

## 1. Units

Assuming conventional use of symbols, figure out the physical units (SI) of the following quantities:

$\mathbf{E}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}$ ,  $\mathbf{B}$ ,  $\mathbf{H}$ ,  $\epsilon_0$ ,  $\mu_0$ ,  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D}$ ,  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}$ ,  $\nabla \times \mathbf{E}$ ,  $\dot{\mathbf{B}}$ ,  $\nabla \times \mathbf{H}$ ,  $\dot{\mathbf{D}}$ ,  $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}$ ,  $\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}$ ,  $\mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{B}$ ,  $c$ ,  $\Delta \mathbf{E}$ ,  $\ddot{\mathbf{E}}$ .

## 2. Identities from vector calculus

Given a vector field  $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})$ ,

(a) evaluate  $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})$ , and

(b) verify  $\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \Delta \mathbf{A}$

explicitly in Cartesian coordinates.

## 3. Curl and divergence

Assume that the fields  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t)$  and  $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t)$  satisfy the equation  $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\dot{\mathbf{B}}$ , and that  $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t_0) = 0$  at an arbitrary time  $t_0$ . Show that then  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$  at all times  $t$ .

## 4. Plane waves

Show that fields  $\psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = f(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) + b(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} + \omega t)$ , with  $\omega^2 = \mathbf{k}^2 c^2$ , solve the wave equation

$$\left( \Delta - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) \psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = 0,$$

for arbitrary, suitably smooth functions  $f, b$ .

## 5. Derivatives of harmonic plane waves

Given time-harmonic scalar and vector fields of the form

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \psi_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}, \quad \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{F}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}$$

with constant  $\psi_0$  and  $\mathbf{F}_0$ , make the substitution rules “ $\partial_t \rightarrow -i\omega$ ”, “ $\nabla \rightarrow i\mathbf{k}$ ” precise by evaluating the following expressions:  $\dot{\psi}$ ,  $\dot{\mathbf{F}}$ ,  $\ddot{\psi}$ ,  $\ddot{\mathbf{F}}$ ,  $\nabla \psi$ ,  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}$ ,  $\nabla \times \mathbf{F}$ ,  $\Delta \psi$ ,  $\Delta \mathbf{F}$ .

## 6. Parseval identity

Show the identity

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(x)|^2 dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\tilde{f}(k)|^2 dk \quad (1)$$

for an integrable function  $f$  and its Fourier-transform  $\tilde{f}$ . Start by replacing the factors of  $(\tilde{f}(k))^* \tilde{f}(k)$  on the right-hand side by their integral representation, and employ the Fourier representation of  $\delta$ .

## 7. Restriction of a functional

Consider the functional

$$\mathcal{L}(u) = \int_{-1}^1 (u(x) - \sin(x))^2 dx$$

for functions in  $\{u : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$  where it is well defined. Minimizing this functional is an example of the least squares method to approximate the function  $\sin$  by a function  $u$  from a given subset. Clearly, if any function  $u$  would be allowed, the solution of the minimization problem would be  $u_{\min} = \sin$ .

(a) Let  $P$  be the set of polynomials of degree at most two:

$$P = \{u : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, u(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 \mid a_0, a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

This is a three dimensional space. Restrict the functional to the space  $P$  and find the corresponding function  $L_P$  (this is a function of three variables); evaluate it as far as possible (you might wish to use a computer algebra system ...).

(b) Find the minimizer of this function (a triple of coefficients  $a_0, a_1, a_2$ ), and write down the minimizing polynomial. Illustrate the approximation of the  $\sin$  function by means of a suitable plot.

Hand in your solutions until Wednesday, April 23, 09:15. Good luck!