

Electromagnetic Field Theory

Week 1

Miloslav Čapek

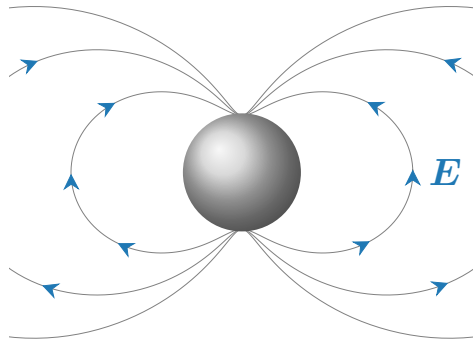
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September 9, 2025
Winter semester 2025/26





1. Course BAB17EMP
2. History of Electromagnetism
3. Fundamental Interactions
4. Vector Functions





Introduction

Electromagnetic field is everywhere and touches every aspect of our everyday life.

- This course is about learning the basics of electromagnetic field theory and its mathematical description.



About the Course

- ▶ Lectures: Wednesday from 4:15 PM, T2:C3-132.
- ▶ Exercises: Thursday, T2:C2-82 & T2:C4-459.
- ▶ Web: [Courseware](#)
- ▶ Students are expected to make their own notes!

Contact

`em@fel.cvut.cz`



Team of Teachers



Miloslav Čapek

Course guarantor
(Lectures, Exam)



Vojtěch Neuman

Course assistant
(Exercises, Tests)



Štěpán Bosák

Course assistant
(Exercises, Tests)

Contact

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Requirements

To get the points during the semester:

- ▶ 4× homework ($4 \times 8 = 32$ pts).
- ▶ 2× semester test ($2 \times 9 = 18$ pts).
- ▶ Exam (written part) 40 pts.
- ▶ Exam (oral part) 20 pts.



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Notes:

- ▶ All the points are the subject of final classification.
- ▶ At least 15 pts from the semester.
- ▶ At least 10 pts from the written part of the exam.
- ▶ The oral part of the exam is optional.



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ECTS	Points	Grade
A	90-110	1
B	80-89	1.5
C	70-79	2
D	60-69	2.5
E	50-59	3
F	0-49	4



Syllabus (The best guess...)

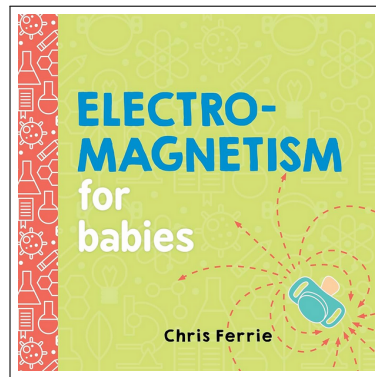
1. Introduction to the topic, terminology, scope, history
2. Electrostatics, Part #1, Homework 1
3. Electrostatics, Part #2
4. Conductors, Homework 2
5. Dielectrics and capacity, Test 1
6. Forces and Energy in Electrostatics
7. Clausius-Mossotti Relation, Dielectrophoresis
8. Stationary currents
9. Stationary magnetic field, Part #1, Homework 3
10. Stationary magnetic field, Part #2
11. Magnetic materials, Part #1, Test 2
12. Magnetic materials, Part #2
13. Time-harmonic field, Homework 4
14. Maxwell's equations, wave equation

Exam: Written part + Oral part



Literature

1. Novotný, K.: *Teorie elektromagnetického pole*
2. Feynman, R. P.: *Feynmanovy přednášky z fyziky*, 2. díl
3. Sedlák, B., Štoll, I.: *Elektrina a magnetismus*
4. Štoll, I.: *Dějiny fyziky*
5. Griffiths, D. J.: *Introduction to electrodynamics*
6. Hayt, W.: *Engineering Circuit Analysis*
7. Purcell, E. M., Morin, D. J.: *Electricity and Magnetism*
8. Nasar, S. A.: *2008+ Solved Problems in Electromagnetics*
9. Pierrus, J.: *Solved Problems in Classical Electromagnetism: Analytical and Numerical Solutions with Comments*
10. Franklin, J.: *Solved Problems in Classical Electromagnetism*
11. Bloise, F. S., et al.: *Solved Problems in Electromagnetics*
12. Zangwill, A.: *Modern Electrodynamics*

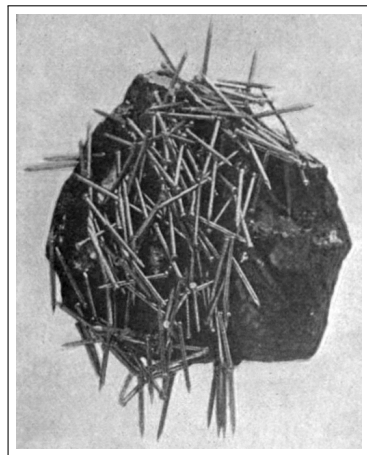




Ancient Time

≈ 600 BCE: Sparking Amber in Ancient Greece (Thales of Miletus)

≈ 221 – 206 BCE: Chinese Lodestone Compass (Qin dynasty)



Lodestone attracting nails.



