



PHY 712 Electrodynamics

10-10:50 AM MWF Olin 103

Discussion for Lecture 32:

Including topics from Chaps. 13 & 15 in JDJ

1. Radiation from collisions of charged particles

a. X-ray tube

b. Radiation from Rutherford scattering

2. Cherenkov radiation

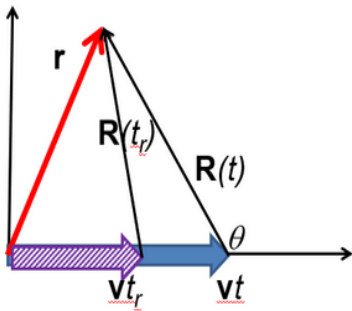


24	Mon: 03/24/2025	Chap. 9	Radiation from time harmonic sources	#20	03/26/2025
25	Wed: 03/26/2025	Chap. 9 & 10	Radiation from scattering	#21	03/28/2025
26	Fri: 03/28/2025	Chap. 11	Special Theory of Relativity	#22	03/31/2025
27	Mon: 03/31/2025	Chap. 11	Special Theory of Relativity	#23	04/02/2025
28	Wed: 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	#25	04/07/2025
30	Mon: 04/07/2025	Chap. 14	Analysis of synchrotron radiation	#26	04/09/2025
31	Wed: 04/09/2025	Chap. 14	Synchrotron radiation and Compton scattering	#27	04/11/2025
32	Fri: 04/11/2025	Chap. 13 & 15	Other radiation -- Cherenkov & bremsstrahlung	#28	04/14/2025
33	Mon: 04/14/2025		Special topic:E & M aspects of superconductivity		
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		

PHY 712 -- Assignment #28

Assigned: 4/11/2025 Due: 4/14/2025

1. In the context of analyzing Cherenkov radiation , we considered a particle of charge q moving at constant velocity \mathbf{v} along the x axis producing electric and magnetic fields at time t at a position \mathbf{r} in the x - y plane. The fields can be evaluated using the Liénard-Wiechert analysis given in Lecture 32 for example, evaluated at the retarded time t_r .



The analysis depends on the ratio of the speed of the particle v to the speed c_n of electromagnetic waves with the medium -- β_n . We showed the following relationship between the lengths $R(t)$, $R(t_r)$, and the angle θ with the x axis.

$$R(t_r) = \frac{R(t)}{\beta_n^2 - 1} \left(-\beta_n \cos \theta \pm \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta} \right)$$

- a. First consider the case of the particle moving in vacuum so that $\beta_n < 1$. Determine the physical solutions in terms of choice of signs and range of angles θ for this case.
- b. Now consider the case of the particle moving in a dielectric medium and moving fast enough so that $\beta_n > 1$. Determine the physical solutions in terms of choice of signs and range of angles θ for this case.

PHY 712 Presentation Schedule

Friday 4/18/2025

	Presenter Name	Topic
10:00-10:24	Edoardo Levati	Self-force
10:25-10:50	Pablo	Polarization in Kerr geometry

Wednesday 4/23/2025

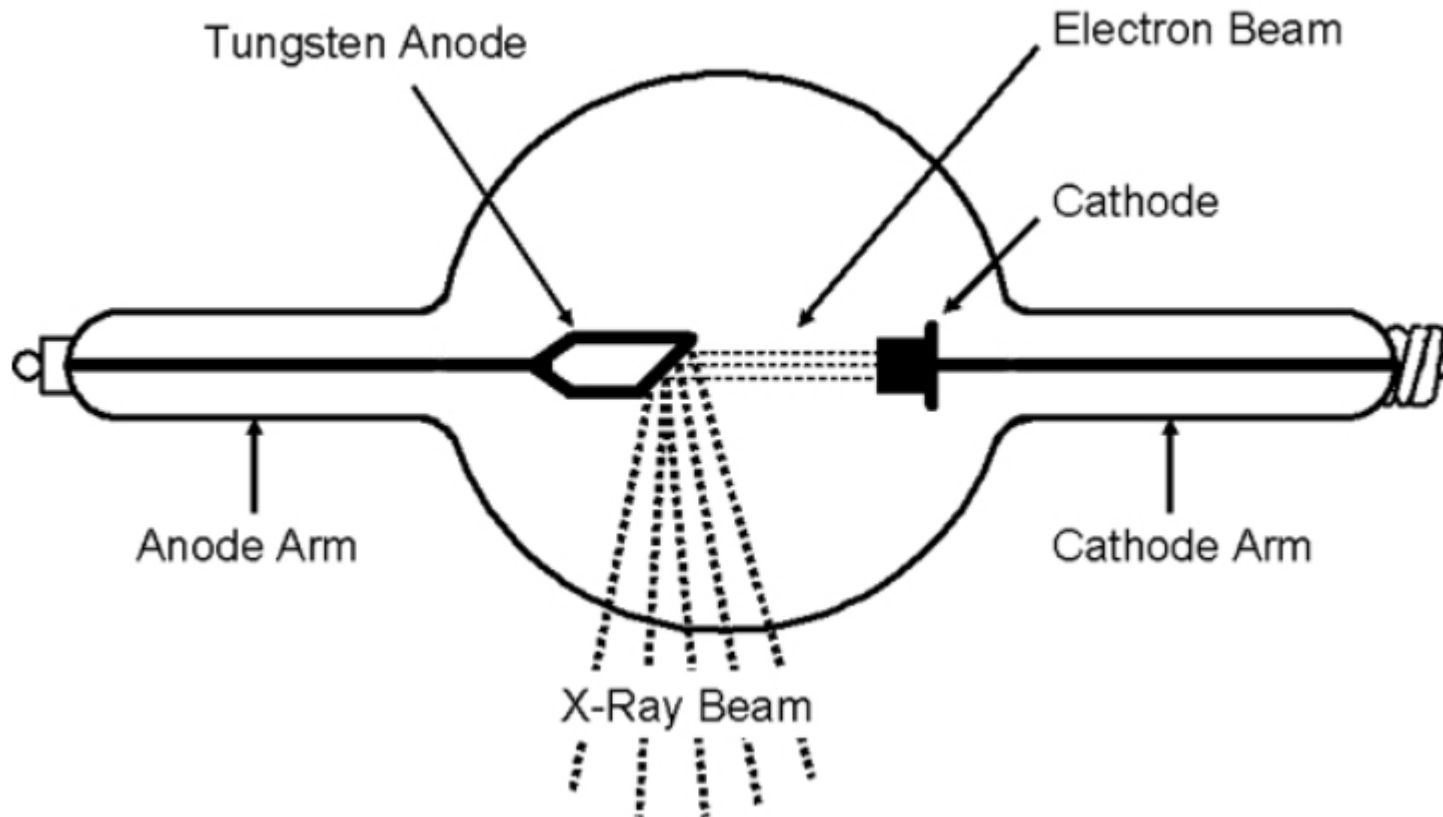
	Presenter Name	Topic
10:00-10:24	Thomas Myers	Ising Model
10:25-10:50	Conall O'Leary	

