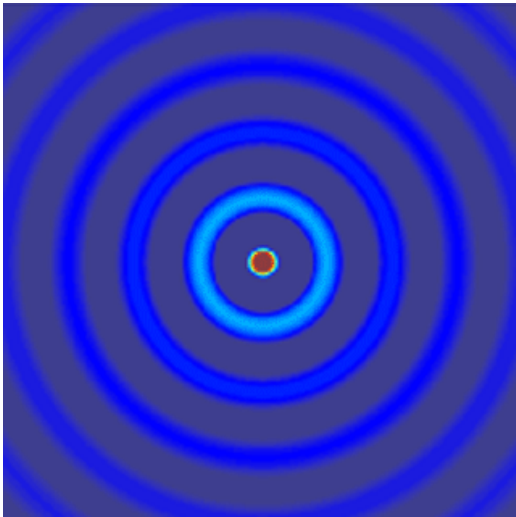


# ECE 6341

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## Notes 21

# Vector Potentials

If we choose  $\psi = A_z, F_z$

then  $\nabla^2 \psi + k^2 \psi = 0$

and 
$$\psi = b_n (kr) \begin{pmatrix} P_n^m (\cos \theta) \\ Q_n^m (\cos \theta) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos m\phi \\ \sin m\phi \end{pmatrix}$$

However, the  $\underline{E}$  and  $\underline{H}$  fields in spherical coordinates are complicated! (see Prob. 6.1 in Harrington).

This is because we have two components in spherical coordinates:

$$\underline{A} = \underline{\hat{r}} (A_z \cos \theta) + \underline{\hat{\theta}} (-A_z \sin \theta)$$

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

A better choice is:

$$\underline{A} = \underline{\hat{r}} A_r$$

$$\underline{F} = \underline{\hat{r}} F_r$$

“Debye Potentials”

The electric and magnetic fields are given in terms of these potentials in a fairly simple manner (please see the next two slides).



**Peter Joseph William Debye** (March 24, 1884 – November 2, 1966) was a Dutch physicist and physical chemist, and Nobel laureate in Chemistry.

“...he studied under the theoretical physicist Arnold Sommerfeld, who later claimed that his most important discovery was Peter Debye.”

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter\\_Debye](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Debye)

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

$$\underline{A} = \underline{\hat{r}} A_r$$

$$\underline{F} = \underline{\hat{r}} F_r$$

Use this choice of potentials together with the basic field equations:

$$\underline{E} = \frac{1}{j\omega\mu\epsilon} \nabla \times (\nabla \times \underline{A}) - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \nabla \times \underline{F}$$

$$\underline{H} = \frac{1}{\mu} \nabla \times \underline{A} + \frac{1}{j\omega\mu\epsilon} \nabla \times (\nabla \times \underline{F})$$

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

$$\psi = A_r$$

$$E_r = \frac{1}{j\omega\mu\epsilon} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + k^2 \right) \psi$$

$$E_\theta = \frac{1}{j\omega\mu\epsilon r} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r \partial \theta}$$

$$E_\phi = \frac{1}{j\omega\mu\epsilon r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r \partial \phi}$$

$$H_r = 0$$

$$H_\theta = \frac{1}{\mu r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi}$$

$$H_\phi = \frac{-1}{\mu r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta}$$

$$\psi = F_r$$

$$E_r = 0$$

$$E_\theta = \frac{-1}{\epsilon r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi}$$

$$E_\phi = \frac{1}{\epsilon r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta}$$

$$H_r = \frac{1}{j\omega\mu\epsilon} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + k^2 \right) \psi$$

$$H_\theta = \frac{1}{j\omega\mu\epsilon r} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r \partial \theta}$$

$$H_\phi = \frac{1}{j\omega\mu\epsilon r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r \partial \phi}$$

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

How do we represent the solution for  $A_r$  and  $F_r$  in spherical coordinates?

