

# Electricity and Magnetism II

Griffiths Chapter 10 Potentials & Fields  
Clicker Questions



If I tell you  $\nabla \times \vec{F} = 0$ , what can you conclude about  $\mathbf{F}$ ?

A)  $\vec{F} = 0$

B)  $\vec{F} = \nabla f$  (for some  $f$ )

C)  $\vec{F} = \nabla \cdot \vec{g}$  (for some  $\vec{g}$ )

D)  $\vec{F} = \nabla \times \vec{g}$  (for some  $\vec{g}$ )

E) Something else!

If I tell you  $\nabla \cdot \vec{F} = 0$  , what can you conclude about **F**?

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D)  $\vec{F} = \nabla \times \vec{g}$  (for some  $\vec{g}$ )

E) Something else!

If I tell you  $\nabla f = 0$  , what can you conclude about  $f$ ?

A)  $f = 0$

B)  $f = \nabla g$  (for some  $g$ )

C)  $f = \nabla \cdot \vec{g}$  (for some  $\vec{g}$ )

D)  $f = \nabla \times \vec{g}$  (for some  $\vec{g}$ )

E) Something else!

$$\vec{B} = \nabla \times \vec{A}_{old}$$

$$\vec{E} = -\nabla V_{old} - \partial \vec{A}_{old} / \partial t$$

If I change gauge, so  $\vec{A}_{new} = \vec{A}_{old} + \nabla f$   
I claim B is unaffected. **But, what about E?**

- A) Looks like E is also unaffected
- B) Looks like we changed E, but that's ok
- C) Looks like we changed E, that doesn't seem acceptable
- D) What are we doing?

Why can't we use a scalar potential to find the magnetic field, as we have done with the electric field, i.e., why can't we use

$$\mathbf{B} = -\nabla V_B(\mathbf{r})$$

- A. Because the divergence of  $\mathbf{B}$  is always zero
- B. Because only either  $\mathbf{E}$  or  $\mathbf{B}$  can be described with a scalar potential, not both
- C. Because  $\mathbf{B}$  can have a non-zero curl
- D. I don't know/remember
- E. None of the above (but I know the right reason!)

How have we been “setting the gauge” so far in this class?

- A) Requiring  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $V$  go to 0 at infinity
- B) Putting a condition on  $\mathbf{A}$  like:  $\mathbf{A}=0$ , or  $\nabla \times \mathbf{A}=0$
- C) Putting a condition on  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}$
- D) Choosing the function “ $f$ ” in the formula  $\mathbf{A}' = \mathbf{A} + \nabla f$
- E) Something else, none of these, MORE than one, not really sure...

In Coulomb's gauge (CG): 
$$V(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \iiint \frac{\rho(\vec{r}', t)}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} d^3\vec{r}'$$

In Lorentz' gauge:

$$V(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \iiint \frac{\rho(\vec{r}', t_R)}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} d^3\vec{r}' \quad \text{where } t_R = t - \frac{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}{c}$$

These look subtly different, which is correct?

- A) CG is unphysical and incorrect, it violates relativity
- B) CG result is only correct for time independent problems,  
LG is what you want for time dependent problems
- C) They only LOOK different, but in fact they give the same result for  $V$  when you work them out
- D) Both are equally “correct”, it's just a gauge choice. You can use *either* one in *any* situation
- E) Something else is going on, none of the above articulates my opinion very well here!



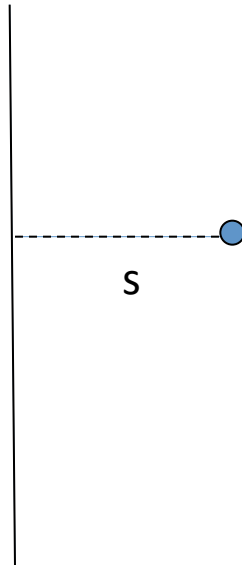
# How do you interpret

$$t_r \equiv t - \frac{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}{c}$$

- A) is the actual time of observation at point  $r$ .
- B) is the time light needs to travel from  $r'$  to  $r$ .
- C) is a time in the future when light emitted from point  $r$  at time  $t$  arrives at point  $r'$ .
- D) is a time in the past such that light emitted from point  $r'$  arrives at  $r$  at time  $t$ .
- E) None of these.

