PHY 712 Electrodynamics
10-10:50 AM MWF Olin 103

Notes for Lecture 28:

Finish Chap. 11 and

begin Chap. 14 (Sec. 14.1-14.3)

A. Electromagnetic field transformations & corresponding analysis of Liénard-Wiechert potentials for constant velocity sources

B. Radiation by moving charged particles

4 Colloquia possibilities in the next 3 days

Wed. Apr. 2, 2025 — Professor Fan Yang, Department of Computer Science, Wake Forest University- "Towards Conceptual Understanding of Large Language Models" (Host: N. Holzwarth)

Thurs. Apr. 3, 2025 — Ph.D. Defense: Ian Newsome — "Semiclassical Effects in Curved Spacetime and Quantum Electrodynamics" — Olin 107, 9:00 AM (Advisor: Prof. P. Anderson)

Thurs. Apr. 3, 2025 — Special Colloquium on Perspectives in Physics, Professors Paul Anderson and Natalie Holzwarth

Friday Apr. 4, 2025 — Ph.D. Defense: Leda Gao — "Extracting information from black hole merger simulations: The robustness of quasinormal modes" — Olin 107, 10:00 AM (Advisor: Prof. G. Cook)

24	Mon: 03/24/2025	Chap. 9	Radiation from time harmonic sources	#20	03/26/2025
25	Wed: 03/26/2025	Chap. 9 & 10	Radiation from scattering	#21	03/28/2025
26	Fri: 03/28/2025	Chap. 11	Special Theory of Relativity	#22	03/31/2025
27	Mon: 03/31/2025	Chap. 11	Special Theory of Relativity	#23	04/02/2025
28	Wed: 04/02/2025	Chap. 11	Special Theory of Relativity	#24	04/04/2025
29	Fri: 04/04/2024	Chap. 14	Radiation from accelerating charged particles		
30	Mon: 04/07/2025	Chap. 14	Radiation from accelerating charged particles		
31	Wed: 04/09/2025	Chap. 14	Synchrotron radiation and Compton scattering		
32	Fri: 04/11/2025	Chap. 13 & 15	Other radiation -- Cherenkov & bremsstrahlung		
33	Mon: 04/14/2025	Special Topics			
34	Wed: 04/16/2025	Special Topics			
35	Fri: 04/18/2025		Presentations I		
	Mon: 04/21/2025	Special topics			
	Wed: 04/23/2025		Presentations II		
	Fri: 04/25/2025		Presentations III		
36	Mon: 04/28/2025		Review		

Class time shifted to 9 AM

PHY 712 -- Assignment #24

Assigned: 4/02/2025 Due: 4/04/2025

Finish reading Chapters 11 in **Jackson** . This problem concerns a proton having rest mass energy $mc^2=938.272 \times 10^6$ eV moving at constant speed v along the x-axis (or 1-axis) as shown in Fig. 11.8 of the textbook and equivalent figures in the lecture notes. For each of the following situations find the maximum value of electric field E_y (or E_2) produced by the proton as observed in the stationary frame, in units of q/b^2.

1. In this case, $v=0.1\ c$ where c denotes the speed of light in vacuum.
2. In this case, the proton is processed by a large accelerator facility such as the Fermi National Laboratory and has a total energy of 374×10^9 eV.

Comment: Some of you have been looking at textbooks (such as Zangwill) and sources available on the internet and finding different equations from those presented in these lecture notes and in Jackson. That is a good thing in general, however please be aware that there are different units (SI for example) and different conventions for 4-vectors (some using different ordering of space and time, some using imaginary (i) for the time-like portion). Since we are using Jackson for now, it will be good to make sure that you are OK with Jackson's equations and those in the lecture notes as well.

Solution of Maxwell's equations in the Lorentz gauge – review using SI units for now --

Liénard-Wiechert potentials and fields --

Determination of the scalar and vector potentials for a moving point particle (also see Landau and Lifshitz ***The Classical Theory of Fields***, Chapter 8.)

Consider the fields produced by the following source: a point charge q moving on a trajectory $R_q(t)$.

Charge density: $\rho(\mathbf{r},t) = q\delta^3(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_q(t))$

Current density: $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r},t) = q\,\dot{\mathbf{R}}_q(t)\delta^3(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_q(t))$, where $\dot{\mathbf{R}}_q(t) \equiv \frac{d\mathbf{R}_q(t)}{dt}$.

Solution of Maxwell's equations in the Lorenz gauge -- continued

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r},t)=\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\int\int d^3r'dt'\frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}',t')}{|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}']|}\delta\left(t'-(t-|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|/c)\right)$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t)=\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 c^2}\int\int d^3r'dt'\frac{\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}',\mathrm{t}')}{|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|}\delta\left(t'-(t-|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|/c)\right).$$

We performing the integrations over first d^3r' and then dt' making use of the fact that for any function of t',

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt'\, f(t')\delta\left(t'-(t-|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_q(t')|/c)\right)=\frac{f(t_r)}{1-\frac{\dot{\mathbf{R}}_q(t_r)\cdot(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_q(t_r))}{c|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_q(t_r)|}},$$

where the ``retarded time'' is defined to be

$$t_r\equiv t-\frac{|\mathbf{r}-\ \mathbf{R}_q(t_r)|}{c}.$$

Solution of Maxwell's equations in the Lorenz gauge -- continued

Resulting scalar and vector potentials:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\frac{1}{R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}},$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 c^2}\frac{\mathbf{v}}{R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}},$$

Notation: $\mathbf{R} \equiv \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_q(t_r)$

$$\mathbf{v} \equiv \dot{\mathbf{R}}_q(t_r),$$

$$t_r \equiv t - \frac{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_q(t_r)|}{c}.$$

Solution of Maxwell's equations in the Lorenz gauge -- continued

In order to find the electric and magnetic fields, we need to evaluate

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t) = -\nabla\Phi(\mathbf{r},t) - \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t)}{\partial t}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t) = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t)$$

The trick of evaluating these derivatives is that the retarded time t_r depends on position **r** and on itself. We can show the following results using the shorthand notation:

$$\nabla t_r = -\frac{\mathbf{R}}{c\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial t_r}{\partial t} = \frac{R}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)}.$$

