

LECTURE NOTES 18

RELATIVISTIC ELECTRODYNAMICS

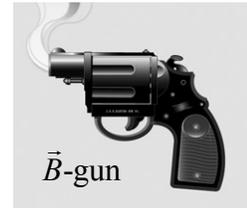
Classical electrodynamics (Maxwell’s equations, the Lorentz force law, etc.) {unlike classical / Newtonian mechanics} is already consistent with special relativity – i.e. is valid in any IRF.

However: What one observer interprets (e.g.) as a purely electrical process in his/her IRF, another observer in a different IRF may interpret it (e.g.) as being due to purely magnetic phenomena, or a “mix” of electric and magnetic phenomena – but the particle motion(s), viewed / seen / observed from different IRFs are related to each other via Lorentz transformations from one IRF to another (and vice versa)!

The problems / difficulties Lorentz and others had working in late 19th Century lay entirely with their use of non-relativistic, classical / Newtonian laws of mechanics in conjunction with the laws of electrodynamics. Once this was corrected by Einstein, using relativistic mechanics with classical electrodynamics, these problems / difficulties were no longer encountered!

The phenomenon of magnetism is a “smoking gun” for relativity!

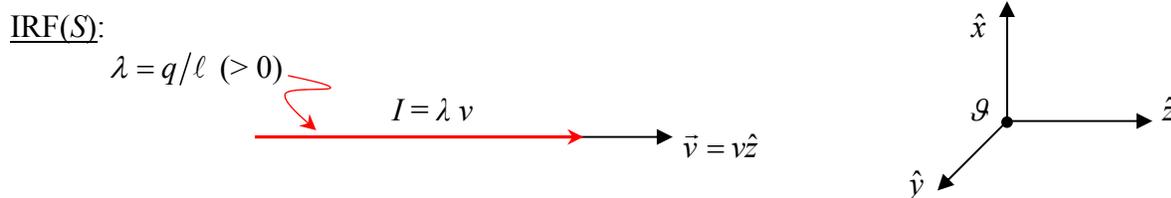
* Magnetism – arising from the motion of electric charges – the observer is not in the same IRF as that of the moving charge – thus magnetism is a consequence of the space-time nature of the universe that we live in (Lorentz contraction / time dilation and Lorentz invariance $\Delta x_\mu \Delta x^\mu = I$).



* “Magnetism” is not “just” associated with the phenomenon of electromagnetism, but \forall four fundamental forces of nature: *EM*, strong, weak and gravity (and anything else!) – because space-time is the common “host” to all of the fundamental forces of nature – they all live / exist / co-exist in space-time, and all are subject to the laws of space-time – i.e. relativity!

We can e.g. calculate the “magnetic” force between a current-carrying “wire” and a moving (test) charge Q_T without ever invoking laws of magnetism (e.g. the Lorentz force law, the Biot-Savart law, or Maxwell’s equations (e.g. Ampere’s law)) – just need electrostatics and relativity!

Suppose we have an infinitely long string of positive charges moving to right at speed v in the lab frame, IRF(S). The spacing of the $+ve$ charges is close enough together such that we can consider them as continuous / macroscopic line charge density $\lambda = q/\ell$ (Coulombs/meter) as shown in the figure below:

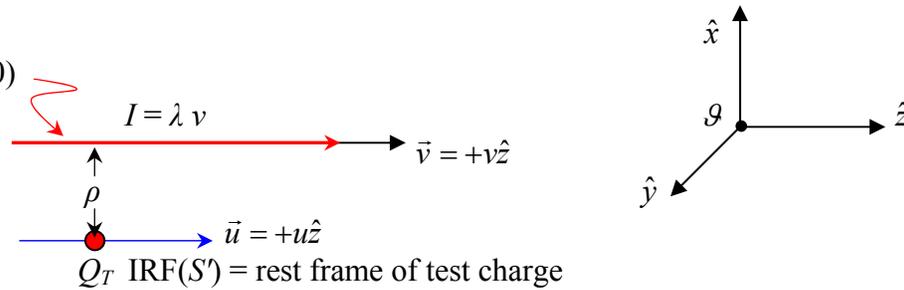


Since the positive line charge density $\lambda = q/\ell$ is moving to right with speed v , we have a positive filamentary / line current flowing to the right of magnitude $I = \lambda v$ (Amps).

Now suppose we also have a point test charge Q_T moving with velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z}$ (i.e. to the right) in IRF(S) {n.b. $|\vec{u}| = u$ is not necessarily $= |\vec{v}| = v$ }. The test charge Q_T is a \perp distance ρ from the moving line charge / current as shown in the figure below.

IRF(S):

$$\lambda = q/\ell (> 0)$$



Let's examine this situation as viewed by an observer in the rest frame of the test charge Q_T = the proper frame of the test charge Q_T . Call this rest/proper frame = IRF(S').

By Einstein's "ordinary" velocity addition rule, the speed of ve charges in the right-moving line charge density / filamentary line current as viewed by an observer in the rest frame IRF(S') of the test charge Q_T {which is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z}$ in the lab frame IRF(S)} is:

$$v' = \frac{v-u}{1-vu/c^2} \quad \text{with: } \vec{v} = +v\hat{z} \quad \text{and: } \vec{u} = +u\hat{z}$$

However, in IRF(S'), due to Lorentz contraction the {infinitesimal} spacing between positive charges in the right-moving line charge / filamentary line current is also changed, which therefore changes the line charge density as observed in IRF(S'), relative to the lab IRF(S)!

In IRF(S'): $\lambda' = \gamma'\lambda_0$ where: $\gamma' \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta'^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(v'/c)^2}}$ and: $\lambda_0 = q/\ell_0$, $\lambda' = q/\ell' \Rightarrow \ell' = \ell_0/\gamma'$

Where $\lambda_0 = q/\ell_0$ = linear charge density as observed in its own rest frame IRF(S_0).

Once the line charge density λ_0 starts moving at speed v in IRF(S), then: $\ell_0 \rightarrow \ell$ and $\lambda_0 \rightarrow \lambda$.

In IRF(S): $\lambda = \gamma\lambda_0$ where: $\gamma \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(v/c)^2}}$ and: $\lambda_0 = q/\ell_0$, $\lambda = q/\ell \Rightarrow \ell = \ell_0/\gamma$

But: $\gamma' \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(v'/c)^2}}$ and: $v' = \frac{v-u}{1-vu/c^2}$ where: $\vec{v} = v\hat{z}$ and: $\vec{u} = u\hat{z}$ in IRF(S).

$$\therefore \gamma' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{c^2}\left(\frac{v-u}{1-\frac{vu}{c^2}}\right)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\frac{c^2(v-u)^2}{(c^2-vu)^2}}} = \frac{(c^2-vu)}{\sqrt{(c^2-vu)^2 - c^2(v-u)^2}}$$

$$\text{Or: } \gamma' = \frac{(c^2 - uv)}{\sqrt{(c^2 - v^2) - (c^2 - u^2)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2}} \cdot \frac{\left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2}\right)}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{u}{c}\right)^2}} = \gamma\gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2}\right) \text{ with: } \begin{cases} \gamma \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}} \\ \gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Thus: } \gamma' = \gamma\gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2}\right) \text{ with: } \vec{v} = v\hat{z} \text{ and: } \vec{u} = u\hat{z}$$

Thus the line charge density λ' as observed in the rest frame of the test charge Q_T , i.e. in IRF(S') is:

$$\lambda' = \gamma'\lambda_0 = \gamma\gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2}\right) \lambda_0 = \gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2}\right) \underbrace{\gamma\lambda_0}_{\equiv \lambda} = \gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2}\right) \lambda$$

Check: If $\vec{u} = \vec{v}$, does $\lambda' = \lambda_0$?

When $\vec{u} = \vec{v}$, the test charge Q_T is moving with the same velocity as the line charge, thus the test charge Q_T is in the rest frame of the line charge, i.e. IRF(S') coincides with IRF(S_0)!

$$\text{If } \vec{u} = \vec{v} \text{ then: } u = v \text{ and: } \gamma \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}} = \gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}}$$

$$\text{Then: } \lambda' = \gamma\gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2}\right) \lambda_0 = \frac{\left(1 - \frac{u^2}{c^2}\right)}{\left(1 - \frac{u^2}{c^2}\right)} \lambda_0 = \lambda_0 \text{ YES! } \lambda' = \lambda_0$$

Note that the line charge density λ as observed in the lab frame {i.e. in IRF(S)}, in terms of the line charge density λ_0 in the rest frame of the line charge itself (i.e. IRF(S_0)) is:

$$\lambda = \gamma\lambda_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}} \lambda_0 \text{ since: } \gamma \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}}$$

Check: If $\vec{u} = 0$, does $\lambda' = \lambda$?

When $\vec{u} = 0$, the test charge Q_T is not moving in the lab frame IRF(S), thus IRF(S') coincides with IRF(S)!

$$\text{If } \vec{u} = 0 \text{ then: } u = 0 \text{ and: } \gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}} = 1 \text{ and thus: } \lambda' = \left[\gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2}\right) \right] \lambda = \lambda \text{ Yes!}$$

An observer in the proper / rest frame IRF(S') of the test charge Q_T sees a radial ($\hat{\rho}$) electrostatic field in IRF(S') associated with the infinitely long line charge density $\lambda' = q/\ell'$ of:

$$\vec{E}'(\rho) = \frac{\lambda'}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} \quad \text{with} \quad \lambda' = \left[\gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) \right] \lambda \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda = \gamma\lambda_0$$

n.b. $\hat{\rho}$ is the radial unit vector \perp to $\vec{v} = v\hat{z}$ {and $\vec{u} = u\hat{z}$ }.

$\Rightarrow \rho$ and $\hat{\rho}$ are unaltered / unaffected by Lorentz boosts along the \hat{z} -direction.

$$\therefore \text{In IRF}(S'): \quad E'(\rho) = \frac{1}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \lambda' = \frac{1}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \left[\gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) \right] \lambda = \frac{1}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \left[\gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) \right] \gamma \lambda_0$$

$\lambda = q/\ell$ in IRF(S) $\lambda_0 \equiv q/\ell_0$ in IRF(S_0)

In the special case when $\vec{u} = \vec{v}$ when IRF(S') \equiv IRF(S_0) coincide \rightarrow the test charge Q_T and the line charge λ_0 are both at rest/in the same rest frame/same IRF:

Then:
$$E'(\rho)|_{\vec{u}=\vec{v}} = \frac{1}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \lambda' = \frac{1}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \lambda_0 \equiv E_0(\rho) \leftarrow \text{Purely electrostatic field, } \lambda_0 = q/\ell_0$$

n.b. Notice that when IRF(S') \equiv IRF(S_0) coincide, that $\vec{F}_0 = Q_T \vec{E}_0 \perp (\vec{u} = \vec{v})$:

$$\vec{F}_0(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}_0(\rho) = \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \lambda_0 \hat{\rho} = \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \left(\frac{q}{\ell_0} \right) \hat{\rho} \quad \text{where: } \lambda_0 = \frac{q}{\ell_0}$$

For the more general case where $\vec{u} \neq \vec{v}$, the force acting on the test charge Q_T in its own rest frame IRF(S') is:

$$F'_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T E'_{TOT}(\rho) = \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \lambda' = \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \left[\gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) \right] \lambda \quad \text{where: } \lambda = \frac{q}{\ell} \quad \text{In IRF}(S)$$

Or:
$$F'_{TOT}(\rho) = \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \gamma_u \lambda - \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \gamma_u \lambda \left(\frac{uv}{c^2} \right) \quad \text{where: } \gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$$

Or:
$$F'_{TOT}(\rho) = \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} - \frac{\lambda v}{2\pi\epsilon_0 c^2} \left(\frac{1}{\rho} \right) \frac{Q_T u}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$$

But: $I \equiv \lambda v$ in IRF(S) {the lab frame} and $1/c^2 = \epsilon_0 \mu_0$:

Thus:
$$F'_{TOT}(\rho) = \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} - \left(\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \right) \frac{Q_T u}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \quad \text{in IRF}(S')$$

Or:
$$F'_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T E'(\rho) - Q_T u B'(\rho) = Q_T E'_{TOT}(\rho) \quad \text{and: } E'_{TOT}(\rho) = E'(\rho) - u B'(\rho)$$

Where:
$$E'(\rho) = \frac{1}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$$
 and:
$$B'(\rho) = \left(\frac{\mu_0}{2\pi\rho}\right) \frac{I}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$$
 in IRF(S') !!!

Vectorially, in the general IRF(S') / rest frame of the test charge Q_T , for $\vec{u} \neq \vec{v}$ {necessarily}

$$\vec{F}'_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'_{TOT}(\rho)$$
 ← n.b. in the radial / $\hat{\rho}$ direction only.

