

Particle Dynamics

↳ motion of a particle with mass  $m$  and charge  $q$

- $\eta^\mu = \frac{dx^\mu}{dt}$  and  $p^\mu = m\eta^\mu$

- $\frac{dp^\mu}{dt} = q F^{\mu\nu} \eta_\nu$  ( $\sum_{\nu=0}^3$  implicit)

- $F^{\mu\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & E_x/c & E_y/c & E_z/c \\ -E_x/c & 0 & B_z & -B_y \\ -E_y/c & -B_z & 0 & B_x \\ -E_z/c & B_y & -B_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  the electromagnetic field tensor

- The quantity  $F^{\mu\nu}$  must be a tensor; i.e., it must transform as

$$F'^{\mu\nu} = \Lambda^\mu_\rho \Lambda^\nu_\sigma F^{\rho\sigma}$$

↑ ↑  
frame  $\mathcal{F}'$  ← frame  $\mathcal{F}$

Then the equation of motion,  $\frac{dp^\mu}{dt} = q F^{\mu\nu} \eta_\nu$  is covariant; i.e., consistent with the postulate of relativity.

TODAY: Write Maxwell's Equations in tensor form, using  $F^{\mu\nu}$ .

## Maxwell's Equations

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↳ linear in  $F^{\mu\nu}$ ;

and first order in derivatives.

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial F^{\mu\nu}}{\partial x^\nu}}$$

First, an important theorem of tensor analysis:

$\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\mu}$  is like a lower index vector; i.e.,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x^\nu} T^{\alpha\beta\dots\mu\nu} = U^{\alpha\beta\dots\mu}$$

tensor of rank  $N$ ;  
 $N$  indices  $\alpha\beta\dots\mu\nu$

tensor of rank  $N-1$ ;  
 $N-1$  indices  $\alpha\beta\dots\mu$

("Contraction" of index  $\nu$ )

### Examples

- $\phi$  a scalar  $\Rightarrow \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x^\nu}$  a tensor of rank  $-1 = A_\nu$   
(a lower index vector)
- $V^\mu$  a vector  $\Rightarrow \frac{\partial V^\mu}{\partial x^\mu}$  a tensor of rank  $0$   
(a scalar)
- $T^{\mu\nu}$  a tensor  $\Rightarrow \frac{\partial T^{\mu\nu}}{\partial x^\nu}$  a tensor of rank  $1 = U^\mu$   
(an upper index vector)
- etc.

So,  $\frac{\partial F^{\mu\nu}}{\partial x^\nu}$  is a spacetime vector.

What vector is it? ■

$$F^{\mu\nu} = \begin{matrix} \mu & \nu \rightarrow \\ \downarrow & \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & E_x/c & E_y/c & E_z/c \\ -E_x/c & 0 & B_z & -B_y \\ -E_y/c & -B_z & 0 & B_x \\ -E_z/c & B_y & -B_x & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad 12.4/3$$

$$\frac{\partial F^{\mu\nu}}{\partial x^\nu}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Case } \mu=0} \quad \frac{\partial F^{0\nu}}{\partial x^\nu} = \frac{\partial F^{00}}{\partial x^0} + \frac{\partial F^{0i}}{\partial x^i} \quad (\sum_{i=1}^3 \text{ implicit})$$

$$= 0 + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \left( \frac{E^i}{c} \right) = \frac{1}{c} \nabla \cdot \vec{E}$$

$$= \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \quad \text{by Gauss's law} \quad \underline{\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \rho/\epsilon_0}$$

Write  $\frac{\partial F^{0\nu}}{\partial x^\nu} = \mu_0 J^0$  where  $J^0 = \frac{\rho}{c \epsilon_0 \mu_0} = c\rho$ .

