}$$
 (3.1.10)

#### 3.1.2 Green Function

Both (3.1.10) and the Catesian components of (3.1.9) satisfy the inhomonegnous scalar Helmholtz equation. Here, we are showing that the solution to the Helmholtz equation with a unit impulse

$$\nabla^2 G + k^2 G = -\delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') \tag{3.1.11}$$

is

$$G(\vec{r}; \vec{r}') = e^{-ikR}/4\pi R$$
 (3.1.12)

where  $R = |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|$ , and

$$\begin{cases} \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') = 0, & \vec{r} \neq \vec{r}' \\ \int_{V} \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') dv = 1, & \vec{r}' \text{ in } V \end{cases}$$
(3.1.13)

G is known as the Green function solution.

### 3.1.2 Green Function

From (3.1.13), (3.1.11) can be re-expressed as

$$\begin{cases} \nabla^2 G + k^2 G = 0, & \vec{r} \neq \vec{r}' \\ \int_V (\nabla^2 G + k^2 G) dv = -1, \, \vec{r}' \text{ in } V \end{cases}$$
 (3.1.14)

We first consider  $\vec{r} \neq \vec{r}'$ , or  $R \neq 0$ . Then

$$\nabla^2 G = \frac{1}{R^2} \partial_R \left( R^2 \partial_R \frac{e^{-ikR}}{4\pi R} \right) = -k^2 \frac{e^{-ikR}}{4\pi R}$$
 (3.1.15)

Thus, we have  $\nabla^2 G + k^2 G = 0$  when  $R \neq 0$ , which is the first equation in (3.1.14).

#### 3.1.2 Green Function

Now, for the second equation, let us consider an infinitesimal spherical volume  $V_0$  with its center located at  $\vec{r}'$  and its radius  $R_0$ , then we have

$$\int_{V_0} \nabla^2 G dv = \oint_{S_0} \vec{\nabla} G \cdot d\vec{s} = \oint_{S_0} \partial_R G|_{R_0} \hat{R} \cdot d\vec{s} - e^{-ikR_0} (1 + ikR_0)$$
(3.1.16)

and

$$\int_{V_0} k^2 G dv = e^{-ikR_0} (1 + ikR_0) - 1 \tag{3.1.17}$$

Adding (3.1.16) and (3.1.17), we get  $\int_{V_0} (\nabla^2 G + k^2 G) dv = -1$ , which is basically the second equation in (3.1.14).

Multiply (3.1.11) with  $\mu J(\vec{r}')$  and perform integration over a volume contraining all sources, we get

$$\int_{V'} \mu \vec{J}(\vec{r}') [(\nabla^2 + k^2)G(\vec{r}; \vec{r}')] dv' = (\nabla^2 + k^2) \int_{V'} \mu \vec{J}(\vec{r}')G(\vec{r}; \vec{r}') dv'$$

$$= -\int_{V'} \mu \vec{J}(\vec{r}')\delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') dv' = -\mu \vec{J}(\vec{r})$$
(3.1.18)

By comparing (3.1.18) and (3.1.9), we have

$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}) = \int_{V'} \mu \vec{J}(\vec{r}') G(\vec{r}; \vec{r}') dv'$$
 (3.1.19)

Similarly, from (3.1.11) and (3.1.10), we have

$$\mathcal{V}(\vec{r}) = \frac{-1}{i\omega\epsilon} \int_{V'} \vec{\nabla}' \cdot \vec{J}(\vec{r}') G(\vec{r}; \vec{r}') dv'$$
 (3.1.20)

Substituting (3.1.19-20) into (3.1.3) and use  $\omega\mu=k\eta$ , we get

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = -ik\eta \int_{V'} \left[ \vec{J}(\vec{r}') + \frac{1}{k^2} \vec{\nabla} \left( \vec{\nabla}' \cdot \vec{J}(\vec{r}') \right) \right] G(\vec{r}; \vec{r}') dv'$$
(3.1.21)

Substituting (3.1.19) into (3.1.1), we get

$$\vec{H}(\vec{r}) = -\int_{V'} \vec{J}(\vec{r}') \times \vec{\nabla}G(\vec{r}; \vec{r}') dv'$$
 (3.1.22)