Solution of Maxwell's equations in the Lorenz gauge – SI units

$$-\nabla\Phi(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\frac{1}{\left(R-\frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left[\mathbf{R}\left(1-\frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)-\frac{v}{c}\left(R-\frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)+\mathbf{R}\frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c^2}\right],$$

$$-\frac{\partial\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t)}{\partial t} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\frac{1}{\left(R-\frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left[\frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\left(\frac{v^2}{c^2}-\frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{Rc}-\frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}\cdot R}{c^2}\right)-\frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}R}{c^2}\left(R-\frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)\right].$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0}\frac{1}{\left(R-\frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left[\left(\mathbf{R}-\frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\left(1-\frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)+\left(\mathbf{R}\times\left\{\left(\mathbf{R}-\frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\times\frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}}{c^2}\right\}\right)\right].$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 c^2}\left[\frac{-\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{v}}{\left(R-\frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left(1-\frac{v^2}{c^2}+\frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c^2}\right)-\frac{\mathbf{R}\times\dot{\mathbf{v}}/c}{\left(R-\frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^2}\right] = \frac{\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)}{cR}$$

Convert to cgs Gaussian units:

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)=\frac{q}{\left(R-\frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left[\left(\mathbf{R}-\frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\left(1-\frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)+\left(\mathbf{R}\times\left\{\left(\mathbf{R}-\frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\times\frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}}{c^2}\right\}\right)\right]$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t)=\frac{q}{c}\left[\frac{-\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{v}}{\left(R-\frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left(1-\frac{v^2}{c^2}+\frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c^2}\right)-\frac{\mathbf{R}\times\dot{\mathbf{v}}/c}{\left(R-\frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^2}\right]$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t)=\frac{\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)}{R}.$$

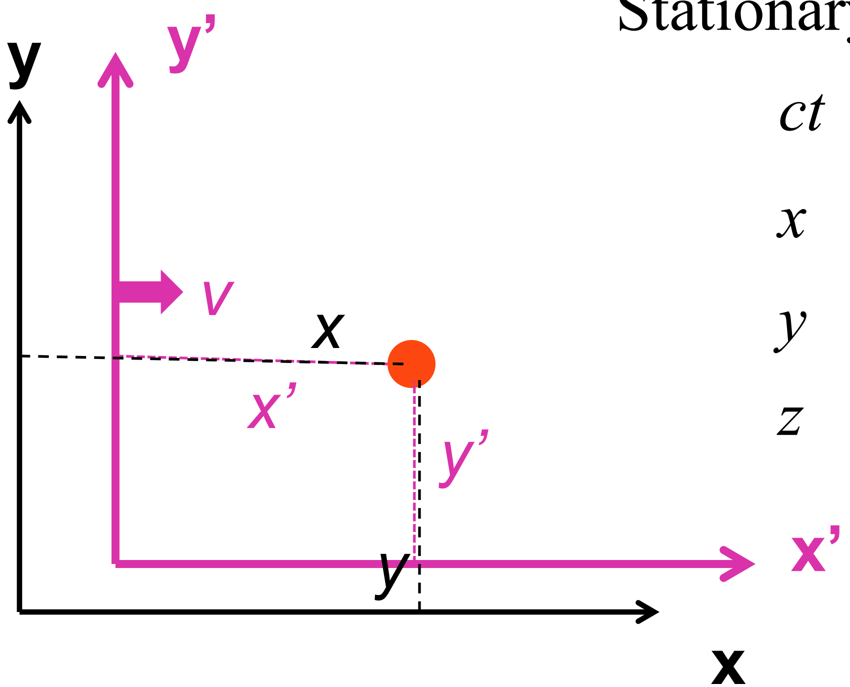
Note that this analysis is carried out in a single frame of reference. Now we resume our discussion about transforming values between two different inertial frames of reference.

Lorentz transformations

Convenient notation :

$$\beta_v \equiv \frac{v}{c}$$

$$\gamma_v \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta_v{}^2}}$$



Stationary frame		Moving frame
ct	$=$	$\gamma_v\left(ct'+\beta_v x'\right)$
x	$=$	$\gamma_v\left(x'+\beta_v ct'\right)$
y	$=$	y'
z	$=$	z'

Lorentz transformations -- continued

For the moving frame with $\mathbf{v} = v\hat{\mathbf{x}}$:

$$\mathcal{L}_v = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_v & \gamma_v\beta_v & 0 & 0 \\ \gamma_v\beta_v & \gamma_v & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathcal{L}_v^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_v & -\gamma_v\beta_v & 0 & 0 \\ -\gamma_v\beta_v & \gamma_v & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} ct \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{L}_v \begin{pmatrix} ct' \\ x' \\ y' \\ z' \end{pmatrix} \qquad \begin{pmatrix} ct' \\ x' \\ y' \\ z' \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{L}_v^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} ct \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

Notice:

$$c^2t^2 - x^2 - y^2 - z^2 = c^2t'^2 - x'^2 - y'^2 - z'^2$$

Field strength tensor

$$F^{\alpha\beta} \equiv \left(\partial^\alpha A^\beta - \partial^\beta A^\alpha\right)$$

$$F^{\alpha\beta} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -E_x & -E_y & -E_z \\ E_x & 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ E_y & B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ E_z & -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad F'^{\alpha\beta} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -E'_x & -E'_y & -E'_z \\ E'_x & 0 & -B'_z & B'_y \\ E'_y & B'_z & 0 & -B'_x \\ E'_z & -B'_y & B'_x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Transformation of field strength tensor

$$F^{\alpha\beta} = \mathcal{L}_v{}^{\alpha\gamma} F'^{\gamma\delta} \mathcal{L}_v{}^{\delta\beta} \qquad \mathcal{L}_v = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_v & \gamma_v\beta_v & 0 & 0 \\ \gamma_v\beta_v & \gamma_v & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$F^{\alpha\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -E'_x & -\gamma_v\left(E'_y+\beta_v B'_z\right) & -\gamma_v\left(E'_z-\beta_v B'_y\right) \\ E'_x & 0 & -\gamma_v\left(B'_z+\beta_v E'_y\right) & \gamma_v\left(B'_y-\beta_v E'_z\right) \\ \gamma_v\left(E'_y+\beta_v B'_z\right) & \gamma_v\left(B'_z+\beta_v E'_y\right) & 0 & -B'_x \\ \gamma_v\left(E'_z-\beta_v B'_y\right) & -\gamma_v\left(B'_y-\beta_v E'_z\right) & B'_x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Inverse transformation of field strength tensor

$$F'^{\alpha\beta} = \mathcal{L}_v^{-1\alpha\gamma} F^{\gamma\delta} \mathcal{L}_v^{-1\delta\beta} \qquad \mathcal{L}_v^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_v & -\gamma_v\beta_v & 0 & 0 \\ -\gamma_v\beta_v & \gamma_v & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$F'^{\alpha\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -E_x & -\gamma_v\left(E_y - \beta_v B_z\right) & -\gamma_v\left(E_z + \beta_v B_y\right) \\ E_x & 0 & -\gamma_v\left(B_z - \beta_v E_y\right) & \gamma_v\left(B_y + \beta_v E_z\right) \\ \gamma_v\left(E_y - \beta_v B_z\right) & \gamma_v\left(B_z - \beta_v E_y\right) & 0 & -B_x \\ \gamma_v\left(E_z + \beta_v B_y\right) & -\gamma_v\left(B_y + \beta_v E_z\right) & B_x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