∴
$$\vec{F}'_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T E'(\rho) \hat{\rho} - Q_T u B'(\rho) \hat{\rho}$$

But: $\vec{u} = u\hat{z}$ ∴
$$\vec{u} \times \vec{B}'(\rho) = -u B'(\rho) \hat{\rho} \Rightarrow \vec{B}' = B' \hat{\phi}$$
 then:
$$u B'(\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi}) = -u B' \hat{\rho}$$

= - $\hat{\rho}$

Very Useful Table
Cylindrical Coordinates:

| | |
|--|---|
| $\hat{\rho} \times \hat{\phi} = \hat{z}$ | $\hat{\phi} \times \hat{\rho} = -\hat{z}$ |
| $\hat{\phi} \times \hat{z} = \hat{\rho}$ | $\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi} = -\hat{\rho}$ |
| $\hat{z} \times \hat{\rho} = \hat{\phi}$ | $\hat{\rho} \times \hat{z} = -\hat{\phi}$ |

$$\vec{F}'_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho) + Q_T (\vec{u} \times \vec{B}'(\rho))$$
 ← Lorentz Force Law in IRF(S') !!!

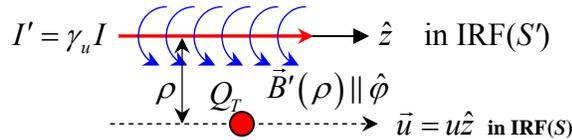
Where:
$$\vec{E}'(\rho) = \frac{1}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho}$$

$$= \frac{\gamma_u \lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = \frac{\gamma \gamma_u \lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho}$$

$$\vec{B}'(\rho) = \left(\frac{\mu_0}{2\pi\rho}\right) \frac{I}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\phi}$$

$$= \left(\frac{\mu_0}{2\pi\rho}\right) \gamma_u I \hat{\phi} = \left(\frac{\mu_0}{2\pi\rho}\right) \gamma \gamma_u I_0 \hat{\phi}$$
 in IRF(S')

$$I_0 \equiv \lambda_0 v \quad I \equiv \lambda v = \gamma \lambda_0 v = \gamma I_0 \quad I' \equiv \gamma_u \lambda v = \gamma \gamma_u \lambda_0 v = \gamma \gamma_u I_0$$



$$\vec{F}'_{TOT}(\rho) = \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho} - Q_T u \left(\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho}\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho}$$
 in IRF(S')

$$= \underbrace{Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho)}_{\text{repulsive force}} + \underbrace{Q_T \vec{u} \times \vec{B}'(\rho)}_{\text{attractive force}}$$

n.b. **Parallel currents attract each other!!!** {2nd current is test charge Q_T !!!}

For like charges $q = \lambda\ell$ and Q_T If $\vec{u} \parallel \vec{v}$ {remember: $\vec{I} = \lambda\vec{v}$ }

Next, we Lorentz transform the IRF(S') results (defined in the rest / proper frame of Q_T) to the IRF(S) (lab frame), using the rule(s) for Lorentz transformation of forces:

$$\vec{E}'(\rho) = \frac{1}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho}$$
 and:
$$\vec{B}'(\rho) = \frac{\lambda v}{2\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 \rho} \frac{I}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\phi}$$

$$\vec{F}'_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho) + Q_T \vec{u} \times \vec{B}'(\rho)$$

$$\vec{F}'_{TOT}(\rho) = \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \lambda' \hat{\rho} = \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \left[\gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2}\right) \right] \lambda \hat{\rho}$$
 where:
$$\gamma_u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$$

The test charge Q_T is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = u\hat{z}$ in the lab frame, IRF(S).

Note that {here}: $\vec{u} = u\hat{z} = u_z\hat{z}$ {i.e. $u = u_z$, $\vec{u} \parallel \hat{z}$ }, note also that: $\vec{F}'_{TOT} \perp \vec{u}$ and $F'_{\parallel} = F'_z = 0$.

Then the Lorentz transformation of the forces from IRF(S') to IRF(S):

In IRF(S): $F_{\perp} = \frac{1}{\gamma_u} F'_{\perp} = \sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2} F'_{\perp}$ where: $\gamma'_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}}$ and: $F_{\parallel} = F'_{\parallel} (= 0)$

∴ In IRF(S):

Note the cancellation of γ_u factors !!!

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{F}_{TOT}(\rho) &= \frac{1}{\gamma_u} \vec{F}'_{TOT}(\rho) = \frac{1}{\gamma_u} \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_o} \rho \lambda' \hat{\rho} = \frac{1}{\cancel{\gamma'_u}} \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_o \rho} \left[\cancel{\gamma'_u} \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) \right] \lambda \hat{\rho} \\ &= \frac{Q_T}{2\pi\epsilon_o \rho} \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) \lambda \hat{\rho} = \frac{Q_T \lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_o \rho} \hat{\rho} - \frac{Q_T \lambda v}{2\pi\epsilon_o c^2} * u \hat{\rho} \quad \text{but: } I \equiv \lambda v \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{c^2} = \epsilon_o \mu_o \\ &= Q_T \left(\frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_o \rho} \hat{\rho} \right) - Q_T \left(u * \frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\rho} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Again: $\vec{u} = u\hat{z}$, $\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi} = -\hat{\rho}$ thus: $\vec{B}(\rho) = \frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi}$

∴ In IRF(S): $\vec{F}_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T \left(\underbrace{\frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_o \rho} \hat{\rho}}_{\equiv \vec{E}(\rho)} \right) + Q_T \vec{u} \times \left(\underbrace{\frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi}}_{\equiv \vec{B}(\rho)} \right)$

$\vec{F}_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho) + Q_T \vec{u} \times \vec{B}(\rho)$ ← Lorentz Force Law in IRF(S) !!!

In IRF(S): $\left\{ \begin{aligned} \vec{E}(\rho) &= \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_o \rho} \hat{\rho} = \frac{(q/\ell)}{2\pi\epsilon_o \rho} \hat{\rho} & \text{where: } \lambda = q/\ell &= \gamma \lambda_o = \gamma (q/\ell_o) \\ \vec{B}(\rho) &= \frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} = \frac{\mu_o \lambda v}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} = \frac{\mu_o (q/\ell) v}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} & \text{where: } I = \lambda v = (q/\ell) v &= \gamma \lambda_o v = \gamma (q/\ell_o) v \end{aligned} \right.$

Thus, an observer at rest in either the lab frame IRF(S) or the rest frame of the test charge IRF(S') will see both a static electric field {different in each IRF} and a static (but velocity-dependent) magnetic field {different in each IRF} due to the {infinitely long} filamentary line charge density $\lambda = q/\ell$ that is moving with velocity $\vec{v} = v\hat{z}$ in IRF(S) = filamentary line current $I = \lambda v$ in IRF(S).

The magnetic field arises simply from the relativistic effect(s) of electric charge in {relative} motion!

For an observer in the rest frame IRF(S₀) of the filamentary line charge density $\lambda = q/\ell$, he/she will see only a static, radial electric field!

Let's summarize these results by inertial reference frame:

| <u>IRF(S)</u> Laboratory Frame | <u>IRF(S')</u> Rest Frame of Test Charge | <u>IRF(S₀)</u> Rest Frame of Line Charge |
|---|---|---|
| | Moving with $\vec{u} = u\hat{z} = u_z\hat{z}$ in lab | Moving with $\vec{v} = v\hat{z} = v_z\hat{z}$ in lab |
| | $v' = \frac{v-u}{1-(uv/c^2)}$ Speed of line charge in IRF(S') | |
| $\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(v/c)^2}}$ | $\gamma' = \gamma\gamma_u \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2}\right)$ $\gamma_u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$ | |
| $\lambda = q/\ell = \gamma\lambda_0 = \gamma(q/\ell_0)$ | $\lambda' = q/\ell' = \gamma'\lambda_0 = \gamma\gamma_u \left[1 - \left(\frac{uv}{c^2}\right)\right] \lambda_0$ | $\lambda_0 = q/\ell_0$ |
| $\ell = \ell_0/\gamma$ | $\ell' = \ell_0/\gamma' = \ell_0/\gamma\gamma_u \left[1 - \left(\frac{uv}{c^2}\right)\right]$ | ℓ_0 |
| $\vec{E}(\rho) = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = \frac{\gamma\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho}$ | $\vec{E}'(\rho) = \frac{\gamma_u\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = \frac{\gamma\gamma_u\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho}$ | $\vec{E}_0(\rho) = \frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho}$ |
| $I \equiv \lambda v = \gamma\lambda_0 v = \gamma I_0$ $I_0 \equiv \lambda_0 v$ | $I' \equiv \gamma_u \lambda v = \gamma_u I = \gamma\gamma_u \lambda_0 v = \gamma\gamma_u I_0$ | No current in IRF(S ₀) |
| $\vec{B}(\rho) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} = \frac{\mu_0 \gamma I_0}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi}$ | $\vec{B}'(\rho) = \frac{\mu_0 I'}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} = \frac{\mu_0 \gamma_u I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} = \frac{\mu_0 \gamma\gamma_u I_0}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi}$ | No B-field in IRF(S ₀) |
| $\vec{F}_{TOT} = Q_T \vec{E} + Q_T \vec{u} \times \vec{B}$ \neq | $\vec{F}'_{TOT} = Q_T \vec{E}' + Q_T \vec{u} \times \vec{B}'$ \neq | $\vec{F}'_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}_0(\rho)$ |

n.b. In the rest frame IRF(S') of the test charge Q_T, the Lorentz force \vec{F}'_{TOT} uses the velocity \vec{u} of the test charge as observed in the lab frame IRF(S).

We see that the observed line charge densities λ and λ' as seen in the lab frame IRF(S) and the test charge rest frame IRF(S'), respectively are larger by factors of γ and γ' respectively compared to the line charge density as observed in the rest frame IRF(S₀) of the line charge density itself. This difference arises due to the effect of the {longitudinal} Lorentz contraction of the moving line charge density λ_0 , as viewed from the lab frame IRF(S) and the rest frame IRF(S') of the test charge, respectively.

Because of this, the electric fields as seen in the lab frame IRF(S) and rest frame of the test charge IRF(S') are larger by factors of γ and $\gamma\gamma_u$, respectively than that observed in the rest frame IRF(S₀) of the line charge density itself, hence the magnitude of the electrostatic forces are larger by these same amounts in their respective IRF's, and are thus {in general} not equal.

An important point here is that in all 3 inertial reference frames, what we call the electric field in each IRF is such that a.) they are all oriented in the same direction {here, the radial direction and b.) they all have the same functional dependence (here, $\sim 1/\rho$), differing only by γ -factors from each other.

In the rest frame IRF(S_0) of the line charge density λ_0 the electromagnetic field seen there is purely electrostatic, oriented in the radial ($\hat{\rho}$) direction, whereas in the lab frame IRF(S) and the rest frame of the test charge IRF(S'), the electromagnetic field observed in each of these two reference frames is a combination of a static, radial electric field and a static, azimuthal magnetic field.

The “appearance” of azimuthal magnetic fields in the lab frame IRF(S) and the rest frame of the test charge IRF(S') is due to the relativistic effects associated with the motion of the line charge density relative to an observer in the lab frame IRF(S) and/or the rest frame of the test charge, IRF(S').

We say that the relative motion of the electric line charge density $\lambda = \gamma\lambda_0$ {as viewed by an observer in the lab frame IRF(S)} constitutes an electric current $I \equiv \lambda v = \gamma\lambda_0 v$ {as viewed by that same observer in the lab frame IRF(S)}.

We then connect / associate the “appearance” of azimuthal magnetic fields \vec{B} and \vec{B}' in the lab frame IRF(S) and the rest frame of the test charge IRF(S'), respectively with the existence of the electric currents I and I' as observed in their respective inertial reference frames.

The \vec{B} -field in each IRF is linearly proportional to {the magnitude of} the electric current $|\vec{I}|$ as observed in that IRF, i.e. $|\vec{B}| \sim |\vec{I}| = |\lambda\vec{v}|$.

Another interesting/important aspect of the magnetic fields \vec{B} that “appear” in IRF(S) and/or IRF(S') is that they are mutually \perp to both \vec{E} and $\vec{I} = \lambda\vec{v}$ in that IRF.

Note that we could instead refer to electric currents I alternatively and equivalently, exclusively and explicitly as to what they are truly are – the {relative} motion(s) of charges $q\vec{v}$, line charge densities $\lambda\vec{v}$, surface charge densities $\sigma\vec{v}$ and/or volume charge densities $\rho\vec{v}$.

Then we also wouldn't have to explicitly use the descriptor “magnetic” field to describe the resulting component of the electromagnetic field that does arise from the relative motion(s) of electric charge(s) as viewed by an observer who is not in the rest frame of these electric charge(s). We could call it something else instead – e.g. “the relativity field”.

We humans call this field “the magnetic field” largely for historical inertia reasons. Magnetic fields were discovered centuries before relativity and space-time were finally understood; thus we simply keep calling this field “the magnetic field”. The magnetic field is truly and simply one component of the overall **electromagnetic field** that is associated with a physical situation, and one which only arises whenever that physical situation is viewed by an observer whose IRF(S) is not coincident with the rest frame IRF(S_0) of the electric charge(s) that are present in that particular physical situation.

The “traditional” way of equivalently saying the above is: “Magnetic fields are only produced when electrical currents are present”.

