

(Preview of) Final Exam (2022 Spring)

PHYS 520B: ELECTROMAGNETIC THEORY

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Date: 2022 Mar 5

1. (20 points.) Not available in preview mode.
2. (20 points.) Not available in preview mode.
3. (20 points.) The free Green dyadic $\Gamma_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega)$ satisfies the dyadic differential equation

$$\frac{c^2}{\omega^2} \left[\nabla \nabla - \mathbf{1} \left(\nabla^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \right) \right] \cdot \Gamma_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega) = \mathbf{1} \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'). \quad (1)$$

(a) Show that the divergence of the free Green dyadic is

$$\nabla \cdot \Gamma_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega) = -\nabla \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'). \quad (2)$$

(b) Substitute the divergence in the dyadic differential equation and derive

$$-\left(\nabla^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \right) \Gamma_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega) = \left(\nabla \nabla + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \mathbf{1} \right) \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'). \quad (3)$$

(c) Construct the differential equation

$$-(\nabla^2 + k^2)G_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega) = \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \quad (4)$$

for the Green function $G_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega)$, where

$$k = \frac{\omega}{c}. \quad (5)$$

The free Green function has the (causal) solution

$$G_0(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'; \omega) = \frac{e^{i\frac{\omega}{c}|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}}{4\pi|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}. \quad (6)$$

Show that the free Green dyadic can be expressed in terms of the free Green function as

$$\Gamma_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega) = [\nabla \nabla + k^2 \mathbf{1}] G_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega) \quad (7)$$

(d) Evaluate the gradient operators and show that

$$\mathbf{\Gamma}_0(\mathbf{r}; \omega) = \frac{e^{ikr}}{4\pi r^3} \left[-u(ikr)\mathbf{1} + v(ikr)\hat{\mathbf{r}}\hat{\mathbf{r}} \right], \quad (8)$$

where

$$u(x) = 1 - x + x^2, \quad (9a)$$

$$v(x) = 3 - 3x + x^2. \quad (9b)$$

4. **(20 points.)** The free Green dyadic $\mathbf{\Gamma}_0$ can be expressed in terms of the free Green function G_0 as

$$\mathbf{\Gamma}_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega) = [\nabla\nabla + k^2\mathbf{1}]G_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega), \quad (10)$$

where

$$G_0(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'; \omega) = \frac{e^{ik|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|}}{4\pi|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}. \quad (11)$$

In the far-field approximation,

$$r' \ll r, \quad (12)$$

when the observation point \mathbf{r} is very far relative to the source point \mathbf{r}' , show that

$$|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'| = \sqrt{r^2 + r'^2 - 2rr'} \sim r - \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \mathbf{r}'. \quad (13)$$

Thus, in the far-field asymptotic limit show that

$$\frac{e^{ik|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|}}{4\pi|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \rightarrow \frac{e^{ikr}}{4\pi r} e^{-i\mathbf{k}' \cdot \mathbf{r}'}, \quad (14)$$

where we introduced the notation

$$\mathbf{k}' = k \hat{\mathbf{r}}. \quad (15)$$

Further, the far-field approximation allows the replacement

$$\nabla \rightarrow i\mathbf{k}'. \quad (16)$$

Thus, in the far-field approximation show that

$$(\nabla\nabla + k^2\mathbf{1}) \rightarrow (\mathbf{1} - \hat{\mathbf{r}}\hat{\mathbf{r}})k^2 = -\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \mathbf{1})k^2, \quad (17)$$

which projects vectors in the plane normal to the radial direction. Thus, show that the free Green dyadic in the far-field approximation takes the form

$$\mathbf{\Gamma}_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega) = -\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \times \mathbf{1}) \frac{k^2}{4\pi} \frac{e^{ikr}}{r} e^{-i\mathbf{k}' \cdot \mathbf{r}'}. \quad (18)$$

5. (20 points.) The scattering amplitude is given by

$$f(\theta, \phi, \omega) = -\frac{k^2}{4\pi} \chi(\mathbf{k}' - \mathbf{k}, \omega), \quad (19)$$

where $\chi(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$ is the Fourier transform of $\chi(\mathbf{r}, \omega)$,

$$\chi(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \int d^3r e^{i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \chi(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \quad (20)$$

If the obstacles are confined on a plane, say $z = 0$, then it is convenient to define polarizability per unit area $\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \boldsymbol{\alpha}/\text{Area}$,

$$\chi(\mathbf{r}, \omega) = 4\pi\boldsymbol{\lambda}(\mathbf{s}) \delta(z), \quad (21)$$

where the δ -function has been used to describe the assumption that the obstacles in a thin film are confined to a plane, $z = 0$ here. Once the obstacles are restricted to be on a plane, we can choose the direction of incidence \mathbf{k} of the plane wave to be normal to the plane. That is, $\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{s} = 0$, where \mathbf{s} are the positions of the point obstacles on the plane. Further, notice that in this special case the electric field \mathbf{E}_0 is independent of the position \mathbf{s} . Using these considerations show that the scattering amplitude, for isotropic polarizabilities, is given by

$$f(\theta, \phi, \omega) = -k^2 \int d^2s e^{ik\hat{\mathbf{r}}\cdot\mathbf{s}} \lambda(\mathbf{s}). \quad (22)$$

For a disc of radius R centered at position \mathbf{s}_0 with uniform polarizability per unit area λ complete the integrals to obtain

$$f(\theta, \phi, \omega) = -\lambda k^2 \pi R^2 2 \frac{J_1(kR \sin \theta)}{kR \sin \theta} e^{ik\hat{\mathbf{r}}\cdot\mathbf{s}_0}. \quad (23)$$

Hint: Use the integral representation of zeroth order Bessel function of the first kind

$$J_0(t) = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} e^{it \cos \phi} \quad (24)$$

and the identity

$$\int_0^b t dt J_0(t) = b J_1(b). \quad (25)$$

Note the limiting value

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{J_1(x)}{x} = \frac{1}{2}, \quad (26)$$

which guarantees a well defined value for the scattering amplitude at $\theta = 0$. We observe the interesting feature that the scattering amplitude at $\theta = 0$ is entirely given by the area of the disc.