

Antenna theory / multipole radiation:

Recall potential of an ideal dipole: $\Phi = \frac{p_0 \cos \theta}{r^2}$

where $\vec{p} = p_0 \vec{e}_z$ and dipole is at origin. From "physical" dipole picture: $\vec{p} = Q \vec{l}$ so $p_0 = Ql$

We can see that if we have the dipole moment changing with time, there will be accelerating charges or a changing current — in either case we expect radiation. Now, naively: simply evaluate Φ at retarded time and see if we can calculate the radiation this way: say $\vec{p} = p_0 \vec{e}_z \cos \omega t$

$$\Phi = \frac{p_0 \cos \theta \cos \omega t_{\text{ret}}}{r^2}$$

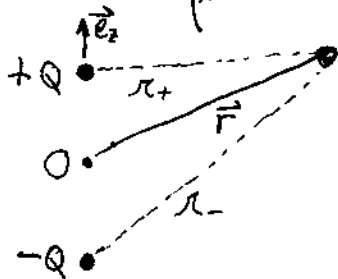
$$t_{\text{ret}} = t - \frac{r}{c} = t - \frac{r}{c}$$

since all charges at origin.

$$\text{Now, } \Phi = \frac{p_0 \cos \theta \cos \left[\omega \left(t - \frac{r}{c} \right) \right]}{r^2}$$

Ask — can this yield a true radiation field?

Radiation must carry energy to large distances: this means fields have to drop no faster than $\frac{1}{r^2}$: otherwise integral of \vec{S} will vanish at large radius. But this requires that potentials drop no faster than $\frac{1}{r}$. \Rightarrow we have approximated too much away. Must return to physical dipole picture to re-calculate potential: set $Q = Q_0 \cos \omega t$, $\vec{l} = d \vec{e}_z$ (fixed):



$$\Phi = \frac{Q_0 \cos \omega t_{\text{ret}+}}{r_+} - \frac{Q_0 \cos \omega t_{\text{ret}-}}{r_-}$$

Make standard multipole approximation: $r, r \gg d$.

Now, can make approximations for r_{\pm} :

$$r_{\pm} = \sqrt{r^2 + \frac{d^2}{4}} \mp rd \cos \theta \approx r \mp \frac{d}{2} \cos \theta \approx r \left(\frac{1}{1 \pm \frac{d \cos \theta}{2r}} \right)$$

Now, evaluate $t_{\text{ret}} = t - \frac{r_{\pm}}{c} \approx t - \frac{r}{c} \mp \frac{d \cos \theta}{2c}$

so $\cos \omega t_{\text{ret} \pm} \cong \cos \left[\omega \left(t - \frac{r}{c} \right) \right] \cos \left(\frac{\omega d}{2c} \cos \theta \right) \mp \sin \left[\omega \left(t - \frac{r}{c} \right) \right] \sin \left(\frac{\omega d}{2c} \cos \theta \right)$
by angle addition formula.

Now, make another assumption: dipole scale is small compared to wavelength scale: $d \ll \frac{c}{\omega}$. Now the $\cos \cos \theta$ and $\sin \cos \theta$ terms become ≈ 1 and $\approx \frac{\omega d}{2c} \cos \theta$

$$\Phi(\vec{r}, t) = Q_0 \left\{ \frac{\cos \left[\omega \left(t - \frac{r}{c} \right) \right] - \frac{\omega d}{2c} \cos \theta \sin \left[\omega \left(t - \frac{r}{c} \right) \right]}{r_{\pm}} - \frac{\cos \left[\omega \left(t - \frac{r}{c} \right) \right] + \frac{\omega d}{2c} \cos \theta \sin \left[\omega \left(t - \frac{r}{c} \right) \right]}{r} \right\}$$

Now substitute $\frac{1}{r_{\pm}} = \frac{1 \pm \frac{d}{2r} \cos \theta}{r}$

and to do radiation, ignore any term that drops as $\frac{1}{r^2}$ or faster:

$$\Phi(\vec{r}, t) = \overset{= P_0}{-\frac{Qd\omega}{cr}} \cos \theta \sin \left[\omega \left(t - \frac{r}{c} \right) \right]$$

Now, can find \vec{A} by assuming that $I = \frac{dQ(t)}{dt} = -Q_0 \omega \sin \omega t$:

$$\vec{A} = -\frac{P_0 \omega}{rc} \sin \left[\omega \left(t - \frac{r}{c} \right) \right] \vec{e}_2$$

Can go ahead and find fields now:

$$\vec{E} = -\left(\text{grad } \Phi + \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t}\right), \quad \vec{B} = \text{curl } \vec{A}$$

Start with latter:

$$\vec{B} = -\frac{\rho_0 \omega^2}{c^2 r} \sin \theta \cos\left[\omega\left(t - \frac{r}{c}\right)\right] \vec{e}_\phi$$

But to find radiative \vec{E} , need only recall that

$$\vec{E}_{\text{rad}} = \vec{B}_{\text{rad}} \times \vec{e}_r$$