

Classical electrodynamics, the interplay between electric and magnetic fields and how they are changed based on charges and currents, is described by the four Maxwell's equations.

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \quad (1)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \quad (3)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{J} - \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \quad (4)$$

with \vec{E} being the electric and \vec{B} being the magnetic field. \vec{J} is the current and ρ the charge density.

The differential operator $\vec{\nabla}$ defines the divergence and rotation and can be written as

$$\vec{\nabla} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{e}_x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ \vec{e}_y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \\ \vec{e}_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \end{bmatrix}$$

ϵ_0 and μ_0 are constants. The first is called *vacuum permittivity* or *electric constant*. The second is named the *vacuum permeability* or *magnetic constant*. They are related to the speed of light c by the following relationship:

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