Friday 4/25/2025

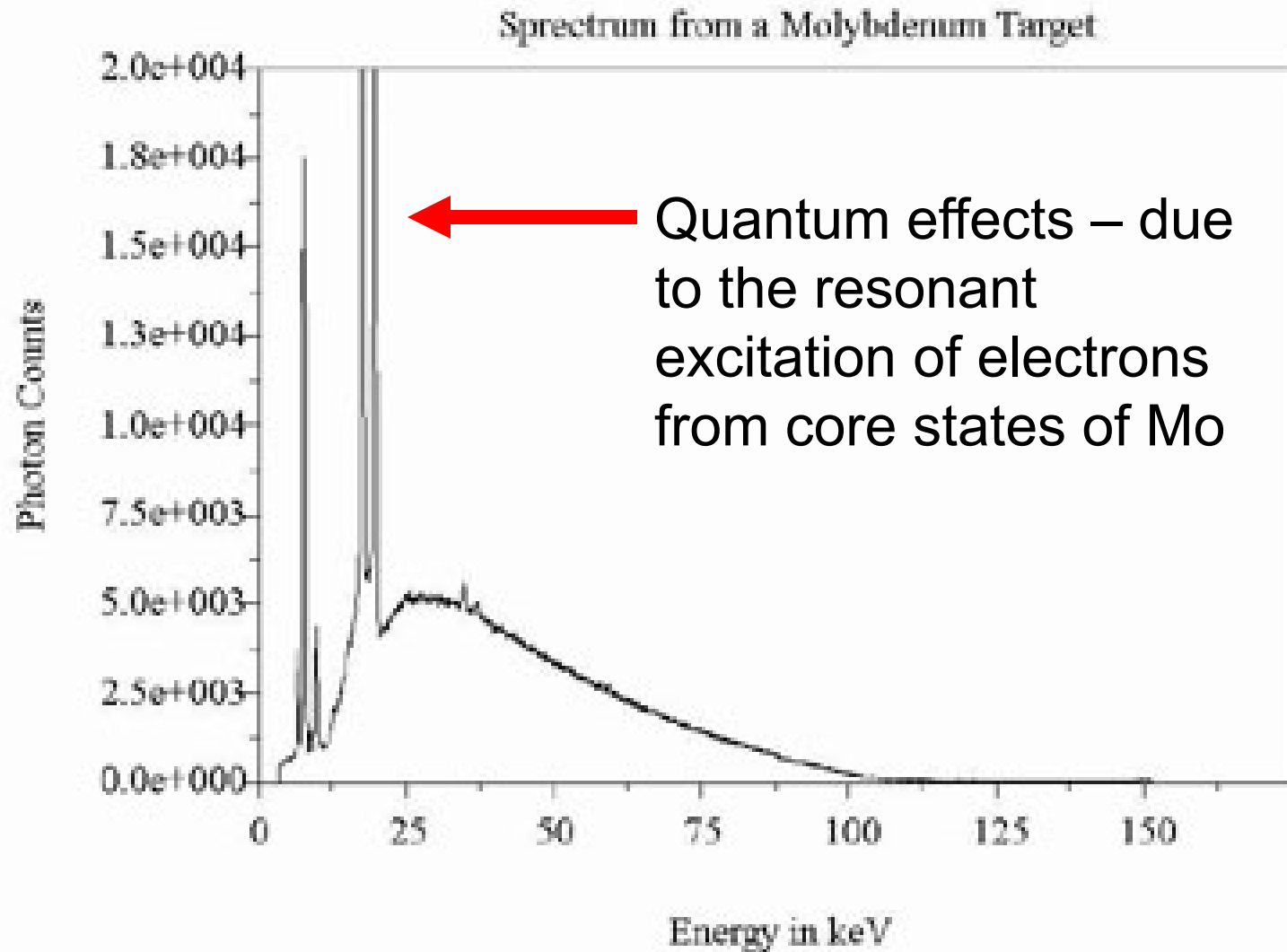
	Presenter Name	Topic
10:00-10:24	Julia Radtke	
10:25-10:50	Bhargava Jogi R	

Generation of X-rays in a Coolidge tube

<https://www.orau.org/ptp/collection/xraytubescoolidge/coolidgeinformation.htm>

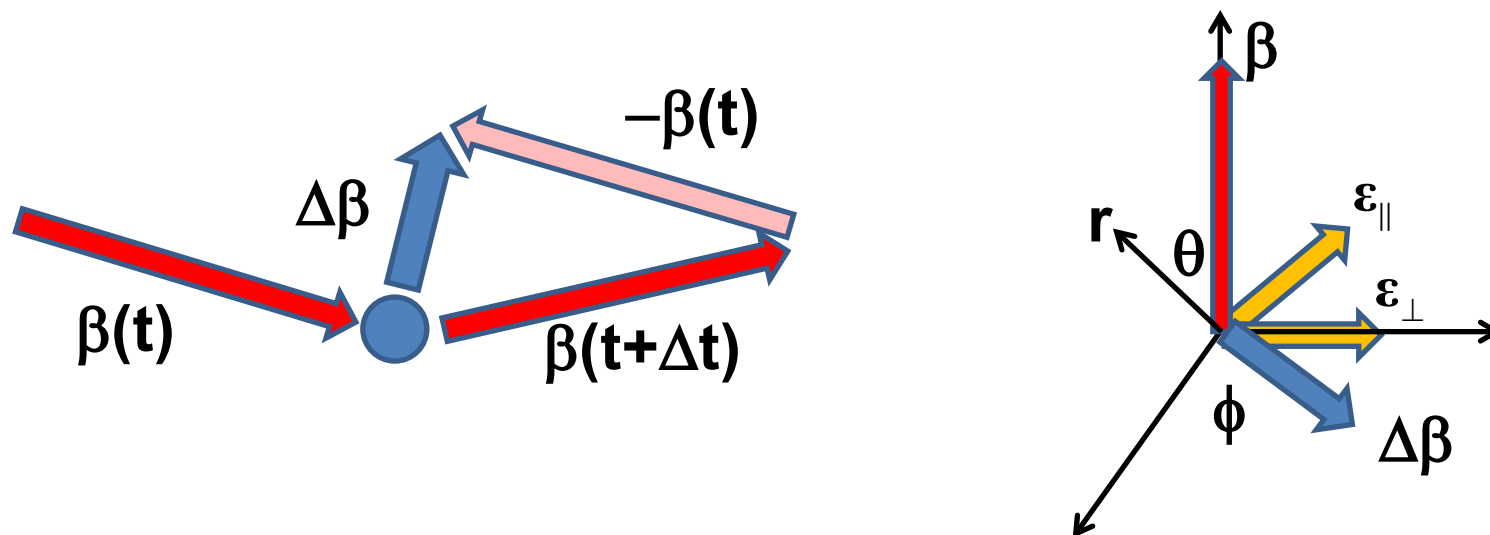


Invented in 1913. Associated with the German word “bremsstrahlung” – meaning breaking radiation.



Radiation during collisions of charged particles

These ideas are presented in Chapter 15 of JDJ and were developed by many famous scientists during the early 1900's.



ϵ_{\parallel} is in the plane of β and r

ϵ_{\perp} is perpendicular to the plane of β and r

Results from previous analyses:

Spectral intensity of radiation from accelerating charged particle :

$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{4\pi^2 c} \left| \int dt e^{i\omega(t - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \mathbf{R}_q(t)/c)} \frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \boldsymbol{\beta})}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}} \right] \right|^2$$

Note that in the following slides we are taking the limit $\omega \rightarrow 0$ but keeping the notation of the differential intensity....

For a collision of duration τ emitting radiation with polarization $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ and frequency $\omega \rightarrow 0$;

$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{4\pi^2 c} \left| \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \cdot \left(\frac{\boldsymbol{\beta}(t + \tau)}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}(t + \tau)} - \frac{\boldsymbol{\beta}(t)}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}(t)} \right) \right|^2$$

Note that $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ is perpendicular to \mathbf{r} .



Radiation during collisions -- continued

For a collision of duration τ emitting radiation with polarization $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ and frequency $\omega \rightarrow 0$:

$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{4\pi^2 c} \left| \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \cdot \left(\frac{\boldsymbol{\beta}(t+\tau)}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}(t+\tau)} - \frac{\boldsymbol{\beta}(t)}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}(t)} \right) \right|^2$$

We will evaluate this expression for two cases:

Non-relativistic limit:

$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{4\pi^2 c} \left| \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \cdot (\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}) \right|^2 \quad \Delta\boldsymbol{\beta} \equiv \boldsymbol{\beta}(t+\tau) - \boldsymbol{\beta}(t)$$

Relativistic collision with small $|\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}| \equiv \boldsymbol{\beta}(t+\tau) - \boldsymbol{\beta}(t) :$

$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{4\pi^2 c} \left| \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \cdot \left(\frac{\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta} + \hat{\mathbf{r}} \times (\boldsymbol{\beta} \times \Delta\boldsymbol{\beta})}{(1 - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})^2} \right) \right|^2$$

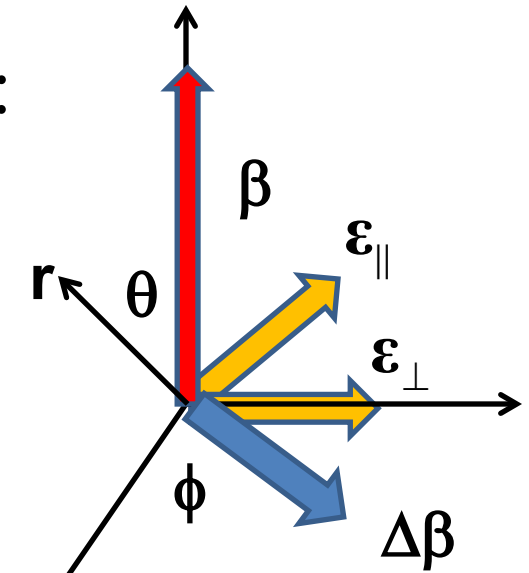
In the limit $\beta \rightarrow 0$, this is the same as the non-relativistic case.

