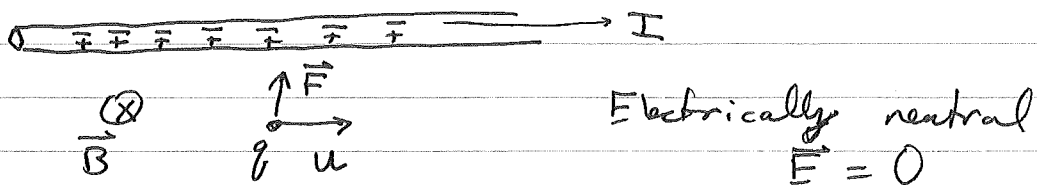


Lecture: #24 Transformation of Fields

• Magnetism as a relativistic phenomena

Is the Lorentz force law consistent with relativity



What if we go to the instantaneous rest frame of q ?
In this frame charge velocity is zero, no force due to mag. field. But charge is attracted to wire

\Rightarrow There must be an effective \vec{E} -field seen by q in its own rest frame

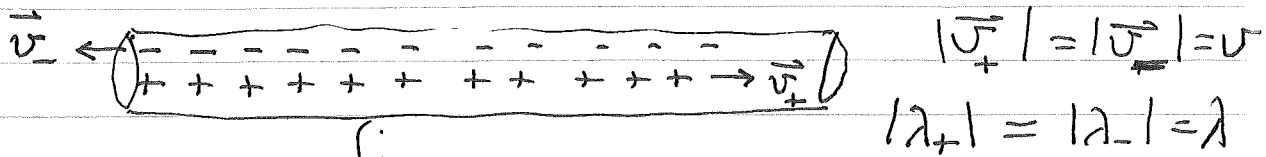
\Rightarrow Magnetic phenomena in one frame is electric phenomenon in another

\Rightarrow One physical quantity: the electromagnetic field

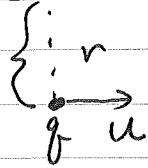
We seek transformation laws

$$(\vec{E}', \vec{B}') \Leftrightarrow (\vec{E}, \vec{B})$$

Model: Two line charges moving in opposite directions



Lab Frame



$$I = 2\lambda v \hat{e}_x$$

$$\lambda_{\text{total}} = 0$$

$$\vec{E} = 0, \quad \vec{B} = \frac{2I}{cr}, \quad F_{\perp} = q \frac{u}{c} B = q \frac{4\lambda}{r} \frac{uv}{c^2} = \frac{4\lambda u}{rc}$$

Transform to the charges instantaneous rest frame

$$c\lambda'_{\text{total}} = -\gamma(u) \frac{u}{c} I \Rightarrow \lambda'_{\text{Total}} = -\gamma(u) \frac{2\lambda uv}{c^2}$$

Net negative charge on wire in q's rest frame!

Physical picture: Length contraction is more for oppositely moving charges compared to co-moving charges

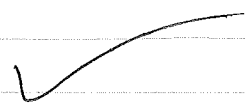


\Rightarrow Net electric field in q's rest frame

$$E' = \frac{2\lambda'_{\text{total}}}{r} = -\gamma(u) \frac{4\lambda}{r} \frac{uv}{c^2}$$

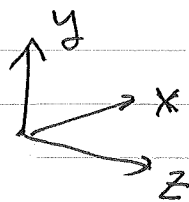
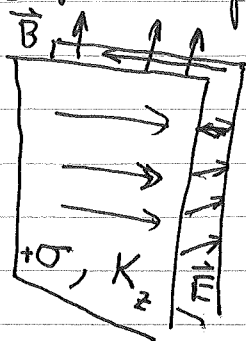
$$\text{Force in } S': F'_{\perp} = q E' = -\gamma(u) q \frac{4\lambda}{r} \frac{uv}{c^2}$$

Agrees with Minkowski ~~Force~~ Force: $F'_{\perp} = \gamma F_{\perp}^{(\text{moving})}$



Transformation Law for fields

Consider a parallel plate with ^{surface} current flowing



In Lab

$$\vec{E} = 4\pi\sigma \vec{e}_x$$

$$\vec{B} = \frac{4\pi}{c} K_z \vec{e}_y$$

Consider Lorentz transformations

- Frame moving with v along \vec{e}_z

$$K'_z = \gamma(K_z - v\sigma) \quad \sigma' = \gamma(\sigma - \frac{v}{c^2} K_z)$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E}'_x = 4\pi\sigma' = \gamma(4\pi\sigma - \frac{v}{c} \frac{4\pi K_z}{c}) = \gamma(E_x - \frac{v}{c} B_y)$$

$$B'_y = \frac{4\pi}{c} K'_z = \gamma(\frac{4\pi}{c} K_z - \frac{v}{c} 4\pi\sigma) = \gamma(B_y - \frac{v}{c} E_x)$$

- Frame moving along \vec{e}_y

$$K'_z = K_z, \quad \sigma' = \gamma\sigma, \quad K'_y = -\gamma v\sigma$$

$$E'_x = 4\pi\sigma' = \gamma E_x, \quad B'_z = -\frac{4\pi}{c} K'_y = \gamma \frac{v}{c} E_x$$

$$B'_y = \frac{4\pi}{c} K'_z = B_y$$

(Cannot consider third transformation given two infinite planes)

⇒ General transformation law

Given \vec{E} and \vec{B} in frame S
seek \vec{E}' and \vec{B}' in frame S'

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E}'_{\perp} &= \gamma (\vec{E}_{\perp} + \frac{\vec{v}}{c} \times \vec{B}_{\perp}) & \vec{E}'_{\parallel} &= \vec{E}_{\parallel} \\ \vec{B}'_{\perp} &= \gamma (\vec{B}_{\perp} - \frac{\vec{v}}{c} \times \vec{E}_{\perp}) & \vec{B}'_{\parallel} &= \vec{B}_{\parallel} \end{aligned}$$

Special cases:

• $\vec{B} = 0$ in $S \Rightarrow$ in S' $\vec{E}'_{\perp} = \gamma (\vec{E}_{\perp})$, $\vec{B}'_{\perp} = -\frac{\vec{v}}{c} \times \gamma \vec{E}_{\perp}$
 $\vec{E}'_{\parallel} = \vec{E}_{\parallel}$, $\vec{B}'_{\parallel} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{B}' = -\frac{\vec{v}}{c} \times \vec{E}'$$

• $\vec{E} = 0$ in $S \Rightarrow$ in S' $\vec{B}'_{\perp} = \gamma \vec{B}_{\perp}$, $\vec{E}'_{\perp} = \frac{\vec{v}}{c} \times \gamma \vec{B}_{\perp}$
 $\vec{B}'_{\parallel} = \vec{B}_{\parallel}$, $\vec{E}'_{\parallel} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E}' = \frac{\vec{v}}{c} \times \vec{B}'$$

If \exists a frame in which either \vec{E} or \vec{B} is zero, then in any other frame \vec{E}' and \vec{B}' are simply related, \perp , and

Note here \rightarrow