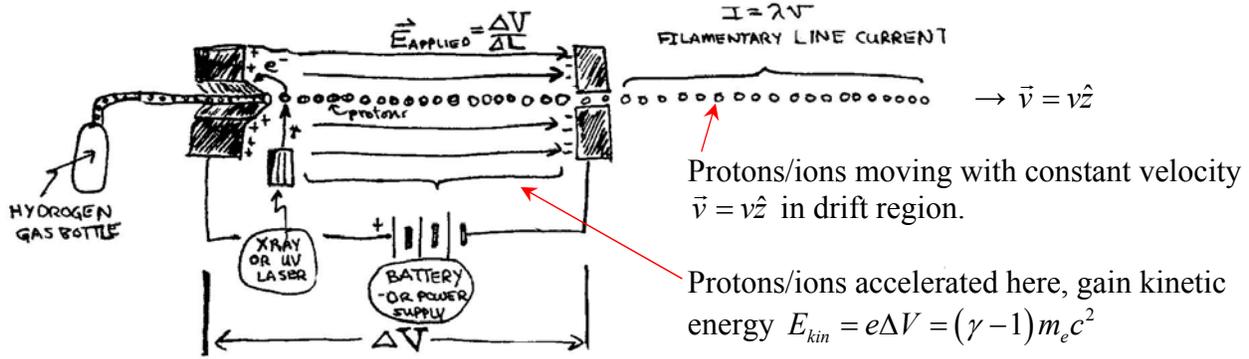
Physical Electric Currents:

It is important to understand that there exist different kinds of *physical* electric currents.

- A “bare” filamentary line charge density $\lambda = q/\ell$ e.g. moving with uniform velocity $\vec{v} = v\hat{z}$ with respect to the lab frame IRF(S), creates a filamentary line current $\vec{I} = \lambda v\hat{z}$ in the lab frame IRF(S). This filamentary line current is not equivalent to a *physical* electrical current flowing e.g. in an “infinitesimally-thin” *physical* wire at rest in the lab frame IRF(S). For an observer in {any} IRF the “bare” filamentary line charge density has a net / overall electric charge. An observer at rest in the lab frame IRF(S) sees both a static, non-zero radial electric field and a static, non-zero azimuthal magnetic field arising from the “bare” filamentary line charge density $\lambda = q/\ell$ and “bare” filamentary line current $\vec{I} = \lambda v\hat{z}$ respectively, whereas an observer at rest in IRF(S_0) of the filamentary line charge density $\lambda_0 = q/\ell_0$ sees no magnetic field – only a static, radial electric field!
- In a physical wire (e.g. a copper wire, made up of copper atoms with “free” conduction electrons), the “free” negatively-charged electrons move / drift through the macroscopic volume of the copper wire e.g. with {mean} drift velocity $\vec{v}_D = -v_D\hat{z}$ and constitute a physical electric current $I_{phys} = \vec{J}_e \cdot \vec{A}_\perp^{wire} = -n_e e\vec{v}_D \cdot \vec{A}_\perp^{wire}$ as viewed by an observer in the lab frame IRF(S). Microscopically, the copper wire is a 3-D “matrix” (or lattice) of bound / fixed copper atoms with a “gas” of “free” conduction electrons drifting through it. In the lab frame IRF(S), the copper atoms are at rest. Note importantly {also} that in the lab IRF(S), the physical current-carrying copper wire has no net electric charge – because there is one “free” conduction electron associated with each copper atom of the copper wire. Thus, an observer at rest in the lab frame IRF(S) sees no net electric field but does see a static, non-zero azimuthal magnetic field arising from the “free” conduction electron volume current density $\vec{J}_e = -n_e e\vec{v}_D$, whereas an observer at rest in IRF(S_0) “free” conduction electron charge density $\rho_e^0 = n_e^0 e$ sees no magnetic field associated with the “free” conduction electrons, but does see {the same!} non-zero azimuthal magnetic field that is associated with volume current density $\vec{J}_{Cu} = +n_{Cu} e\vec{v}_D$ of the 3-D lattice of copper atoms that are moving with {relative} velocity $\vec{v}_D = +v_D\hat{z}$ to an observer at rest in IRF(S_0) !!!
- In semiconducting materials (e.g. silicon, germanium, graphite, diamond, SiC, gallium, ...) electrical conduction occurs either by mobile “drift” electrons and/or “holes” (= the absence of an electron). The number densities of electrons and/or “holes” are both typically \ll number density of semiconductor atoms and depend on details associated with the condensed matter physics of the semiconductor. In general $n_{e^-} \neq n_{hole}$ and both are strong (exponential) functions of {absolute} temperature. The drift velocities of electrons and holes are not in general the same. Thus, in the lab frame IRF(S), an observer will, in general see static electric field contributions arising from both electron and hole charge density distributions as well as magnetic field contributions from both electron and hole current densities. An observer at rest either in IRF(S_0) of the electrons or at rest IRF(S_0^*) of the holes will again see static electric field contributions from both electrons and holes, but a B -field contribution only from holes (electrons), respectively.

- The situation of a “bare” filamentary line charge $\lambda = q/\ell$ moving with {relative} velocity $\vec{v} = v\hat{z}$ in IRF(S), producing a filamentary line current $I = \lambda v$ in IRF(S) can be physically realised e.g. as “beam” of +ve current of protons (+q) {or e.g. +ve ions, or e.g. -ve electrons} flowing in a vacuum (e.g. made via laser photo-ionized hydrogen, argon, or thermionic emission of electrons, respectively):

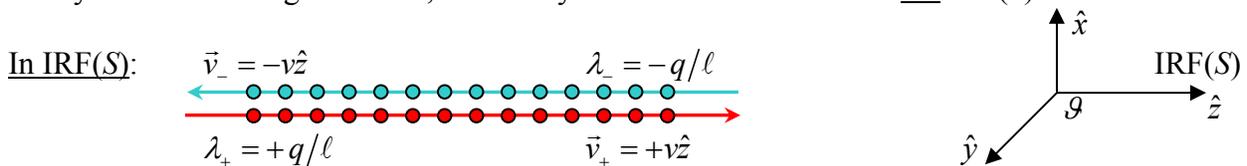
Vacuum Chamber (Lab IRF(S))



Having discussed the EM field(s) and EM force(s) acting on a test charge Q_T associated with a single filamentary line charge / filamentary line current as observed in different IRF’s, we now discuss the problem of two counter-moving, opposite-charged filamentary line charges / filamentary line currents superimposed on top of each other.

Consider two opposite-charged filamentary line charges (both infinitely long) that are initially stationary in the lab frame IRF(S). One initially stationary filamentary line charge has negative charge per unit length $\lambda_{0-} \equiv -q/\ell_0$ and the other initially stationary filamentary line charge has positive charge per unit length $\lambda_{0+} \equiv +q/\ell_0$. The two line charges are then set in motion parallel to / along their axes (in the \hat{z} -direction). The negative line charge moves to the left ($-\hat{z}$ direction) with velocity $\vec{v}_- = -v\hat{z}$ in the lab frame IRF(S), and the positive line charge moves to the right ($+\hat{z}$ direction) with velocity $\vec{v}_+ = +v\hat{z}$ in the lab frame IRF(S) {i.e. it has the same exact speed, but moves in the opposite direction to that of the first line charge}.

The two counter-moving filamentary line charges are superimposed on top of each other / coaxial with each other, but we draw them as slightly displaced (transverse to their motion) for clarity’s sake in the figure below, as seen by an observer at rest in the lab IRF(S):

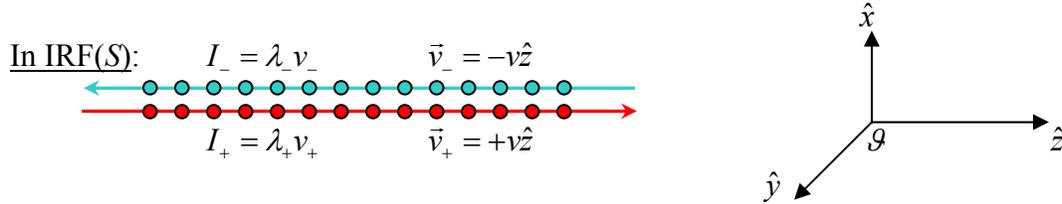


In IRF(S), the moving filamentary line charges have charge per unit length $\lambda_{\pm} = \pm q/\ell$, whereas in the respective rest frame(s) IRF(S_±) of the filamentary line charges, we have $\lambda_{0_{\pm}} = \pm q/\ell_0 \equiv \pm\lambda_0$.

Because of the respective motions of the line charge densities: $\vec{v}_{\pm} = \pm v\hat{z}$

Then: $\lambda_{\pm} = \pm\gamma\lambda_0$ where:
$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(v_{\pm}/c)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(v/c)^2}}$$

In the lab frame IRF(S): A negative current $I_- = \lambda_- v_-$ flowing to the left is superimposed on a positive current $I_+ = \lambda_+ v_+$ flowing to the right, as shown in the figure below:



Using the principle of linear superposition, the net/total current {as observed in the lab frame IRF(S)} is:

$$I_{TOT} = I_+ + I_- = \lambda_+ v_+ + \lambda_- v_- \quad \text{but: } \lambda_- = -\lambda_+ \quad \text{and: } v_- = -v_+$$

$$\therefore I_{TOT} = \lambda_+ v_+ + (-\lambda_+)(-v_+) = \lambda_+ v_+ + \lambda_+ v_+ = 2\lambda_+ v_+ \quad \text{flowing to the right (i.e. in } +\hat{z} \text{ direction)}$$

$$\Rightarrow I_{TOT} = 2\lambda_+ v_+ = 2\lambda v \quad \text{flowing in the } \hat{z} \text{-direction:}$$

with: $\lambda_+ \equiv +\lambda = +q/\ell$, $\vec{v}_+ = +v\hat{z}$

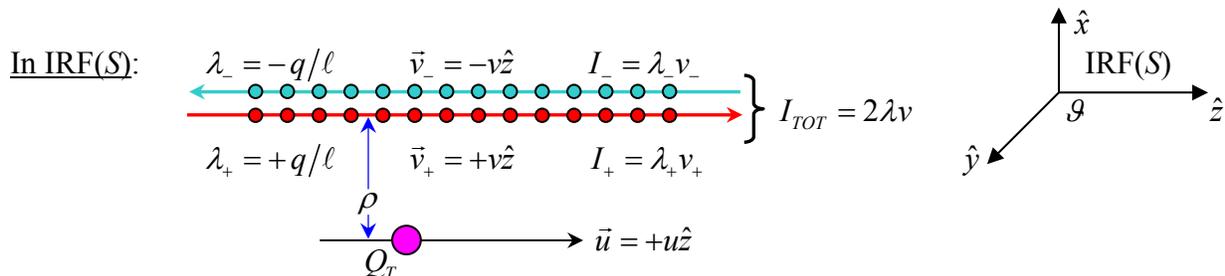
and: $\lambda_- \equiv -\lambda = -q/\ell$, $\vec{v}_- = -v\hat{z}$

Note that because we have superimposed these two counter-moving, filamentary oppositely-charged line-charges / counter-moving, filamentary line currents, the net electric charge Q_{TOT} {as observed in the lab frame IRF(S)} is zero because:

$$\lambda_{TOT} = \lambda_+ + \lambda_- = +\lambda - \lambda = 0 \quad \text{in the lab frame IRF(S).}$$

If $Q_{TOT} = 0$ in IRF(S), then we also know that the net electric field $\vec{E}_{TOT}(\vec{r}) = 0$ in the lab frame IRF(S) due to these two counter-moving, superimposed oppositely-charged filamentary line charges/line currents in IRF(S).

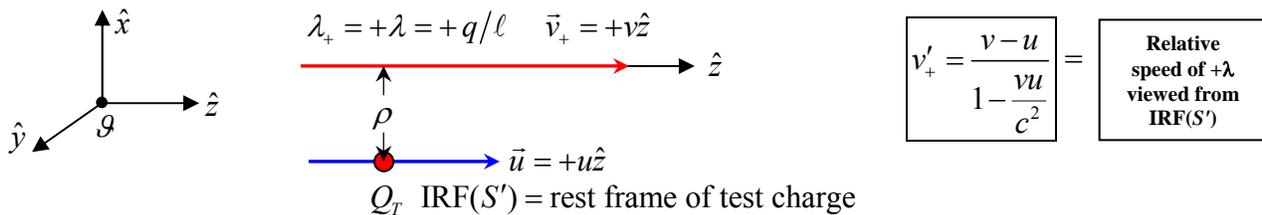
Now additionally suppose that we also have a test charge Q_T moving with velocity $\vec{u} = u\hat{z}$ (i.e. to the right) in IRF(S). As before, \vec{u} is not necessarily $= \vec{v} = v\hat{z}$, the velocity of right moving line charge. The test charge Q_T is a \perp distance ρ from the superimposed opposite-charged, opposite-moving filamentary line charges λ_+ and λ_- :



Let's examine the situation as viewed by an observer in IRF(S') – i.e. the rest frame of the test charge Q_T . There are four distinct cases to consider for the 1-D Einstein velocity addition rule:

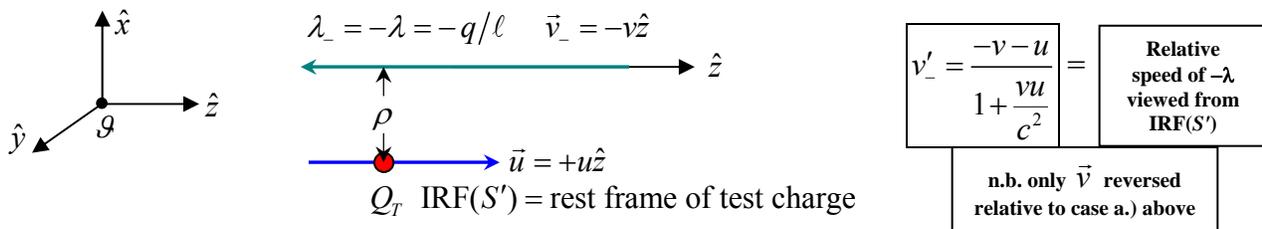
a.) In the lab frame IRF(S), the test charge Q_T is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z}$, the +ve filamentary line charge density $\lambda_+ = +\lambda$ is moving with velocity $\vec{v}_+ = +v\hat{z}$.

