Problem set #3

1. Transverse E-field transformation – alternate derivation

Use the Lorentz transformation properties of the 4-potential and the 4-divergence/gradient operator to directly prove that

$$\vec{E}'_{\perp} = \gamma (\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B})_{\perp}$$

2. Magnetic dipole in motion

a) A magnetic dipole moves with constant velocity \vec{v} as view in the lab frame. Find the vector potential \vec{A} and scalar potential V in the lab frame.

Hint: It may be useful to employ the vector $\vec{R} = \vec{r} - \vec{v}t$.

- b) Go to the non-relativistic limit ($v \ll c$) and show that the moving magnetic dipole possesses both a magnetic dipole moment and an electric dipole moment.
- 3. Jackson problem 11.19

4. Relativistic charged particle in a constant electric field

A point charge q with mass m moves in a uniform electric field $\vec{E} = E\hat{z}$. The initial energy (kinetic energy plus rest energy), relativistic momentum, and velocity are U_0 , p_0 , and $v_0\hat{y}$, respectively. Find $\vec{r}(t)$ and show that eliminating t gives the particle trajectory:

$$z = \frac{U_0}{qE} \cosh\left(\frac{qEy}{cp_0}\right)$$

Check the non-relativistic limit.

Note: Neglect any momentum that is stored in the EM field or potential of the charge, i.e. do not use a Lagrangian.

5. Lagrangian and Hamiltonian of a non-relativistic charged particle

While the electromagnetic force on a charged particle cannot be derived exclusively from a scalar potential (as required for standard Lagrangian mechanics), in this problem you will show that there exists a Lagrangian functional that produces the correct equations of motion for a charged particle in an arbitrary electromagnetic field.

- a) Write down the Lorentz force law for charged particle in an electric field $\vec{E}(\vec{r},t)$ and magnetic field $\vec{B}(\vec{r},t)$. Write down the Lorentz force law in terms of the electric potential $V(\vec{r},t)$ and the vector potential $\vec{A}(\vec{r},t)$.
- **b)** Show that the Lagrangian functional L below produces the Lorentz force law for a particle of charge q and mass m when it is used in conjunction with the Lagrange equation of motion (i.e. the equations that follow from the principle of least action):

$$L = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{\vec{r}}^{2} + q \dot{\vec{r}} \cdot \vec{A}(\vec{r}, t) - qV(\vec{r}, t)$$

c) Derive an expression for the canonical momentum \vec{p} , and show that the Hamiltonian H for the charged particle can be written as

$$H = \frac{1}{2m} (\vec{p} - q\vec{A}(\vec{r}, t))^{2} + qV(\vec{r}, t).$$