$$\boxed{\text{Case } \mu=i (=1,2,3)} \quad \frac{\partial F^{i\nu}}{\partial x^\nu} = \frac{\partial F^{i0}}{\partial x^0} + \frac{\partial F^{ij}}{\partial x^j} \quad (\sum_j)$$

$$= \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{-E^i}{c} \right) + \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} B^k$$

$$= -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial E^i}{\partial t} + (\nabla \times \vec{B})^i$$

$$= \mu_0 J^i \quad \text{by the Ampère-Maxwell law} \quad \underline{\nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{J} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}}$$

Result  $\frac{\partial F^{\mu\nu}}{\partial x^\nu} = \mu_0 J^\mu$  where  $J^\mu = \begin{bmatrix} c\rho \\ J_x \\ J_y \\ J_z \end{bmatrix}$

Comments

- (1) Two of Maxwell's equations are contained in  $\partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} = \mu_0 J^\mu$ .
- (2) Tensor form  $\Rightarrow$  manifestly covariant.
- (3)  $J^\mu$  must transform as a Lorentz vector.
- (4) Since  $F^{\mu\nu}$  is antisymmetric,  $\partial_\mu \partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu} = 0$ .

I.e.  $\frac{\partial J^\mu}{\partial x^\mu} = 0 \quad \leftarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial J^0}{\partial x^0} + \frac{\partial J^i}{\partial x^i} = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \vec{J} = 0 \\ \text{THE CONTINUITY EQUATION} \end{array} \right.$

UND NUN WIR MÜSSEN DER  
ALTERE ZWEI VON MAXWELL GLEICHUNGEN

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Tensor Analysis — the totally antisymmetric tensor

- In 3 dimensions, it's the Levi-Civita tensor

$$\epsilon_{ijk} = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{for } ijk = 123, 231, 312 \\ -1 & \text{for } ijk = 213, 132, 321 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise (i.e., if } ijk \text{ are not} \\ & \text{all different)} \end{cases}$$

Note that  $\epsilon_{ijk}$  is totally antisymmetric.

E.g.,  $\epsilon_{jki} = -\epsilon_{ijk}$ ; or  $\epsilon_{kji} = -\epsilon_{ijk}$ ; etc.

- In 3 dimensions, we can construct a vector from a tensor by contraction of indices with  $\epsilon_{ijk}$

$$A_i = \epsilon_{ijk} T_{jk} \quad \left( \sum_{j,k} \text{ implied} \right) \quad \begin{cases} A_x = T_{yz} - T_{zy} \\ A_y = T_{zx} - T_{xz} \\ A_z = T_{xy} - T_{yx} \end{cases}$$

Example The cross product of vectors:  $\vec{C} = \vec{A} \times \vec{B}$

$$C_i = \epsilon_{ijk} A_j B_k \quad \begin{cases} C_x = A_y B_z - A_z B_y \\ C_y = A_z B_x - A_x B_z \\ C_z = A_x B_y - A_y B_x \end{cases}$$

↑ vector                      ↓ tensor

- In 3 dimensions, the curl

$$(\nabla \times \vec{F})_i = \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} F_k$$

↑ vector                      ↓ tensor

All that is for 3 dimensions.

Now generalize it to 4 dimensional spacetime.

The totally antisymmetric tensor in 4 dimensions 12.4/5

$$\epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } \mu\nu\alpha\beta = 0123 \text{ or any even permutation of } 0123 \\ -1 & \text{if } \mu\nu\alpha\beta = 1023 \text{ or any odd permutation of } 0123 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise [i.e., if } \mu\nu\alpha\beta \text{ are not all different]} \end{cases}$$

Properties

$$\epsilon_{\nu\mu\alpha\beta} = -\epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}, \text{ etc.}$$

$$\epsilon_{2031} = -\epsilon_{0231} = -\epsilon_{0123} = -1, \text{ etc.}$$

- How to construct the DUAL TENSOR of  $F^{\mu\nu}$ :

$$G_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta}$$

$\sum_{\alpha, \beta}$  of course  
Lower indices tensor

$$G^{\mu\nu} = g^{\mu\rho} g^{\nu\sigma} G_{\rho\sigma}$$

raise indices with  $g^{\mu\nu}$   
 $g^{\mu\nu} = \text{diag}(-1, 1, 1, 1)$   
 i.e., same as  $g_{\mu\nu}$ .

