PHY 2323 Cheat Sheet

1   Coordinate Systems

There are 3 main coordinate systems:

1. Cartesian (x, y, z)

2. Cylindrical (ρ, ϕ, z)

3. Spherical (r, ϕ, θ)

2   Electric Fields

2.1   Coulombs Law

Coulomb's law is used to sum up all the charges in a location which will give an electric field E.

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_S \frac{\rho(\vec{r}\prime)(\vec{r} - \vec{r}\prime)}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}\prime|^3} \mathrm{d}l$$

This can also be extended to a surface with $\mathrm{d}s$ and 2 integrals, or volume with $\mathrm{d}v$

Note that anything with the ′ means that it is related to the **surface of charge**, and anything without the prime is related to the **observation point.**

2.2   Gausses Law

Gausses Law can be used on a **closed surface** where we make a guassian surface (such as a sphere, or cylander) at the point of interest.

$$\int_S \vec{E}\mathrm{d}\vec{s} = \frac{Q_{enc}}{\epsilon}$$

We also have the $\vec{D}$ field which is the *Electric Flux Density.*

$$\int_S \vec{D}\mathrm{d}\vec{s} = Q_{enc}$$

Finally, we have the flux ψ, a scalar.

$$\psi = \epsilon \int_s \vec{E}\mathrm{d}\vec{s} = \int \vec{D}\mathrm{d}\vec{s}$$

This is useful in 3 main cases.

1. Spherical Symmetry is present

2. Cylindrical symmetry is present (long line of charge with uniform ρ or cylander with no angular dependance)

3. Planar Symmetry (Long 2D surface of charge)

A useful piece of information is if we want to find the Q_{enc}, we can often just integrate the charge density in a volume V.

$$Q_{enc} = \iiint_V \rho \mathrm{d}V$$

Also, the $\vec{D}$ field is just the $\vec{E}$ field times a factor of ϵ ($\vec{D} = \epsilon\vec{E}$)

2.3 Energy Stored in an Electric Field

We say that W is the energy stored in an electric field, or the energy required to assemble a charge distribution.

We can calculate this by summing up the product of the charge density and potential difference across a line/surface/volume.

$$W = \frac{1}{2}\int_{S\prime} \rho_s(\vec{r}\prime) * V(\vec{r}\prime)\mathrm{d}v\prime$$

3 Electric Potential

This is the potential energy per unit charge. AKA the voltage. This is a **scalar field**. This is *independant of the path chosen.*

$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\int_{l\prime} \frac{\rho_l \mathrm{d}l\prime}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}\prime|}$$

This can be extended into 2d or 3d space by changing the $l\prime$ and $\mathrm{d}l\prime$ for $s\prime, \mathrm{d}s\prime$ or $v\prime, \mathrm{d}v\prime$.

Then we can relate the change in voltage to the electric field:

$$\vec{E} = -\nabla V \qquad \nabla V = -\int \vec{E} \cdot \mathrm{d}\vec{l}$$

3.1 Electric Dipole

A **dipole** is a pair of equal and opposite charges that are very close to each other relative to the point of observation.

This means that at the point of observation, they seem as one charge.

We have an equation that relates the charge of each end of the dipole q, the distance between the charges d, and the vector between the dipole and the observation point $\vec{r}$. This vector must be large compared to d.

$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{(qd)\hat{z} \cdot \hat{r}}{4\pi\epsilon|r|^2}$$

3.2   Capacitors

The capacitence C can be calculated using the following formula:

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

In practice, we use the following 3 step procedure:

1. Find E
2. Find ΔV
3. Find C using $C = \frac{Q}{\Delta V}$

4   Materials in Electric Fields

There are 3 types of materials:

1. Conductors

2. Insulators

3. Semiconductors

We have rules concerning the normal and tangential part of the boundary between 2 materials.

To obtain the normal part, we take the unit vector of the boundary, and this is our normal vector $(\hat{n} = \frac{\vec{n}}{|n|})$.

If we then want to get the **normal part** of E, we dot product it with $\hat{n}$, then append n to keep direction $(\vec{E}_n = (\vec{E} \cdot \hat{n})\hat{n})$

The **tangential part** is just $\vec{E}_t = \vec{E} - \vec{E}_n$

4.1   Boundary between 2 Dielectrics

If we have 2 electric fields between 2 **dielectric** (insulators) surfaces, we have the following formulas for the bounds:

$$E_{1t} = E_{2t} \qquad \epsilon_1 E_{1n} - \epsilon_2 E_{2n} = \rho_s$$

4.2 Surface of a Conductor

If we have an electric field at the **surface** of a **conductive** surface (note that inside the surface $E = 0$), we have the following formulas for the bounds:

$$E_{1t} = E_{2t} = 0 \qquad E_n = \frac{\rho_s}{\epsilon_0}$$

5 Laplace and Poisson Equations

These equations will give us a general form of the equation for the solution, and then using 2 conditions (such as points) we can sub them into the form of the equation and solve the equation.

The whole laplacian equation is very complicated, but we have 2 special cases of note:

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{-\rho_v}{\epsilon} \qquad \text{or if no charge density (charges on surface): } \nabla^2 V = 0$$

Ex. As a very general example, if we want to find the voltage in a conductor (charges just on surface)

We start by using the laplace equation:

$$\nabla^2 V = 0 \implies \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

For simplicity, I will consider a situation where the V only exists in the z direction, hence the x and y components will be 0.

$$\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

Since $\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} = 0$, then we must say that $\frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = a$ where a is a constant. We must then say that $V = az + b$ where a and b are constants.

