

Assignment 2

Electrodynamics and Radiative Processes I

20 marks for each question

Due on 3rd September 2019

1) Starting from Maxwell's equation write down Electric field (\mathbf{E}) and Magnetic field (\mathbf{B}) in terms of scalar potential (φ) and vector potential (\mathbf{A}).

Write down the expression for Electric field when the field points are sufficiently far (far zone $R \gg \lambda$ (c/u)). Consider $\beta \ll 1$ and derive the value of total power emitted from a single accelerated charge q .

2) Comment on frequency dependence of Thomson scattering cross section. Consider a nebula with a radius of 2×10^{20} cm. The number density of charged particles in the nebula is $n = 10,0000$. Comment on if the nebula will be optically thick or thin under Thompson scattering. At what value of n will the nebula start acting as a black body? (Ignore the contribution of medium between nebula and detector)

(3) Define $V_{\pm} = E \pm iB$. Write Maxwell's equations with out sources in terms of V_{+} alone.

(4) A cube of side L contains a flat plate with variable surface charge density $\sigma = 3xy$. If the plate extends from $x=0$ to $x=L$ and from $y=0$ to $y=L$, what is the total electric flux through the walls of the cube.

(5) Two oscillating dipole moments (d_1 and d_2) are oriented in the vertical direction and are horizontal distance L apart. They oscillate in phase at the same frequency ω . Consider radiation at angle θ with respect to vertical and in a vertical plane containing two dipoles.

Calculate power emitted per unit solid angle.

Show that when $L \ll \lambda$, the radiation is same as from a single oscillating dipole of amplitude $d_1 + d_2$.