Radiation during collisions -- continued

Relativistic collision with small $|\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|$:

$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{4\pi^2 c} \left| \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \cdot \left(\frac{\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta} + \hat{\mathbf{r}} \times (\boldsymbol{\beta} \times \Delta\boldsymbol{\beta})}{(1 - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta})^2} \right) \right|^2$$

Also assume $\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}$ is perpendicular to $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ direction

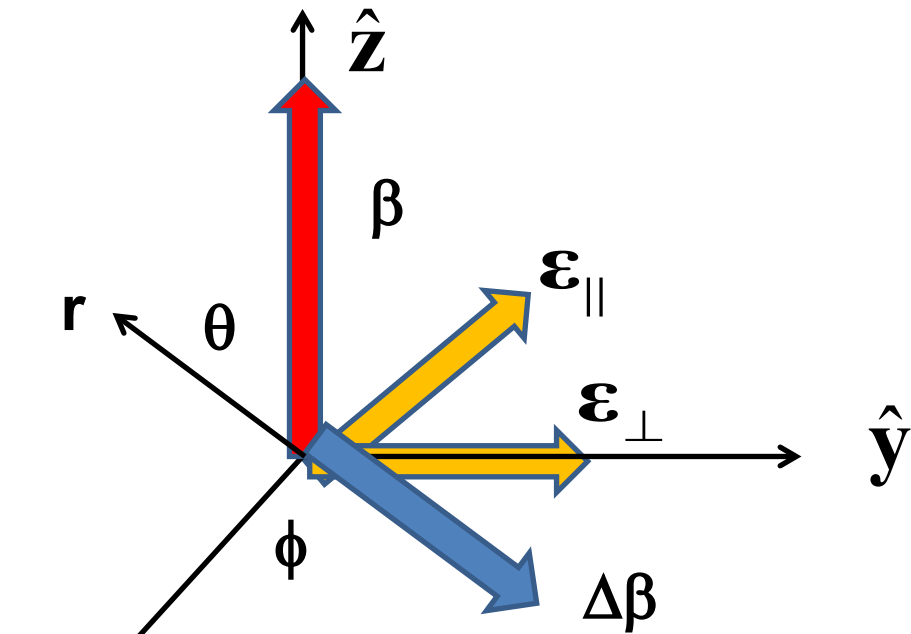


Expressions (averaging over φ) for \parallel or \perp polarization:

$$\frac{d^2 I_{\parallel}}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{8\pi^2 c} |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2 \frac{(\beta - \cos\theta)^2}{(1 - \beta \cos\theta)^4} \quad \text{polarization in } \mathbf{r} \text{ and } \boldsymbol{\beta} \text{ plane}$$

$$\frac{d^2 I_{\perp}}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{8\pi^2 c} |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2 \frac{1}{(1 - \beta \cos\theta)^2} \quad \text{polarization perpendicular to } \mathbf{r} \text{ and } \boldsymbol{\beta} \text{ plane}$$

Some details:



(using geometry of
Fig. 15.2 in Jackson)

$$\boldsymbol{\beta} = \beta \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}} = \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\parallel} = -\cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{z}} \quad \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\perp} = \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

$$\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta} = \Delta\beta (\cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}})$$

**Note: This is a wild
assumption!**



Some details -- continued:

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}} = \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\perp} = \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\parallel} = -\cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

Consistent with
radiation from
charged
particles.

$$\boldsymbol{\beta} = \beta \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

Convenient geometry

$$\Delta \boldsymbol{\beta} = \Delta \beta (\cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}}) \quad \text{Wild guess}$$

$$\Delta \boldsymbol{\beta} + \hat{\mathbf{r}} \times (\boldsymbol{\beta} \times \Delta \boldsymbol{\beta}) = \Delta \boldsymbol{\beta} (1 - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}) + \boldsymbol{\beta} (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \Delta \boldsymbol{\beta})$$

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\perp} \cdot (\Delta \boldsymbol{\beta} + \hat{\mathbf{r}} \times (\boldsymbol{\beta} \times \Delta \boldsymbol{\beta})) = \Delta \beta \sin \phi (1 - \beta \cos \theta)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\parallel} \cdot (\Delta \boldsymbol{\beta} + \hat{\mathbf{r}} \times (\boldsymbol{\beta} \times \Delta \boldsymbol{\beta})) = \Delta \beta \cos \phi (\beta - \cos \theta)$$

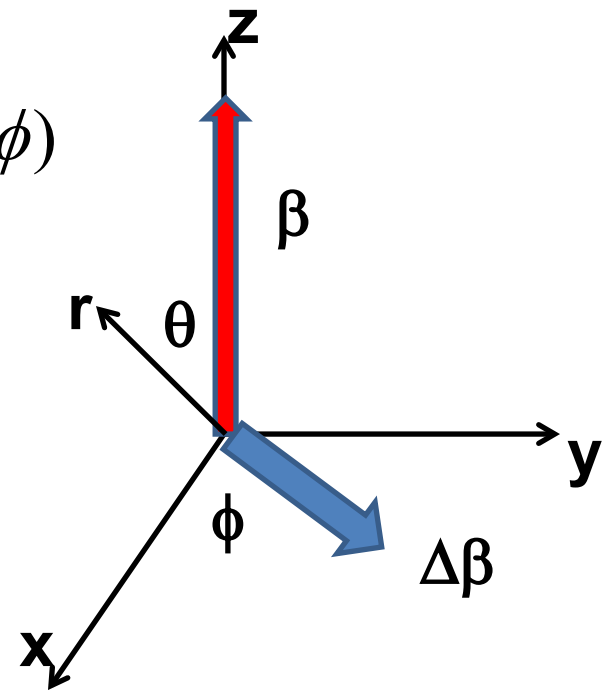


Radiation during collisions -- continued

Intensity expressions: (averaging over ϕ)

$$\frac{d^2 I_{\parallel}}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{8\pi^2 c} |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2 \frac{(\beta - \cos\theta)^2}{(1 - \beta \cos\theta)^4}$$

$$\frac{d^2 I_{\perp}}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{8\pi^2 c} |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2 \frac{1}{(1 - \beta \cos\theta)^2}$$



Relativistic collision at low ω and with small

$|\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|$ and $\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}$ perpendicular to plane of $\hat{\mathbf{r}}$ and $\boldsymbol{\beta}$,

as a function of θ where $\hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta} = \beta \cos\theta$;

Integrating over solid angle:

$$\frac{dI}{d\omega} = \int d\Omega \left(\frac{d^2 I_{\parallel}}{d\omega d\Omega} + \frac{d^2 I_{\perp}}{d\omega d\Omega} \right) = \frac{2}{3\pi} \frac{q^2}{c} \gamma^2 |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2$$

Some more details:

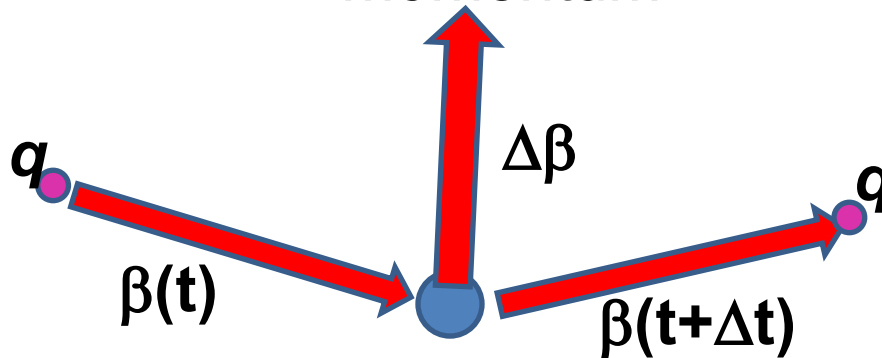
$$\begin{aligned}\int d\Omega \frac{d^2 I_{\parallel}}{d\omega d\Omega} &= \frac{q^2}{8\pi^2 c} |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2 2\pi \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta \frac{(\beta - \cos\theta)^2}{(1 - \beta \cos\theta)^4} \\ &= \frac{q^2}{4\pi c} |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2 \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{(1 - \beta^2)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int d\Omega \frac{d^2 I_{\perp}}{d\omega d\Omega} &= \frac{q^2}{8\pi^2 c} |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2 \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta \frac{1}{(1 - \beta \cos\theta)^2} \\ &= \frac{q^2}{4\pi c} |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2 \frac{2}{(1 - \beta^2)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dI}{d\omega} = \int d\Omega \left(\frac{d^2 I_{\parallel}}{d\omega d\Omega} + \frac{d^2 I_{\perp}}{d\omega d\Omega} \right) = \frac{2}{3\pi} \frac{q^2}{c} \gamma^2 |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2$$

