Physics 611

Homework #1

1. In Heaviside-Lorentz units the force between two point charges can be written as (in magnitude)

$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{|q_1 q_2|}{r^2},$$

and the Lorentz force is

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{E} + q\frac{\vec{v}}{c} \times \vec{B}.$$

a) Write Maxwell's equations in Heaviside-Lorentz units.

b) The energy density in the electric and magnetic fields in SI units is

$$u = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2}\vec{E}^2 + \frac{1}{2\mu_0}\vec{B}^2.$$

Rewrite the energy density formula in gaussian and in Heaviside-Lorentz units.

c) Work out what magnetic field in gaussian units corresponds to a magnetic field of 1 Tesla in SI units.

2. Show that for a general but suitably differentiable function z = z(x, y) that

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial y}\Big|_z \frac{\partial y}{\partial z}\Big|_x \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\Big|_y = -1.$$

3. ϵ exercises. Tensor ϵ_{ijk} (where each of *i*, *j*, *k* has allowed values 1, 2, 3) is a totally antisymmetric tensor normalized by $\epsilon_{123} = 1$.

Notice that the ϵ -symbol is useful for writing cross products: $(\vec{A} \times \vec{B})_i = \epsilon_{ijk}A_jB_k \equiv \sum_{jk} \epsilon_{ijk}A_jB_k$. a) Convince yourself that

$$\sum_{i} \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{ilm} \equiv \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{ilm} = \delta_{jl} \delta_{km} - \delta_{jm} \delta_{kl} \,.$$

b) Show that

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \left(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}
ight) = - \nabla^2 \vec{B} + \vec{\nabla} \left(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B}
ight) \,.$$

c) Show that

$$(\vec{A}\times\vec{B})\cdot(\vec{C}\times\vec{D})=(\vec{A}\cdot\vec{C})(\vec{B}\cdot\vec{D})-(\vec{A}\cdot\vec{D})(\vec{B}\cdot\vec{C})\,.$$

4. Jackson problem 6.1.

5. Jackson problem 6.11. (If you are uncertain about the "solar wind,", you may omit the response to the question in the last sentence of the problem.)