

This course:

Advanced Electromagnetic Theory

Classical electromagnetism relevant because:

- simplest example of a gauge theory

Recall that standard model gauge group is $SO(3) \otimes SU(2) \otimes U(1)$

in electromagnetism, gauge group is $U(1)$

- most of what we know about the universe stems from electromagnetic phenomena
- practical applications

Organization Details

Please check www.phy.syr.edu/~norman/Teaching/PHY641SS12

Novelty: • Pop quizzes count 10%.

- Textbook: J. Franklin, Classical Electrodynamics.

And without further ado...

0. Maxwell's equations

For sources in vacuum, Maxwell's eqs. are

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} &= -\frac{1}{c} \partial_t \vec{B} \\ \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{homogeneous}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} &= 4\pi\rho \\ \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} - \frac{1}{c} \partial_t \vec{E} &= \frac{4\pi\vec{j}}{c} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{inhomogeneous.}$$

We work in the Gaussian system of units

These four equations form the basis of ALL electromagnetic phenomena.

To start, we shall consider static fields created by static charges

1. Foundations of electrostatics

1.1. Coulomb's law.

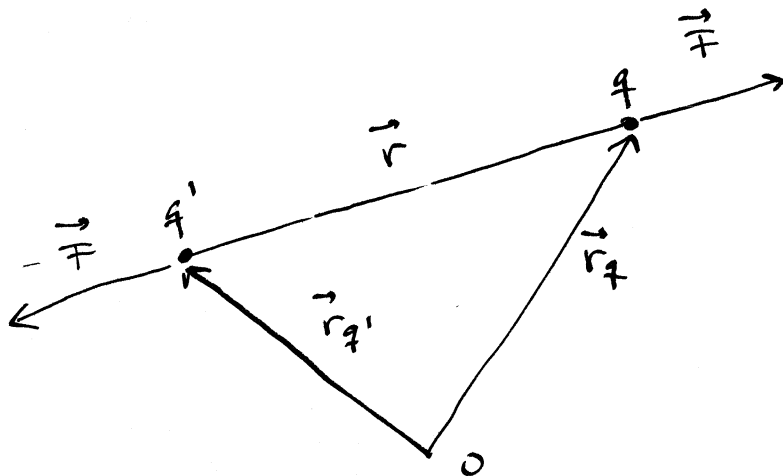
We shall consider static charges \Rightarrow no currents:

$$\rho \neq 0, \quad \vec{j} = 0.$$

According to Coulomb's law, the force experienced by two charges q and q' separated by \vec{r} is

$$\vec{F} = \frac{q \cdot q'}{r^2} \hat{r} = \frac{q \cdot q'}{r^3} \vec{r}$$

Note: . Equally charges repel each other:



$$\vec{r} = \vec{r}_q - \vec{r}_{q'} \quad ; \quad \hat{r} = \frac{\vec{r}}{r} \quad \text{unit vector in the direction of } \vec{r}.$$

• In other systems of units, Coulomb's law

reads
$$\vec{F} = \frac{k \cdot q \cdot q'}{r^3} \vec{r}.$$

The force exerted by a set of charges q_n located at \vec{r}_n on a charge q located at \vec{r} obeys the superposition principle:

$$\vec{F} = \sum_n \frac{q q_n}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_n|^3} (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_n).$$

1.2. The electric field

It is extremely useful to think of the force experienced by a charge q as due to an electric field \vec{E} : $\vec{F} \equiv q \vec{E}.$

Thus, for multiple charges,

$$\vec{E} = \sum_n \frac{q_n}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_n|^3} (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_n), \quad (A1)$$

whereas for a distribution of charges

$$\vec{E} = \int d^3r' \frac{\rho(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|^3} (\vec{r} - \vec{r}') \quad (A2)$$

$\rho(\vec{r})$ is the charge density at \vec{r} .

For a set of point-like charges q_n at \vec{r}_n ,

$$\rho(\vec{r}) = \sum_n q_n \delta^{(3)}(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_n). \quad (A3)$$

Recall that the " δ -function" obeys

$$\int d^3r f(\vec{r}) \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) = f(\vec{r}_0).$$

Using this identity in (A2) with (A3) leads to

(A1).

We shall later show that

$$\vec{\nabla}_r \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{r} - \vec{r}'}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|^3} \right) = 4\pi \delta^{(3)}(\vec{r} - \vec{r}').$$

Hence, taking the divergence of equation (A2) we find Coulomb's equation in differential form:

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 4\pi\rho$$

Sometimes, people (Europeans) write $\text{div } \vec{E} = 4\pi\rho$

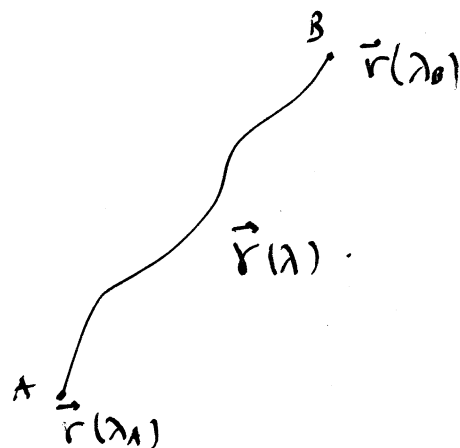
Recall that $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{\partial E_i}{\partial x^i} = \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z}$.