First, let's assume that we have the "usual" solution (from ECE 6340) which has enforced the Lorenz Gauge:

$$\nabla \cdot \underline{A} = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon \Phi$$

We then have  $\nabla^2 \underline{A} + k^2 \underline{A} = \underline{0}$  (vector Helmholtz equation)

$$\rightarrow \begin{cases} \nabla^2 A_x + k^2 A_x = 0 \\ \nabla^2 A_y + k^2 A_y = 0 \\ \nabla^2 A_z + k^2 A_z = 0 \end{cases}$$

since  $\nabla^2 \underline{A} = \underline{\hat{x}} \nabla^2 A_x + \underline{\hat{y}} \nabla^2 A_y + \underline{\hat{z}} \nabla^2 A_z$

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

$$\nabla^2 \underline{A} + k^2 \underline{A} = \underline{0}$$

However,  $(\nabla^2 \underline{A})_r \neq \nabla^2 A_r$

since  $\nabla^2 \underline{A} \neq \hat{r} \nabla^2 A_r + \hat{\theta} \nabla^2 A_\theta + \hat{\phi} \nabla^2 A_\phi$

Hence  $\nabla^2 A_r + k^2 A_r \neq 0$

$$A_r \neq b_n (kr) \begin{pmatrix} P_n^m (\cos \theta) \\ Q_n^m (\cos \theta) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos m\phi \\ \sin m\phi \end{pmatrix}$$

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

## Observations

- When using the Lorenz gauge (so that we have the vector Helmholtz equation),  $A_r$  and  $F_r$  do not satisfy the scalar Helmholtz equation.
- Furthermore, we can show from Maxwell's equations that using  $A_r$  and  $F_r$  implies that we cannot have the Lorenz gauge (proof given next).



# Vector Potentials (cont.)

From Maxwell's Equations:

$$\nabla \cdot \underline{H} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{H} = \frac{1}{\mu} \nabla \times \underline{A}$$

$$\nabla \times \underline{E} = -j\omega\mu\underline{H}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \times \underline{E} = -j\omega\nabla \times \underline{A}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \times (\underline{E} + j\omega\underline{A}) = \underline{0}$$

$$\underline{E} = -j\omega\underline{A} - \nabla\Phi$$

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

$$\nabla \times \underline{H} = j\omega\varepsilon \underline{E} \quad (\text{source-free region})$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \times \left( \frac{1}{\mu} \nabla \times \underline{A} \right) = j\omega\varepsilon (-j\omega \underline{A} - \nabla\Phi)$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \times (\nabla \times \underline{A}) - k^2 \underline{A} = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon \nabla\Phi$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \times (\nabla \times \underline{A}) - k^2 \underline{A} = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon \nabla\Phi$$

(vector wave equation in mixed-potential form)

**Note:** We have not assumed any “gauge” here.

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

Assume  $\underline{A} = \underline{\hat{r}} A_r$

Take  $\underline{\hat{\theta}}$ ,  $\underline{\hat{\phi}}$  components of the vector wave equation:

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial r \partial \theta} = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \theta} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial r \partial \phi} = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon \left( \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \phi} \right)$$

Both are satisfied if we choose

$$\frac{\partial A_r}{\partial r} = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon \Phi \quad \text{“Debye Gauge”}$$

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

Compare with Lorenz Gauge:

$$\nabla \cdot \underline{A} = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon\Phi$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \cdot (\hat{r}A_r) = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon\Phi$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 A_r) = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon\Phi$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial r} + \frac{2}{r} A_r = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon\Phi$$

Not the same as the Debye Gauge !

When we use the Debye potentials, we must have the Debye gauge, which is different than the Lorenz gauge.

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

When we use the Debye potentials:

$$\nabla \cdot \underline{A} \neq -j\omega\mu\varepsilon\Phi$$

Hence

$$\nabla^2 \underline{A} + k^2 \underline{A} \neq 0$$

When we use the Debye potentials, we no longer have the vector Helmholtz equation.

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

Next step:

Take the radial component of the vector wave equation, to obtain a differential equation for  $A_r$ .

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \underline{A}) - k^2 \underline{A} = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon \nabla \Phi$$

so

$$\underline{\hat{r}} \cdot \left[ \nabla \times (\nabla \times (\underline{\hat{r}} A_r)) \right] - k^2 A_r = -j\omega\mu\varepsilon \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial r}$$

Hence

$$= \frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial r^2} \quad (\text{using Debye gauge})$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial r^2} - \underline{\hat{r}} \cdot \left[ \nabla \times (\nabla \times (\underline{\hat{r}} A_r)) \right] + k^2 A_r = 0$$

Expanding, we have

$$\frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial r^2} + \left( \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial \phi^2} \right) + k^2 A_r = 0$$

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

The potential  $A_r$  therefore satisfies

$$\frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial r^2} + \left( \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial \phi^2} \right) + k^2 A_r = 0$$

Compare with  $\nabla^2 \psi + k^2 \psi = 0$

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} \right) + k^2 \psi = 0$$

Not the same!  $\nabla^2 A_r + k^2 A_r \neq 0$

Even when using the Debye Gauge, we don't get the scalar Helmholtz equation for  $A_r$ .