17th and 18th Centuries

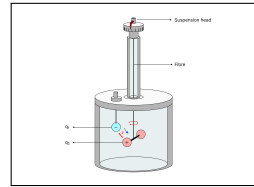
William Gilbert (1600s) Earth's Magnetism and Electrical Attraction

Benjamin Franklin (1752) Lightning Rod

Charles-Augustin de Coulomb (1785) Coulomb's Law

Luigi Galvani (1789) Animal Electricity

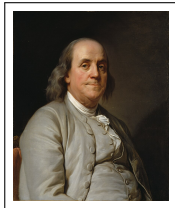
Alessandro Volta (1790) Electric Battery



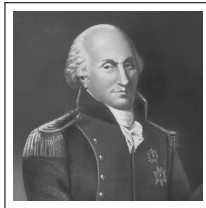
de Coulomb's experiment



William Gilbert



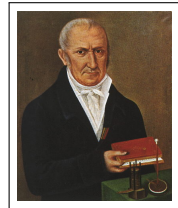
Benjamin Franklin



Charles-A. de
Coulomb



Luigi Galvani



Alessandro Volta



19th Century, Part #1

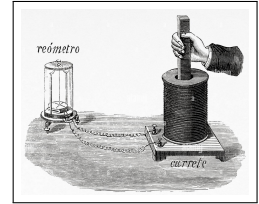
Hans Christian Ørsted (1820) Electromagnetism

Andre Marie Ampère (1821) Ampère's Law

Michael Faraday (1831) Electromagnetic Induction

James Clerk Maxwell (1873) Unification of electricity and magnetism

Heinrich Hertz (1887) Electromagnetic Waves



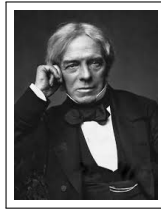
Faraday's experiment



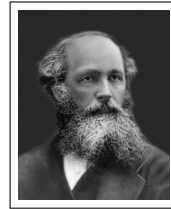
Hans Ch. Ørsted



Andre Marie Ampère



Michael Faraday



James Clerk Maxwell



Heinrich Hertz



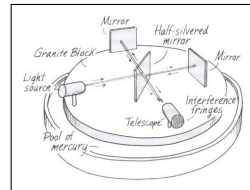
19th Century, Part #2

Nikola Tesla (1888) Inventor of AC Technology

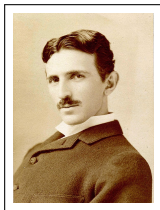
Albert A. Michelson and Edward W. Morley (1887) Absence of
“Luminiferous Aether”

Guglielmo Marconi (1895) Long-distance Radio Transmission

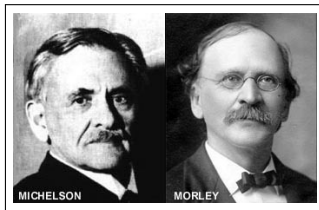
Joseph John Thomson (1897) Electron and Charge-to-Mass Ratio



Experiment of Michelson
and Morley



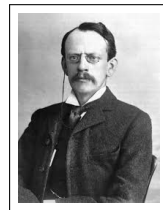
Nikola Tesla



Albert A. Michelson and Edward W. Morley



Guglielmo Marconi



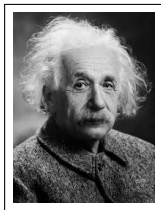
Joseph J. Thomson



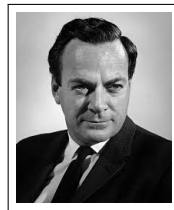
20th Century

Albert Einstein (1905) Quantum Nature of Electromagnetic Radiation

Richard Feynman (1965) Quantum Electrodynamics



Albert Einstein



Richard Feynman



21th Century...