Define the following operators

$$\mathfrak{L}(\vec{X}) \equiv -ik \int_{V'} \left[ \vec{X} + \frac{1}{k^2} \vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla}' \cdot \vec{X}) \right] G dv'$$
 (3.1.23)

$$\mathfrak{K}(\vec{X}) \equiv -\int_{V'} \vec{X} \times \vec{\nabla} G dv' \tag{3.1.24}$$

Then, we can express the electric and magnetic field as

$$\vec{E} = \eta \mathfrak{L}(\vec{J}) \tag{3.1.25}$$

$$\vec{H} = \mathfrak{K}(\vec{J}) \tag{3.1.26}$$

Apply the duality transform (1.1.24), we get

$$\vec{E} = -\Re(\vec{M}) \tag{3.1.27}$$

$$\vec{H} = \mathfrak{Q}(\vec{M})/\eta \tag{3.1.28}$$

By superposition:

$$\vec{E} = \eta \mathfrak{L}(\vec{J}) - \mathfrak{K}(\vec{M}) \tag{3.1.29}$$

$$\vec{H} = \mathfrak{K}(\vec{J}) + \mathfrak{L}(\vec{M})/\eta \tag{3.1.30}$$

It is noted that we can also derive the electric field representation by Substituting (3.1.19) and (3.1.8) into (3.1.3)

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = -ik\eta \int_{V'} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{k^2} \vec{\nabla} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \right) \left[ \vec{J}(\vec{r}') G(\vec{r}; \vec{r}') \right] dv'$$
 (3.1.31)

Note the distinction between (3.1.21) and (3.1.31). In (3.1.21), one  $\overline{\nabla}$  acts on  $\vec{r}$  (on G), while the other  $\overline{\nabla}'$  acts on  $\vec{r}'$  (on  $\overline{J}(\vec{r}')$ ). The resulting singularity is weaker.

In (3.1.31), both  $\overline{\nabla}$  operators act on  $\vec{r}$ , and thus on the Green function G, leading to a higher-order singularity in the integrand. This form is typically used for far-field calculations, where simplifications are possible.

For far-field approximation, we have  $r\gg r'$ , or  $kR\gg 1$ . Thus, the denominator of Green function solution (3.1.12) is  $\cong 4\pi r$ , and the nominator is approximated as

$$e^{-ikR} = e^{-ik[(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}')]^{1/2}} \cong e^{-ikr(1 - \hat{r} \cdot \vec{r}')}$$
(3.1.32)

Thus, in far field, the Green function soliution is

$$G(\vec{r}; \vec{r}') \cong \frac{e^{-ikr}}{4\pi r} e^{ik\hat{r}\cdot\hat{r}'} = G_r(r)G_a(\theta, \phi)$$
 (3.1.33)

where  $G_r(r) = \frac{e^{-ikr}}{4\pi r}$  is the part containing only radial component, and  $G_a(\theta,\phi) = e^{ik\hat{r}\cdot\hat{r}'}$  containing only angular component.

In order to apply (3.1.31), let us first find  $\overline{\nabla}G_r$  and  $\overline{\nabla}G_a$ :

$$\vec{\nabla}G_r = \hat{r}\partial_r \left(\frac{e^{-ikr}}{4\pi r}\right) = \hat{r}\left[-ikG_r + O\left(\frac{1}{r^2}\right)\right]$$
(3.1.34)

$$\vec{\nabla}G_a = \hat{\theta} \frac{1}{r} \partial_{\theta} \left( e^{ik\hat{r}\cdot\vec{r}'} \right) + \hat{\phi} \frac{1}{r\sin\theta} \partial_{\phi} \left( e^{ik\hat{r}\cdot\vec{r}'} \right) = O\left(\frac{1}{r}\right)$$
 (3.1.35)

Thus

$$\overrightarrow{\nabla}G = G_a \overrightarrow{\nabla}G_r + G_r \overrightarrow{\nabla}G_a = -ikG\hat{r} + O\left(\frac{1}{r^2}\right) \cong -ikG\hat{r}$$
 (3.1.36)

