

Physics 212 : Fifteenth week assignment:

Reading: Study sections 7-8, 11, 13, 16 -18 of chapter 25 and the lecture notes for doing the problems.

The handout by Brian Greene should be interesting also and fun to read.

Tues, Dec 5: Lecture. There will also be a short quiz during the period.

Homework problems to be handed in at the beginning of the Workshop on Wed, Dec 6: problems 12, 17 and 26 of chapter 25.

Wed, Dec 6: In this Workshop you will consider questions 8 and 10 on page 1194 as well as problems 14, 19 and 38 of chapter 25.

Thurs, Dec 7: Lecture.

Homework problems to be handed in at the beginning of the Workshop on Fri, Dec 8: problems 49, 50, 58 and 59 of chapter 25.

Fri, Dec 8: In this Workshop you will consider question 12 on page 1194 as well as problems 39, 64 and 66 of chapter 25.

Remember that the final exam is scheduled for ~~Fri~~, Dec 12, 7:15-9:15 pm in Stolkin.

Tues.

3. (25 points) Waves and relativity.

(a) A plane, sinusoidal wave of frequency 1×10^6 Hz and amplitude 3×10^{-2} V/m is polarized in the x direction while propagating in the positive z direction. First sketch the electric and magnetic field vectors. Then give the mathematical expression for $E_z(x,t)$ with appropriate numbers.

(b) Remember that in Relativity the momentum of a particle with rest mass, m and velocity, v is:

$$\underline{p} = \frac{m \underline{v}}{\sqrt{1 - |\underline{v}|^2/c^2}}$$

while the energy is:

$$E = \frac{m c^2}{\sqrt{1 - |\underline{v}|^2/c^2}}$$

Both p and E are conserved in any microscopic collision. (In other words, the sum of all initial particle momenta (energies) equals the sum of all the final particle momenta (energies)). Now suppose an unstable particle of mass M, in its rest frame, decays into two identical particles which each have mass, m.

BEFORE

AFTER

$\bullet M$

$\leftarrow m \quad m \rightarrow$

What is the initial momentum? Show that momentum conservation in the form,

$$\underline{p}_{initial} = \frac{m \underline{v}_1}{\sqrt{1 - |\underline{v}_1|^2/c^2}} + \frac{m \underline{v}_2}{\sqrt{1 - |\underline{v}_2|^2/c^2}}$$

requires $\underline{v}_1 = -\underline{v}_2$.

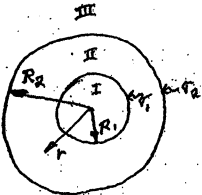
(c) What is the initial energy of the decaying particle at rest? Use energy conservation to derive a formula for $|\underline{v}_1|$ in terms of M, m and c (the velocity of light).

(d) If the lifetime in its rest frame of the unstable particle above is τ_0 , what would an observer moving at speed u with respect to the rest frame measure its lifetime to be? Express your answer in terms of symbols.

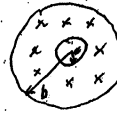
(e) A space ship having the proper length 250m passes by a technician on Earth. This person notices that it has taken 1.2×10^{-6} sec for the space ship to pass by her check point. What does she write down in her log for the speed of the space ship?

4. (25 points) Calculating E and B fields using "Maxwell's equations". In these problems express your answers in terms of algebraic symbols.

(a) Two, infinitely long concentric, plastic cylindrical shells each carry a different but uniform electric charge density (charge/area in this case). Referring to the illustration, $R_2 > R_1$ while the charge densities satisfy $\sigma_1 = \sigma$ = positive and $\sigma_2 = -\sigma$ = negative. Find the magnitudes and directions of the electric fields in each of the three regions: I ($r < R_1$), II ($R_1 < r < R_2$) and III ($r > R_2$). [Hint: this is a Gauss's law problem].



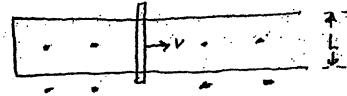
(b) An Ampere's law problem: As shown, current is flowing (into the page) in a long cylindrical copper wire having inner radius a and outer radius b. Note that the center of the wire has been hollowed out. The current density j (or current/area) is assumed to be known.



i. What is the total current flowing through the wire?

ii. What are the magnitudes and directions (sketch them) of the magnetic field vectors at distance r from the axis of the wire? Consider separately the three cases: $r < a$, $a < r < b$ and $r > b$.

(c) A Faraday's law problem: As shown, a conducting rod is being pulled along a pair of rails with constant velocity v. A constant magnetic field B, out of the page, exists everywhere in the vicinity of the rails. The rails are electrically connected together at the left end. Also, the spacing between the two rails is L.



i. What is the magnetic flux cutting the loop when the rod is a distance x from the left end?

ii. What is the magnitude of the emf generated for this loop?

iii. What is the direction of the induced current in the loop?