

Solution to the beam problem

(1)

Choose the z axis in the direction of velocity of electron beam. In the lab frame

$$\rho = -ne, \quad I = \rho v A = -nevA$$

The frame K_0 moves with velocity $\vec{v} = v\hat{z}$ so in the rest frame K_0 of electrons the density is

$$\rho^{(0)} = \gamma_v \left(\rho - \frac{v}{c^2} J_z \right) = \gamma_v \left(ne - \frac{v}{c^2} nev \right) = \frac{ne}{\gamma_v},$$

Check of the current in K_0 : $J_z^{(0)} = J_z - v\rho = 0$ as expected.

(2)

With respect to frame K_0 , positron is moving with velocity

$$-u = -\frac{v+v}{1+\frac{v^2}{c^2}} = -\frac{2v}{1+\frac{v^2}{c^2}}$$

Reciprocally, electron beam is moving with velocity

$$u = \frac{2v}{1+\frac{v^2}{c^2}}$$

with respect to positron's frame K' . The density of electrons in K' frame is

$$\rho' = \gamma_u \rho^{(0)} = -\gamma_u \frac{ne}{\gamma_v} = -ne\gamma_v \left(1 + \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right)$$

where $\gamma_u = \frac{1+\frac{v^2}{c^2}}{1-\frac{v^2}{c^2}} = \left(1 + \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right) \gamma_v^2$.

The electric field due to the beam can be obtained from the Gauss law. In cylindrical coordinates

$$\vec{E}' = \frac{\lambda/\epsilon_0}{2\pi s} \hat{s} = \frac{\rho' A}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} \hat{s} = -\gamma_v \left(1 + \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right) \frac{neA}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} \hat{s}$$

The magnetic field in K' frame can be obtained from the Ampere law

$$\vec{B}' = \mu_0 \frac{I}{2\pi s} \hat{\phi} = \mu_0 \frac{\rho' u}{2\pi s} \hat{\phi} = -\mu_0 \gamma_v v \frac{neA}{\pi s} \hat{\phi}$$

The Lorentz force acting on the positron in K' frame is

$$\vec{F}' = e\vec{E}' = -\gamma_v \frac{neA}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} \hat{s} \left(1 + \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right) \hat{s}$$

Since momentum in the transverse \hat{s} direction does not change and since $t = \gamma_v \tau$, transforming force to K frame we get

$$F_s = \frac{dp_s}{dt} = \frac{1}{\gamma_v} \frac{dp_s}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{\gamma_v} F'_s = -\frac{neA}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} \hat{s} \left(1 + \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right)$$

(3)

In lab K frame

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\rho A}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} \hat{s} = -\frac{neA}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} \hat{s}, \quad \vec{B} = -\mu_0 v \frac{neA}{2\pi s} \hat{\phi}$$

so the Lorentz force is ($\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi} = -\hat{s}$)

$$\vec{F} = e(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}) = e(\vec{E} - v\hat{z} \times \vec{B}) = \frac{neA}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} \hat{s} (1 + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 v^2) = -\frac{neA}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} \hat{s} \left(1 + \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right)$$

in accordance with part (2).

Check of Lorentz transformation

$$E'_s = \gamma_v (E_s - v(\hat{z} \times \vec{B}) \cdot \hat{s}) = -\gamma_v \left(\frac{neA}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} - \mu_0 v^2 \frac{neA}{2\pi s} (\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi}) \cdot \hat{s} \right) = -\gamma_v \frac{neA}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} \hat{s} \left(1 + \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right)$$

$$B'_\phi = \gamma_v (B_\phi + \frac{v}{c^2} (\hat{z} \times \vec{E}) \cdot \hat{\phi}) = -\gamma_v \left(\mu_0 v \frac{neA}{2\pi s} + \frac{v}{c^2} \frac{neA}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} (\hat{z} \times \hat{s}) \cdot \hat{\phi} \right) = -\mu_0 \gamma_v \frac{neA}{2\pi s} 2v$$