Lab Frame IRF(S):



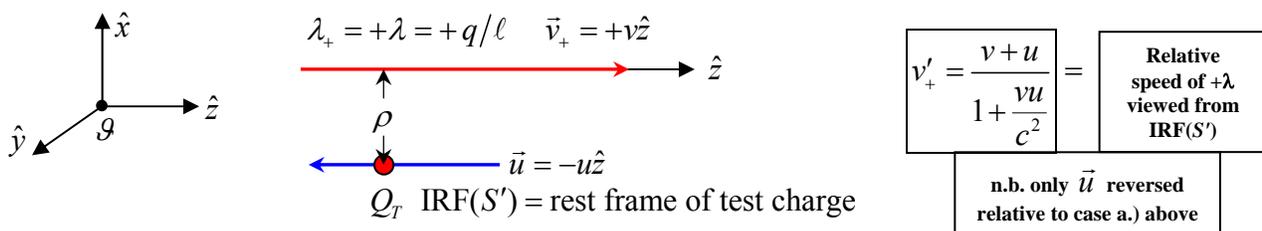
b.) In the lab frame IRF(S), the test charge Q_T is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z}$, the -ve filamentary line charge density $\lambda_- = -\lambda$ is moving with velocity $\vec{v}_- = -v\hat{z}$.

Lab Frame IRF(S):



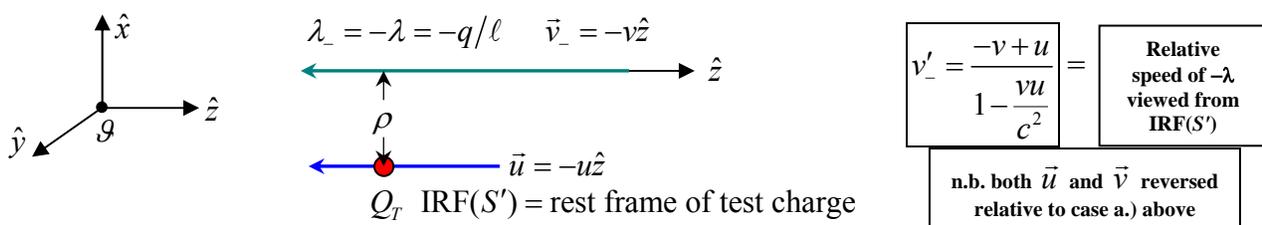
c.) In the lab frame IRF(S), the test charge Q_T is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = -u\hat{z}$, the +ve filamentary line charge density $\lambda_+ = +\lambda$ is moving with velocity $\vec{v}_+ = +v\hat{z}$.

Lab Frame IRF(S):



d.) In the lab frame IRF(S), the test charge Q_T is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = -u\hat{z}$, the -ve filamentary line charge density $\lambda_- = -\lambda$ is moving with velocity $\vec{v}_- = -v\hat{z}$.

Lab Frame IRF(S):



The above four relative 1-D speed formulae can be more compactly written as two specific cases:

i.) For $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z}$:
$$v'_{\pm} = \frac{\pm v - u}{1 \mp \frac{vu}{c^2}}$$

ii.) For $\vec{u} = -u\hat{z}$:
$$v'_{\pm} = \frac{\pm v + u}{1 \pm \frac{vu}{c^2}}$$

n.b. Equation 12.76, p. 523 in Griffith's book is correct, however the proper use of his equation explicitly requires placing a - (minus) sign in front of the formula for the v'_- case. Note that (obviously) u must also be explicitly signed in his formula for the $\vec{u} = -u\hat{z}$ case. Then his formula agrees with the 4 that are explicitly given here.

$$v'_{\pm} = \frac{v \mp u}{1 \mp \frac{vu}{c^2}}$$

1-D general:

$$\vec{v}' = \frac{\vec{v} - \vec{u}}{1 - \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}}{c^2}}$$

Thus, for an observer in IRF(S') (= rest frame of Q_T) moving to the right with velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z}$ in IRF(S) we see that $v'_- > v'_+$.

Because $v'_- > v'_+$ for an observer in IRF(S'), the Lorentz contraction of the $-ve$ filamentary line charge density $\lambda_- = -q/\ell$ will be more "severe" than that associated with the $+ve$ filamentary line charge density $\lambda_+ = +q/\ell$.

In IRF(S'): $\lambda'_{\pm} = \pm \gamma'_{\pm} \lambda_0$ where:
$$\gamma'_{\pm} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (v'_{\pm}/c)^2}}$$

And: $\pm \lambda_0 = q/\ell_0$ = filamentary line charge densities in their own rest frames.

But:
$$v'_{\pm} = \frac{\pm v - u}{1 \mp \frac{vu}{c^2}}$$
 for:
$$\begin{cases} \vec{v} = +v\hat{z} \\ \vec{u} = +u\hat{z} \end{cases}$$
 in IRF(S)

Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma'_{\pm} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v'_{\pm}}{c}\right)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{c^2} \left(\frac{\pm v - u}{1 \mp \frac{vu}{c^2}}\right)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{c^2 (\pm v - u)^2}{(c^2 \mp vu)^2}}} = \frac{(c^2 \mp vu)}{\sqrt{(c^2 \mp vu)^2 - c^2 (\pm v - u)^2}} \\ &= \frac{(c^2 \mp vu)}{\sqrt{c^4 \mp 2vuc^2 + (vu)^2 - c^2 v^2 \pm 2vuc^2 - c^2 u^2}} = \frac{(c^2 \mp vu)}{\sqrt{c^4 - c^2 v^2 - c^2 u^2 + (vu)^2}} \\ &= \frac{(c^2 \mp vu)}{\sqrt{(c^2 - v^2)(c^2 - u^2)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2}} \cdot \frac{\left(1 \mp \frac{vu}{c^2}\right)}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{u}{c}\right)^2}} = \gamma \gamma_u \left(1 \mp \frac{uv}{c^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

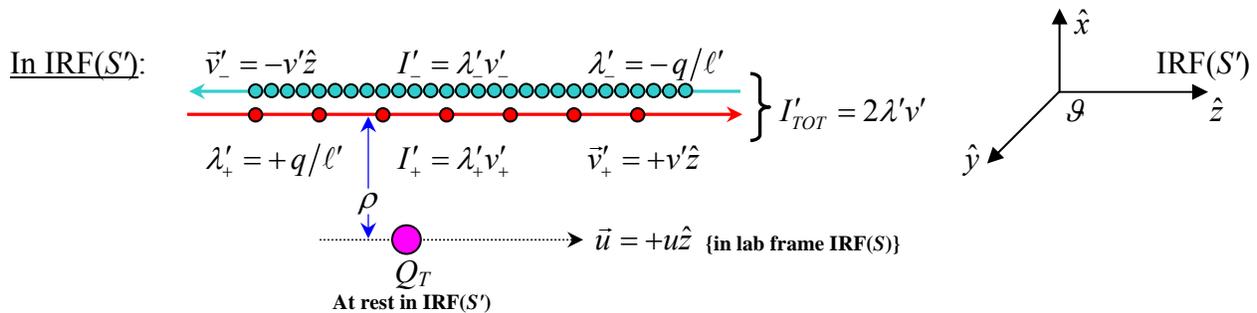
Or:
$$\gamma'_{\pm} = \gamma \gamma_u \left(1 \mp \frac{uv}{c^2}\right)$$
 where:
$$\gamma \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2}}$$
 and:
$$\gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{u}{c}\right)^2}}$$

Then in IRF(S'):
$$\lambda'_{\pm} = \pm \gamma'_{\pm} \lambda_0 = \pm \gamma \gamma_u \lambda_0 \left(1 \mp \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) = \pm \gamma_u (\gamma \lambda_0) \left(1 \mp \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) = \pm \gamma_u \lambda \left(1 \mp \frac{uv}{c^2} \right)$$

where:
$$\gamma_u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}} \quad \text{and:} \quad \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}}$$

But: $\boxed{\pm \lambda = \pm \gamma \lambda_0}$ = charge per unit length in the lab frame, IRF(S).

\therefore In IRF(S'):
$$\lambda'_+ = +\gamma_u \lambda \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) = \lambda \frac{\left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2} \right)}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{u}{c} \right)^2}} \quad \text{and:} \quad \lambda'_- = -\gamma_u \lambda \left(1 + \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) = -\lambda \frac{\left(1 + \frac{uv}{c^2} \right)}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{u}{c} \right)^2}}$$



\therefore In the rest frame IRF(S') of the test charge Q_T , the total/net line charge density is: $\boxed{\lambda'_{TOT} = \lambda'_+ + \lambda'_-}$.

In IRF(S'):
$$\lambda'_{TOT} = \lambda'_+ + \lambda'_- = \gamma_u \lambda \left(1 - \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) - \gamma_u \lambda \left(1 + \frac{uv}{c^2} \right) = \cancel{\gamma_u \lambda} - \gamma_u \lambda \left(\frac{uv}{c^2} \right) - \cancel{\gamma_u \lambda} - \gamma_u \lambda \left(\frac{uv}{c^2} \right)$$

$$\lambda'_{TOT} = -2\gamma_u \lambda \left(\frac{uv}{c^2} \right) = -2\lambda \frac{(uv/c^2)}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}} \neq 0!!!$$

\Rightarrow In IRF(S') $\{=$ rest frame of the test charge Q_T (which moves with velocity $\vec{u} = u\hat{z}$ in IRF(S)) $\}$

\exists a net -ve line charge density $\lambda'_{TOT} = -2\lambda \frac{(uv/c^2)}{\sqrt{1 - (u/c)^2}} !!!$

Whereas in the lab frame IRF(S), \exists no net line charge, i.e. $\boxed{\lambda_{TOT} = 0}$ in IRF(S) !!!

\Rightarrow The non-zero λ'_{TOT} observed in IRF(S') (= rest frame of Q_T) is due to / arises from the unequal Lorentz contraction of the +ve vs. -ve filamentary line charge densities, as observed in IRF(S') (= rest frame of Q_T).

\Rightarrow A current-carrying “wire” that is electrically neutral ($\lambda_{TOT} = 0$) in one IRF(S) will NOT be so in another IRF(S') !!! It will have a net electrical charge in IRF(S') \neq IRF(S) !!!

Thus in IRF(S'), where there exists a net $-ve$ line charge density of:

$$\lambda'_{TOT} = -2\lambda \frac{(uv/c^2)}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$$

a corresponding (radial-inward) electric field exists:

$$\vec{E}'(\rho) = \frac{\lambda'_{TOT}}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = -\frac{\lambda}{\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \frac{(uv/c^2)}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho}$$

Thus an observer in the rest frame IRF(S') of the test charge Q_T “sees” a radial-inward (i.e. attractive) electrostatic force acting on the test charge Q_T (for $Q_T > 0$) of:

$$\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho) = Q_T \frac{\lambda'_{TOT}}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho}$$

**n.b. Lorentz-invariant !!!
Valid in any/all IRF's**

But:

$$\vec{E}'(\rho) = \frac{\lambda'_{TOT}}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = -\frac{2\lambda(uv/c^2)}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho} = -\frac{\lambda(uv/c^2)}{\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho}$$

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

$\therefore \vec{E}'(\rho) = -\frac{\cancel{\lambda} \cancel{\epsilon_0} \mu_0 uv}{\pi \cancel{\epsilon_0} \rho} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho} = -\frac{\mu_0 \lambda v}{\pi \rho} \frac{u}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho}$ But: $I = 2\lambda v$ in lab IRF(S).

\therefore In IRF(S') (= rest frame of Q_T): $\vec{E}'(\rho) = -\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \frac{u}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho}$ \leftarrow n.b. points radially inward!

Therefore equivalently, the force $\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho)$ acting on Q_T in its own rest frame IRF(S') is:

$$\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho) = -\frac{\mu_0 Q_T I}{2\pi\rho} \frac{u}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho}$$

n.b. Q_T is attracted towards wire if $Q_T > 0$.

**Parallel currents attract each other !!!
{The test charge Q_T is the 2nd current !!!}**

This force is none other than the magnetic Lorentz force acting on Q_T :

In IRF(S') (= rest frame of Q_T): $\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T (\vec{u} \times \vec{B}'(\rho))$ Where $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z}$ = velocity of test charge Q_T in IRF(S)

$$\vec{E}'(\rho) = \vec{u} \times \vec{B}'(\rho)$$

$\{\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi} = -\hat{\rho}\}$

$$\vec{B}'(\rho) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\phi} = \gamma_u \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi}$$

where: $\gamma_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$

If \exists a force \vec{F}' in IRF(S') (where Q_T is at rest), then there must also be a force \vec{F} in the lab frame IRF(S) {the laws of physics are the same in all inertial reference frames...}.