This is because integrating $\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} = 0$ once gives us $\frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = a$ and then a second time gives $V = az + b$

Then we must have some boundary conditions given such as when $z = 0$, $V = 0$, and when $z = 1$, $V = 5$. Then we can sub in and solve for a and b.

Then we have V at any point.

We can also do this for spherical or cylindrical coordinates, except for the laplacian (∇^2) is different.

6 Currents

Current is just the rate of which charge travels with respect to time. Measured in either $\frac{C}{s}$ or A.

By definition, the current density is just the amount of current passing through a cross sectional area. Note that this does NOT include parallel current since this current does not actually traverse **through** the cross sectional area.

$$\vec{J} = \frac{I}{A} \qquad I = \int_S \vec{J} \cdot \mathrm{d}\vec{s}$$

6.1 Resistance

Resistance is defined as:

$$R = \frac{L}{\sigma A} = \frac{\rho L}{A}$$

These are equivalent since $\sigma = \rho^{-1}$ where ρ is the resistivity, and σ is the conductivity.

Those equations work fine for a single area, but if we need to sum up the areas, we have 2 techniques. The first is just by summing up the above equation. The second is based on Ohms law.

$$R = \frac{L}{\sigma A} = \int_l \frac{\mathrm{d}\vec{l}}{\iint_S \sigma \mathrm{d}\vec{s}} \qquad R = \frac{\Delta V}{I} = \frac{-\int_l \vec{E} \cdot \mathrm{d}\vec{l}}{\int_S \vec{J} \cdot \mathrm{d}\vec{s}}$$

Ex.

6.2 Equation of Continuity

This basically says that if there is a current going out of an object, then there will be less charges in that object.

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{J} = -\frac{\partial \rho_v}{\partial t}$$

The relaxation time is the amount of time it takes for electrons to settle into their equilibrium. This (τ) is: $\tau = \frac{\epsilon}{\sigma}$
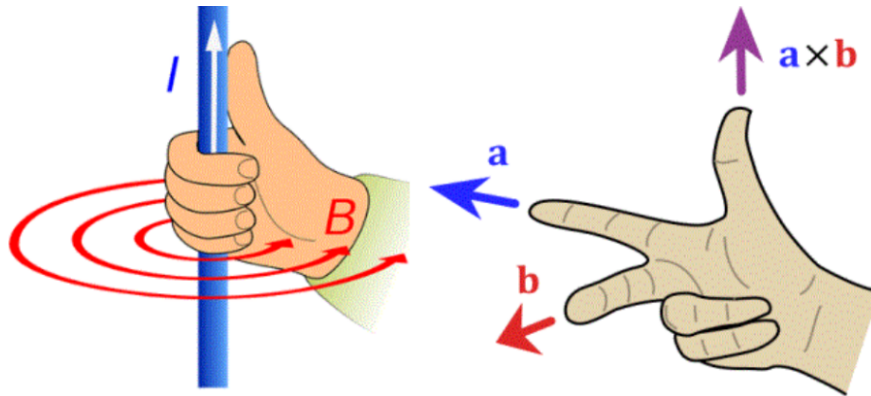
7 Magnetic Fields

Similarly to electric fields, we have 2 fields seperated by a constant μ_0. There is the $\vec{B}$ field (Magnetic Flux Density) and the $\vec{H}$ field (Magnetic Field). $\vec{H} = \frac{\vec{B}}{\mu_0}$

7.1 Biot-Savard

This law is how we calculate the magnetic field. This is similar to coulombs law (for electric fields) but for magnetic fields. Although, the versions for L, S, and V are slightly different (Line uses I, Surface and Sphere use J_S and J_V.)

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int_{l\prime} \frac{I\mathrm{d}\vec{l}\prime \times (\vec{r} - \vec{r}\prime)}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}\prime|^3} \qquad \vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int_{S\prime} \frac{J_s \times (\vec{r} - \vec{r}\prime)d\vec{S}\prime}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}\prime|^3} \qquad \vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int_{V\prime} \frac{J_V \times (\vec{r} - \vec{r}\prime)d\vec{V}\prime}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}\prime|^3}$$

We can use the right hand rule to see the direction of the generated field due to the cross product inside the calculation.

This direction will be perpendicular to both the current, and the $\vec{r} - \vec{r}\prime$ vector.

7.2   Amperes Law

This is just like gausses law for electric fields in that it allows us to simplify the calculations for magnetic fields, but only under specific curcumstances.

Basically, we create an amperian loop (path) that when taken the dot product with the H field creates a nice math situation.

$$\oint \vec{H} \cdot \mathrm{d}\vec{l} = I_{enclosed}$$

1. Predict Direction of $\vec{H}$
2. Choose amperian path
3. Calculate

7.3   Magnetic Forces

We say that the magnetic force produced by a wire 1 on another wire 2 is:

$$\vec{F}_2 = \int I_2 \mathrm{d}\vec{l}_2 \times \vec{B}_1$$

So basically we need to get $\vec{B}$ using probably amperes law, and then assuming we know I, we can calculate the magnetic force $\vec{F}_m$.