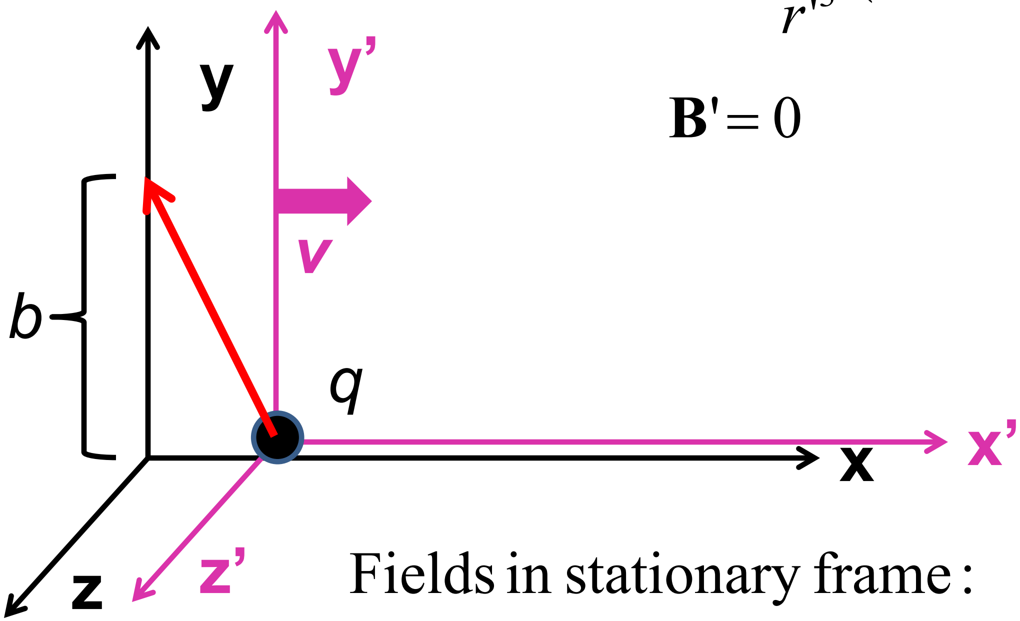
Summary of results:

$$E'_x = E_x \qquad B'_x = B_x$$

$$E'_y = \gamma_v\left(E_y - \beta_v B_z\right) \qquad B'_y = \gamma_v\left(B_y + \beta_v E_z\right)$$

$$E'_z = \gamma_v\left(E_z + \beta_v B_y\right) \qquad B'_z = \gamma_v\left(B_z - \beta_v E_y\right)$$

Example:



Fields in moving frame:

$$\mathbf{E}' = \frac{q}{r'^3}\left(x'\hat{\mathbf{x}} + y'\hat{\mathbf{y}}\right) = \frac{q\left(-vt'\hat{\mathbf{x}} + b\hat{\mathbf{y}}\right)}{\left(\left(-vt'\right)^2 + b^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$\mathbf{B}' = 0$$

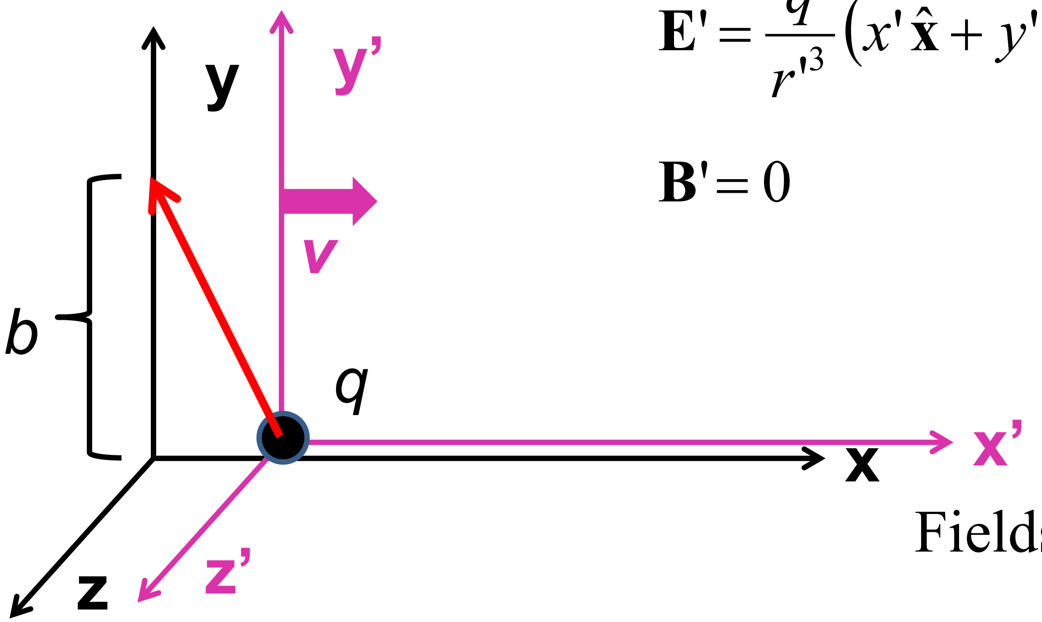
Fields in stationary frame:

$$E_x = E'_x \qquad B_x = B'_x$$

$$E_y = \gamma_v\left(E'_y + \beta_v B'_z\right) \qquad B_y = \gamma_v\left(B'_y - \beta_v E'_z\right)$$

$$E_z = \gamma_v\left(E'_z - \beta_v B'_y\right) \qquad B_z = \gamma_v\left(B'_z + \beta_v E'_y\right)$$

Example:



Fields in moving frame:

$$\mathbf{E}' = \frac{q}{r'^3}\left(x'\hat{\mathbf{x}} + y'\hat{\mathbf{y}}\right) = \frac{q\left(-vt'\hat{\mathbf{x}} + b\hat{\mathbf{y}}\right)}{\left(\left(-vt'\right)^2 + b^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$\mathbf{B}' = 0$$

