

Problem 1

Let's take spherical coordinates, with the z-axis pointing towards the direction of $\vec{\beta}$ and the x-axis pointing towards the direction of the acceleration. Then, we obtain

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{q^2 \dot{\beta}^2}{4\pi c} \left[\frac{1}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^3} - \frac{\cos^2 \phi \sin^2 \theta}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^5 \gamma^2} \right] \quad (1)$$

Let's integrate the above expression over θ . For that one has to complete the squares and express

$$\beta^2 \cos^2 \theta = \left[(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^2 - 2(1 - \beta \cos \theta) + 1 \right] \quad (2)$$

With this trick, it is trivial to demonstrate that

$$\int d \cos \theta \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^5} = -\frac{4}{3} \gamma^6 \quad (3)$$

Moreover,

$$\int d \cos \theta \frac{1}{(1 - \beta \cos \theta)^3} = -2\gamma^4 \quad (4)$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{dP}{d\phi} = - \int_0^\pi d \cos \theta \frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{q^2 \gamma^4 \dot{\beta}^2}{4\pi c} \left[2 - \cos^2 \phi \frac{4}{3} \right] \quad (5)$$

The emission of energy is maximal along the plane y-z, perpendicular to the direction of the acceleration, and is minimized along the plane x-z.

Integrating the above expression over $d\phi$, one obtains

$$P(t') = \frac{2q^2 \dot{\beta}^2 \gamma^4}{3c} \quad (6)$$

Problem 2

We start with the non-relativistic approximation

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{q^2}{4\pi c} |\hat{n} \times (\hat{n} \times \dot{\vec{\beta}})|^2 \quad (7)$$

Here $\vec{r} = \hat{z}a \cos \omega_0 t$, and

$$\dot{\vec{\beta}} = -\hat{z} \frac{a\omega_0^2 \cos \omega_0 t}{c} \quad (8)$$

Hence

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{q^2 a^2 \omega_0^4}{4\pi c^3} \cos^2 \omega_0 t \sin^2 \theta \quad (9)$$

where θ is the angle between the \hat{z} and \hat{n} . The time average is very simple, since

$$\int_0^T \cos^2 \omega_0 t = \frac{T}{2} \quad (10)$$

Then,

$$\left\langle \frac{dP}{d\Omega} \right\rangle = \frac{q^2 a^2 \omega_0^4}{8\pi c^3} \sin^2 \theta \quad (11)$$

where the brackets denote time average. Integrating over θ one obtains

$$\langle P \rangle = \frac{q^2 a^2 \omega_0^4}{3c^3} \quad (12)$$

(b) This time $\vec{r} = R(\hat{x} \cos \omega_0 t + \hat{y} \sin \omega_0 t)$, while $\dot{\vec{\beta}} = -\omega_0^2 \vec{r}/c$. Expressing things in spherical coordinates we get

$$|\hat{n} \times (\hat{n} \times \dot{\vec{\beta}})|^2 = \frac{\omega_0^4 R^2}{c^2} [1 - \sin^2 \theta (\cos \phi \cos \omega_0 t + \sin \phi \sin \omega_0 t)] \quad (13)$$

Hence,

$$\frac{dP}{d\Omega} = \frac{q^2 \omega_0^4 R^2}{4\pi c^3} [1 - \sin^2 \theta \cos^2(\omega_0 t - \phi)] \quad (14)$$

Using the fact that the time average $\langle \cos^2(\omega_0 t - \phi) \rangle = 0.5$, we get

$$\left\langle \frac{dP}{d\Omega} \right\rangle = \frac{q^2 \omega_0^4 R^2}{8\pi c^3} (1 + \cos^2 \theta) \quad (15)$$

Observe that radiation is maximal along the z -axis. Finally, integrating over θ and ϕ we get

$$\langle P \rangle = \frac{2q^2 \omega_0^4 R^2}{3c^3} \quad (16)$$

Problem 3.

a) We know from class that the total radiation power is given by

$$P = \frac{2q^2\dot{\beta}^2\gamma^4}{3c} \quad (17)$$

The acceleration of the particle is equal to $R\omega_B^2$, where

$$\omega_B = \frac{qB}{\gamma mc} \quad (18)$$

Thus,

$$P = \frac{2q^2\gamma^4 R^2\omega_B^4}{3c^3} \quad (19)$$

Now, putting $\omega_B = v/R$ and solving for R, we get

$$R = \frac{\gamma cmv}{qB} \quad (20)$$

and using the relation between v/c and γ , we get that

$$R^2 = \frac{m^2 c^4}{q^2 B^2} (\gamma^2 - 1) \quad (21)$$

Thus,

$$P(t') = \frac{2q^4 B^2 (\gamma^2 - 1)}{3m^2 c^3} \quad (22)$$

b) From point (a) we have that

$$dE_{rad} = -dE = \frac{2q^4 B^2 (\gamma^2 - 1)}{3m^2 c^3} dt' \quad (23)$$

where E is the energy of the particle. But $E = \gamma mc^2$, so $dE = mc^2 d\gamma$. Hence,

$$\int_{\gamma(t=0)}^{\gamma(t)} \frac{d\gamma}{\gamma^2 - 1} = -\frac{2q^4 B^2}{3m^3 c^5} \int_0^t dt' \quad (24)$$