1.3. Electric potential

Consider now the work exerted by an electric field on a charge q moving on a path $\vec{r}(\lambda)$:

Since $dW = \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = q \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}$,

$$W = q \int_{\gamma} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r} \equiv q \int_{\lambda_A}^{\lambda_B} \vec{E} \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{d\lambda} d\lambda$$



Because

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \left(\frac{1}{|\vec{r}(\lambda) - \vec{r}'|} \right) =$$

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{(\vec{r}(\lambda) - \vec{r}')^2}} \right) = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{[(\vec{r}(\lambda) - \vec{r}')^2]^{3/2}} \cdot 2(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{d\lambda}$$

$$= -\frac{(\vec{r}(\lambda) - \vec{r}')}{|\vec{r}(\lambda) - \vec{r}'|^3} \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{d\lambda}$$

We find, using equation (A2),

$$W = -q \int_{\lambda_A}^{\lambda_B} d\lambda \frac{d}{d\lambda} \left(\int d^3\vec{r}' \frac{\rho(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} \right) \equiv -q (\phi(\vec{r}_B) - \phi(\vec{r}_A)),$$

where we have defined the electric potential

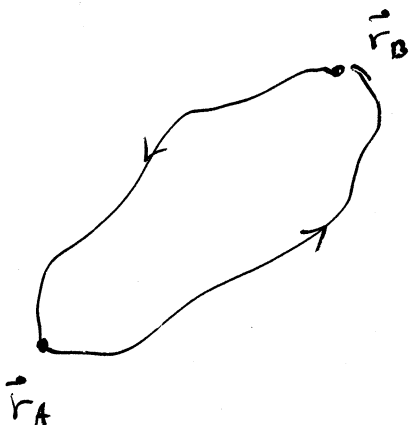
$$\phi(\vec{r}) = \int d^3r' \frac{\rho(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}. \quad (A5)$$

In particular, for a closed path, $\vec{r}_A = \vec{r}_B$,

$$W = \oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0.$$

\vec{E} (or \vec{F}) is a conservative force field

Work exerted on a charge is path-independent



Conversely, given that $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$, we can define a potential $\phi(\vec{r})$ such that

$$\int_{r_A}^{r_B} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r} = - (\phi(\vec{r}_B) - \phi(\vec{r}_A)).$$

Say, choose an arbitrary point 0, and assign to it the potential ϕ_0 . Then, define

$$\phi(\vec{r}) \equiv \phi_0 - \int_{\vec{r}_0}^{\vec{r}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r} \quad (A4)$$

↑ well-defined, because integral path-independent

given an arbitrary scalar function $\phi(\vec{r})$, we can define its gradient, $\vec{\nabla} \phi$ by demanding that for all paths $\vec{r}(\lambda)$,

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \phi(\vec{r}(\lambda)) \equiv \vec{\nabla} \phi \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{d\lambda} \quad (d\phi = \vec{\nabla} \phi \cdot d\vec{r})$$

clearly, from the chain rule

$$(\vec{\nabla} \phi)_i \equiv \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i}, \quad \text{or} \quad \vec{\nabla} \phi = \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \right).$$

Using this relation in (A4), we immediately find

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}\phi.$$

The same relation follows from equation (A5)

using that

$$\vec{\nabla}_r \left(\frac{1}{|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|} \right) = - \frac{\vec{r}-\vec{r}'}{|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|^3}$$

and comparing with (A2)

1.4. Gauss' law

The divergence theorem

Consider an arbitrary, smooth vector field $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$. Its divergence, $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}$ is a scalar.

According to the divergence theorem,

$$\int_V dV \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \int_{\partial V} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A}$$

$\int_V dV$ is a volume integral, and

$\int_{\partial V} d\vec{A}$ is an integral over the boundary of V ,

a two-dim surface (in 3D). Recall that

$d\vec{A} = \vec{n} \cdot dA$, where \vec{n} is the normal to the area element.

Therefore,

$$\int_{\partial V} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \int_V dV \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \int_V dV 4\pi\rho = 4\pi Q_{\text{int}},$$

where $Q_{\text{int}} = \int_V dV \rho$ is the total charge inside the volume V .

$$\int_{\partial V} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = 4\pi Q_{\text{int}} \quad \text{is Gauss' law.}$$

The divergence theorem is a special case of Stokes' theorem:

$$\int_M dw = \int_{\partial M} w$$

M : n -dimensional manifold; dw : exterior derivative of w .
 w : $n-1$ differential form;