

Electrolitic

Exercise 3

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

Question 1.1

Show that from the equation:

$$m \frac{dU^\mu}{d\tau} = \frac{q}{c} F^{\mu\nu} U_\nu.$$

The lorentz force and the work eq. can be derived.
Which of the fields \vec{E} , \vec{B} execute work?

Solution:

For $\mu = 0$:

$$m \frac{dU^0}{d\tau} = \frac{q}{c} (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) = \frac{1}{c} (\vec{f} \cdot \vec{v}) = \frac{1}{c} \frac{dE}{dt}.$$

For $\mu = i$:

$$m \frac{dU^i}{d\tau} = \frac{q}{c} (F^{i0} U_0 + F^{0i} U_i) = \frac{q}{c} \gamma (c\vec{E} + \vec{B} \times \vec{v}).$$

Only the electric field execute work because the term $\vec{B} \times \vec{v}$ is perpendicular to \vec{v} and will be nullified in the dot product $\vec{f} \cdot \vec{v}$.

Question 1.2

Find $\vec{r}(t)$ of a relativistic particle in a constant magnetic field, and show the non-relativistic approximation.
What's the difference between the case of a constant electric field and the case of a magnetic one?

Solution:

We'll use our freedom of choice of a coordinate system and pick \vec{B} such that:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{B} &= B\hat{z} \\ \vec{v}(t=0) &= v_{0x}\hat{x} + v_{0y}\hat{y}. \end{aligned}$$