Estimation of $\Delta\beta$

Need to consider the mechanics of collision;
it is convenient to parameterize in terms of
momentum --



Momentum transfer:

$$Qc \equiv |\mathbf{p}(t + \tau) - \mathbf{p}(t)|c \approx \gamma Mc^2 |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|$$

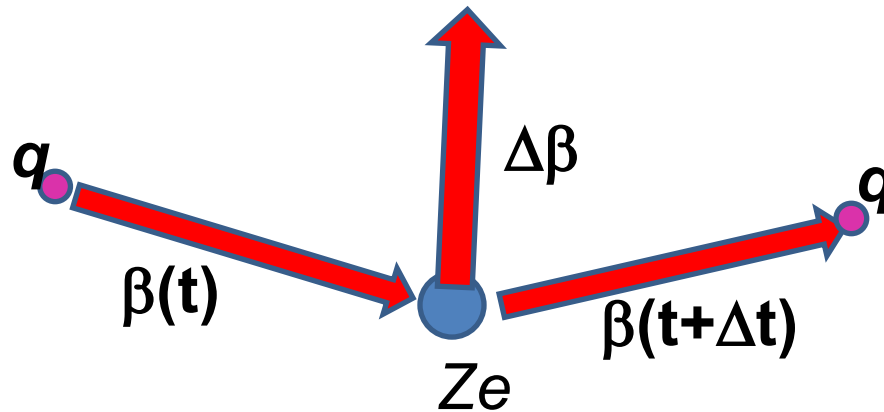
mass of particle
having charge q

$$\frac{dI}{d\omega} = \frac{2}{3\pi} \frac{q^2}{c} \gamma^2 |\Delta\boldsymbol{\beta}|^2 \approx \frac{2}{3\pi} \frac{q^2}{M^2 c^3} Q^2$$

What are the conditions for the validity of this result?

What are possible mechanisms for the momentum transfer Q ?

Estimation of $\Delta\beta$ or Q -- for the case of Rutherford scattering

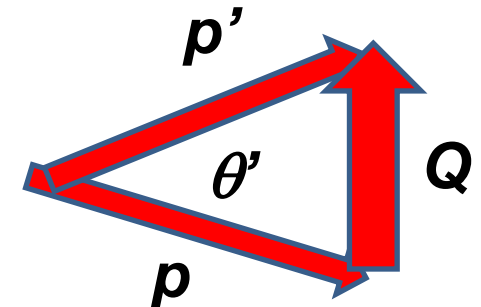


Assume that target nucleus (charge Ze) has mass $\gg M$;
Rutherford scattering cross-section in center of mass analysis:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{2Zeq}{pv} \right)^2 \frac{1}{(2\sin(\theta'/2))^4}$$

Assuming elastic scattering:

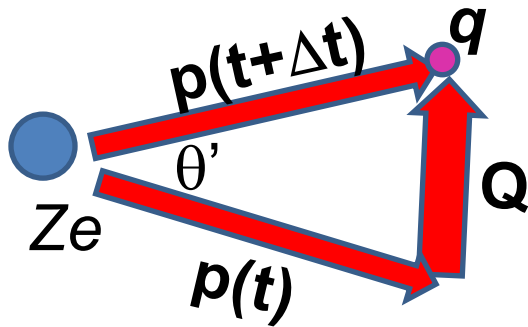
$$Q^2 = (2p\sin(\theta'/2))^2 = 2p^2(1 - \cos\theta')$$





Case of Rutherford scattering -- continued

Rutherford scattering cross-section:



$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{2Zeq}{pv} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\left(2 \sin(\theta'/2) \right)^4}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dQ} = \int_{\varphi'} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \left| \frac{d\Omega}{dQ} \right| d\varphi'$$

$$d\Omega = d\varphi' d \cos \theta'$$

$$Q^2 = \left(2p \sin(\theta'/2) \right)^2 = 2p^2 (1 - \cos \theta')$$

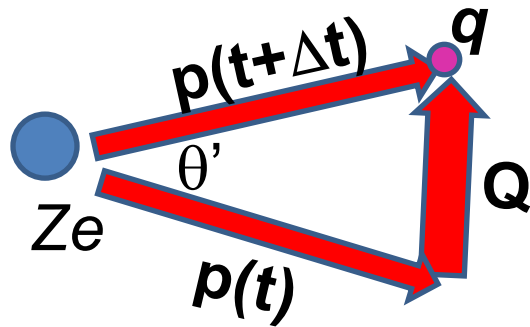
$$dQ = -\frac{p^2}{Q} d \cos \theta'$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d\sigma}{dQ} = 8\pi \left(\frac{Zeq}{\beta c} \right)^2 \frac{1}{Q^3}$$

**Does the algebra
work out?**



Case of Rutherford scattering -- continued



Differential radiation cross section :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2 \chi}{d\omega dQ} &= \frac{dI}{d\omega} \frac{d\sigma}{dQ} = \left(\frac{2}{3\pi} \frac{q^2}{M^2 c^3} Q^2 \right) \left(8\pi \left(\frac{Zeq}{\beta c} \right)^2 \frac{1}{Q^3} \right) \\ &= \frac{16}{3} \frac{(Ze)^2}{c} \left(\frac{q^2}{Mc^2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\beta^2} \frac{1}{Q} \end{aligned}$$



Differential radiation cross section -- continued

Integrating over momentum transfer

$$\frac{d\chi}{d\omega} = \int_{Q_{\min}}^{Q_{\max}} dQ \frac{d^2\chi}{d\omega dQ} = \frac{16}{3} \frac{(Ze)^2}{c} \left(\frac{q^2}{Mc^2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\beta^2} \ln \left(\frac{Q_{\max}}{Q_{\min}} \right)$$

How do the limits of Q occur?

Jackson suggests that these come from the limits of validity of the analysis.

1. Seems like cheating?
2. Perhaps fair?

Comment on frequency dependence --

Original expression for radiation intensity:

$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{4\pi^2 c} \left| \int dt e^{i\omega(t - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \mathbf{R}_q(t)/c)} \frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \boldsymbol{\beta})}{1 - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}} \right] \right|^2$$

In the previous derivations, we have assumed that

$$\omega(t - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \mathbf{R}_q(t)/c) \ll 1.$$

$$\omega(t - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \mathbf{R}_q(t)/c) = \omega \left(t - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \int_0^t dt' \boldsymbol{\beta}(t') \right) \approx \omega \tau (1 - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \langle \boldsymbol{\beta} \rangle)$$

In the non-relativistic case, this means $\omega \tau \ll 1$.

Here τ is the effective collision time.

How to estimate the collision time?

Jackson uses the following analysis in terms of the impact parameter b :

Using classical mechanics and assuming $v \ll c$:

$$\tau \approx \frac{b}{v} \ll \frac{1}{\omega} \quad \text{and} \quad Q \approx \frac{2Zeq}{bv}$$

$$\text{Assume that } Q_{\min} = \frac{2Zeq}{b_{\max} v} = \frac{2Zeq\omega}{v^2}$$



Differential radiation cross section -- continued

Radiation cross section in terms of momentum transfer

$$\frac{d\chi}{d\omega} = \int_{Q_{\min}}^{Q_{\max}} dQ \frac{d^2\chi}{d\omega dQ} = \frac{16 (Ze)^2}{3 c} \left(\frac{q^2}{Mc^2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\beta^2} \ln \left(\frac{Q_{\max}}{Q_{\min}} \right)$$

Note that: $Q^2 = 2p^2(1 - \cos \theta')$ $\Rightarrow Q_{\max} = 2p$

In general, Q_{\min} is determined by the collision time

condition $\omega\tau < 1 \Rightarrow Q_{\min} \approx \frac{2Ze q \omega}{v^2}$

Radiation cross section for classical non - relativistic process

$$\frac{d\chi}{d\omega} = \frac{16 (Ze)^2}{3 c} \left(\frac{q^2}{Mc^2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\beta^2} \ln \left(\frac{\lambda M v^3}{Ze q \omega} \right)$$

$\lambda =$ “fudge factor”
of order unity



Cherenkov radiation



Cherenkov radiation emitted by the core of the Reed Research Reactor located at Reed College in Portland, Oregon, U.S. *Cherenkov radiation*. Photograph. *Encyclopædia Britannica Online*. Web. 12 Apr. 2013.