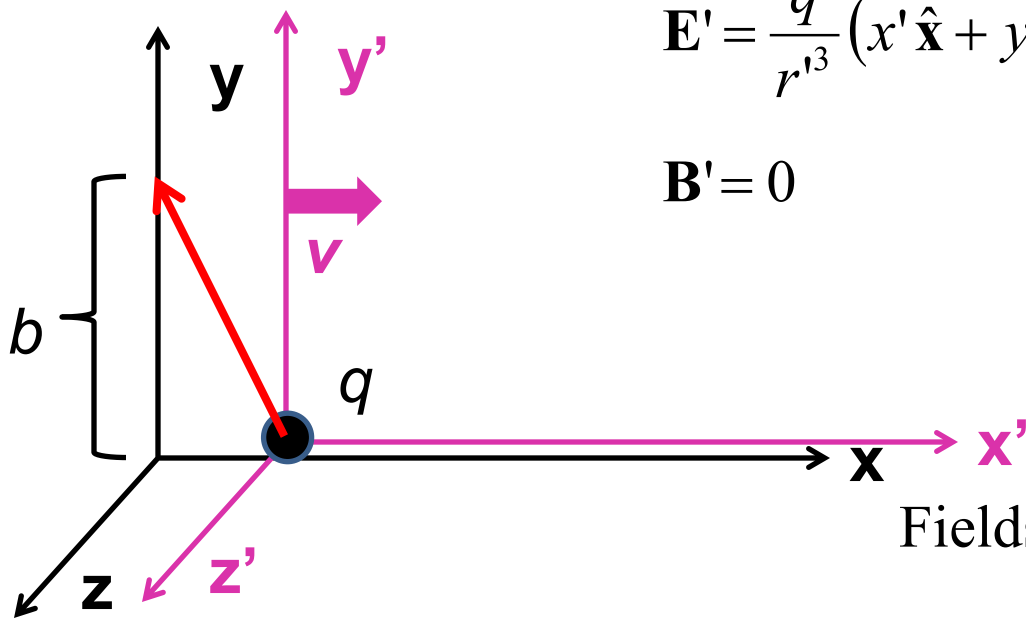
Fields in stationary frame:

$$E_x = E'_x = \frac{q\left(-vt'\right)}{\left(\left(-vt'\right)^2 + b^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$E_y = \gamma_v\left(E'_y\right) = \frac{q\left(\gamma_v b\right)}{\left(\left(-vt'\right)^2 + b^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$B_z = \gamma_v\left(\beta_v E'_y\right) = \frac{q\left(\gamma_v \beta_v b\right)}{\left(\left(-vt'\right)^2 + b^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

Example:



Fields in moving frame:

$$\mathbf{E}' = \frac{q}{r'^3}\left(x'\hat{\mathbf{x}} + y'\hat{\mathbf{y}}\right) = \frac{q\left(-vt'\hat{\mathbf{x}} + b\hat{\mathbf{y}}\right)}{\left(\left(-vt'\right)^2 + b^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$\mathbf{B}' = 0$$

Fields in stationary frame:

$$E_x = E'_x = \frac{q\left(-v\gamma_v t\right)}{\left(\left(-v\gamma_v t\right)^2 + b^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

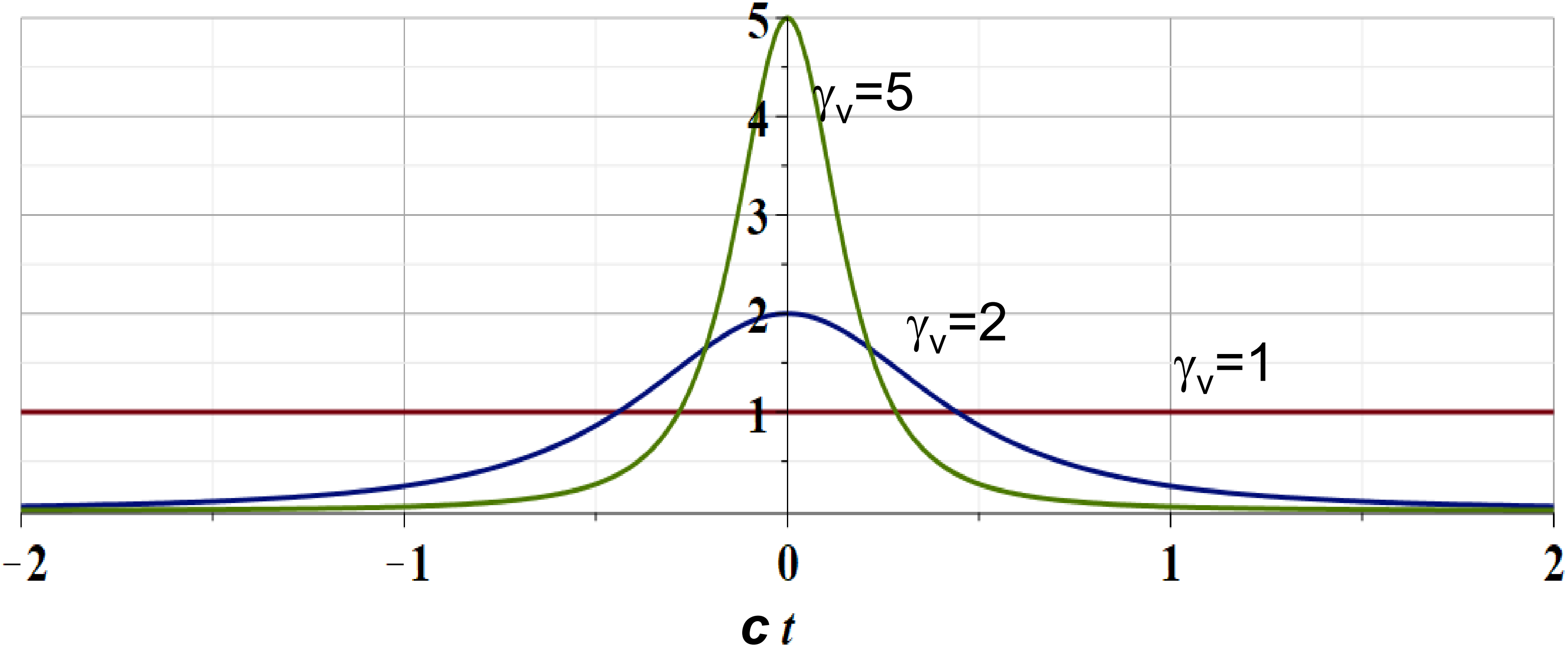
$$E_y = \gamma_v\left(E'_y\right) = \frac{q\left(\gamma_v b\right)}{\left(\left(-v\gamma_v t\right)^2 + b^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$B_z = \gamma_v\left(\beta_v E'_y\right) = \frac{q\left(\gamma_v \beta_v b\right)}{\left(\left(-v\gamma_v t\right)^2 + b^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

Expression in terms of consistent coordinates

$$E_y = \frac{q(\gamma_v b)}{\left((-v\gamma_v t)^2 + b^2\right)^{3/2}} = \frac{q(\gamma_v b)}{\left((\gamma_v^2 - 1)c^2 t^2 + b^2\right)^{3/2}} = B_z / (\gamma_v \beta_v)$$

Plot with *q=1;* *b=1* γ_v as given



Examination of this system from the viewpoint of the the Liénard-Wiechert potentials –(Gaussian units)

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left[\left(\mathbf{R} - \frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right) + \left(\mathbf{R}\times\left\{\left(\mathbf{R} - \frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\times\frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}}{c^2}\right\}\right)\right]$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{c}\left[\frac{-\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{v}}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2} + \frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c^2}\right) - \frac{\mathbf{R}\times\dot{\mathbf{v}}/c}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^2}\right]$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)}{R}.$$

Question – Why would you want to use the Liénard-Wiechert potentials?