Then

$$\overrightarrow{\nabla} \overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot [\overrightarrow{J}(\overrightarrow{r}')G] = \overrightarrow{\nabla} [\overrightarrow{J}(\overrightarrow{r}')\overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot G] \cong -ik\overrightarrow{\nabla} [\widehat{r} \cdot \overrightarrow{J}(\overrightarrow{r}')G]$$

$$= -ik\{\widehat{r} \cdot \overrightarrow{J}(\overrightarrow{r}')\overrightarrow{\nabla}G + G\overrightarrow{\nabla}[\widehat{r} \cdot \overrightarrow{J}(\overrightarrow{r}')]\} \qquad (3.1.37)$$

To proceed the derivation, let us first calculate the following

$$\vec{\nabla}\vec{r} = (\hat{x}\partial_x + \hat{y}\partial_y + \hat{z}\partial_z)(\hat{x}x + \hat{y}y + \hat{z}z) = \hat{x}\hat{x} + \hat{y}\hat{y} + \hat{z}\hat{z} = \bar{\bar{I}} (3.1.38)$$

where  $ar{ar{F}}$  is the dyadic notation with

$$\bar{F} = F_{xx}\hat{x}\hat{x} + F_{yx}\hat{y}\hat{x} + F_{zx}\hat{z}\hat{x} + F_{xy}\hat{x}\hat{y} + F_{yy}\hat{y}\hat{y} + F_{zy}\hat{z}\hat{y} + F_{zz}\hat{z}\hat{z} + F_{yz}\hat{y}\hat{z} + F_{zz}\hat{z}\hat{z}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} F_{xx} & F_{xy} & F_{xz} \\ F_{yx} & F_{yy} & F_{yz} \\ F_{zx} & F_{zy} & F_{zz} \end{bmatrix}$$
(3.1.39)

and  $ar{ar{I}}$  is the unit dyadic.

The juxtaposition of two vectors  $\bar{F} = \vec{a}\vec{b}$  is called a dyadic product with  $F_{mn} = a_m b_n$ . A component of the dyadic is called a dyad. We have the following rule for dyadic calculations:

$$\vec{c} \cdot (\vec{a}\vec{b}) = (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a})\vec{b}$$

$$(\vec{a}\vec{b}) \cdot \vec{c} = \vec{a}(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})$$

$$\vec{c} \times (\vec{a}\vec{b}) = (\vec{c} \times \vec{a})\vec{b}$$

$$(\vec{a}\vec{b}) \times \vec{c} = \vec{a}(\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$$
Then, from  $\vec{\nabla}\vec{r} = \vec{\nabla}(r\hat{r}) = \vec{\nabla}(r)\hat{r} + \vec{\nabla}(\hat{r})r = \hat{r}\hat{r} + \vec{\nabla}(\hat{r})r = \bar{\bar{l}}$ 

$$\vec{\nabla}\hat{r} = (\bar{\bar{l}} - \hat{r}\hat{r})/r$$

The term  $\overrightarrow{\nabla}[\hat{r}\cdot\vec{J}(\vec{r}')]$  in (3.1.37) is, by the vector identity  $\overrightarrow{\nabla}(\vec{a}\cdot\vec{b}) = \vec{a}\times\overrightarrow{\nabla}\times\vec{b} + \vec{b}\times\overrightarrow{\nabla}\times\vec{a} + (\vec{a}\cdot\overrightarrow{\nabla})\vec{b} + (\vec{b}\cdot\overrightarrow{\nabla})\vec{a}$ :

$$\vec{\nabla}[\hat{r}\cdot\vec{J}(\vec{r}')] = [\vec{J}(\vec{r}')\cdot\vec{\nabla}]\hat{r} = \vec{J}(\vec{r}')\cdot\vec{\nabla}\hat{r} = \frac{\vec{J}-J_r\hat{r}}{r} = \frac{J_\theta\hat{\theta}+J_\phi\hat{\phi}}{r} = O\left(\frac{1}{r}\right)$$
(3.1.41)

Thus (3.1.37) continues

... = 
$$-ik\left\{\hat{r}\cdot\vec{J}(\vec{r}')\left[-ikG\hat{r}+O\left(\frac{1}{r^2}\right)\right]+G\times O\left(\frac{1}{r}\right)\right\}$$
  
=  $-k^2\left[\vec{J}(\vec{r}')\cdot\hat{r}\right]\hat{r}G+O\left(\frac{1}{r^2}\right)$  (3.1.42)