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/media/174732>



The Nobel Prize in Physics 1958

Pavel A. Cherenkov
Il'ja M. Frank
Igor Y. Tamm



Affiliation at the time of the award: P.N. Lebedev Physical Institute, Moscow, USSR

Prize motivation: "for the discovery and the interpretation of the Cherenkov effect."

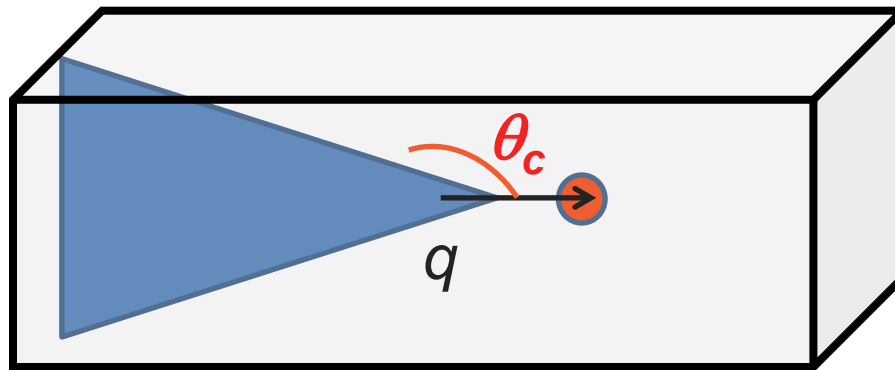
<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/physics/1958/ceremony-speech/>



References for notes: Glenn S. Smith, *An Introduction to Electromagnetic Radiation* (Cambridge UP, 1997), Andrew Zangwill, *Modern Electrodynamics* (Cambridge UP, 2013)

Cherenkov radiation

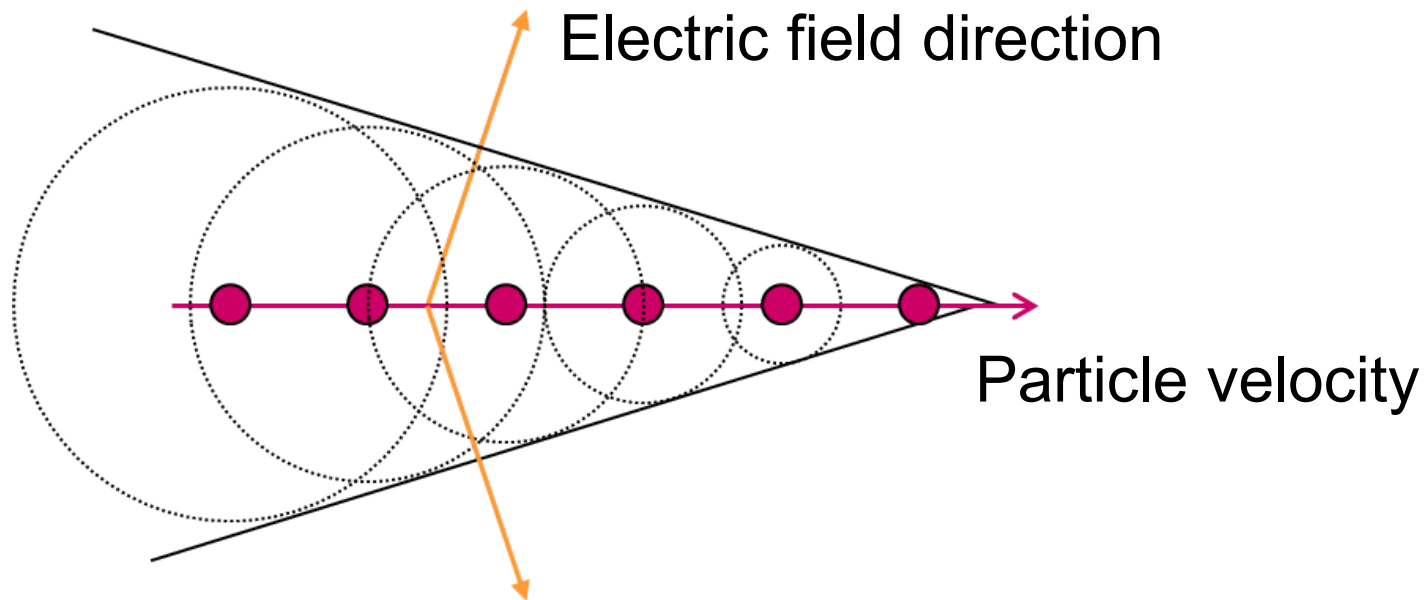
Discovered ~1930; bluish light emitted by energetic charged particles traveling within dielectric materials

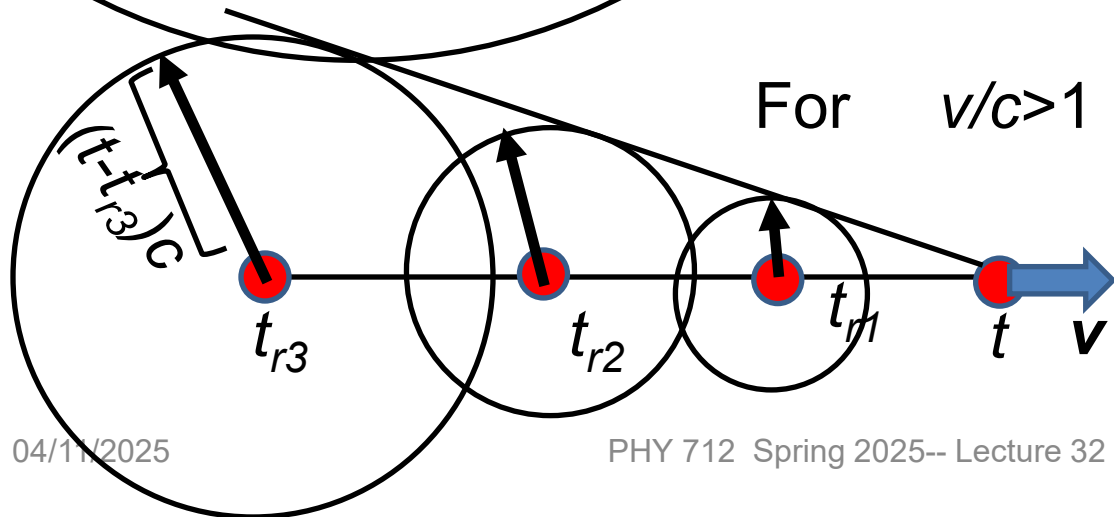
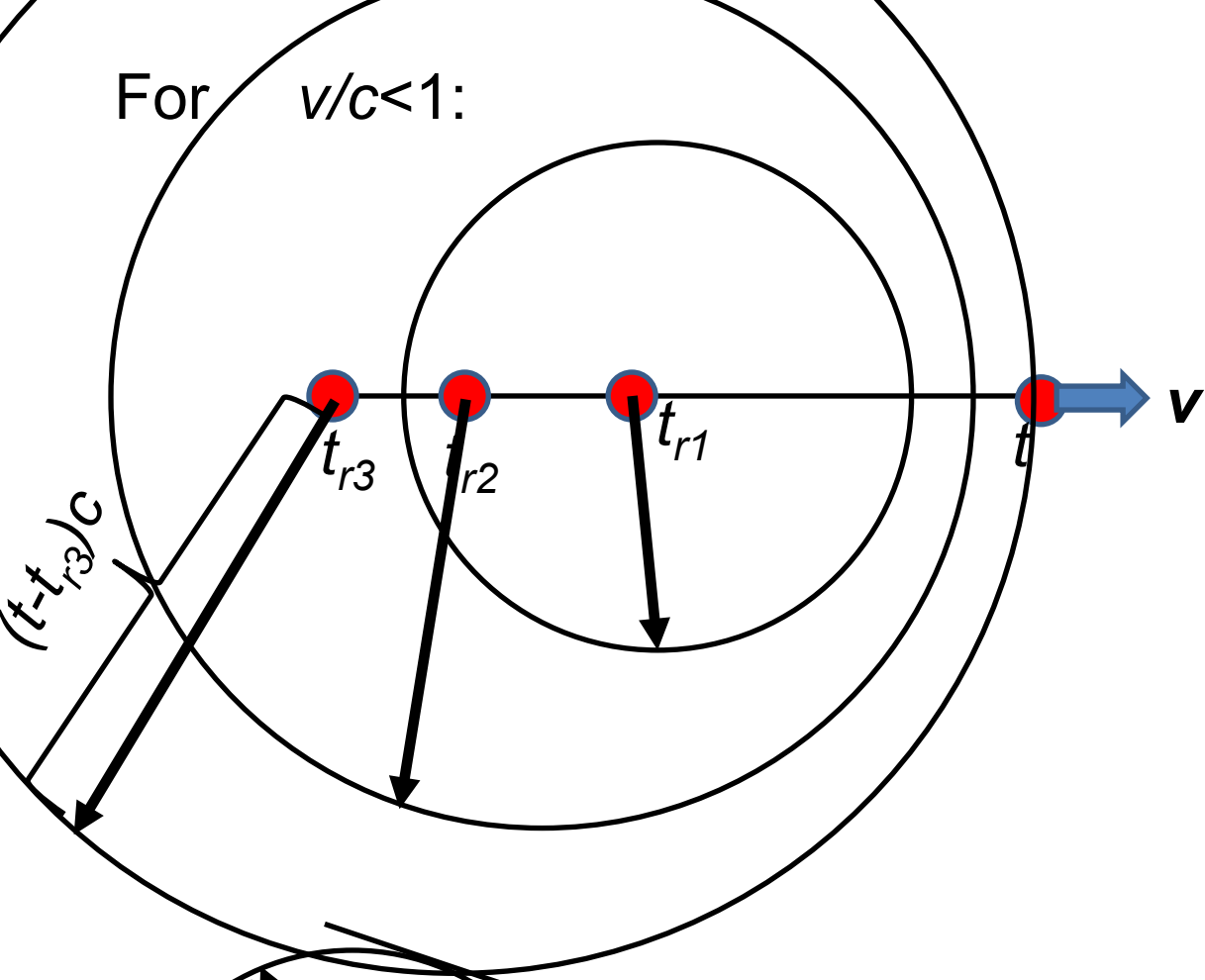