At what time,  $t$ , does an observer at  $s$  first know the current was turned on?

$I=0 \quad t < 0$   
 $I_0 \text{ up } t > 0$

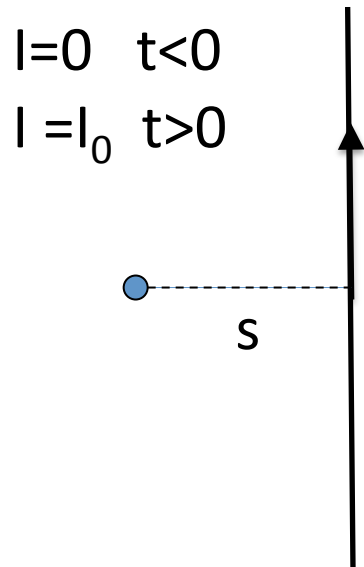


- A)  $t=0$
- B)  $t=c \ s$
- C)  $t=s/c$
- D) Other!!
- E) Not sure about this?

At what time  $t$ , after  $s/c$ , does an observer at  $s$  see current from the entire wire?

- A) Immediately
- B) Never
- C) Something else

At time  $t = 0$ , a current  $I_0$  in an infinitely long neutral wire is turned on.  
 When does observer at  $s$  first know the current was turned on?  
 (We are working in the Lorentz gauge.)



Is there a non-zero potential  $V$  in the space around the wire at anytime after  $t = 0$ ?

A) Yes B) No

Is there a non-zero electric field  $\mathbf{E}$  in the space around the wire at anytime after  $t=0$ ?

A) Yes B) No

$$I(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t \leq 0 \\ I_0 & t > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{A}(s, t) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\mathbf{I}(z, t_R)}{\sqrt{s^2 + z^2}} dz$$

$$t_R \equiv t - \frac{\sqrt{s^2 + z^2}}{c}$$

What is  $I(z, t_R)$ ?

$$I(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t \leq 0 \\ I_0 & t > 0 \end{cases}$$

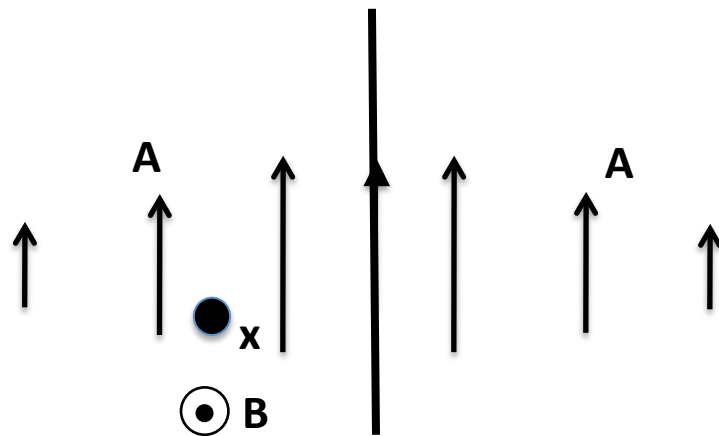
$$\mathbf{A}(s, t) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int_{-??}^{??} \frac{I_0 \hat{z}}{\sqrt{s^2 + z^2}} dz$$

What should the limits of integration be?

- A)  $-\infty$  to  $+\infty$
- B)  $-ct$  to  $+ct$
- C)  $-\sqrt{c^2 t^2 + s^2}$  to  $+\sqrt{c^2 t^2 + s^2}$
- D)  $-\sqrt{c^2 t^2 - s^2}$  to  $+\sqrt{c^2 t^2 - s^2}$
- E) Something else, not sure, ...

What is the direction of **A** near the wire?