Applying the calculations above, (3.1.31) becomes

$$\vec{E} \cong -ik\eta \int_{V'} G[\vec{J}(\vec{r}') - J_r \hat{r}] dv'$$

$$= -ik\eta \frac{e^{-ikr}}{4\pi r} \int_{V'} (J_\theta \hat{\theta} + J_\phi \hat{\phi}) e^{ik\hat{r}\cdot\hat{r}'} dv'$$

$$= -ik\eta \frac{e^{-ikr}}{4\pi r} \int_{V'} (\hat{\theta}\hat{\theta} + \hat{\phi}\hat{\phi}) \cdot \vec{J}(\vec{r}') e^{ik\hat{r}\cdot\hat{r}'} dv'$$

$$= ik\eta \frac{e^{-ikr}}{4\pi r} \int_{V'} \hat{r} \times [\hat{r} \times \vec{J}(\vec{r}')] e^{ik\hat{r}\cdot\hat{r}'} dv'$$

(3.1.43)

From (3.1.22), we can get

$$\vec{H} \cong -ik \frac{e^{-ikr}}{4\pi r} \int_{V'} \left[ \hat{r} \times \vec{J}(\vec{r}') \right] e^{ik\hat{r}\cdot\hat{r}'} dv' = \frac{1}{\eta} \hat{r} \times \vec{E}$$
 (3.1.44)

For general cases, by applying the duality theorem, we have

$$\vec{E} \cong -ik \frac{e^{-ikr}}{4\pi r} \int_{V'} \left[ \eta \left( \hat{\theta} \hat{\theta} + \hat{\phi} \hat{\phi} \right) \cdot \vec{J}(\vec{r}') + \hat{r} \times \vec{M}(\vec{r}') \right] e^{ik\hat{r}\cdot\vec{r}'} dv' \quad (3.1.45)$$

$$\vec{H} \cong -ik \frac{e^{-ikr}}{4\pi r} \int_{V'} \left[ \frac{1}{\eta} \left( \hat{\theta} \hat{\theta} + \hat{\phi} \hat{\phi} \right) \cdot \vec{M}(\vec{r}') - \hat{r} \times \vec{J}(\vec{r}') \right] e^{ik\hat{r}\cdot\vec{r}'} dv' (3.1.46)$$

It is noted that by expressing  $k\hat{r}$  in Cartesian coordinates, the far field can be interpreted as the inverse Fourier transform (up to a constant factor) of the components of the source distribution.

### 3.1.5 Stratton-Chu Formulation

From surface equivalence principle (Section 1.6.4B), if all sources are included in a closed surface  $S_0$ , then by placing the surface currents

$$\begin{cases} \vec{J}_S = \hat{n} \times \vec{H} \\ \vec{M}_S = -\hat{n} \times \vec{E} \end{cases}$$
 (3.1.47)

where  $\hat{n}$  is the unit normal vector on  $S_0$ , we can set the field inside  $S_0$  to be zero. Thus, using (3.1.29), the electric field outside  $S_0$  is

$$\vec{E} = \eta \mathfrak{L}(\vec{J}_S) - \mathfrak{K}(\vec{M}_S)$$

$$= -ik\eta \oint_{S_0} \left[ \overrightarrow{J}_S G - \frac{1}{k^2} (\overrightarrow{\nabla}' \cdot \overrightarrow{J}_S) \overrightarrow{\nabla} G \right] ds' + \oint_{S_0} (\overrightarrow{M}_S \times \overrightarrow{\nabla} G) ds' \quad (3.1.48)$$

### 3.1.5 Stratton-Chu Formulation

From continuity equation (1.1.3) and the matching condition (1.3.8)

$$\vec{\nabla}' \cdot \vec{J}_S = -i\omega \rho_S = -i\omega \epsilon (\hat{n} \cdot \vec{E})$$
 (3.1.49)

Substitute (3.1.47) and (3.1.49) in (3.1.48) and apply the property  $\overrightarrow{\nabla}'G = -\overrightarrow{\nabla}G$ , we get

$$\vec{E} = \oint_{S_0} \left[ -ik\eta (\hat{n} \times \vec{H})G + (\hat{n} \cdot \vec{E})\vec{\nabla}'G + (\hat{n} \times \vec{E}) \times \vec{\nabla}'G \right] ds' \quad (3.1.50)$$

Applying duality transform (1.1.23), we get the magnetic field

$$\vec{H} = \oint_{S_0} \left[ i \frac{k}{\eta} (\hat{n} \times \vec{E}) G + (\hat{n} \cdot \vec{H}) \vec{\nabla}' G + (\hat{n} \times \vec{H}) \times \vec{\nabla}' G \right] ds' \quad (3.1.51)$$

This is the Stratton-Chu formulation.

