

Retarded potentials, example for electric vector potential \mathbf{A}

General time variation of sources

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \int_{V'} \frac{\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}', t - \frac{R}{c})}{R} dV'$$

where $t - \frac{R}{c}$ is the retardation (c being velocity of the wave) – delay between the EM wave emission and the moment at which it reaches the observer

Now assume sinusoidal dependence so we can extract the time variation into the $e^{j\omega t}$ term and work with phasors:

$$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}', t) \rightarrow \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}')e^{j\omega t}$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) \rightarrow \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})e^{j\omega t}$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})e^{j\omega t} = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \int_{V'} \frac{\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}')e^{j\omega(t - \frac{R}{c})}}{R} dV' = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \int_{V'} \frac{\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}')e^{j\omega t}e^{-\frac{j\omega R}{c}}}{R} dV'$$

cancel $e^{j\omega t}$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \int_{V'} \frac{\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}')e^{-jkR}}{R} dV'$$

$$\text{Since } k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} = \frac{2\pi}{\frac{c}{f}} = \frac{2\pi f}{c} = \frac{\omega}{c}$$