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Sem: IV (Session: 2023-27)

Subject: Electrodynamics

Unit: Maxwell's Equations

Topic: Electrodynamics before Maxwell

Before Maxwell, following ^{four} equations were governing the Electromagnetic theory:~

i) Gauss's Law:

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho$$

where, $\vec{\nabla} \rightarrow$ del operator

$\vec{E} \rightarrow$ Electric field

$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} \Rightarrow$ Divergence of $\vec{E}$

$\epsilon_0 \rightarrow$ electric constant or

Permittivity of free space

$$\approx 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F/m}$$

$\rho \rightarrow$ charge density

ii) $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$

$\vec{B} \rightarrow$ Magnetic field

iii) Faraday's Law :

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = - \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

where $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} \rightarrow$ Curl of $\vec{E}$

iv) Ampere's Law :

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{J}$$

where $\vec{J}$ is the current density

$\rightarrow$

A Since divergence of a curl is always zero. This i.e., $\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}) = 0$

This can also be checked with eqⁿ iii) and iv) of Electromagnetic theory
for eqⁿ iii)

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E}) &= \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left(-\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \right) \\ &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B})\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Since, } \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \quad (\text{eqⁿ (ii)})$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E}) = 0$$

for Eqⁿ (iv)

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}) &= \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\mu \vec{J}) \\ &= \mu (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{J})\end{aligned}$$

Now,

(i) for steady currents

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{J} = 0$$

Hence, $\vec{J} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}) = 0$ for steady currents.

ii) for Non steady currents :

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{J} \neq 0$$

Now, Using Continuity Equation :

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{J} = - \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \quad (\text{for non steady currents})$$

$$= - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\epsilon_0 \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E})$$

↳ eqⁿ (1)

$$= - \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left(\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

Now, If we combine $\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$ with $\vec{J}$

in Ampere's Law. The total sum with new current density will fix the problem of $\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B})$.

i.e.,
$$\boxed{\vec{J}' = \vec{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}}$$

→ Current density for non steady current.

⇒
$$\boxed{\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \left[\vec{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right]}$$

⇒
$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}) = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left[\mu_0 \left(\vec{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right) \right]$$

where $\vec{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} = 0$. ⇒
$$\boxed{\vec{J} = -\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}}$$

→ This suggest : →

A changing electric field $\left(\frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right)$
introduces magnetic field ($\mu \vec{J}$)

The extra term in non current density
for the non steady currents referred
as : →

Displacement Current : $\rightarrow$

$$\vec{J} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$