We can Lorentz transform the force in IRF(S') to obtain the force \vec{F} in the lab frame IRF(S), where we already know that $\lambda_{TOT} = 0$ in the lab frame IRF(S).

Again, since Q_T is at rest in IRF(S') and $\vec{F}'(\rho) \sim \hat{\rho}$ {i.e. $\perp \vec{u} = u\hat{z}$ in IRF(S)}

Then in IRF(S): $F_{\perp} = \frac{1}{\gamma'_u} F'_{\perp}$ and: $F_{\parallel} = F'_{\parallel}$ (= 0 here) ⊥ and ∥ refer to ⊥ and ∥ to \vec{u} - the Lorentz boost direction

where: $\gamma'_u \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$ = Lorentz factor to transform from IRF(S') (Q_T at rest) to lab frame IRF(S). IRF(S) moves with velocity $-\vec{u}$ with respect to IRF(S').

Then in IRF(S): $F_{\perp} = \frac{1}{\gamma'_u} F'_{\perp} = \sqrt{1-(u/c)^2} F'_{\perp}$ and: $F_{\parallel} = F'_{\parallel}$ (= 0 here)

∴ In the lab frame IRF(S):

$$\vec{F}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho) = \sqrt{1-(u/c)^2} * \left[-\frac{\mu_o Q_T I}{2\pi\rho} \frac{u}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}} \hat{\rho} \right]$$

$$= -\frac{\mu_o Q_T I}{2\pi\rho} u \hat{\rho} = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho)$$

Radial E-field in lab frame IRF(S)

In the lab frame IRF(S): The test charge Q_T is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z}$ in IRF(S)

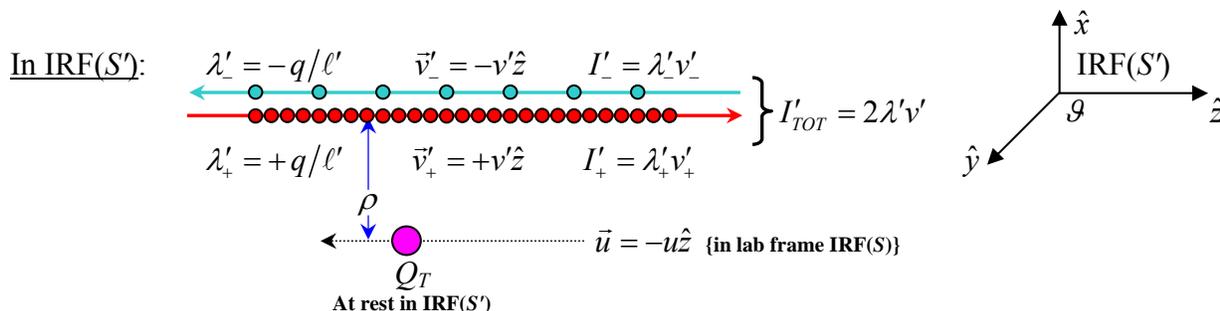
An observer in lab frame IRF(S) “sees” a force $\vec{F}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho)$ acting on moving test charge Q_T . The “effective” electric field in lab frame IRF(S) is:

$$\vec{E}(\rho) = -\frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} u \hat{\rho} = \vec{u} \times \left[\frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} \right] = \vec{u} \times \vec{B}(\rho) \quad \text{where: } \vec{B}(\rho) = \frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi}$$

From the perspective of a stationary observer in the lab frame IRF(S), where the net linear charge density $\lambda_{TOT} = 0$, no true electrostatic field exists. However, a “magnetic”, velocity-dependent attractive force $\vec{F}(\rho)$ does indeed exist, acting radially inward for a +ve test charge Q_T , when it is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z}$ in IRF(S).

∴ In the lab frame IRF(S): $\vec{F}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho) = -Q_T * u \left[\frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} \right] \hat{\rho} = Q_T \vec{u} \times \vec{B}(\rho)$ where: $I = 2\lambda v$

Suppose the test charge Q_T was instead moving with velocity $[\vec{u} = -u\hat{z}]$ in IRF(S). What would the resulting force $\vec{F}(\rho)$ be in the lab frame IRF(S)? One can explicitly go through all of the above for this case; one will discover that one {simply} needs to change $[u \rightarrow -u]$ in all of the above formulae...



An observer in the rest frame IRF(S') of the test charge Q_T “sees” a net +ve line charge

density $\lambda'_{TOT} = +2\gamma_u \lambda \left(\frac{uv}{c^2} \right) = +2\lambda \frac{(uv/c^2)}{\sqrt{1-(u/c)^2}}$ when the test charge Q_T is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = -u\hat{z}$ in the lab frame IRF(S).

A corresponding (radial-outward) electric field thus exists in IRF(S'): $\vec{E}'(\rho) = \frac{\lambda'_{TOT}}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho}$.

The observer in IRF(S') also “sees” a radial-outward electrostatic force acting on the test charge

Q_T of: $\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho) = Q_T \frac{\lambda'_{TOT}}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho}$

Transforming these results to the lab frame IRF(S) in the same manner as we have already done once {see above}, an observer in lab frame IRF(S) “sees” a net force $\vec{F}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho)$ acting on the moving test charge Q_T . The “effective” electric field in the lab frame IRF(S) is:

$$\vec{E}(\rho) = +\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} u \hat{\rho} = \vec{u} \times \left[\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} \right] = \vec{u} \times \vec{B}(\rho) \quad \text{where:} \quad \vec{B}(\rho) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi}$$

which corresponds to a lab-frame force acting on the test charge Q_T of:

$$\vec{F}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{u} \times \vec{B}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{u} \times \left[\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} \right] \quad \text{where:} \quad I = 2\lambda v$$

There are two limiting cases that are of special / particular interest to us:

a.) When the lab velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z}$ of the test charge Q_T is equal to the lab velocity $\vec{v}_+ = +v\hat{z}$ of the +ve filamentary line charge density, i.e. $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z} = \vec{v}_+ = +v\hat{z}$, then the rest frame IRF(S') of the test charge Q_T coincides with the rest frame IRF(S_+) of the +ve filamentary line charge density $\lambda_{0_+} = +q/\ell_0$. Note that this corresponds to the true lab frame {i.e. the rest frame of copper atoms} of a physical copper wire carrying a steady {conventional} current I !!!

b.) When the lab velocity $\vec{u} = -u\hat{z}$ of the test charge Q_T is equal to the lab velocity $\vec{v}_- = -v\hat{z}$ of the -ve filamentary line charge density, i.e. $\vec{u} = -u\hat{z} = \vec{v}_- = -v\hat{z}$, then the rest frame IRF(S') of the test charge Q_T coincides with the rest frame IRF(S_-) of the -ve filamentary line charge density $\lambda_{0_-} = -q/\ell_0$. Note that this corresponds to the rest frame of the electrons flowing in a physical copper wire carrying a steady {conventional} current I !!!

For situation a.), when the test charge Q_T 's lab velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z} = \vec{v}_+ = +v\hat{z}$ lab velocity of the $+ve$ filamentary line charge density in IRF(S), then an observer in IRF(S') = IRF(S_+) will "see" a linear superposition of two electrostatic fields: a pure, radial-outward electrostatic field $\vec{E}'_0(\rho)$ associated with the stationary/non-moving $+ve$ filamentary line charge density $\lambda_{0_+} = +\lambda_0 = +q/\ell_0$ and a {lab velocity-dependent} radial-inward electric field $\vec{E}'_v(\rho)$ {i.e. an azimuthal magnetic field} associated with the $v'_- = -2v/(1+\beta^2)$ left-moving $-ve$ filamentary line charge density of $\lambda'_- = \gamma'_-\lambda_- = -\gamma(1+\beta^2)\lambda = -\gamma^2(1+\beta^2)\lambda_0$, which in turn corresponds to a filamentary line current of $I'_- = \lambda'_-v'_- = +\left[\gamma(1+\beta^2)\lambda\right]\left[2v/(1+\beta^2)\right] = +2\gamma\lambda v = +2\gamma^2\lambda_0 v$

Thus in IRF(S') = IRF(S_+) with $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z} = \vec{v}_+ = +v\hat{z}$:

$$\vec{E}'_0(\rho) = +\frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} \quad \text{and:} \quad \vec{E}'_v(\rho) = \frac{\lambda'_-}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} = -\frac{\gamma(1+\beta^2)\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} = -\frac{\gamma^2(1+\beta^2)\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho}$$

The net/total electrostatic field observed in IRF(S') = IRF(S_+) is then:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E}'_{TOT}(\rho) &= \vec{E}'_0(\rho) + \vec{E}'_v(\rho) = +\frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} - \frac{\gamma^2(1+\beta^2)\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} = \frac{\lambda_0[1-\gamma^2(1+\beta^2)]}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} \\ &= \frac{(1-\gamma^2)\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} - \frac{\gamma^2\beta^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} = -\frac{\gamma^2\beta^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} - \frac{\gamma^2\beta^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} = -\frac{2\gamma^2\beta^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} \end{aligned}$$

Notice the (amazing!) *partial* cancellation of the pure radial-outward electric field $\vec{E}'_0(\rho)$ (due to the static $+ve$ filamentary line charge density) with a portion of the velocity-dependent radial inward electric field $\vec{E}'_v(\rho)$ (due to the $-ve$ left-moving filamentary line current density) that is associated with the numerator of this equation:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \gamma^2(1 + \beta^2) &= 1 - (\gamma^2 + \gamma^2\beta^2) = (1 - \gamma^2) - \gamma^2\beta^2 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{1 - \beta^2}\right) - \gamma^2\beta^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{1 - \beta^2 + 1}{1 - \beta^2}\right) - \gamma^2\beta^2 = -\frac{\beta^2}{1 - \beta^2} - \gamma^2\beta^2 = -\gamma^2\beta^2 - \gamma^2\beta^2 = -2\gamma^2\beta^2 \end{aligned}$$

The net electric field is thus: $\vec{E}'(\rho) = \frac{\lambda'_{TOT}}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} = -\frac{2\gamma\beta^2\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} = -\frac{\gamma\beta^2\lambda}{\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} = -\frac{\gamma v^2\lambda}{\pi\epsilon_0 c^2\rho}\hat{\rho}$

Thus an observer in the rest frame IRF(S') = IRF(S_+) of the test charge Q_T / rest frame of the $+ve$ filamentary line charge density "sees" a radial-inward/attractive electrostatic force (for $Q_T > 0$) acting on the test charge Q_T of:

$$\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho) = Q_T \frac{\lambda'_{TOT}}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} = -Q_T \frac{\gamma\beta^2\lambda}{\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} = -Q_T \frac{\gamma v^2\lambda}{\pi\epsilon_0 c^2\rho}\hat{\rho} \quad \text{But:} \quad \frac{1}{c^2} = \epsilon_0\mu_0$$

\therefore In IRF(S') = IRF(S_+): $\vec{E}'(\rho) = -\frac{\mu_0 \gamma \lambda v^2}{\pi \rho} \hat{\rho}$ But: $I = 2\lambda v$ in the lab IRF(S).

\therefore In IRF(S') = IRF(S_+): $\vec{E}'(\rho) = -\frac{\mu_0 \gamma I}{2\pi \rho} v \hat{\rho}$ \leftarrow n.b. points radially inward!

Therefore equivalently, the force $\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho)$ acting on Q_T in its own rest frame IRF(S') is:

$\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho) = -\frac{\mu_0 Q_T \gamma I}{2\pi \rho} v \hat{\rho}$ \leftarrow n.b. Q_T is attracted towards wire if $Q_T > 0$. Parallel currents attract each other !!!
{The test charge Q_T is the 2nd current !!!}

Again, this force is none other than the magnetic Lorentz force acting on Q_T :

In IRF(S') = IRF(S_+): $\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T (\vec{v} \times \vec{B}'(\rho))$ Where $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z} = \vec{v} = +v\hat{z}$ = velocity of test charge Q_T and +ve filamentary line charge density in IRF(S)

$\vec{E}'(\rho) = \vec{v} \times \vec{B}'(\rho)$ $\{\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi} = -\hat{\rho}\}$ $\vec{B}'(\rho) = \frac{\mu_0 \gamma I}{2\pi \rho} \hat{\phi} = \gamma \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi \rho} \hat{\phi}$ where: $\gamma \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(v/c)^2}}$

If \exists a force \vec{F}' in IRF(S') = IRF(S_+) (where Q_T and +ve filamentary line charge density are at rest), then there must also be a force \vec{F} in the lab frame IRF(S) {the laws of physics are the same in all inertial reference frames...}.

We again Lorentz transform the force \vec{F}' in IRF(S') = IRF(S_+) to obtain the force \vec{F} in the lab frame IRF(S), where we already know that $\lambda_{TOT} = 0$ in the lab frame IRF(S). Again, since Q_T is at rest in IRF(S') and $\vec{F}'(\rho) \sim \hat{\rho}$ {i.e. $\perp \vec{u} = u\hat{z}$ in IRF(S)}

Then in IRF(S): $F_{\perp} = \frac{1}{\gamma'} F'_{\perp}$ and: $F_{\parallel} = F'_{\parallel}$ (= 0 here) \perp and \parallel refer to \perp and \parallel to \vec{u} - the Lorentz boost direction
 where: $\gamma' \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(v/c)^2}} = \gamma =$ Lorentz factor to transform from IRF(S') (Q_T at rest) to lab frame IRF(S). IRF(S) moves with velocity $-\vec{u}$ with respect to IRF(S').