- A)  $+y$       B)  $-y$       C)  $+y$  on left ,  $-y$  on right  
 D) Toward wire      E) away from wire



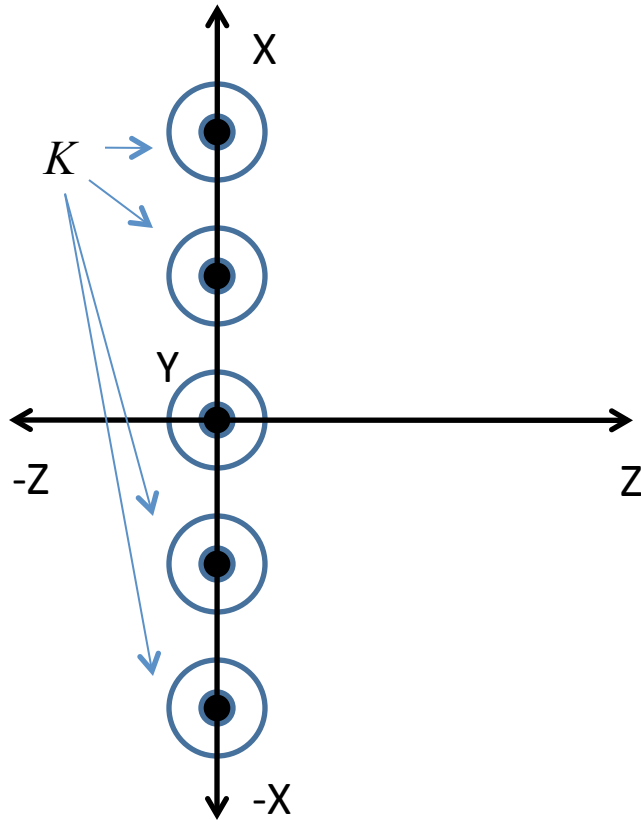
What is the direction of **B** at point x?

- A) up    B) down    C) in  
 D) out    E) other

What is the direction of **E** at point x?

- A) up    B) down    C) in    D) out    E) other

A neutral, infinite current sheet,  $\mathbf{K}$ , flows in the  $x$ - $y$  plane, in the  $+y$  direction. To the right of the  $x$ - $y$  plane, according to what you know from Phys 3310, the  $\mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  field directions are:



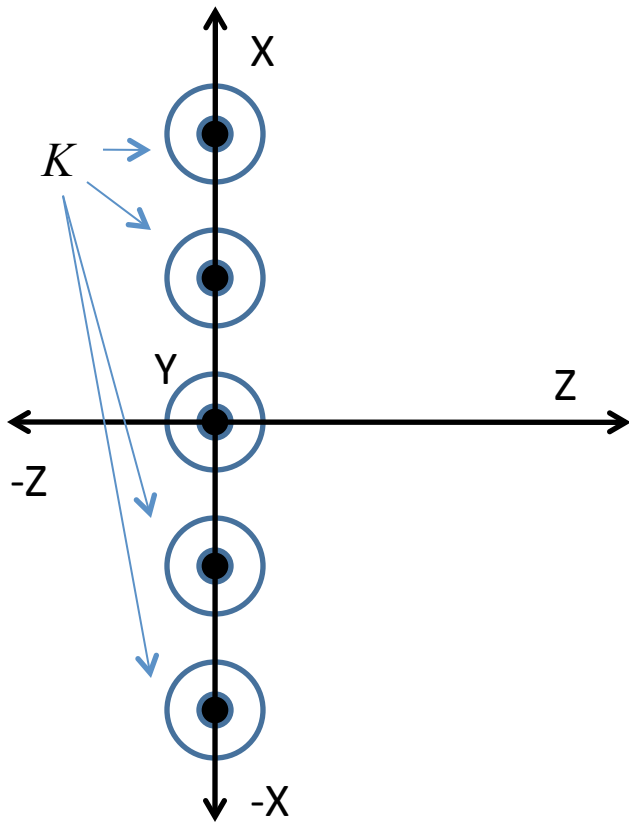
- A)  $\mathbf{E}$  along  $z$ -axis,  $\mathbf{B}$  is zero
- B)  $\mathbf{B}$  along  $z$ -axis,  $\mathbf{E}$  is zero
- C)  $\mathbf{B}$  along  $y$ ,  $\mathbf{E}$  along  $z$
- D)  $\mathbf{B}$  along  $x$ ,  $\mathbf{E}$  along  $y$
- E) None of these



A neutral infinite current sheet,  $\mathbf{K}$ , is turned on at  $t=0$ , flows in the  $x$ - $y$  plane, in the  $+y$  direction.