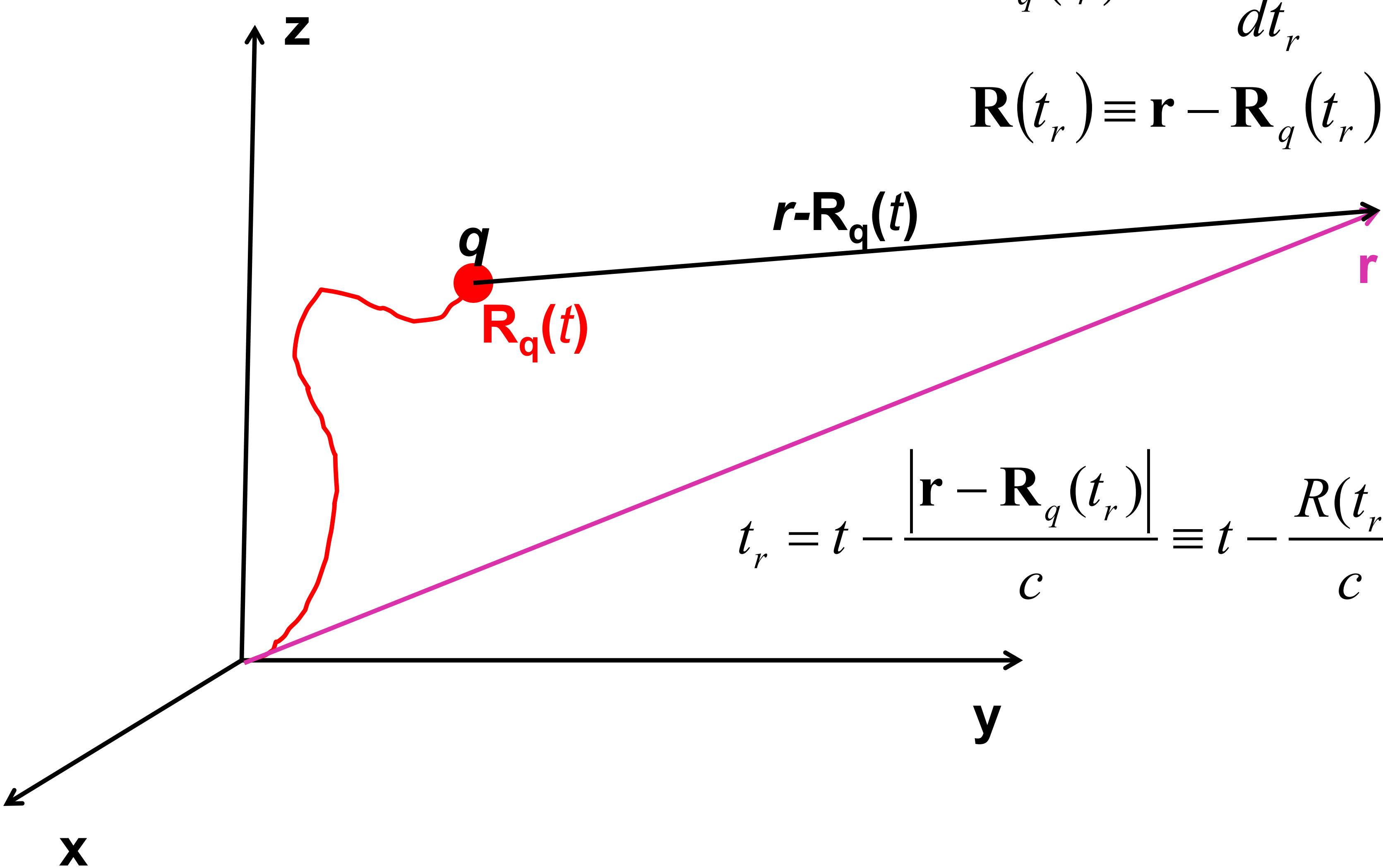
1. They are extremely complicated. It is best to avoid them at all costs?
2. The Lorentz transformations were bad enough?
3. Liénard-Wiechert potential formulation can analyze EM field from accelerating sources while the Lorentz transformations are designed to analyze measurements in reference frames moving at constant velocity.

Analysis using a single reference frame -- Radiation from a moving charged particle

Variables (notation):

$$\dot{\mathbf{R}}_q(t_r) \equiv \frac{d\mathbf{R}_q(t_r)}{dt_r} \equiv \mathbf{v}$$

$$\mathbf{R}(t_r) \equiv \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_q(t_r) \equiv \mathbf{R}$$



$$t_r = t - \frac{\left|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_q(t_r)\right|}{c} \equiv t - \frac{R(t_r)}{c}$$

Examination of this system from the viewpoint of the the Liénard-Wiechert potentials –(Gaussian units)

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left[\left(\mathbf{R} - \frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)\right]$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{c}\left[\frac{-\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{v}}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)\right]$$

Note that for our example there are no acceleration terms.

For our example:

$$\mathbf{R}_q(t_r) = vt_r\hat{\mathbf{x}} \qquad \mathbf{r} = b\hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_q(t_r) = b\hat{\mathbf{y}} - vt_r\hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