Note that some treatments give a different definition of the critical angle θ_c



From: <http://large.stanford.edu/courses/2014/ph241/alaeeian2/>







Maxwell's potential equations within a material having permittivity and permeability (Lorentz gauge; cgs Gaussian units)

$$\nabla^2 \Phi - \mu\epsilon \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{4\pi}{\epsilon} \rho$$

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{A} - \mu\epsilon \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{A}}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{4\pi\mu}{c} \mathbf{J}$$

Here the values of μ and ϵ depend on the material and on frequency.

Source: charged particle moving on trajectory $\mathbf{R}_q(t)$:

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}, t) = q\delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_q(t))$$



$$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}, t) = q\dot{\mathbf{R}}_q(t)\delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_q(t))$$

q

Liénard-Wiechert potential solutions for charged particle moving within a material with refractive index n :

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{q}{\varepsilon} \frac{1}{\left| R(t_r) - \boldsymbol{\beta}_n \cdot \mathbf{R}(t_r) \right|}$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) = q\mu \frac{\boldsymbol{\beta}_n}{\left| R(t_r) - \boldsymbol{\beta}_n \cdot \mathbf{R}(t_r) \right|}$$

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

$$\boldsymbol{\beta}_n(t_r) \equiv \frac{\dot{\mathbf{R}}_q(t_r)}{c_n} \qquad c_n \equiv \frac{c}{\sqrt{\mu\varepsilon}} \equiv \frac{c}{n}$$

$$t_r = t - \frac{R(t_r)}{c_n}$$

Example --

$$\beta_n \equiv \frac{v}{c_n} \quad c_n \equiv \frac{c}{\sqrt{\mu\epsilon}} \equiv \frac{c}{n} \quad \beta_n \equiv \frac{vn}{c}$$

Consider water with $n \approx 1.3$

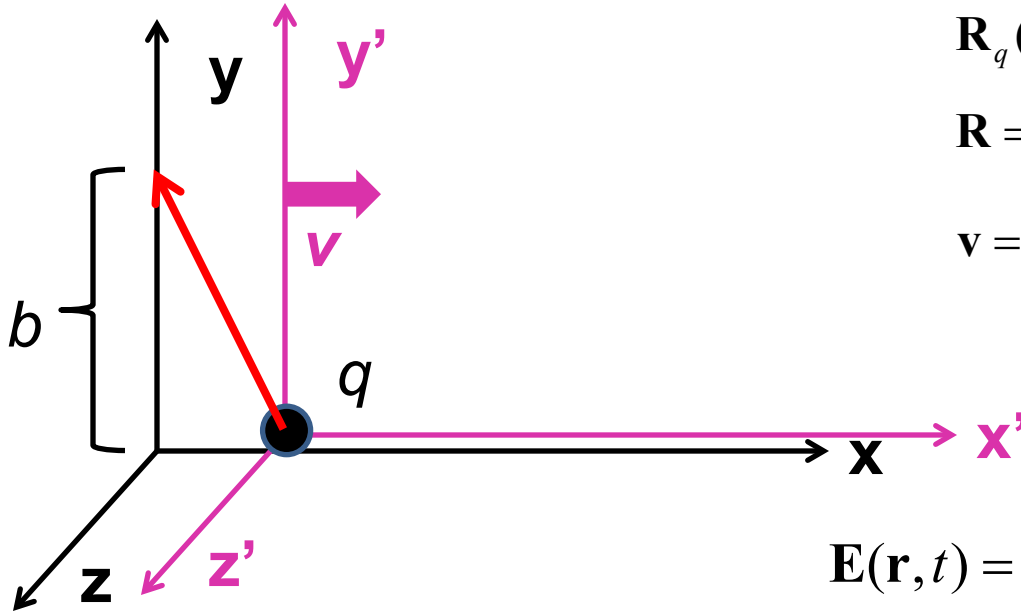
Which of these particles could produce Cherenkov radiation?

1. A neutron with speed c ?
2. An electron with speed $0.6c$?
3. A proton with speed $0.6c$?
4. An electron with speed $0.8c$?
5. An alpha particle with speed $0.8c$?
6. None of these?

Further comment –

As discussed particularly in Chap. 13 of Jackson, a particle moving within a medium is likely to be slowed down so that the Cherenkov effect will only happen while $\beta_n > 1$.

Recall – in Lecture 29, we considered a particle moving at constant velocity v in vacuum:



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

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

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

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

Electric and magnetic fields produced \rightarrow

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

Some details for vacuum case --

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

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

For our example:

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

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

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

t_r must be a solution to a quadratic equation: where $\frac{v}{c} \leq 1$; $\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$

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

with the physical solution:

$$t_r = \gamma \left(\gamma t - \sqrt{(\gamma^2 - 1)t^2 + b^2 / c^2} \right) = \gamma \left(\gamma t - \frac{\sqrt{(v\gamma t)^2 + b^2}}{c} \right)$$



For Cherenkov case --

Consider a particle moving at constant velocity \mathbf{v} ; $v > c_n$

Some algebra

$$\mathbf{R}(t) = \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{v}t$$

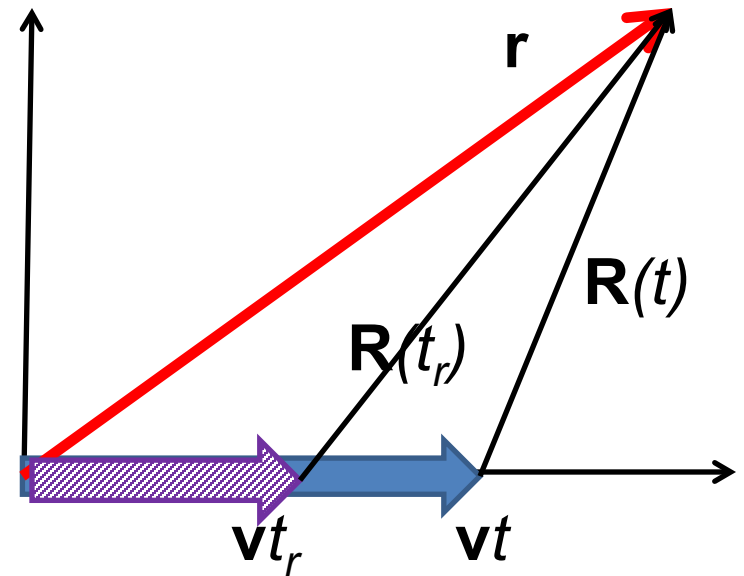
$$\mathbf{R}(t_r) = \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{v}t_r = \mathbf{R}(t) + \mathbf{v}(t - t_r)$$

$$(t - t_r)c_n = R(t_r) = |\mathbf{R}(t) + \mathbf{v}(t - t_r)|$$

Quadratic equation for $(t - t_r)c_n$:

$$\left((t - t_r)c_n\right)^2 = R^2(t) + 2\mathbf{R}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n (t - t_r)c_n + \beta_n^2 \left((t - t_r)c_n\right)^2$$

$$(\beta_n^2 - 1)\left((t - t_r)c_n\right)^2 + 2\mathbf{R}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n (t - t_r)c_n + R^2(t) = 0$$



Quadratic equation for $(t - t_r) c_n \equiv R(t_r)$:

$$(\beta_n^2 - 1) \left((t - t_r) c_n \right)^2 + 2\mathbf{R}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n (t - t_r) c_n + R^2(t) = 0$$

For $\beta_n > 1$, how can the equality be satisfied?