Then in IRF(S): $F_{\perp} = \frac{1}{\gamma} F'_{\perp} = \sqrt{1-(v/c)^2} F'_{\perp}$ and: $F_{\parallel} = F'_{\parallel}$ (= 0 here)

\therefore In the lab frame IRF(S): $\vec{F}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho) = -\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi \rho} v \hat{\rho}$ Radial E-field in lab frame IRF(S)

In the lab frame IRF(S): The test charge Q_T is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z} = \vec{v} = +v\hat{z}$ in IRF(S)

An observer in lab frame IRF(S) “sees” a force $\vec{F}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho)$ acting on moving test charge Q_T .

The “effective” electric field seen by a test charge Q_T moving with velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z} = \vec{v} = +v\hat{z}$ in the lab frame IRF(S) is:

$$\vec{E}(\rho) = -\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} v \hat{\rho} = \vec{v} \times \left[\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} \right] = \vec{v} \times \vec{B}(\rho) \quad \text{where:} \quad \vec{B}(\rho) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} \quad \text{and:} \quad I = 2\lambda v.$$

From the perspective of a stationary observer in the lab frame IRF(S), where the net linear charge density $\lambda_{TOT} = 0$, no true electrostatic field exists. However, a “magnetic”, velocity-dependent attractive force $\vec{F}(\rho)$ does indeed exist, acting radially inward for a +ve test charge Q_T , when it is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = +u\hat{z} = \vec{v} = +v\hat{z}$ in IRF(S).

$$\therefore \text{In the lab frame IRF(S): } \vec{F}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho) = -Q_T * v \left[\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \right] \hat{\rho} = Q_T \vec{v} \times \vec{B}(\rho) \quad \text{where: } I = 2\lambda v$$

For situation b.), when the test charge Q_T lab velocity $\vec{u} = -u\hat{z} = \vec{v}_- = -v\hat{z}$ lab velocity of the -ve filamentary line charge density in IRF(S), then an observer in IRF(S') = IRF(S₋) will “see” a linear superposition of two electrostatic fields: a pure, radial-inward electrostatic field $\vec{E}'_0(\rho)$ associated with the stationary/non-moving -ve filamentary line charge density $\lambda_0 = -\lambda_0 = -q/\ell_0$ and a {lab velocity-dependent} radial-outward electric field $\vec{E}'_v(\rho)$ {i.e. an azimuthal magnetic field} associated with the $v'_+ = +2v/(1+\beta^2)$ right-moving +ve filamentary line charge density of $\lambda'_+ = \gamma' \lambda_+ = +\gamma(1+\beta^2)\lambda = +\gamma^2(1+\beta^2)\lambda_0$, which in turn corresponds to a filamentary line current of $I'_+ = \lambda'_+ v'_+ = + \left[\gamma(1+\beta^2)\lambda \right] \left[2v/(1+\beta^2) \right] = +2\gamma\lambda v = +2\gamma^2\lambda_0 v$

Thus in IRF(S') = IRF(S₋) with $\vec{u} = -u\hat{z} = \vec{v}_- = -v\hat{z}$:

$$\vec{E}'_0(\rho) = -\frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} \quad \text{and:} \quad \vec{E}'_v(\rho) = \frac{\lambda'_+}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = +\frac{\gamma(1+\beta^2)\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = +\frac{\gamma^2(1+\beta^2)\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho}$$

The net/total electrostatic field observed in IRF(S') = IRF(S₋) is then:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E}'_{TOT}(\rho) &= \vec{E}'_0(\rho) + \vec{E}'_v(\rho) = -\frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} + \frac{\gamma^2(1+\beta^2)\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = -\frac{\lambda_0 \left[1 - \gamma^2(1+\beta^2) \right]}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} \\ &= -\frac{(1-\gamma^2)\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} + \frac{\gamma^2\beta^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = +\frac{\gamma^2\beta^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} + \frac{\gamma^2\beta^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = +\frac{2\gamma^2\beta^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} \end{aligned}$$

Notice again the (amazing!) partial cancellation of the pure radial-outward electric field $\vec{E}'_0(\rho)$ (due to the static -ve filamentary line charge density) with a portion of the velocity-dependent radial inward electric field $\vec{E}'_v(\rho)$ (due to the +ve right-moving filamentary line current density) that is associated with the numerator of this equation:

$$\begin{aligned} -1 + \gamma^2(1 + \beta^2) &= -1 + (\gamma^2 + \gamma^2\beta^2) = -(1 - \gamma^2) + \gamma^2\beta^2 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{1 - \beta^2}\right) + \gamma^2\beta^2 \\ &= -\left(\frac{1 - \beta^2 + 1}{1 - \beta^2}\right) + \gamma^2\beta^2 = +\frac{\beta^2}{1 - \beta^2} + \gamma^2\beta^2 = +\gamma^2\beta^2 + \gamma^2\beta^2 = +2\gamma^2\beta^2 \end{aligned}$$

The net electric field is thus:
$$\vec{E}'(\rho) = \frac{\lambda'_{TOT}}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = +\frac{2\gamma\beta^2\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = +\frac{\gamma\beta^2\lambda}{\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = +\frac{\gamma v^2\lambda}{\pi\epsilon_0 c^2\rho} \hat{\rho}$$

Thus an observer in the rest frame IRF(S') = IRF(S₋) of the test charge Q_T / rest frame of the -ve filamentary line charge density “sees” a radial-outward/repulsive electrostatic force (for Q_T > 0) acting on the test charge Q_T of:

$$\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho) = Q_T \frac{\lambda'_{TOT}}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = +Q_T \frac{\gamma\beta^2\lambda}{\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = +Q_T \frac{\gamma v^2\lambda}{\pi\epsilon_0 c^2\rho} \hat{\rho} \quad \text{But: } \frac{1}{c^2} = \epsilon_0\mu_0$$

∴ In IRF(S') = IRF(S₋):
$$\vec{E}'(\rho) = +\frac{\mu_0\gamma\lambda v^2}{\pi\rho} \hat{\rho} \quad \text{But: } I = 2\lambda v \text{ in the lab IRF(S).}$$

∴ In IRF(S') = IRF(S₋):
$$\vec{E}'(\rho) = +\frac{\mu_0\gamma I}{2\pi\rho} v \hat{\rho} \quad \leftarrow \text{n.b. points radially outward!}$$

Therefore equivalently, the force
$$\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho)$$
 acting on Q_T in its own rest frame IRF(S') is:

$$\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}'(\rho) = +\frac{\mu_0 Q_T \gamma I}{2\pi\rho} v \hat{\rho} \quad \leftarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{n.b. } Q_T \text{ is repelled from} \\ \text{wire if } Q_T > 0. \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Opposite currents} \\ \text{repell each other !!!} \\ \text{\{The test charge } Q_T \text{ is} \\ \text{the 2}^{nd} \text{ current !!!\}} \end{array}$$

Again, this force is none other than the magnetic Lorentz force acting on Q_T:

In IRF(S') = IRF(S₋):
$$\vec{F}'(\rho) = Q_T (\vec{v} \times \vec{B}'(\rho))$$
 Where
$$\vec{u} = -u\hat{z} = \vec{v} = -v\hat{z} = \text{velocity of test charge } Q_T \text{ and } -ve \text{ filamentary line charge density in IRF(S)}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \vec{E}'(\rho) = \vec{v} \times \vec{B}'(\rho) \\ \{\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi} = -\hat{\rho}\} \end{array} \quad \vec{B}'(\rho) = \frac{\mu_0\gamma I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} = \gamma \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} \quad \text{where: } \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (v/c)^2}}$$

If ∃ a force \vec{F}' in IRF(S') = IRF(S₋) (where Q_T and +ve filamentary line charge density are at rest), then there must also be a force \vec{F} in the lab frame IRF(S) {the laws of physics are the same in all inertial reference frames...}.

We again Lorentz transform the force \vec{F}' in IRF(S') = IRF(S₋) to obtain the force \vec{F} in the lab frame IRF(S), where we already know that λ_{TOT} = 0 in the lab frame IRF(S). Again, since Q_T is at rest in IRF(S') and $\vec{F}'(\rho) \sim \hat{\rho}$ {i.e. $\perp \vec{u} = u\hat{z}$ in IRF(S)}

Then in IRF(S): $F_{\perp} = \frac{1}{\gamma'} F'_{\perp}$ and: $F_{\parallel} = F'_{\parallel}$ (= 0 here) ⊥ and ∥ refer to ⊥ and ∥ to \vec{u} - the Lorentz boost direction

where: $\gamma' \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(v/c)^2}} = \gamma =$ Lorentz factor to transform from IRF(S') (Q_T at rest) to lab frame IRF(S). IRF(S) moves with velocity $-\vec{u}$ with respect to IRF(S').

Then in IRF(S): $F_{\perp} = \frac{1}{\gamma} F'_{\perp} = \sqrt{1-(v/c)^2} F'_{\perp}$ and: $F_{\parallel} = F'_{\parallel}$ (= 0 here)

∴ In the lab frame IRF(S): $\vec{F}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho) = + \frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} v \hat{\rho}$ Radial E-field in lab frame IRF(S)

In the lab frame IRF(S): The test charge Q_T is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = -u\hat{z} = \vec{v} = -v\hat{z}$ in IRF(S)

An observer in lab frame IRF(S) “sees” a force $\vec{F}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho)$ acting on moving test charge Q_T . The “effective” electric field in lab frame IRF(S) is:

$$\vec{E}(\rho) = + \frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} v \hat{\rho} = \vec{v} \times \left[\frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} \right] = \vec{v} \times \vec{B}(\rho) \quad \text{where:} \quad \vec{B}(\rho) = \frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} \quad \text{and:} \quad I = 2\lambda v.$$

From the perspective of a stationary observer in the lab frame IRF(S), where the net linear charge density $\lambda_{TOT} = 0$, no net electrostatic field exists. However, a “magnetic”, velocity-dependent repulsive force $\vec{F}(\rho)$ does indeed exist, acting radially outward for a +ve test charge Q_T , when it is moving with velocity $\vec{u} = -u\hat{z} = \vec{v} = -v\hat{z}$ in IRF(S).

∴ In the lab frame IRF(S): $\vec{F}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}(\rho) = +Q_T * v \left[\frac{\mu_o I}{2\pi\rho} \right] \hat{\rho} = Q_T \vec{v} \times \vec{B}(\rho)$ where: $I = 2\lambda v$

Before leaving this subject, we wish to point out some additional fascinating aspects of the physics:

As mentioned above, situation a.) corresponds to the true lab frame of a physical wire carrying steady {conventional} current I where the lattice of {e.g.} copper atoms of the physical wire are at rest in IRF(S_+), whereas situation b.) corresponds to the rest frame IRF(S_-) of the drift electrons in the physical wire. What we have been calling the “lab” frame IRF(S) is the inertial reference frame which is intermediate/“splits-the-difference” between these two “extremes”, with right- (left-) moving +ve (-ve) filamentary line charge densities λ_+ (λ_-) moving with velocities (in IRF(S)) of $\vec{v}_+ = +v\hat{z}$ ($\vec{v}_- = -v\hat{z}$) respectively.