Hertzian dipole is the simplest and the most fundamental radiator. Consider on an infinitesimal line dl, a charge q occilates with an agular frequency  $\omega$ , then we have the current expressed as  $\mathcal{I}=i\omega q$ . Suppose the line is oriented along the z-axis at the origin, we have  $\overrightarrow{J}dv'=\mathcal{I}\widehat{z}dz'$ . Thus, from (3.1.31), the electric field is

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = -ik\eta \mathcal{I}dl\left(1 + \frac{1}{k^2}\vec{\nabla}\vec{\nabla}\cdot\right)\hat{z}G \qquad (3.2.1)$$

From (3.1.22), the magnetic field is

$$\vec{H}(\vec{r}) = -\mathcal{I}dl \,\hat{z} \times \vec{\nabla}G \tag{3.2.2}$$

To express (3.2.1-2) in spherical coordinates, let us calculate the following first:

$$\vec{\nabla}G = \vec{\nabla}\left(\frac{e^{-ikr}}{4\pi r}\right) = -\left(ik + \frac{1}{r}\right)G\hat{r}$$
 (3.2.3)

$$\overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot (\hat{z}G) = \hat{z} \cdot \overrightarrow{\nabla}G = -\left(ik + \frac{1}{r}\right)G\cos\theta \tag{3.2.4}$$

$$\vec{\nabla}[\vec{\nabla}\cdot(\hat{z}G)] = G\left[\left(-k^2 + \frac{2ik}{r} + \frac{1}{r^2}\right)\cos\theta\,\hat{r} + \left(ik + \frac{1}{r}\right)\sin\theta\,\hat{\theta}\right] (3.2.5)$$

$$\hat{z} \times \vec{\nabla} G = \left(\cos\theta \,\hat{r} - \sin\theta \,\hat{\theta}\right) \times \vec{\nabla} G = -\left(ik + \frac{1}{r}\right) G \sin\theta \,\hat{\phi}$$
 (3.2.6)

Thus, the electric field of an Hertzian dipole can be expressed as

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\eta^{\mathcal{I}dl}}{r} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{ikr} \right) 2\cos\theta \, G\hat{r} + ik\eta \mathcal{I}dl \left( 1 + \frac{1}{ikr} - \frac{1}{k^2r^2} \right) \sin\theta \, G\hat{\theta}$$
(3.2.7)

Accordingly, the magnetic field can be expressed as

$$\vec{H} = ik\mathcal{I}dl\left(1 + \frac{1}{ikr}\right)\sin\theta \,G\hat{\phi} \tag{3.2.8}$$

Notice that the fields can be devided into dependent parts on  $r^{-1}$ ,  $r^{-2}$ , and  $r^{-3}$  terms, and we characterize the region with  $kr \ll 1$  as the near field and  $kr \gg 1$  as the far field.

For the near-field region  $r^{-2}$  and  $r^{-3}$  terms dominate. Also using the approximation  $e^{-ikr}\cong 1$ , we get

$$\vec{E} \cong -i\frac{\eta^{\mathcal{I}dl}}{4\pi k r^3} \left(2\cos\hat{r} + \sin\theta\,\,\hat{\theta}\right) \tag{3.2.9}$$

$$\vec{H} \cong \frac{\Im dl}{4\pi r^2} \sin\theta \,\hat{\phi} \tag{3.2.10}$$

For the far-field region  $r^{-1}$  terms dominate and we get

$$\vec{E} \cong ik\eta \mathcal{I}dl \sin\theta \, G\hat{\theta} \tag{3.2.11}$$

$$\vec{H} \cong ik\mathcal{I}dl\sin\theta\,G\hat{\phi} \tag{3.2.12}$$

#### **Problems**

- 1. Complete the intermediate steps in (3.1.15-17).
- 2. Verify (3.1.27-28).
- 3. Verify (3.1.51).
- 4. Complete the intermediate steps in (3.2.5-8).
- 5. Complete the intermediate steps in (3.2.9-12).