If $\gamma \gg 1$ during the time interval above, then we can approximate the left hand integrand by $1/\gamma^2$. Thus,

$$t \simeq \frac{3m^3 c^5}{2q^4 B^2} \left(\frac{1}{\gamma(t)} - \frac{1}{\gamma(t=0)} \right) \quad (25)$$

c) In the non-relativistic limit, $\gamma \simeq 1$ and then

$$\gamma^2 - 1 = (\gamma + 1)(\gamma - 1) \simeq 2(\gamma - 1) \quad (26)$$

Again, the left-hand integral is trivial and reduces to

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma_0 - 1} \right) \quad (27)$$

But, defining the kinetic energy $K = E - mc^2$

$$K = (\gamma - 1)mc^2 \quad (28)$$

Hence,

$$\ln \left(\frac{K}{K_0} \right) = -\frac{4q^4 B^2 t}{3m^3 c^5} \quad (29)$$

$$K(t) = K(t=0) \exp \left(-\frac{4q^4 B^2 t}{3m^3 c^5} \right) \quad (30)$$

d) The acceleration in this case is such that ($d\gamma/dt = 0$)

$$\dot{\beta}^2 = \frac{q^2 \beta^2 B^2 \sin^2 \theta}{\gamma^2 m^2 c^2} \quad (31)$$

where θ is the angle between the velocity and the magnetic field. Using the general expressio for $P(t')$ for acceleration perpendicular to the velocity, we get

$$P(t') = \frac{2q^4 P_T^2 B^2}{3m^4 c^5} \quad (32)$$

where $P_T = \gamma m v \sin \theta$ is the transverse momentum with respect to the magnetic field.

Now, the particle moves in a changing magnetic field, since the dipole field is not constant. However, assuming that the field changes slowly, we may use the adiabatic invariant described in section 12.5 of Jackson. Namely,

$$\frac{P_T^2}{B} \quad (33)$$

is an adiabatic invariant. Thus, we can write

$$P(t') = \frac{2q^4}{3m^4c^5} \left(\frac{P_T^2}{B} \right) B^3 \quad (34)$$

and conclude that during the trajectory of the particle, it radiates with a power $P(t')$ proportional to the third power of B .

Problem 4.

The generic expression of P is

$$P = \frac{2q^2}{3c^3} \gamma^6 \left[(\vec{\beta} \dot{\vec{u}})^2 + \gamma^{-2} \dot{\vec{u}}^2 \right] \quad (35)$$

The general relation between the acceleration and the Force may be obtained by the relation:

$$\vec{F} = \frac{d(m\gamma\vec{u})}{dt} \quad (36)$$

and remembering that the variation of the energy of the particle,

$$\frac{dm\gamma c^2}{dt} = \vec{F}\vec{u} \quad (37)$$

Therefore, after some simple algebra

$$\frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} = \frac{1}{m\gamma} \left[\vec{F} - \frac{\vec{u}(\vec{F}\vec{u})}{c^2} \right] \quad (38)$$

Therefore,

$$\dot{\vec{u}}^2 = \frac{1}{m^2\gamma^2} \left[\vec{F}^2 - \left(1 + \frac{1}{\gamma^2} \right) (\vec{F}\vec{u})^2 \right] \quad (39)$$

while

$$(\vec{\beta}\dot{\vec{u}})^2 = \frac{1}{m^2\gamma^6} (\vec{F}\vec{u})^2 \quad (40)$$

Finally, putting everything together we get

$$P = \frac{2q^2\gamma^2}{3m^2c^3} [\vec{F}^2 - (\vec{F}\vec{u})^2] \quad (41)$$

For the case at hand, the force is just the Lorentz force given by

$$\vec{F} = q(\vec{E} + \vec{u} \times \vec{B}) \quad (42)$$

and then, the result of the exercise is obvious.

b) To express the energy radiated in terms of a Lorentz invariant, one just has to remember that one can relate the Lorentz Force to the four vector

$$\frac{dP^\mu}{d\tau} = qF^{\mu\nu}U_\nu = \gamma \left(q\vec{E}\vec{u}, q(\vec{E} + \vec{\beta} \times \vec{B}) \right) \quad (43)$$

where

$$P^\mu = mcU^\mu \quad (44)$$

The result of the exercise is then obvious, and just reduces to a Lorentz contraction.