$$G_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\rho} g_{\nu\sigma} G^{\rho\sigma}$$

lower indices with  $g_{\mu\nu}$

Crucial point is that  $G^{\mu\nu}$  is a tensor;

$$G'^{\mu\nu} = \Lambda^\mu_\alpha \Lambda^\nu_\beta G^{\alpha\beta} \text{ is the Lorentz transformation.}$$

The DUAL TENSOR

$$G_{\mu\nu} = 0 \text{ if } \mu = \nu$$

$$G_{0i'} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{0i'\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij'k} F^{jk} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij'k} \epsilon_{j'k\ell} B^\ell = B^{i'}$$

$2\delta_{i\ell}$

$$G^{0i'} = -G_{0i'} = -B^{i'}$$

$$G^{i'0} = +B^{i'}$$

$$G_{ij'} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij'\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij'ok} F^{ok} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij'ko} F^{ko}$$

$$= \epsilon_{ij'k} F^{ok} = \epsilon_{ij'k} \frac{E^k}{c}$$

$$G^{j'i} = \epsilon_{ij'k} \frac{E^k}{c}$$

Put all that together in a 4x4 matrix:

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$$G^{uv} = \begin{array}{c|cccc} \mu \backslash \nu & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & -B_x & -B_y & -B_z \\ 1 & B_x & 0 & E_z/c & -E_y/c \\ 2 & B_y & -E_z/c & 0 & E_x/c \\ 3 & B_z & E_y/c & -E_x/c & 0 \end{array}$$

Compare it to  $F^{uv}$ .

$$G^{uv}(\vec{E}, \vec{B}) = F^{uv}(-\vec{B}, \vec{E})$$

i.e., reversal of  $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{B}$ .

Replacing  $\vec{E} \rightarrow -\vec{B}$  and  $\vec{B} \rightarrow \frac{\vec{E}}{c}$  converts  $F^{uv} \rightarrow G^{uv}$ .

The field equations Evaluate  $\frac{\partial G^{uv}}{\partial x^\nu}$ .

$$\boxed{\text{Case } \mu=0} \quad \frac{\partial G^{0\nu}}{\partial x^\nu} = \frac{\partial G^{0i}}{\partial x^i} = \nabla \cdot (-\vec{B}) = -\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

by Gauss's law;  $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$ .

$$\boxed{\text{Case } \mu=i} \quad \frac{\partial G^{i\nu}}{\partial x^\nu} = \frac{\partial G^{i0}}{\partial x^0} + \frac{\partial G^{ij}}{\partial x^j}$$

$$= \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} B^i + \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \frac{E^k}{c}$$

$$= \frac{1}{c} \left\{ \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} + \nabla \times \vec{E} \right\}^i = 0$$

by Faraday's law;

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}.$$

So, these two Maxwell equations are simply

$$\frac{\partial G^{uv}}{\partial x^\nu} = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad G_{uv} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{uv\rho\sigma} F^{\rho\sigma}$$

Maxwell's equations in tensor form

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$$\frac{\partial F^{\mu\nu}}{\partial x^\nu} = \mu_0 J^\mu \quad \text{where} \quad J^\mu = \begin{bmatrix} c\rho \\ J_x \\ J_y \\ J_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial G^{\mu\nu}}{\partial x^\nu} = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad G_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} F^{\rho\sigma}$$

Quiz Question

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(A)  $F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}$  is a scalar, i.e., invariant with respect to Lorentz transformations.

Express  $F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}$  in terms of **E** and **B**.

(B)  $F^{\mu\nu} G_{\mu\nu}$  is a scalar, i.e., invariant with respect to Lorentz transformations.

Express  $F^{\mu\nu} G_{\mu\nu}$  in terms of **E** and **B**.