# Vector Potentials (cont.)

Try this:

$$A_r = r\psi$$

$$\frac{\partial A_r}{\partial r} = r \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} + \psi$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial r^2} = r \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r^2} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r}$$

$$= r \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r^2} + 2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r}$$

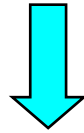
$$= r \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right]$$

$$= r \left[ \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) \right]$$

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

Hence

$$\frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial r^2} + \left( \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial \phi^2} \right) + k^2 A_r = 0$$



$$r \left[ \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) \right] + r \left( \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} \right) + k^2 r \psi = 0$$

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

Divide by  $r$ :

$$\left[ \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) \right] + \left( \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} \right) + k^2 \psi = 0$$

Now compare with  $\nabla^2 \psi + k^2 \psi = 0$

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} \right) + k^2 \psi = 0$$

They are the same!

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

Hence  $A_r = r\psi$

$$\nabla^2\psi + k^2\psi = 0$$

$$\psi = b_n (kr) \begin{pmatrix} P_n^m(\cos\theta) \\ Q_n^m(\cos\theta) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos m\phi \\ \sin m\phi \end{pmatrix}$$

(The same holds for  $F_r$ .)

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

Hence

$$A_r = (kr) b_n (kr) \begin{pmatrix} P_n^m(\cos \theta) \\ Q_n^m(\cos \theta) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos m\phi \\ \sin m\phi \end{pmatrix}$$

Define “Schelkunoff Spherical Bessel function”

$$\hat{B}_n(x) \equiv x b_n(x) = x \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}} B_{n+1/2}(x)$$

**Note:** The Schelkunoff Bessel Functions are all given in closed form (for  $n$  an integer).

Then we have

$$A_r = \hat{B}_n(kr) \begin{pmatrix} P_n^m(\cos \theta) \\ Q_n^m(\cos \theta) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos m\phi \\ \sin m\phi \end{pmatrix}$$

(The same holds for  $F_r$ .)

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

## Summary

$$A_r = \hat{B}_n(kr) \begin{pmatrix} P_n^m(\cos \theta) \\ Q_n^m(\cos \theta) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos m\phi \\ \sin m\phi \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{B}_n(x) = x b_n(x) = x \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}} B_{n+1/2}(x)$$

In general,  $m \rightarrow w$   
 $n \rightarrow \nu$

(The same holds for  $F_r$ .)

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

Examine a typical Schelkunoff Bessel function for large  $x$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{H}_n^{(2)}(x) &= x \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}} H_{n+1/2}^{(2)}(x) \\ &\sim x \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{2j}{\pi x}} e^{-jx} j^{n+1/2} \right] \\ &= j^{n+1} e^{-jx}\end{aligned}$$

The Schelkunoff Bessel functions do not go to zero as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ !

Hence  $A_r$  and  $F_r$  do not go to zero at infinity!

# Vector Potentials (cont.)

**Example:** Calculate  $\hat{H}_0^{(2)}(x)$

$$\hat{H}_0^{(2)}(x) = x h_0^{(2)}(x) = x \left[ \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}} H_{1/2}^{(2)}(x) \right]$$

$$H_{1/2}^{(2)}(x) = J_{1/2}(x) - jY_{1/2}(x)$$

$$J_{1/2}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}} \sin(x)$$

$$Y_\nu(x) \equiv \frac{J_\nu(x) \cos(\nu\pi) - J_{-\nu}(x)}{\sin(\nu\pi)} \quad \longrightarrow \quad Y_{1/2}(x) = -J_{-1/2}(x)$$

$$J_{-1/2}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}} \cos(x)$$



# Vector Potentials (cont.)

Hence

$$H_{1/2}^{(2)}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}} (\sin x + j \cos x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}} j e^{-jx}$$

$$\hat{H}_0^{(2)}(x) = x \left[ \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}} H_{1/2}^{(2)}(x) \right] = x \left[ \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}} \left( \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}} j e^{-jx} \right) \right]$$

so

$$\hat{H}_0^{(2)}(x) = j e^{-jx}$$

Similarly,

$$\hat{H}_0^{(1)}(x) = -j e^{+jx}$$