In situation a.), the rest frame $\text{IRF}(S_+)$ of the e.g. copper atoms of a physical filamentary wire, an observer in $\text{IRF}(S_+)$ “sees” both a static, radial-outward electric field (due to the static $+\lambda_0$) and a velocity-dependent radial-inward electric field (due to the moving λ'_-). In $\text{IRF}(S_+)$:

| | | |
|--|-------|---|
| $\begin{aligned}\vec{E}'_{TOT}(\rho) &= \vec{E}'_0(\rho) + \vec{E}'_v(\rho) = +\frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} - \frac{\gamma^2(1+\beta^2)\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} \\ &= +\frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} - \frac{\gamma^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} - \frac{\gamma^2v^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0c^2\rho}\hat{\rho} \\ &= -\underbrace{\frac{(\gamma^2-1)\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho}}_{\vec{E}'_{S_+}(\rho)} + \underbrace{\vec{v} \times \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi\rho}(\frac{1}{2}I'_-)\hat{\phi}}_{\vec{v} \times \vec{B}'_{S_+}(\rho)} \\ &= \vec{E}'_{S_+}(\rho) + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}'_{S_+}(\rho)\end{aligned}$ | with: | $\begin{aligned}\mu_0 &= \frac{1}{\epsilon_0c^2} \text{ and:} \\ \lambda'_- &= -\gamma(1+\beta^2)\lambda \\ &= -\gamma^2(1+\beta^2)\lambda_0 \\ I'_- &= \lambda'_-v_- = +2\gamma\lambda v \\ &= +2\gamma^2\lambda_0v = \gamma I \\ I &= 2\lambda v = I'_-/ \gamma\end{aligned}$ |
|--|-------|---|

The EM field energy density, Poynting's vector, linear momentum density and angular momentum density as seen by an observer in $\text{IRF}(S_+)$ respectively are:

| |
|--|
| $u_{\text{IRF}(S_+)}(\rho) = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0\vec{E}'_{S_+}(\rho) \cdot \vec{E}'_{S_+}(\rho) + \frac{1}{2\mu_0}\vec{B}'_{S_+}(\rho) \cdot \vec{B}'_{S_+}(\rho) = \frac{\gamma^4\beta^4\lambda_0^2}{8\pi^2\epsilon_0\rho^2} = \frac{\mu_0 I'^2_- v^2}{32\pi^2\rho^2 c^2} \text{ (Joules)}$ |
| $\vec{S}_{\text{IRF}(S_+)}(\rho) = \frac{1}{\mu_0}\vec{E}'_{S_+}(\rho) \times \vec{B}'_{S_+}(\rho) = \frac{(\gamma^2-1)\lambda_0 I'_-}{8\pi^2\epsilon_0\rho^2} \underbrace{(-\hat{\rho} \times \hat{\phi})}_{=-\hat{z}} = -\frac{(\gamma^2-1)\lambda_0 I'_-}{8\pi^2\epsilon_0\rho^2} \hat{z} \text{ (Watts/m}^2\text{)}$ |
| $\vec{\rho}_{\text{IRF}(S_+)}^{EM}(\rho) = \epsilon_0\mu_0\vec{S}_{\text{IRF}(S_+)}(\rho) = -\mu_0 \frac{(\gamma^2-1)\lambda_0 I'_-}{8\pi^2\rho^2} \hat{z} \text{ (kg/m}^2\text{-s)}$ |
| $\vec{\ell}_{\text{IRF}(S_+)}^{EM}(\rho) = \vec{\rho} \times \vec{\rho}_{\text{IRF}(S_+)}^{EM}(\rho) = \mu_0 \frac{(\gamma^2-1)\lambda_0 I'_-}{8\pi^2\rho} \underbrace{(\hat{\rho} \times -\hat{z})}_{+\hat{\phi}} = +\mu_0 \frac{(\gamma^2-1)\lambda_0 I'_-}{8\pi^2\rho} \hat{\phi} \text{ (kg/m-s)}$ |

In situation b.), the rest frame $\text{IRF}(S_-)$ of the drift electrons in a physical filamentary wire, an observer in $\text{IRF}(S_-)$ also “sees” both a static, radial-outward electric field (due to the static $-\lambda_0$) and a velocity-dependent radial-outward electric field (due to the moving λ'_+). In $\text{IRF}(S_-)$:

| | | |
|--|-------|---|
| $\begin{aligned}\vec{E}'_{TOT}(\rho) &= \vec{E}'_0(\rho) + \vec{E}'_v(\rho) = -\frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} + \frac{\gamma^2(1+\beta^2)\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} \\ &= -\frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} + \frac{\gamma^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho} + \frac{\gamma^2v^2\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0c^2\rho}\hat{\rho} \\ &= +\underbrace{\frac{(\gamma^2-1)\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho}\hat{\rho}}_{\vec{E}'_{S_-}(\rho)} + \underbrace{\vec{v} \times \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi\rho}(\frac{1}{2}I'_+)\hat{\phi}}_{\vec{v} \times \vec{B}'_{S_-}(\rho)} \\ &= \vec{E}'_{S_-}(\rho) + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}'_{S_-}(\rho)\end{aligned}$ | with: | $\begin{aligned}\mu_0 &= \frac{1}{\epsilon_0c^2} \text{ and:} \\ \lambda'_+ &= +\gamma(1+\beta^2)\lambda \\ &= +\gamma^2(1+\beta^2)\lambda_0 \\ I'_+ &= \lambda'_+v_+ = +2\gamma\lambda v \\ &= +2\gamma^2\lambda_0v = \gamma I \\ I &= 2\lambda v = I'_-/ \gamma\end{aligned}$ |
|--|-------|---|

The EM field energy density, Poynting's vector, linear momentum density and angular momentum density as seen by an observer in $IRF(S_-)$ respectively are:

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_{IRF(S_-)}(\rho) &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_o \vec{E}'_{S_-}(\rho) \cdot \vec{E}'_{S_-}(\rho) + \frac{1}{2\mu_o} \vec{B}'_{S_-}(\rho) \cdot \vec{B}'_{S_-}(\rho) = \frac{\gamma^4 \beta^4 \lambda_0^2}{8\pi^2 \epsilon_o \rho^2} = \frac{\mu_o I_+^2}{32\pi^2 \rho^2} \frac{v^2}{c^2} \quad (\text{Joules}) \\
 \vec{S}_{IRF(S_-)}(\rho) &= \frac{1}{\mu_o} \vec{E}'_{S_-}(\rho) \times \vec{B}'_{S_-}(\rho) = \frac{(\gamma^2 - 1) \lambda_0 I_+}{8\pi^2 \epsilon_o \rho^2} \underbrace{(+\hat{\rho} \times \hat{\phi})}_{=+\hat{z}} = + \frac{(\gamma^2 - 1) \lambda_0 I_+}{8\pi^2 \epsilon_o \rho^2} \hat{z} \quad (\text{Watts/m}^2) \\
 \vec{\phi}_{IRF(S_-)}^{EM}(\rho) &= \epsilon_o \mu_o \vec{S}_{IRF(S_-)}(\rho) = +\mu_o \frac{(\gamma^2 - 1) \lambda_0 I_+}{8\pi^2 \rho^2} \hat{z} \quad (\text{kg/m}^2\text{-s}) \\
 \vec{\ell}_{IRF(S_-)}^{EM}(\rho) &= \vec{\rho} \times \vec{\phi}_{IRF(S_-)}^{EM}(\rho) = \mu_o \frac{(\gamma^2 - 1) \lambda_0 I_+}{8\pi^2 \rho} \underbrace{(\hat{\rho} \times \hat{z})}_{-\hat{\phi}} = -\mu_o \frac{(\gamma^2 - 1) \lambda_0 I_+}{8\pi^2 \rho} \hat{\phi} \quad (\text{kg/m-s})
 \end{aligned}$$

We see that observers in $IRF(S_+)$ vs. $IRF(S_-)$ “see” the same energy densities. Observers in $IRF(S_+)$ vs. $IRF(S_-)$ “see” the respective magnitudes of Poynting's vector, the EM linear momentum and angular momentum densities as being the same, however the directions of these 3 vector quantities in $IRF(S_-)$ are opposite to what they are to an observer in $IRF(S_+)$!!!

An observer in $IRF(S_+)$ “sees” that both the EM energy flow and EM linear momentum density are pointing in the $-\hat{z}$ direction, which physically makes sense because the negative electrons {moving in the $-\hat{z}$ direction} are the only objects in motion in $IRF(S_+)$. Thus, an observer in $IRF(S_+)$ concludes that the EM power/energy present in the EM fields associated with the infinitely long pair of filamentary wires in $IRF(S_+)$ is supplied from the negative terminal of the battery (or power supply) driving the circuit. In $IRF(S_+)$, an observer “sees” the EM field angular momentum density pointing in the $+\hat{\phi}$ direction.

Contrast this with an observer in $IRF(S_-)$ who “sees” that both the EM energy flow and EM linear momentum density are pointing in the $+\hat{z}$ direction, which physically makes sense because the positive-charged copper atoms {moving in the $+\hat{z}$ direction} are the only objects in motion in $IRF(S_-)$. Thus, an observer in $IRF(S_-)$ concludes that the EM power/energy present in the EM fields associated with the infinitely long pair of filamentary wires in $IRF(S_-)$ is supplied from the positive terminal of the battery (or power supply) driving the circuit. In $IRF(S_-)$, an observer “sees” the EM field angular momentum density pointing in the $-\hat{\phi}$ direction.

Let's now compare these two sets of results for $IRF(S_+)$ and $IRF(S_-)$ with those obtained in our “original” rest frame, $IRF(S)$, where both filamentary line current densities are in motion. In our “original” lab frame $IRF(S)$, the net line charge density is $\lambda_{TOT} = \lambda_+ + \lambda_- = +\lambda - \lambda = 0$ where $\lambda_+ \equiv +\lambda = +q/\ell = +\gamma\lambda_0$, $\lambda_- \equiv -\lambda = -q/\ell = -\gamma\lambda_0$ and $\vec{v}_+ = +v\hat{z}$, $\vec{v}_- = -v\hat{z}$, however the net current in $IRF(S)$ is non-zero: $I_{TOT} = \lambda_+ v_+ + \lambda_- v_- = \lambda v + \lambda v = 2\lambda v = 2\gamma\lambda_0 v$ flowing in the $+\hat{z}$ direction. Thus, to an observer in $IRF(S)$ there is no net electrostatic field, only a non-zero static magnetic field.

In IRF(S):

$$\boxed{\vec{E}_+(\rho) = \frac{\lambda_+}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = +\frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = +\frac{\gamma\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho}} \quad \text{and:} \quad \boxed{\vec{E}_-(\rho) = \frac{\lambda_-}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = -\frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho} = -\frac{\gamma\lambda_0}{2\pi\epsilon_0\rho} \hat{\rho}}$$

The filamentary line currents in IRF(S) are: $I_+ \equiv \lambda_+ v_+ = +\gamma\lambda_0 v$ and: $I_- \equiv \lambda_- v_- = +\gamma\lambda_0 v$, thus:

$$\boxed{I_+ = I_- = I} \quad \text{and:} \quad \boxed{I_{TOT} = I_+ + I_- = 2I = 2\lambda v = 2\gamma\lambda_0 v}.$$

The magnetic fields associated with the currents I_+ and I_- are equal, and both point in the $+\hat{\phi}$ -

direction: $\boxed{\vec{B}_+(\rho) = +\frac{\mu_0 I_+}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi}}$ and: $\boxed{\vec{B}_-(\rho) = +\frac{\mu_0 I_-}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi}}$

Then:

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \vec{E}_{TOT}^{\text{IRF}(S)}(\rho) &= \underbrace{\vec{E}_+(\rho) + \vec{E}_-(\rho)}_{=0} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}_-(\rho) + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}_+(\rho) = \vec{v} \times \vec{B}_{TOT}^{\text{IRF}(S)}(\rho) \\ &= \vec{v} \times \frac{\mu_0 I_{TOT}}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} = \frac{\lambda v^2}{\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 \rho} (\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi}) = -\frac{\lambda v^2}{\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 \rho} \hat{\rho} \end{aligned}}$$

Thus, an observer in IRF(S) “sees” a non-zero static magnetic field:

$$\boxed{\vec{B}_{TOT}^{\text{IRF}(S)}(\rho) = \vec{B}_+(\rho) + \vec{B}_-(\rho) = +\frac{\mu_0 I_+}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} + \frac{\mu_0 I_-}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} = +\frac{2\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} = +\frac{\mu_0 I_{TOT}}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi}}$$

which is equivalent to an electric field seen by a test charge Q_T moving with velocity \vec{v} in IRF(S) of:

$$\boxed{\vec{E}_{TOT}^{\text{IRF}(S)}(\rho) = \vec{v} \times \vec{B}_+(\rho) + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}_-(\rho) = \vec{v} \times \vec{B}_{TOT}(\rho) = \vec{v} \times \frac{\mu_0 I_{TOT}}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} = \frac{\lambda v^2}{\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 \rho} (\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi}) = -\frac{\lambda v^2}{\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 \rho} \hat{\rho}}$$

which gives rise to an attractive, radial-inward force acting on the test charge Q_T (for $Q_T > 0$) of:

$$\boxed{\vec{F}_{TOT}^{\text{IRF}(S)}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{E}_{TOT}^{\text{IRF}(S)} = Q_T \vec{v} \times \vec{B}_{TOT}(\rho) = Q_T \vec{v} \times \frac{\mu_0 I_{TOT}}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi} = Q_T \frac{\lambda v^2}{\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 \rho} (\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi}) = -Q_T \frac{\lambda v^2}{\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 \rho} \hat{\rho}}$$

Thus, in IRF(S), even though there is no net λ_{TOT} , a non-zero current $I_{TOT} = 2\lambda v \neq 0$ exists.

If $Q_T > 0$ and $\vec{v} = +v\hat{z}$ {or $Q_T < 0$ and $\vec{v} = -v\hat{z}$ } the {radial-inward} force acting on the test charge Q_T is attractive – parallel currents attract!

If $Q_T > 0$ and $\vec{v} = -v\hat{z}$ {or $Q_T < 0$ and $\vec{v} = +v\hat{z}$ } the {radial-outward} force acting on the test charge Q_T is repulsive – opposite currents repel!