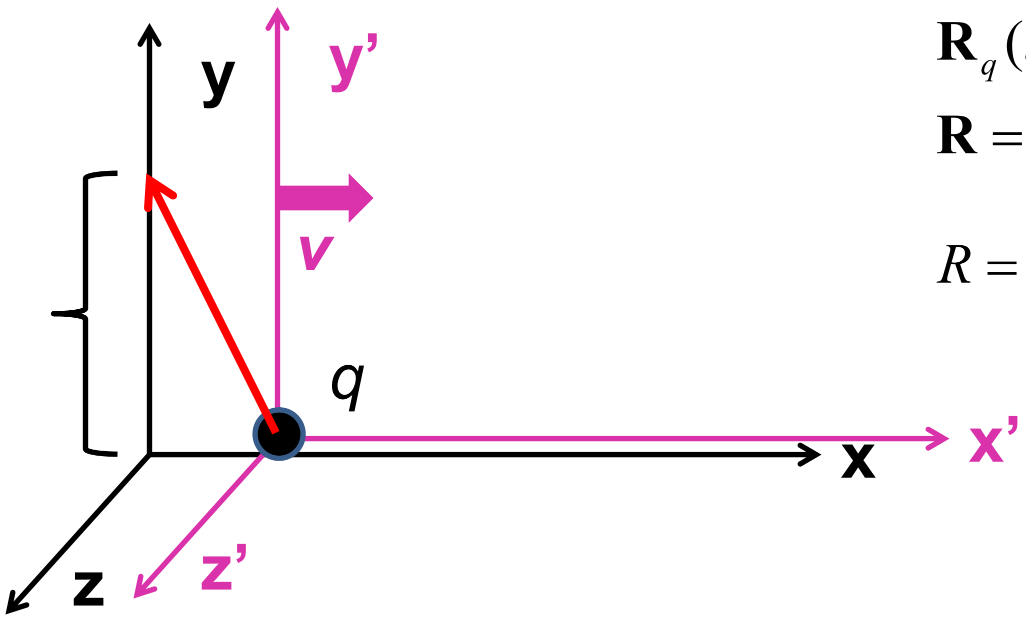
$$R = \sqrt{v^2t_r^2 + b^2} \qquad \mathbf{v} = v\hat{\mathbf{x}} \qquad t_r = t - \frac{R}{c}$$

This should be equivalent to the result given in Jackson (11.152):

$$\mathbf{E}(x,y,z,t) = \mathbf{E}(0,b,0,t) = q\frac{-v\gamma t\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \gamma b\hat{\mathbf{y}}}{\left(b^2 + (v\gamma t)^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(x,y,z,t) = \mathbf{B}(0,b,0,t) = q\frac{\gamma\beta b\hat{\mathbf{z}}}{\left(b^2 + (v\gamma t)^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

Example geometry



For our example:

$$\mathbf{R}_q(t_r) = vt_r\hat{\mathbf{x}} \qquad \mathbf{r} = b\hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_q(t_r) = b\hat{\mathbf{y}} - vt_r\hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

$$R = \sqrt{v^2t_r^2 + b^2} \qquad \mathbf{v} = v\hat{\mathbf{x}} \qquad t_r = t - \frac{R}{c}$$

Trajectory within stationary frame -- $\mathbf{R}_q(t_r) = vt_r\hat{\mathbf{x}} \qquad \mathbf{r} = b\hat{\mathbf{y}}$

This choice allows us to analyze the Liénard-Wiechert approach (within the "stationary" reference frame) of the same phenomenon solved previously using the Lorentz transformation. Because of the geometry E_z is zero here.

Why take this example?

1. Complete waste of time since we already know the answer.
2. If we get the same answer as we did using the Lorentz transformation, we will feel more confident in applying this approach to study electromagnetic fields resulting from more complicated trajectories.

Note that it might be advisable to derive the details of the analysis for yourselves.

Some details

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left[\left(\mathbf{R} - \frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)\right]$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{c}\left[\frac{-\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{v}}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)\right]$$

For our example:

$$\mathbf{R}_q(t_r) = vt_r\hat{\mathbf{x}} \qquad \mathbf{r} = b\hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

$$\mathbf{R} = b\hat{\mathbf{y}} - vt_r\hat{\mathbf{x}} \qquad R = \sqrt{v^2 t_r^2 + b^2}$$

$$\mathbf{v} = v\hat{\mathbf{x}} \qquad t_r = t - \frac{R}{c}$$

t_r must be a solution to a quadratic equation:

$$t_r - t = -\frac{R}{c} \quad \Rightarrow \quad t_r^2 - 2\gamma^2 t t_r + \gamma^2 t^2 - \gamma^2 b^2 / c^2 = 0$$

with the physical solution:

$$t_r = \gamma\left(\gamma t - \frac{\sqrt{(v\gamma t)^2 + b^2}}{c}\right)$$

Note that $(t_r - t)^2 = \frac{R^2}{c^2} = \frac{v^2 t_r^2 + b^2}{c^2}$

$$1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2} = \frac{1}{\gamma^2}$$

Some details continued:

Now we can express R as:

$$R = \gamma\left(-\beta v\gamma t + \sqrt{(v\gamma t)^2 + b^2}\right)$$

and the related quantities:

$$\mathbf{R} - \frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c} = -vt\hat{\mathbf{x}} + b\hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

$$R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c} = \frac{\sqrt{(v\gamma t)^2 + b^2}}{\gamma}$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left[\left(\mathbf{R} - \frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)\right] = q\,\frac{-v\gamma t\hat{\mathbf{x}} + \gamma b\hat{\mathbf{y}}}{\left(b^2 + (v\gamma t)^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{c}\left[\frac{-\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{v}}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)\right] = q\,\frac{\gamma\beta b\hat{\mathbf{z}}}{\left(b^2 + (v\gamma t)^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