Very shortly after  $t=0$ , the  $\mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  fields:

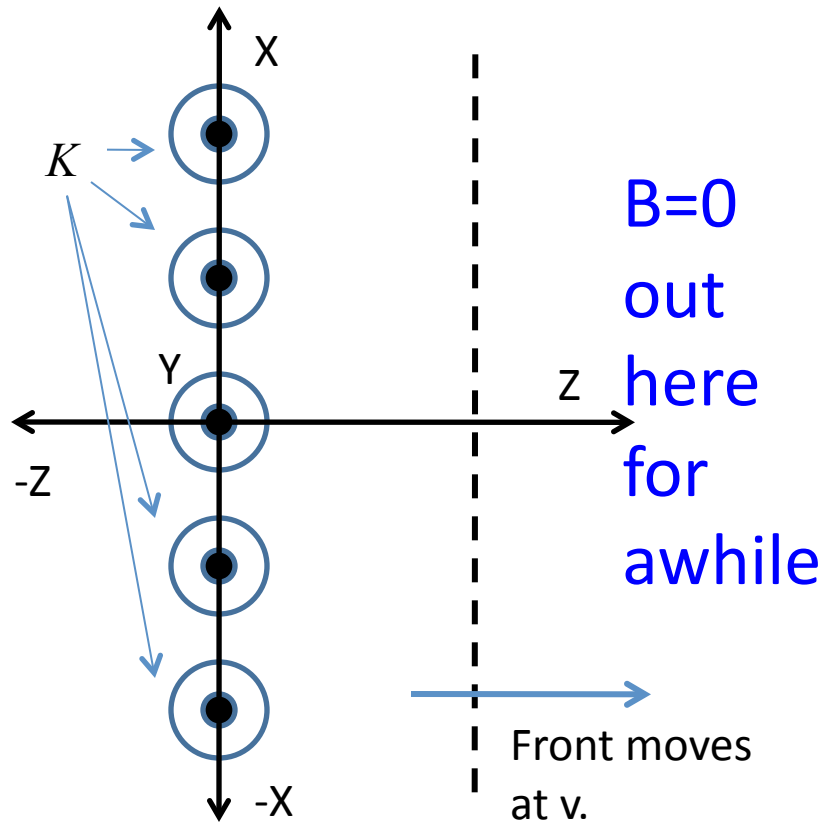
- A) Remain zero.
- B) Immediately appear with their static values in all space.
- C) Appear only near  $\mathbf{K}$
- D) Appear everywhere, but exponentially suppressed as you move farther away from  $\mathbf{K}$ .
- E) None of these



A neutral infinite current sheet,  $\mathbf{K}$ , is turned on at  $t=0$ , flows in the  $x$ - $y$  plane, in the  $+y$  direction.

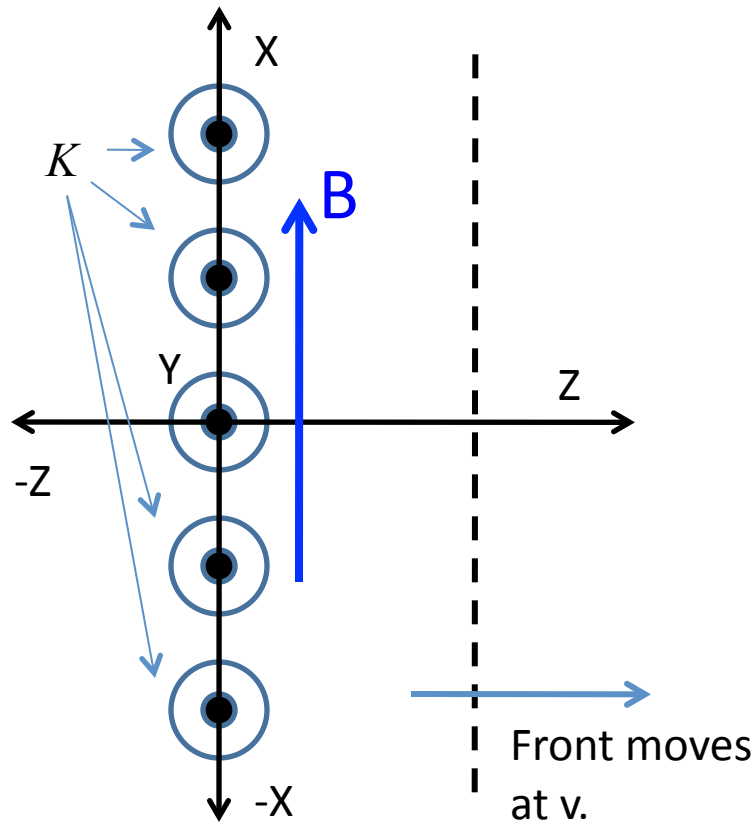
Shortly afterwards, the  $\mathbf{B}$  field near the sheet:

