

11. Electricity and Magnetism (Fall 2004)

Using general principles, find the radiated power in vacuum of a non-relativistic point charge  $q$  whose position is  $\mathbf{r}(t)$ . You do not need to find dimensionless proportionality constants (i.e., only find the dependence on  $q$ ,  $\mathbf{r}(t)$ , and universal constants).

We will use the general principle that the radiation field is an acceleration field that goes like  $\frac{1}{r}$

$\Rightarrow \vec{E}_a \propto \frac{b}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e}{r} a$  where  $a = |\ddot{\mathbf{r}}(t)|$  is the acceleration and  $b$  is a constant of unknown dimension.

$$[\vec{E}] = \left[ \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e}{r^2} \right] = [\vec{E}_a] \Rightarrow \left[ \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e}{r^2} \right] = \left[ \frac{b}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e}{r} a \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow [b] = \left[ \frac{1}{ra} \right] = \frac{s^2}{m^2} \Rightarrow b \propto \frac{1}{c^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E}_a \propto \frac{ea}{\epsilon_0 c^2 r}$$

$$\vec{S} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \vec{E} \times \vec{B} = \frac{1}{\mu_0 c} |\vec{E}_a|^2 \hat{k} \quad \text{since } E=cB \text{ and } \hat{E} \times \hat{B} = \hat{k} \text{ and } \vec{E} \perp \vec{B}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{S} \propto \frac{1}{\mu_0 c} \frac{e^2 a^2}{\epsilon_0^2 c^4 r^2} \hat{k} = \frac{\mu_0^2 \epsilon_0^2}{\mu_0 c} \frac{e^2 a^2}{\epsilon_0^2 r^2} \hat{k} = \frac{\mu_0}{c} \frac{e^2 a^2}{r^2} \hat{k} \quad \text{since } c^2 = \frac{1}{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}$$

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} [r^2 \vec{S} \cdot \hat{n}] \propto \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left[ \frac{\mu_0}{c} e^2 a^2 \cos(\theta) \right] \quad \text{by taking } \hat{z} = \hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dP}{d\Omega} \propto \frac{\mu_0}{c} e^2 a^2 \cos(\theta)$$

$$P = \int \frac{dP}{d\Omega} d\Omega \propto \frac{\mu_0}{c} e^2 a^2 \int_0^\pi \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta) d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \propto \frac{\mu_0}{c} e^2 a^2$$