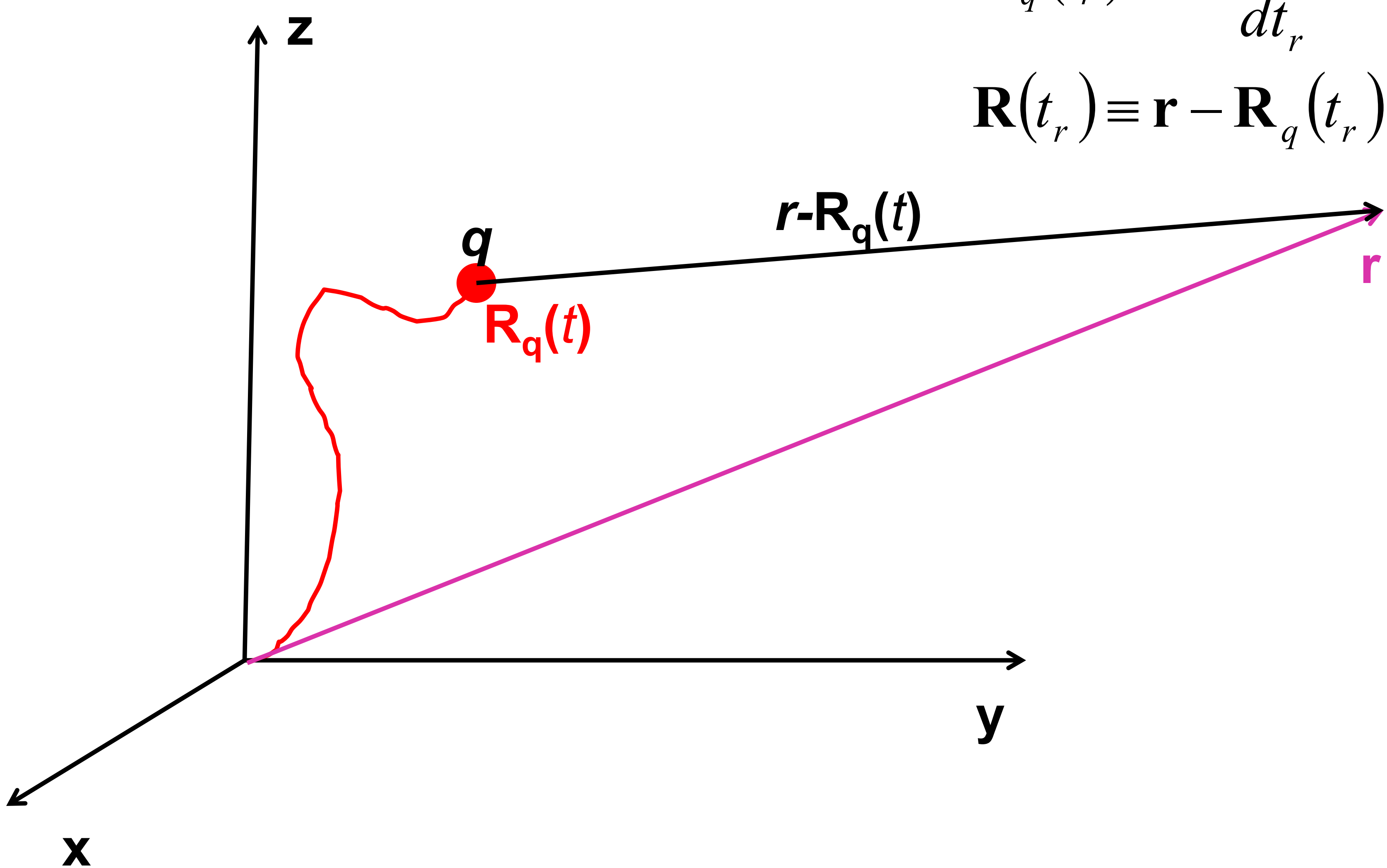
EM fields from a moving charged particle

Back to general case --

Variables (notation):

$$\dot{\mathbf{R}}_q(t_r) \equiv \frac{d\mathbf{R}_q(t_r)}{dt_r} \equiv \mathbf{v}$$

$$\mathbf{R}(t_r) \equiv \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_q(t_r) \equiv \mathbf{R}$$



Liénard-Wiechert fields (cgs Gaussian units):

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left[\left(\mathbf{R} - \frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right) + \left(\mathbf{R}\times\left\{\left(\mathbf{R} - \frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\times\frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}}{c^2}\right\}\right)\right]$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{c}\left[\frac{-\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{v}}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2} + \frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c^2}\right) - \frac{\mathbf{R}\times\dot{\mathbf{v}}/c}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^2}\right]$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)}{R}.$$

Notation:

$$\dot{\mathbf{R}}_q(t_r) \equiv \frac{d\mathbf{R}_q(t_r)}{dt_r} \equiv \mathbf{v} \qquad \mathbf{R}(t_r) \equiv \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_q(t_r) \equiv \mathbf{R} \quad \dot{\mathbf{v}} \equiv \frac{d^2\mathbf{R}_q(t_r)}{dt_r{}^2}$$

Electric field far from source – keeping only dominant terms

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{\left(R - \frac{\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{R}}{c}\right)^3}\left\{\mathbf{R}\times\left[\left(\mathbf{R} - \frac{\mathbf{v}R}{c}\right)\times\frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}}{c^2}\right]\right\}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{\mathbf{R}\times\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)}{R}$$

Let $\hat{\mathbf{R}} \equiv \frac{\mathbf{R}}{R}$ $\quad \boldsymbol{\beta} \equiv \frac{\mathbf{v}}{c}$ $\quad \dot{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \equiv \frac{\dot{\mathbf{v}}}{c}$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{q}{cR\left(1 - \boldsymbol{\beta}\cdot\hat{\mathbf{R}}\right)^3}\left\{\hat{\mathbf{R}}\times\left[\left(\hat{\mathbf{R}} - \boldsymbol{\beta}\right)\times\dot{\boldsymbol{\beta}}\right]\right\}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t) = \hat{\mathbf{R}}\times\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)$$

Poynting vector:

$$\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r},t)=\frac{c}{4\pi}(\mathbf{E}\times\mathbf{B})$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)=\frac{q}{cR\left(1-\boldsymbol{\beta}\cdot\hat{\mathbf{R}}\right)^3}\left\{\hat{\mathbf{R}}\times\left[\left(\hat{\mathbf{R}}-\boldsymbol{\beta}\right)\times\dot{\boldsymbol{\beta}}\right]\right\}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r},t)=\hat{\mathbf{R}}\times\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)$$

$$\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r},t)=\frac{c}{4\pi}\hat{\mathbf{R}}\left|\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)\right|^2=\frac{q^2}{4\pi cR^2}\hat{\mathbf{R}}\frac{\left|\hat{\mathbf{R}}\times\left[\left(\hat{\mathbf{R}}-\boldsymbol{\beta}\right)\times\dot{\boldsymbol{\beta}}\right]\right|^2}{\left(1-\boldsymbol{\beta}\cdot\hat{\mathbf{R}}\right)^6}$$

Note: We have used the fact that

$$\hat{\mathbf{R}}\cdot\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)=0$$

Power radiated

$$\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{c}{4\pi}\hat{\mathbf{R}}\left|\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)\right|^2 = \frac{q^2}{4\pi c R^2}\hat{\mathbf{R}}\frac{\left|\hat{\mathbf{R}}\times\left[\left(\hat{\mathbf{R}}-\boldsymbol{\beta}\right)\times\dot{\boldsymbol{\beta}}\right]\right|^2}{\left(1-\boldsymbol{\beta}\cdot\hat{\mathbf{R}}\right)^6}$$