- A) is in the  $z$ -direction
- B) is in the  $x$ -direction
- C) is in the  $y$ -direction
- D) is actually zero close to  $\mathbf{K}$ .
- E) None of these



A neutral infinite current sheet,  $\mathbf{K}$ , is turned on at  $t=0$ , flows in the  $x$ - $y$  plane, in the  $+y$ -axis.

Shortly afterwards, the  $\mathbf{E}$  field near the wavefront (but not past it):



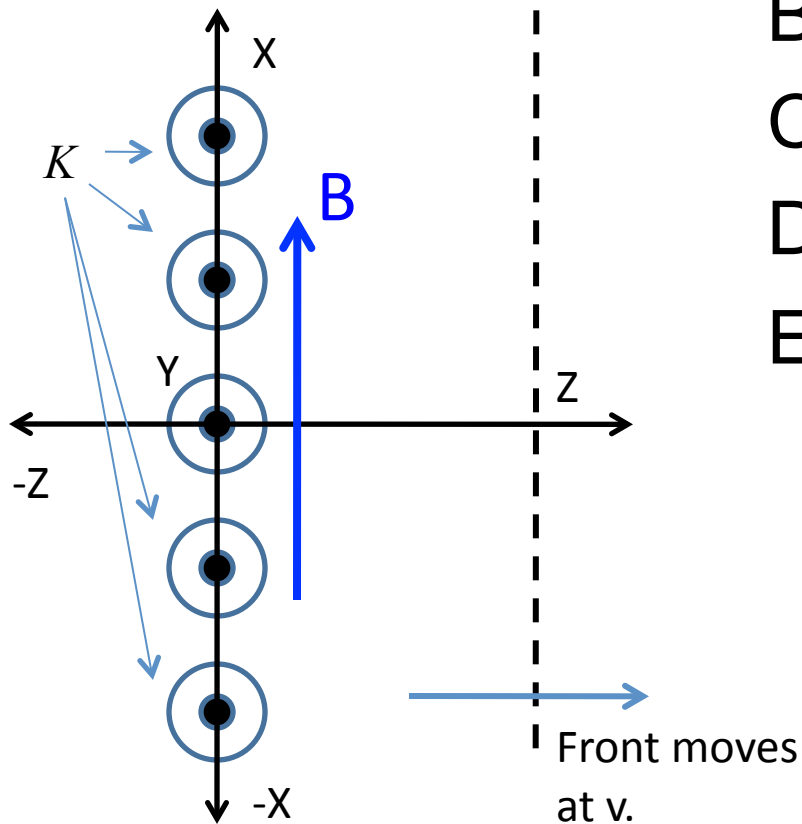
- A) is in the  $-z$  direction
- B) is in the  $-x$  direction
- C) is in the  $-y$  direction
- D) is actually zero close to *the front*.
- E) None of these

$\mathbf{B}=0$  out here for awhile

A neutral infinite current sheet,  $\mathbf{K}$ , is turned on at  $t=0$ , flows in the  $x$ - $y$  plane, in the  $+y$  direction.

Shortly afterwards, the  $\mathbf{E}$  field very near the sheet:

- A) is in the  $-z$ -direction
- B) is in the  $-x$ -direction
- C) is in the  $-y$ -direction
- D) is actually zero close to  $\mathbf{K}$ .
- E) None of these



$B=0$   
out  
here  
for  
awhile