
Fundamentals of Electromagnetic Fields and Waves: I

Fall 2007, EE 30348, Electrical Engineering, University of Notre Dame

Mid Term Exam

- Please show your steps clearly and sketch figures wherever necessary.
- Points will be awarded for correct steps shown in the solutions.
- Necessary formulae and values of constants are given in the last page of this document.
- There are **THREE** problems in this exam. Answer all.

Problem 1

Answer the following short questions.

- a) Write down a few reasons why we are studying Electromagnetic Fields and Waves. (**2 Points**)
- b) The Divergence theorem states that for a vector field \mathbf{F} , the relation $\oint_s \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \int_v \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} dv$ holds, where s is the closed surface enclosing the volume v . However, this relation holds only if \mathbf{F} satisfies certain conditions. What are these conditions? Does the vector $\mathbf{F} = x\mathbf{a}_x$ qualify for application of the divergence theorem for a sphere centered at the origin? (**2 points**)
- c) A FM radio station transmits electromagnetic plane waves at a frequency of $f = 100$ MHz. Find the wavelength of the signal. If the maximum electric field strength of the signal is 0.1 V/m, what is the maximum magnetic field for the signal? (**2 Points**)

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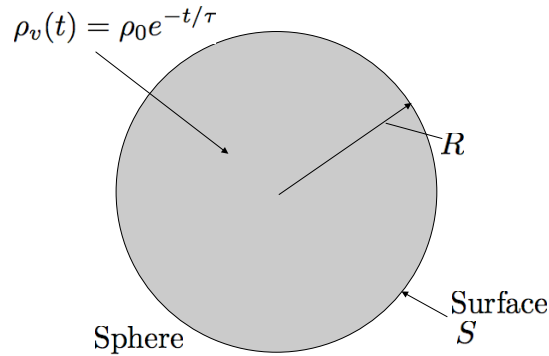


Figure 1: A spherical volume with decaying volume charge.

Problem 2 (5 Points)

A spherical region of radius R is shown in Figure 1. It has a volume charge distribution that is decaying with time according to the relation $\rho_v(t) = \rho_0 e^{-t/\tau}$. Here ρ_0 and τ are constants that characterize the decay process. The volume charge density is uniformly distributed inside the sphere at all times.

- a) Use the charge continuity relation (given in the last page) to find the current density vector $\mathbf{J}(t)$ on the surface S of the sphere at time t . Explain each step in the process, and perform any consistency checks (dimensions, etc) for your answer.
- b) For $\rho_0 = 1.0 \text{ C/m}^3$, $\tau = 1 \text{ ns}$, and $R = 100 \text{ nm}$, find the magnitude of the total *current* $I(t)$ flowing out of surface S as a function of time t . Sketch its value vs time.

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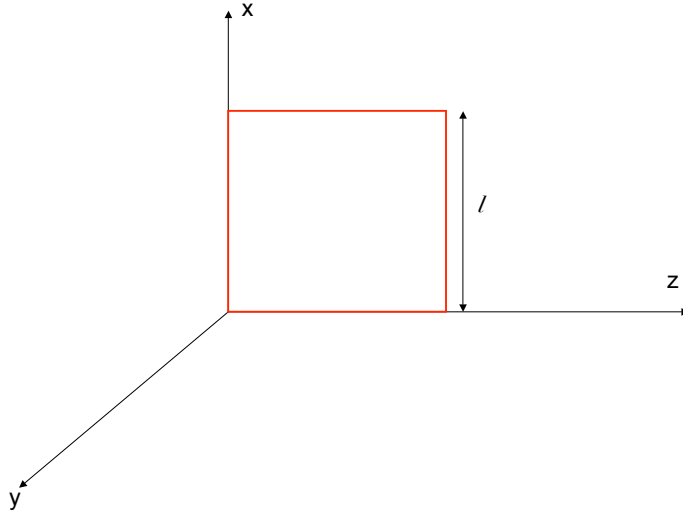


Figure 2: A square loop interacts with an electromagnetic wave.

Problem 3 (9 Points)

The electric field vector of an electromagnetic plane wave propagating in free space is given by

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = E_0 \cos(\omega t - \beta_0 z) \mathbf{a}_x$$

- Identify the wavelength, frequency, polarization, and the direction of propagation of the plane wave.
- Write down the expression for the corresponding magnetic field $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t)$.
- Refer to Figure 2. A square conductive loop of side l and total resistance R_0 is now placed in the path of the electromagnetic wave as shown. Explain **qualitatively** why the electromagnetic wave will cause a current to flow in the loop.
- Find the magnitude of the induced current flowing in the loop.