1. No problem
2. It cannot be satisfied.
3. It can only be satisfied for special conditions

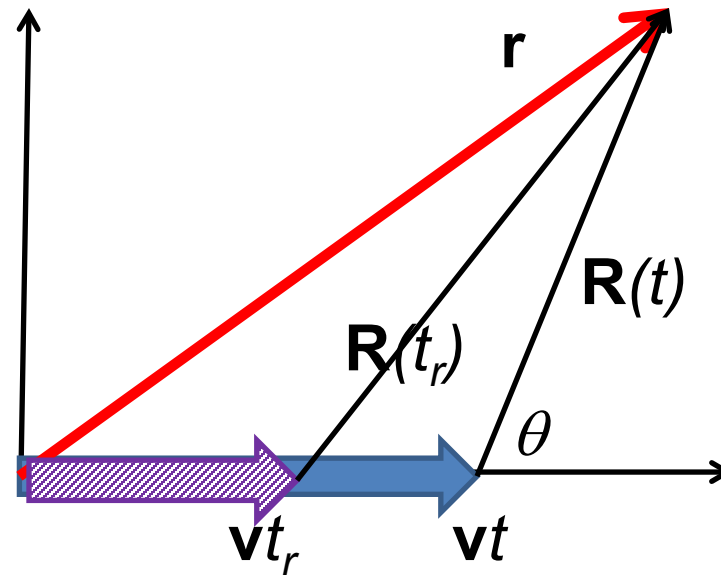
From solution of quadratic equation:

$$(t - t_r) c_n = R(t_r) = \frac{-\mathbf{R}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n \pm \sqrt{(\mathbf{R}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n)^2 - (\beta_n^2 - 1) R^2(t)}}{\beta_n^2 - 1}$$

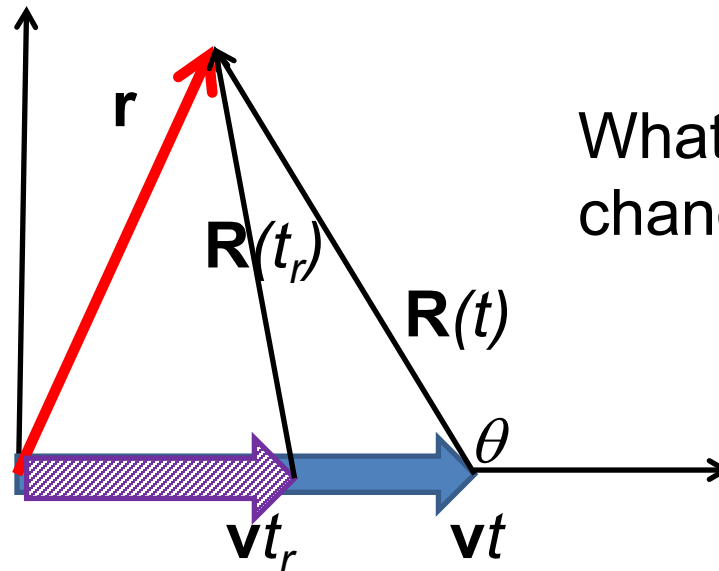
$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{R}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n < 0 \quad (\text{initial diagram is incorrect!})$$

Moreover, there are two retarded time solutions!

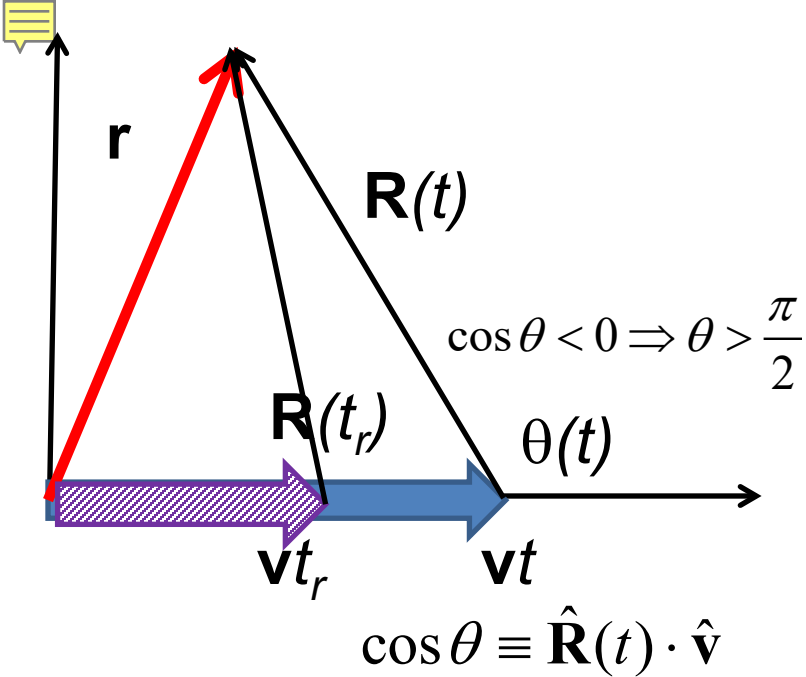
Original diagram:



New diagram:



What is the significance of changing the diagram?



$$\mathbf{R}(t_r) = \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{v}t_r = \mathbf{R}(t) + \mathbf{v}(t - t_r)$$

$$(t - t_r)c_n = R(t_r)$$

$$R(t_r) - \mathbf{R}(t_r) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n =$$

$$(t - t_r)c_n(1 - \beta_n^2) - \mathbf{R}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n$$

$$= R(t_r)(1 - \beta_n^2) - \mathbf{R}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n$$

$$R(t_r) = \frac{-\mathbf{R}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n \pm \sqrt{(\mathbf{R}(t) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n)^2 - (\beta_n^2 - 1)R^2(t)}}{\beta_n^2 - 1}$$

$$R(t_r) = \frac{R(t)}{\beta_n^2 - 1} \left(-\beta_n \cos \theta \pm \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta} \right) = (t - t_r)c_n$$

$$R(t_r) - \mathbf{R}(t_r) \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_n = \mp R(t) \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta}$$



Recall the Liénard-Wiechert potential solutions:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{q}{\varepsilon} \frac{1}{\left| R(t_r) - \boldsymbol{\beta}_n \cdot \mathbf{R}(t_r) \right|}$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) = q\mu \frac{\boldsymbol{\beta}_n}{\left| R(t_r) - \boldsymbol{\beta}_n \cdot \mathbf{R}(t_r) \right|}$$

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

$$\boldsymbol{\beta}_n(t_r) \equiv \frac{\dot{\mathbf{R}}_q(t_r)}{c_n} \qquad c_n \equiv \frac{c}{\sqrt{\mu\varepsilon}} \equiv \frac{c}{n}$$

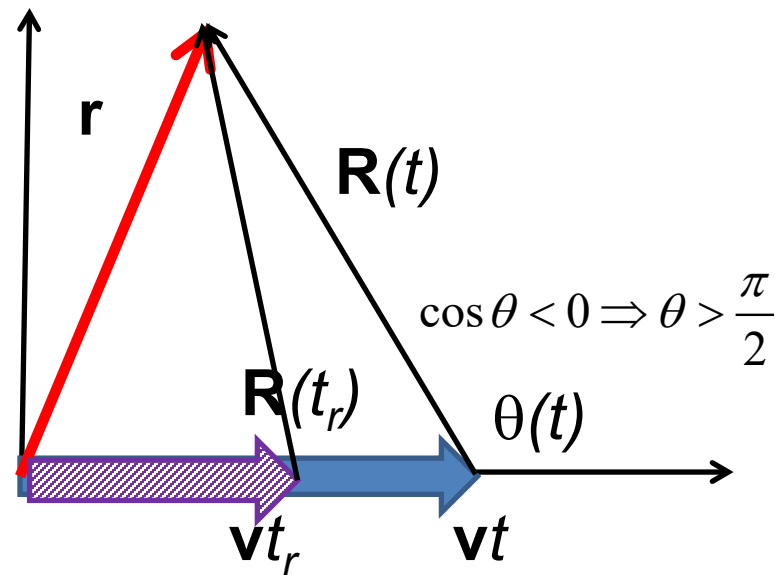
$$t_r = t - \frac{R(t_r)}{c_n}$$



Liénard-Wiechert potentials for two solutions:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{q}{\varepsilon} \frac{1}{\left| \mp R(t) \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta} \right|}$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) = q\mu \frac{\boldsymbol{\beta}_n}{\left| \mp R(t) \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta} \right|}$$