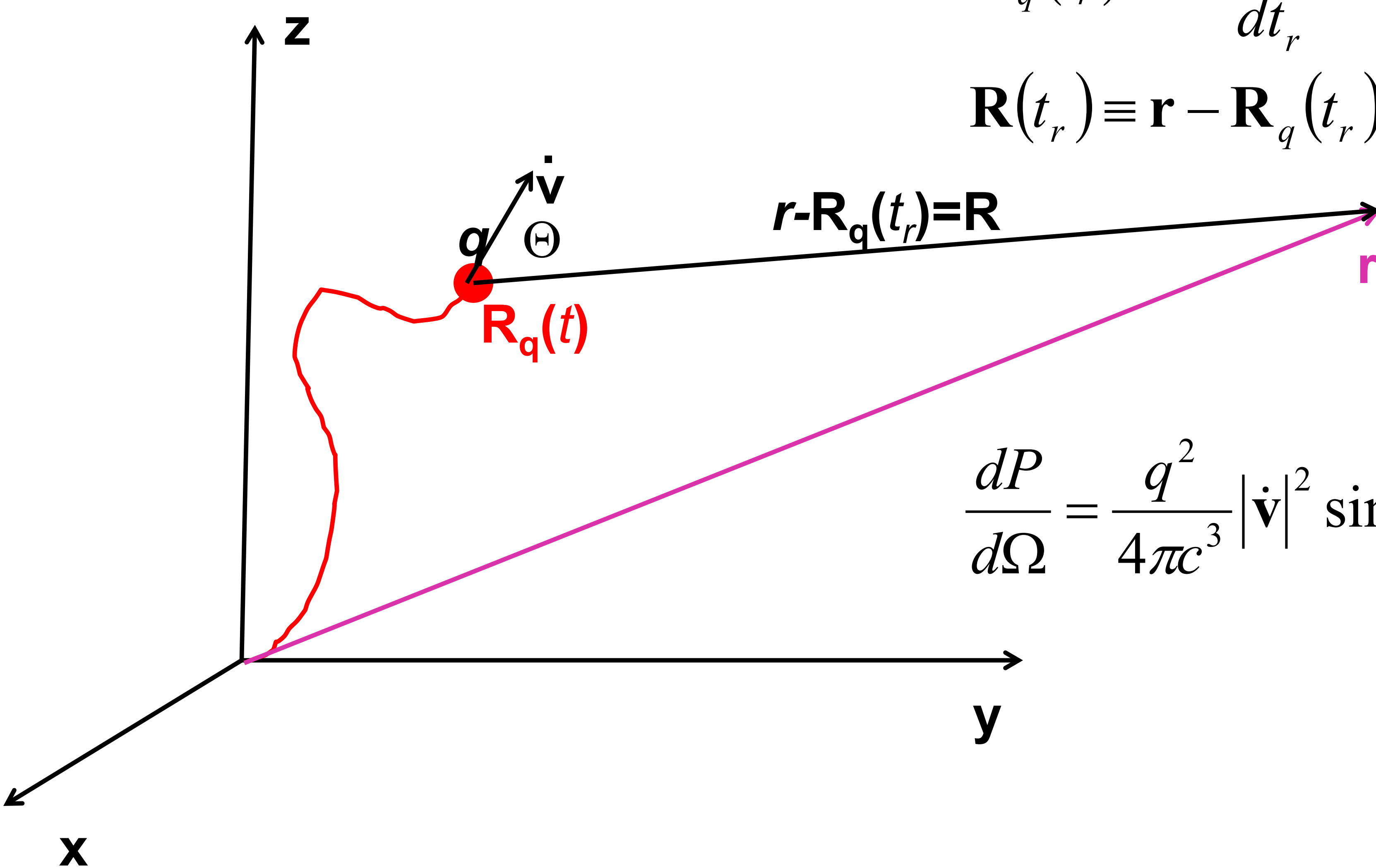
$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \mathbf{S}\cdot\hat{\mathbf{R}}R^2 = \frac{q^2}{4\pi c}\frac{\left|\hat{\mathbf{R}}\times\left[\left(\hat{\mathbf{R}}-\boldsymbol{\beta}\right)\times\dot{\boldsymbol{\beta}}\right]\right|^2}{\left(1-\boldsymbol{\beta}\cdot\hat{\mathbf{R}}\right)^6}$$

In the non-relativistic limit: $\beta << 1$

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{4\pi c}\left|\hat{\mathbf{R}}\times\left[\hat{\mathbf{R}}\times\dot{\boldsymbol{\beta}}\right]\right|^2 = \frac{q^2}{4\pi c^3}\left|\dot{\mathbf{v}}\right|^2\sin^2\Theta$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{R}}\cdot\dot{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \equiv \dot{\beta}\cos\Theta$

Radiation from a moving charged particle



Variables (notation):

$$\dot{\mathbf{R}}_q(t_r) \equiv \frac{d\mathbf{R}_q(t_r)}{dt_r} \equiv \mathbf{v}$$

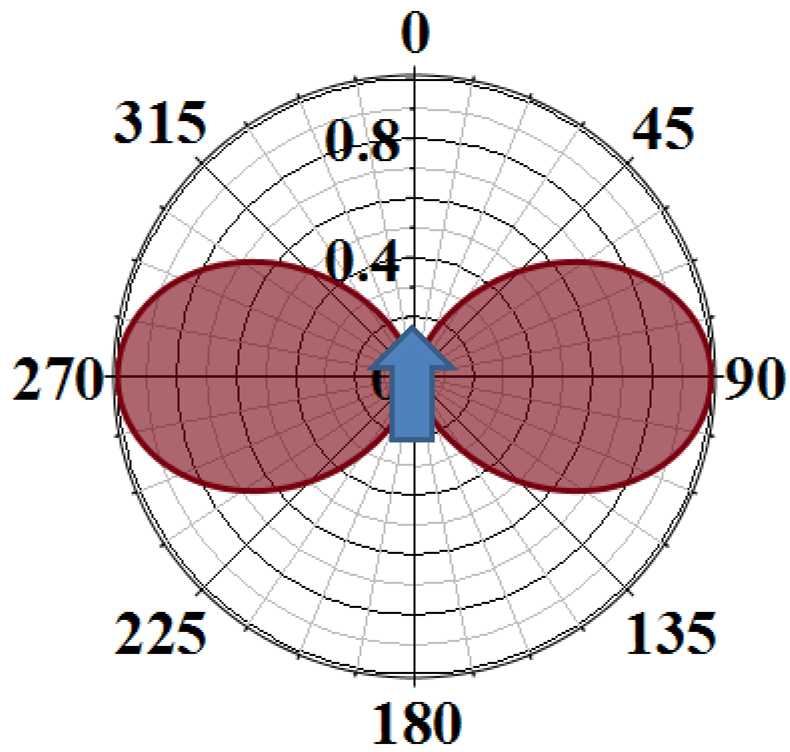
$$\mathbf{R}(t_r) \equiv \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_q(t_r) \equiv \mathbf{R}$$

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{4\pi c^3} |\dot{\mathbf{v}}|^2 \sin^2\Theta$$

Radiation power in non-relativistic case -- continued

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{4\pi c^3} |\dot{\mathbf{v}}|^2 \sin^2 \Theta$$

$$P = \int d\Omega \frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{q^2}{c^3} |\dot{\mathbf{v}}|^2$$



Blue arrow indicates the particle acceleration direction

What do you think will happen when the particle velocities become larger with respect to the speed of light in vacuum?

1. The radiation pattern will be essentially the same.
2. The radiation pattern will be quite different.