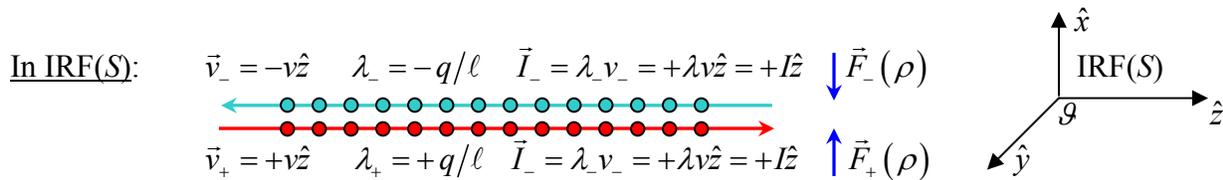
It is also interesting to note that the two superimposed, oppositely-charged, counter-moving filamentary line charge densities / line current densities are attracted to each other {parallel currents attract!!!}, because in IRF(S) the force $\vec{F}_+(\rho)$ ($\vec{F}_-(\rho)$) seen by {any} one of the +ve (-ve) “test charges” $+q_T$ ($-q_T$) associated with the moving positive (negative) filamentary line charge density λ_+ (λ_-) is, respectively:

And:

$$\vec{F}_+(\rho) = +q_T \vec{v}_+ \times \vec{B}_-(\rho) = +q_T v \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} (\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi}) = q_T \frac{\lambda v^2}{2\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 \rho} (\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi}) = -q_T \frac{\lambda v^2}{2\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 \rho} \hat{\rho}$$

$$\vec{F}_-(\rho) = -q_T \vec{v}_- \times \vec{B}_+(\rho) = +q_T v \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} (\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi}) = q_T \frac{\lambda v^2}{2\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 \rho} (\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi}) = -q_T \frac{\lambda v^2}{2\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 \rho} \hat{\rho}$$

n.b. Both radially-inward pointing forces!!!



Since this mutually-attractive, radial-inward force between opposite-moving line charges λ_+ & λ_- exists in IRF(S), this must also be true in all other inertial reference frames, e.g. IRF(S₊), IRF(S₋), etc. – the laws of physics are the same in all IRF’s... we leave this as an exercise for the interested reader!

Obviously, since we have infinite-length line charge densities λ_+ & λ_- , the net attractive force in each case is infinite, even for slightly transversely-displaced line charge densities.

In IRF(S), the EM field energy density is non-zero, finite positive (except at $\rho = 0$):

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{EM}(\rho) &= u_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{E_{\text{TOT}}}(\rho) + u_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{B_{\text{TOT}}}(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 \underbrace{\vec{E}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{\text{net}}(\rho) \cdot \vec{E}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{\text{net}}(\rho)}_{=0} + \frac{1}{2\mu_0} \underbrace{\vec{B}_{\text{TOT}}^{\text{IRF}(S)}(\rho) \cdot \vec{B}_{\text{TOT}}^{\text{IRF}(S)}(\rho)}_{=0} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 [\vec{E}_+(\rho) + \vec{E}_-(\rho)] \cdot [\vec{E}_+(\rho) + \vec{E}_-(\rho)] + \frac{1}{2\mu_0} [\vec{B}_+(\rho) + \vec{B}_-(\rho)] \cdot [\vec{B}_+(\rho) + \vec{B}_-(\rho)] \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 \{E_+^2(\rho) + 2\vec{E}_+(\rho) \cdot \vec{E}_-(\rho) + E_-^2(\rho)\} + \frac{1}{2\mu_0} \{B_+^2(\rho) + 2\vec{B}_+(\rho) \cdot \vec{B}_-(\rho) + B_-^2(\rho)\} \quad (\text{Joules}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 \underbrace{\{E_+^2(\rho) - 2E_+^2(\rho) + E_+^2(\rho)\}}_{=0} + \frac{1}{2\mu_0} \underbrace{\{B_+^2(\rho) + 2B_+^2(\rho) + B_+^2(\rho)\}}_{=B_{\text{TOT}}^2(\rho)} \\
 &= \frac{\mu_0 I_{\text{TOT}}^2}{8\pi^2 \rho^2} \hat{\phi} = \frac{\lambda^2 v^2}{2\pi^2 \epsilon_0 \rho^2 c^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

with: $I_{\text{TOT}} = 2I = 2\lambda v = 2\gamma\lambda_0 v$

The net Poynting's vector $\vec{S}_{\text{IRF}(S)}(\rho)$, net EM field linear momentum density $\vec{\wp}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{EM}(\rho)$ and net EM field angular momentum density $\vec{\ell}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{EM}(\rho)$ as seen by an observer in $\text{IRF}(S)$ are all zero, because $\vec{E}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{net}(\rho) = 0$.

However, these net physical quantities are all zero because of the superposition principle – each are sums of two counter-propagating contributions that cancel each other!

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{S}_{\text{IRF}(S)}(\rho) &= \vec{S}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{+-}(\rho) + \vec{S}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{-+}(\rho) = \frac{1}{\mu_o} \{ \vec{E}_+(\rho) \times \vec{B}_-(\rho) \} + \frac{1}{\mu_o} \{ \vec{E}_-(\rho) \times \vec{B}_+(\rho) \} \\ &= \frac{\lambda_+ I_-}{4\pi^2 \epsilon_o \rho^2} (\hat{\rho} \times \hat{\phi}) + \frac{\lambda_- I_+}{4\pi^2 \epsilon_o \rho^2} (\hat{\rho} \times \hat{\phi}) = + \frac{\lambda I}{4\pi^2 \epsilon_o \rho^2} \hat{z} - \frac{\lambda I}{4\pi^2 \epsilon_o \rho^2} \hat{z} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (\text{Watts/m}^2)$$

Thus, we explicitly see that: $\vec{S}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{-+}(\rho) = -\vec{S}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{+-}(\rho) = -\frac{\lambda I}{4\pi^2 \epsilon_o \rho^2} \hat{z}$.

Consequently/similarly: $\vec{\wp}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{EM}(\rho) = \epsilon_o \mu_o \vec{S}_{\text{IRF}(S)}(\rho) = \epsilon_o \mu_o \vec{S}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{+-}(\rho) + \epsilon_o \mu_o \vec{S}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{-+}(\rho) = \vec{\wp}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{+-}(\rho) + \vec{\wp}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{-+}(\rho) = + \frac{\mu_o \lambda I}{4\pi^2 \rho^2} \hat{z} - \frac{\mu_o \lambda I}{4\pi^2 \rho^2} \hat{z} = 0$ (kg/m²-s)

Thus, we explicitly see that: $\vec{\wp}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{-+}(\rho) = -\vec{\wp}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{+-}(\rho) = -\frac{\mu_o \lambda I}{4\pi^2 \rho^2} \hat{z}$.

Similarly: $\vec{\ell}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{EM}(\rho) = \vec{\rho} \times \vec{\wp}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{EM}(\rho) = \vec{\rho} \times \vec{\wp}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{+-}(\rho) + \vec{\rho} \times \vec{\wp}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{-+}(\rho) = \vec{\ell}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{+-}(\rho) + \vec{\ell}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{-+}(\rho) = + \frac{\mu_o \lambda I}{4\pi^2 \rho} (\hat{\rho} \times \hat{z}) - \frac{\mu_o \lambda I}{4\pi^2 \rho} (\hat{\rho} \times \hat{z}) = -\frac{\mu_o \lambda I}{4\pi^2 \rho} \hat{\phi} + \frac{\mu_o \lambda I}{4\pi^2 \rho} \hat{\phi} = 0$ (kg/m-s)

Thus, we explicitly see that: $\vec{\ell}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{-+}(\rho) = -\vec{\ell}_{\text{IRF}(S)}^{+-}(\rho) = + \frac{\mu_o \lambda I}{4\pi^2 \rho} \hat{\phi}$.

Thus, an observer in $\text{IRF}(S)$ “sees” two counter-propagating fluxes of EM energy, linear momentum density and angular momentum density, which respectively cancel each other out such that the net fluxes of EM energy, linear momentum density and angular momentum density are all zero in $\text{IRF}(S)$!

An observer in $\text{IRF}(S)$ concludes that the EM power/energy present in the EM fields associated with the infinitely long pair of oppositely-charged, opposite-moving filamentary line charge densities λ_+ & λ_- in $\text{IRF}(S)$ is supplied equally from both the positive and negative terminals of the battery (or power supply) driving the circuit!

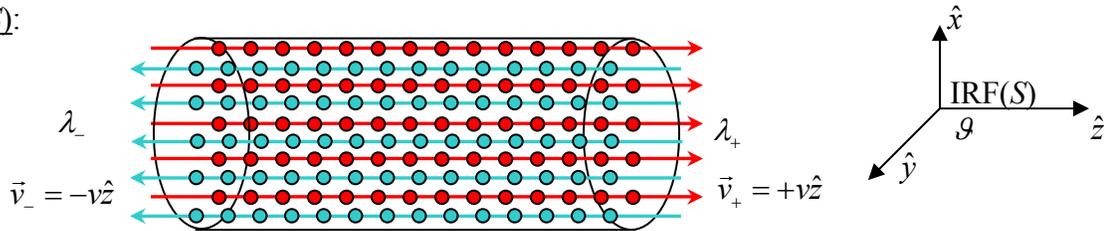
Thus, we finally understand how electrical power is transported down a physical wire – it is a manifestly relativistic effect; electrical power in a wire is transported by the combination of the radial E -field and the azimuthal B -field associated with a current flowing in the wire!

Because we have an *infinitely-long* filamentary 1-D physical wire (i.e. zero radius), consisting of an infinitely long pair of oppositely-charged, opposite-moving filamentary line charge densities λ_+ & λ_- , in any IRF the EM field energy $U_{EM} = \int_{all\ space} u_{EM}(\rho) d\tau = \infty$. Similarly, the EM power transported down such a wire $P_{EM} = \int_{all\ space} \vec{S}(\rho) \cdot d\vec{a}_\perp = \infty$, the EM field linear momentum $\vec{P}_{EM} = \int_{all\ space} \vec{\phi}_{EM}(\rho) d\tau = \infty$ and EM field angular momentum $\vec{L}_{EM} = \int_{all\ space} \vec{\ell}_{EM}(\rho) d\tau = \infty$ except in IRF(S), where the latter two quantities are zero.

For a *real, finite-length* physical wire of finite radius a , these four quantities are all finite, as long as λ_+ & λ_- are both finite and v_+ & v_- are both $< c$.

Using the superposition principle, a *real, finite-length* physical wire of finite radius a can be thought of as a collection of $2N$ parallel filamentary “infinitesimal” 1-D line charge densities. In IRF(S), the N right-moving λ_+ lines represent 1-D parallel strings of {e.g. copper} atoms and the N left-moving λ_- lines represent 1-D parallel strings of drift electrons, as shown schematically in the figure below:

In IRF(S):



Even though the net volume charge density in IRF(S) for a real physical wire of radius a is $\rho_{TOT} = \rho_+ + \rho_- = N\lambda_+/A_\perp + N\lambda_-/A_\perp = N\lambda/A_\perp - N\lambda/A_\perp = 0$, while there is no net pure electrostatic field in IRF(S) (the net charge on the wire is zero), there is again a non-zero azimuthal magnetic field $\vec{B}_{TOT}^{IRF(S)}(\rho)$, which has two contributions – one from the N right-moving λ_+ lines (copper atoms) and another, equal contribution from the N left-moving λ_- lines (drift electrons). For an infinitely long real physical wire of radius a , we know that:

$$\vec{B}_{TOT}^{IRF(S)}(\rho \leq a) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \frac{\rho}{a^2} \hat{\phi} \quad \text{and:} \quad \vec{B}_{TOT}^{IRF(S)}(\rho \geq a) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi\rho} \hat{\phi}$$

An interesting phenomenon occurs in a real physical wire, due to the fact that parallel currents attract each other. The radial-inward Lorentz force $\vec{F}_-(\rho) = -q_r \vec{v}_- \times \vec{B}_+(\rho)$ acting on the “gas” of left-moving drift electrons exerts a radial-inward pressure on the “free” electron gas, and compresses it (slightly)! The radial-inward Lorentz force $\vec{F}_+(\rho) = +q_r \vec{v}_+ \times \vec{B}_-(\rho)$ acting on the 3-D lattice of right-moving copper atoms exerts a radial-inward pressure on the copper atoms, but because they are bound together in the 3-D lattice, they undergo very little compression, if any!

This manifest asymmetry between the “free” electron “gas” and the 3-D lattice of copper atoms thus gives rise to a {slight} differential compression between electrons and copper atoms – resulting in a {very thin} “skin” of positive charge {of thickness δ } on the surface of the wire {n.b. the skin thickness δ is much thinner than the diameter of an atom, for “normal”/everyday currents!}. Inside this “skin” of positive charge on the outer surface of the wire, there exists a slightly higher negative volume charge density $\rho_- (\rho < a - \delta)$ than positive volume charge density $\rho_+ (\rho < a - \delta)$. The net charge on the wire still remains zero.

The compression of the “free” electron “gas” is only a slight, but non-negligible amount. The radial-inward Lorentz force $\vec{F}_- (\rho) = -q_T \vec{v}_- \times \vec{B}_+ (\rho)$ is countered by the repulsive, radial-outward force associated with (local) electric charge neutrality of electrons & copper atoms, and also by a quantum effect – since electrons are fermions {no two electrons can simultaneously occupy the same quantum state}, there also exists a radial-outward quantum pressure on the electrons preventing them from becoming too dense!

From the above discussion(s), while it can be seen that gaining an insight of the underlying physics associated with electrical power transport, etc. in a wire via use of special relativity may be somewhat more tedious than using the “standard” *E&M* approach, special relativity makes it profoundly clear what the underlying physics actually is, whereas the “standard” *E&M* approach does not do a very good job in elucidating the actual physics...