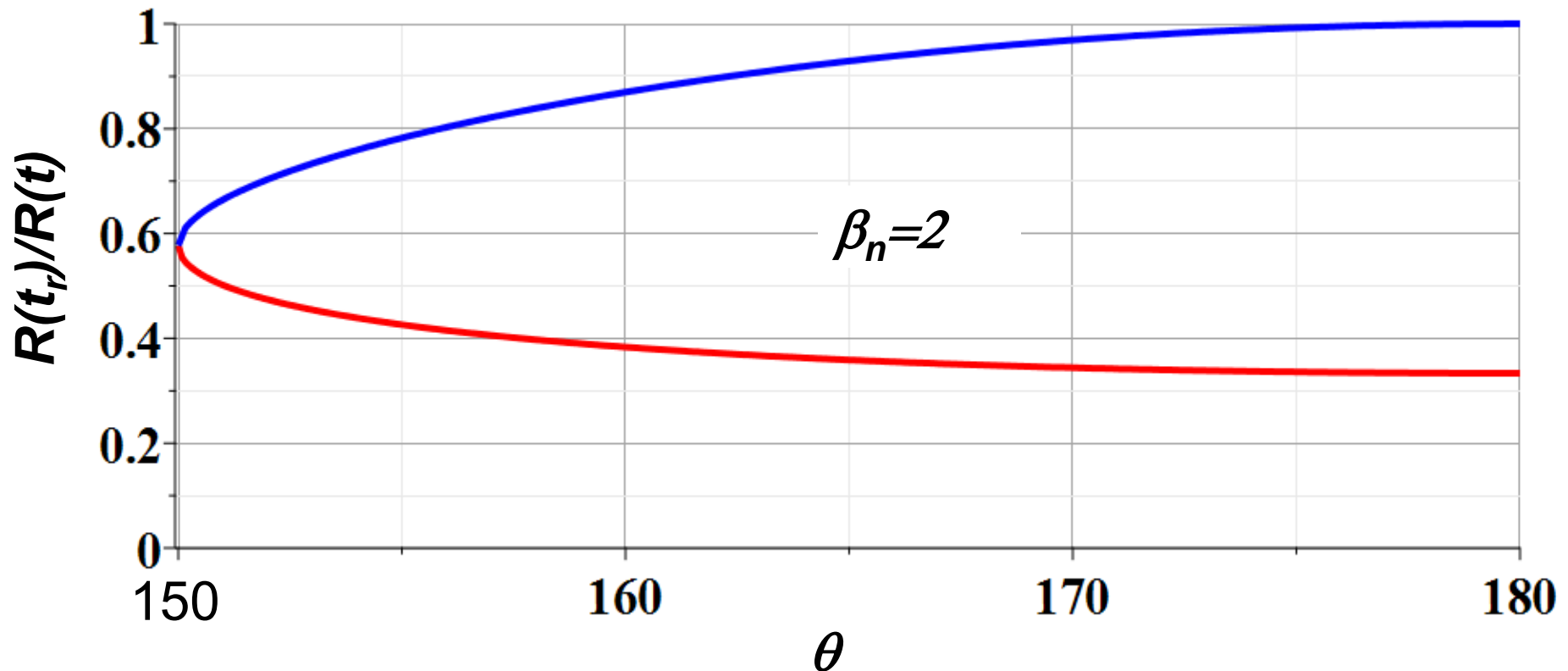
For $\beta_n > 1$, the range of θ is limited further:

$$R(t_r) = \frac{R(t)}{\beta_n^2 - 1} \left(-\beta_n \cos \theta \pm \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta} \right) \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow |\sin \theta| \leq \frac{1}{\beta_n} \equiv |\sin \theta_c| \quad \text{and} \quad \pi \geq \theta_c \geq \pi / 2 \quad \cos \theta_c = -\sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{\beta_n^2}}$$

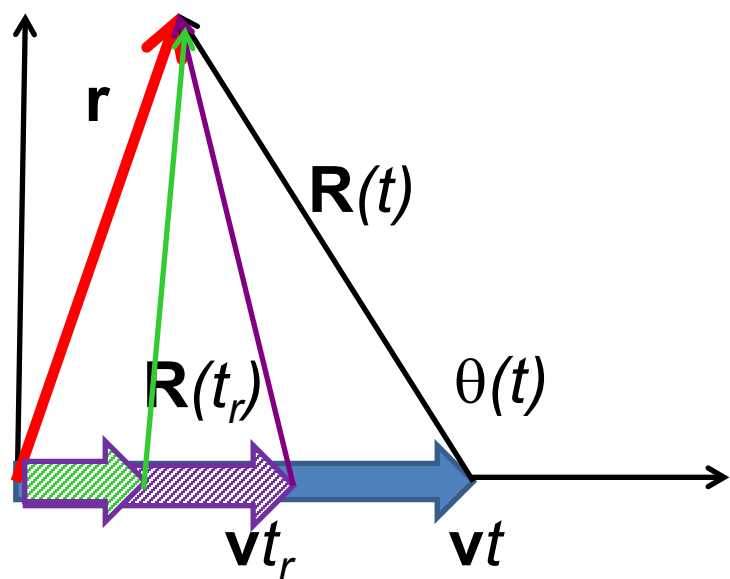
In this range, $\theta \geq \theta_c$

$$R(t_r) = \frac{R(t)}{\beta_n^2 - 1} \left(-\beta_n \cos \theta \pm \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta} \right)$$



$\theta_c = 150^\circ$ for this case

Physical fields for $\beta_n > 1$ -- two retarded solutions contribute



$$\theta \leq \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\beta_n} \right)$$

$$\text{Define } \cos \theta_c \equiv -\sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{\beta_n^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta \leq \cos \theta_c$$

Adding two solutions; in terms of Heaviside $\Theta(x)$:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{2q}{\epsilon} \frac{1}{R(t) \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta}} \Theta(\cos \theta_c - \cos \theta(t))$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) = 2q\mu \frac{\beta_n}{R(t) \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta}} \Theta(\cos \theta_c - \cos \theta(t))$$



Physical fields for $\beta_n > 1$

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{2q}{\varepsilon} \frac{1}{R(t) \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta}} \Theta(\cos \theta_C - \cos \theta(t))$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) = 2q\mu \frac{\beta_n}{R(t) \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta}} \Theta(\cos \theta_C - \cos \theta(t))$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = -\nabla \Phi - \frac{1}{c_n} \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} \quad \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{2q}{\varepsilon} \frac{\hat{\mathbf{R}}}{(R(t))^2 \sqrt{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta}} \times \left(-\frac{\beta_n^2 - 1}{1 - \beta_n^2 \sin^2 \theta} \Theta(\cos \theta_C - \cos \theta(t)) + \sqrt{\beta_n^2 - 1} \delta(\cos \theta_C - \cos \theta(t)) \right)$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = -\beta_n \sin \theta (\hat{\theta} \times \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t))$$

From these results, we need to generate the power spectrum – following the approach in Sec. 23.7 in Zangwill's textbook.

When the dust clears, it can be shown the Cherenkov intensity per unit path length, per frequency is given by --

$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\ell d\omega} \propto \omega (\beta_n^2 - 1)$$

Noting that $c_n = \frac{c}{n(\omega)} = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon(\omega)}}$ $\beta_n = \frac{v}{c_n}$

$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\ell d\omega} \propto \omega \left(\epsilon(\omega) \frac{v^2}{c^2} - 1 \right) = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \left(\epsilon(\omega) \frac{v^2}{c^2} - 1 \right)$$

Visible Light Wavelengths --

700

600

500



$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\ell d\omega} \propto \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \left(\epsilon(\omega) \frac{v^2}{c^2} - 1 \right)$$

If $\epsilon \approx 1.8$ for water, what is the slowest particle speed that can generate Cherenkov radiation?

- a. $v = 0.9c$
- b. $v = 0.8c$
- c. $v = 0.7c$
- d. $v = 0.6c$