

14.3 Using the relation  $\frac{dt}{dt'} = 1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n}$ , we know  $\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{dt'}{dt} \frac{d}{dt'} = \frac{1}{1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n}} \frac{d}{dt'}$ . From now on,

we will drop the explicit  $t'$ -dependence in  $\vec{\beta}$  and  $\vec{n}$ . First,

$$\frac{d}{dt'} \vec{n} = \frac{d}{dt'} \left( \frac{\vec{R}}{R} \right) = -\frac{\vec{v}}{R} + \frac{\vec{R}(\vec{R} \cdot \vec{v})}{R^3} = \frac{\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - \vec{v}}{R}, \quad \text{since } \frac{d}{dt'} R = -\frac{\vec{R} \cdot \vec{v}}{R}$$

$$\text{Then } \frac{d^2}{dt'^2} \vec{n} = \frac{d}{dt'} \left( \frac{\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - \vec{v}}{R} \right) = \frac{\dot{\vec{n}}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) + \vec{n}(\dot{\vec{n}} \cdot \vec{v}) + \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \dot{\vec{v}}) - \dot{\vec{v}}}{R} + \left[ \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - \vec{v} \right] \frac{\dot{\vec{n}} \cdot \vec{v}}{R^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Here, } \dot{\vec{n}}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) + \vec{n}(\dot{\vec{n}} \cdot \vec{v}) &= \frac{1}{R} \left[ (\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - \vec{v})(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) + \vec{n}(\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{v} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \left[ \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v})^2 - \vec{v}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) + \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v})^2 - v^2 \vec{n} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \left[ 2\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v})^2 - \vec{v}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - v^2 \vec{n} \right], \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{thus, } \frac{d^2}{dt'^2} \vec{n} &= \frac{\vec{n} \times (\vec{n} \times \dot{\vec{v}})}{R} + \frac{1}{R^2} \left[ 2\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v})^2 - \vec{v}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - v^2 \vec{n} + \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v})^2 - \vec{v}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) \right] \\ &= \frac{\vec{n} \times (\vec{n} \times \dot{\vec{v}})}{R} + \frac{3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v})^2 - 2\vec{v}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - v^2 \vec{n}}{R^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Therefore, } \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{d^2}{dt'^2} [\vec{n}]_{\text{ret}} &= \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{1}{1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n}} \frac{d}{dt'} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n}} \frac{d}{dt'} \vec{n} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{c^2} \left( \frac{1}{(1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3} \left( \dot{\vec{\beta}} \cdot \vec{n} + \vec{\beta} \cdot \dot{\vec{n}} \right) \frac{d}{dt'} \vec{n} + \frac{1}{(1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^2} \frac{d^2}{dt'^2} \vec{n} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{c^2} \left( \frac{1}{(1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3} \left( \vec{n} \cdot \dot{\vec{\beta}} + \frac{\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - \vec{v}}{R} \cdot \vec{\beta} \right) \frac{\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - \vec{v}}{R} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{(1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^2} \left( \frac{\vec{n} \times (\vec{n} \times \dot{\vec{v}})}{R} + \frac{3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v})^2 - 2\vec{v}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - v^2 \vec{n}}{R^2} \right) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{cR} \left( \frac{\vec{n} \cdot \dot{\vec{\beta}}}{(1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3} [\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta}] + \frac{\vec{n} \times (\vec{n} \times \dot{\vec{\beta}})}{(1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^2} \right) \quad (\text{I}) \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{R^2} \left( \frac{[\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta}] \cdot \vec{\beta}}{(1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3} + \frac{3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 - 2\vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \beta^2 \vec{n}}{(1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^2} \right) \quad (\text{II})$$

By direct calculation,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (I) &= \frac{1}{c(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R} \left( \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) + \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta} - \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) + \vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{c(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R} \left( \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta} - \vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) + \vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{c(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R} \left[ \vec{n} \times (\vec{n} \times \vec{\beta}) - \vec{n} \times (\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\beta}) \right] = \frac{\vec{n} \times (\vec{n} - \vec{\beta}) \times \vec{\beta}}{c(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{and } (II) &= \frac{1}{(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R^2} \left[ \left( (\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 - \beta^2 \right) (\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta}) + \left( 3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 - 2\vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \beta^2 \vec{n} \right) (1 - \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R^2} \left[ \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^3 - \beta^2 \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 + \beta^2 \vec{\beta} + 3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 - 2\vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \beta^2 \vec{n} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - 3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 + 2\vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 + \beta^2 \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R^2} \left[ -2\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^3 + \vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 + \beta^2 \vec{\beta} + 3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 - 2\vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \beta^2 \vec{n} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

For the second term in the Feynman expression,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left[ \frac{R}{c} \right]_{\text{ret}} \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{\vec{n}}{R^2} \right]_{\text{ret}} &= \frac{1}{1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n}} \frac{R}{c} \left( \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{d\vec{n}}{dt} + \vec{n} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{1}{R^2} \right) \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n}} \frac{1}{c} \left( \frac{\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}) - \vec{v}}{R^2} + \frac{2\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v})}{R^2} \right) = \frac{3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta}}{(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n}) R^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Put terms proportional to  $1/R^2$  together, we will get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\vec{n}}{R^2} + \frac{3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta}}{(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n}) R^2} + \frac{1}{(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R^2} \left[ -2\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^3 + \vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 + \beta^2 \vec{\beta} + 3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 - 2\vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \beta^2 \vec{n} \right] \\
 = \frac{1}{(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R^2} \left[ \vec{n}(1-\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^3 + (3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta})(1-\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 \right. \\
 \left. - 2\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^3 + \vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 + \beta^2 \vec{\beta} + 3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 - 2\vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \beta^2 \vec{n} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{(1-\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R^2} \left[ \vec{n} - 3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) + 3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 - \vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^3 \right. \\
&\quad + 3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - 6\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 + 3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^3 - \vec{\beta} + 2\vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 \\
&\quad \left. - 2\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^3 + \vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 + \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\beta} + 3\vec{n}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta})^2 - 2\vec{\beta}(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n} \right] \\
&= \frac{(\vec{n} - \vec{\beta})(1 - \beta^2)}{(1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R^2} = \frac{\vec{n} - \vec{\beta}}{\gamma^2 (1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R^2}
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, we get Eq. (14.14).

$$\vec{E}(\vec{x}, t) = e \left[ \frac{\vec{n} - \vec{\beta}}{\gamma^2 (1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R^2} \right]_{\text{ret}} + \frac{e}{c} \left[ \frac{\vec{n} \times ((\vec{n} - \vec{\beta}) \times \vec{\beta})}{(1 - \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{n})^3 R} \right]_{\text{ret}}$$