It is your turn...! :)



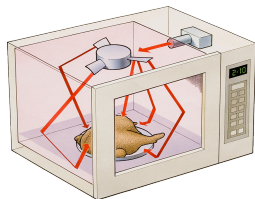
Fundamental Interactions

S	“color”	quarks/gluons	gluons	$\approx 10^{-15}$ m	1-10
E	el. charge	e^- , p^+	photons	∞	10^{-2}
W	“flavour”	quarks/leptons	intermed. bossons	10^{-18} m	10^{-10}
G	matter	all	(gravitons?)	∞	10^{-38}

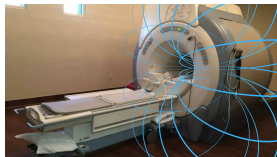
Fundamental interactions – comparison.



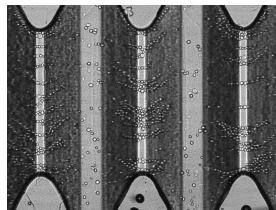
A Few Applications of EM



Microwave oven.



Magnetic Resonance
Imaging (MRI).



Dielectrophoresis
assembling cancer cells in a
3D microfluidic model.



Green laser.

Vector Functions

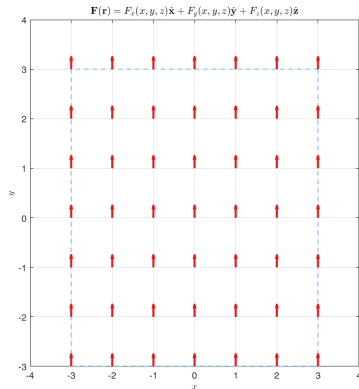


$$\mathbf{F}(x, y, z, t) = F_x(x, y, z, t)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + F_y(x, y, z, t)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + F_z(x, y, z, t)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

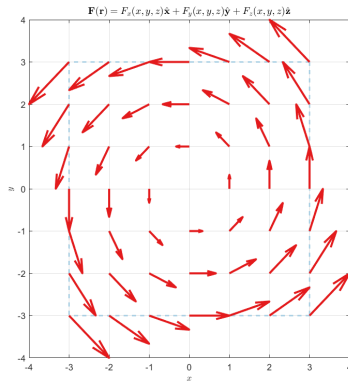
$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$



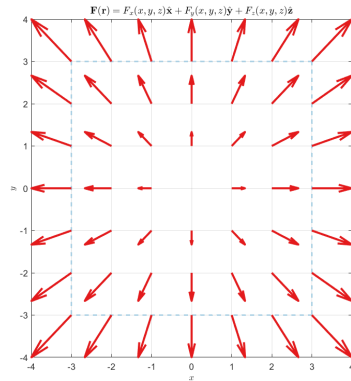
Vector Functions – Examples



$$\mathbf{F}_1(\mathbf{r}) = x/4\hat{\mathbf{y}}$$



$$\mathbf{F}_2(\mathbf{r}) = -y/3\hat{\mathbf{x}} + x/3\hat{\mathbf{y}}$$



$$\mathbf{F}_3(\mathbf{r}) = x/3\hat{\mathbf{x}} + y/3\hat{\mathbf{y}}$$



Basic EM Quantities and Their Units

Quantity	Symbol	Units	SI Units
Charge	q	Coulombs (C)	A s
Current	I	Amperes (A)	A
Potential	φ, V	Volts (V)	$\text{kg m}^2 \text{A}^{-1} \text{s}^{-3}$
Capacitance	C	Farads (F)	$\text{A}^2 \text{s}^4 \text{kg}^{-1} \text{m}^{-2}$
Resistance	R	Ohms (Ω)	$\text{kg m}^2 \text{A}^{-2} \text{s}^{-3}$
Inductance	L	Henrys (H)	$\text{kg m}^2 \text{A}^{-2} \text{s}^{-2}$
Magnetic Flux	Φ	Webers (Wb)	$\text{kg m}^2 \text{A}^{-1} \text{s}^{-2}$
Electric Field	$\mathbf{E}$	Volts per meter (V/m)	$\text{kg m A}^{-1} \text{s}^{-3}$
Magnetic Field	$\mathbf{B}$	Teslas (T)	$\text{kg A}^{-1} \text{s}^{-2}$
EM Force	$\mathbf{F}$	Netwon (N)	kg m s^{-2}

Several fundamental electromagnetic quantities. More detailed table is in supplementary material “Formulas”.

Questions?

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This document has been created as a part of BAB17EMP course.