(You may or may not need the following relations:

$$\int \sin(az) dz = -\frac{\cos(az)}{a} + C,$$

$$\int \cos(az) dz = \frac{\sin(az)}{a} + C,$$

$$\sin(a) - \sin(b) = 2 \cos\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{a-b}{2}\right),$$

$$\cos(a) - \cos(b) = -2 \sin\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{a-b}{2}\right)$$

- Assume that the length of the loop l is much smaller than the wavelength of the wave (show why this is equivalent to the condition $\beta_0 l \ll 1$). Simplify your answer to part d) using the approximation $\sin(x) \approx x$ for $x \ll 1$. Explain the significance of this simplification.

(List of Formulae in the next page...)

Formulae

A) Fundamental constants

Permittivity of vacuum: $\epsilon_0 \approx \frac{1}{36\pi} \times 10^{-9} \text{F/m}$,

Permeability of vacuum: $\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{H/m}$.

Speed of light in free space: $c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$.

B) Maxwell's Equations: [Integral Form], [Differential Form]

Gauss's Law for Electric Fields : $[\oint_s \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \int_v \rho_v dv = Q_{encl}]$, $[\nabla \cdot (\epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}) = \rho_v]$

Gauss's Law for Magnetic Fields : $[\oint_s \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0]$, $[\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0]$

Faraday's Law : $[\oint_c \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = -\frac{d}{dt}(\int_s \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S})]$, $[\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{d\mathbf{B}}{dt}]$

Ampere's Law : $[\oint_c \frac{\mathbf{B}}{\mu_0} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int_s \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{S} + \frac{d}{dt}(\int_s \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S})]$, $[\nabla \times \frac{\mathbf{B}}{\mu_0} = \mathbf{J} + \frac{d\epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}}{dt}]$

Charge continuity equation: $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \rho_v}{\partial t} = 0$.

C) Line, Surface, and Volume vector differential elements

Rectangular: (Unit Vectors: $\mathbf{a}_x, \mathbf{a}_y, \mathbf{a}_z$)

$d\mathbf{l} = dx\mathbf{a}_x + dy\mathbf{a}_y + dz\mathbf{a}_z$,

$ds_x = dydz\mathbf{a}_x$, $ds_y = dx dz\mathbf{a}_y$, $ds_z = dx dy\mathbf{a}_z$,

$dv = dx dy dz$.

Cylindrical: (Unit Vectors: $\mathbf{a}_\rho, \mathbf{a}_\phi, \mathbf{a}_z$)

$d\mathbf{l} = d\rho\mathbf{a}_\rho + \rho d\phi d\mathbf{a}_\phi + dz\mathbf{a}_z$,

$ds_\rho = \rho d\phi dz\mathbf{a}_\rho$, $ds_\phi = \rho dz\mathbf{a}_\phi$, $ds_z = \rho d\rho d\phi\mathbf{a}_z$,

$dv = \rho d\rho d\phi dz$.

Spherical: (Unit Vectors: $\mathbf{a}_r, \mathbf{a}_\theta, \mathbf{a}_\phi$)

$d\mathbf{l} = dr\mathbf{a}_r + r d\theta\mathbf{a}_\theta + r \sin \theta d\phi\mathbf{a}_\phi$,

$ds_r = r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi\mathbf{a}_r$, $ds_\theta = r \sin \theta dr d\phi\mathbf{a}_\theta$, $ds_\phi = r dr d\theta\mathbf{a}_\phi$,

$dv = r^2 \sin \theta dr d\theta d\phi$.

D) div, grad, & curl expressions in various coordinate systems

Use the metric coefficients from the Table below.

For a vector field $\mathbf{A} = A_1\mathbf{a}_1 + A_2\mathbf{a}_2 + A_3\mathbf{a}_3$,

$\text{div } \mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{h_1 h_2 h_3} \left[\frac{\partial(A_1 h_2 h_3)}{\partial u_1} + \frac{\partial(A_2 h_1 h_3)}{\partial u_2} + \frac{\partial(A_3 h_1 h_2)}{\partial u_3} \right]$, and

$$\text{curl}(\mathbf{A}) = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\mathbf{a}_1}{h_2 h_3} & \frac{\mathbf{a}_2}{h_1 h_3} & \frac{\mathbf{a}_3}{h_1 h_2} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2} & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_3} \\ h_1 A_1 & h_2 A_2 & h_3 A_3 \end{vmatrix}.$$

	Cartesian	Cylindrical	Spherical
Independent Variables (u_1, u_2, u_3)	x, y, z	ρ, ϕ, z	r, θ, ϕ
Vector components (A_1, A_2, A_3)	A_x, A_y, A_z	A_ρ, A_ϕ, A_z	A_r, A_θ, A_ϕ
Unit Vectors ($\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3$)	$\mathbf{a}_x, \mathbf{a}_y, \mathbf{a}_z$	$\mathbf{a}_\rho, \mathbf{a}_\phi, \mathbf{a}_z$	$\mathbf{a}_r, \mathbf{a}_\theta, \mathbf{a}_\phi$
Metric Coefficients (h_1, h_2, h_3)	1, 1, 1	1, ρ , 1	1, r , $r \sin \theta$