

# Free evolution formulations of electromagnetism

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# Outline

Motivation

The vacuum Maxwell equations

Well-posedness analysis

Summary



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# Recap

In the first lecture we saw several notions of hyperbolicity, and that they are useful in different contexts. The moral of the story was three-fold:

- Strong hyperbolicity is good enough for the initial value problem, and is easy to check— there is no excuse not to!
- Symmetric hyperbolicity, or the energy method, is good for the IBVP, and is the preferred approach whenever it applies.
- The Laplace-Fourier method can be used to analyze well-posedness of the IBVP for PDEs that are strongly hyperbolic of constant multiplicity.



# Gauge freedom

In this class we will apply these notions to electromagnetism, and will see that new complications arise. Model for GR.

- Qualitative difference between the Maxwell equations and yesterdays is gauge freedom. Work before definitions.
- Dirac's theory of constrained Hamiltonian systems says there is a relationship between the gauge freedom and constraints.
- Today: discuss Maxwell, but I want to impress upon you that the structure we discover in the equations of motion falls out *because of the Hamiltonian form*.



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# Hamiltonian and equations of motion

Hamiltonian for Electromagnetism,

$$H = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} [(\partial \times A)_i (\partial \times A)^i + E_i E^i] - \Phi \partial^i E_i \, dV.$$

Canonical positions  $A_i$ , momenta  $\pi^i = -E^i$ . Curl is,

$$(\partial \times A)^i = \epsilon^{ijk} \partial_j A_k,$$

with  $\epsilon^{ijk}$  the Levi-Cevita tensor. Hamilton's equations give,

$$\partial_t A_i = -E_i - \partial_i \Phi, \quad \partial_t E^i = (\partial \times [\partial \times A])^i,$$

Could work with the magnetic field  $B^i = (\partial \times A)^i$ , but would lose the analogy between GR and electromagnetism.



# Constraints I

Momentum constraint: Divergence of the electric field vanishes,

$$M = -\partial_i \pi^i = \partial_i E^i = 0,$$

obtained by varying with respect to  $\Phi$ , the gauge field. Time derivative of momentum constraint

$$\partial_t M = 0.$$

If start with constraint satisfying data, remain satisfied.

- Numerics? Specify initial data satisfying the constraint, and integrate up the equations of motion in time.
- Free-evolution: Main method in NR.
- Evolution equations can be treated with methods of last lecture.



# Constraints II

- With free-evolution, constraint violation is inevitable because of numerical error.
- Numerical analyst: As we throw more computational power at the problem can we make errors arbitrarily small?
- Computational physicist: Are there enough computers around?
- Analyze the PDE properties of the system without assuming constraints satisfied. Computing in the larger phase space with violations.
- Different approach is to resolve the constraints after every time-step; constrained-evolution. Elliptic-hyperbolic, can't be treated with the methods of last lecture.





# Gauge freedom and the pure gauge system I

EoMs invariant under

$$A_i \rightarrow A_i - \partial_i \psi ,$$

with  $\psi$  some arbitrary scalar function. What is the difference in the time development with and without applying this to initial data? Pure gauge field  $\psi$  evolves with

$$\partial_t \psi = \Delta[\Phi] ,$$

where  $\Delta[\Phi]$  difference in  $\Phi$  induced by the gauge change in the initial data.



# Gauge freedom and the pure gauge system II

Can't quite start well-posedness analysis; the Hamiltonian does not determine the field  $\Phi$ . Gauge choice:

$$\partial_t \Phi = -\mu \partial^i A_i,$$

for  $\Phi$ . Could take  $\Phi$  apriori function, or satisfy elliptic equation. How will  $\Delta[\Phi]$ , evolve in time? Time derivative of the difference of the two  $\Phi$ 's

$$\partial_t \Delta[\Phi] = -\mu \partial^i \partial_i \psi.$$

Pure gauge system: closed subsystem for the evolution of the change! Relationship between hyperbolicity of this and the Maxwell equations? One complication first.



## Expanded phase space

New constraint  $Z$ . EoM (somewhat) arbitrary, choose:

$$\partial_t Z = \partial_i E^i - \kappa Z,$$

If constraints  $Z$  and the  $M$  are initially satisfied then  $Z$  stay satisfied, provided  $Z$  doesn't break  $M$ .

- Strange. Why expand with *more* freedom to be wrong? PDE properties of problem affected favorably. Well-posedness imperative.
- What is  $Z$ ? *Roughly* canonical momentum of the gauge field  $\Phi$ . Normally see that construction only for Lorenz gauge  $\mu = 1$ . No reason to restrict like that.



## Fully expanded EoMs

Full EoMs taken to be

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t A_i &= -E_i - \partial_i \Phi, & \partial_t E^i &= (\partial \times [\partial \times A])^i + \partial^i Z, \\ \partial_t \Phi &= -\mu [\partial^i A_i + Z], & \partial_t Z &= M - \kappa Z.\end{aligned}$$

Think about consequences of choices after well-posedness analysis!  
Constraints,

$$\begin{aligned}Z &= 0, & M &= \partial^i E_i = 0. \\ \partial_t M &= \partial^i \partial_i Z.\end{aligned}$$

still closed! Free-evolution justified. Hyperbolicity of PG and Constraint subsystems inherited by full EoMs?



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# Strong hyperbolicity I

Use unit vector  $s^i$  to  $2 + 1$  decompose the vectors,

$$\partial_s A_i = s_i [\partial_s^2 \psi] - s_i Z + \perp_i^A [\partial_s A_A], \quad E_i = s_i E_s + \perp_i^A E_A,$$

with projection operator  $\perp_j^i = \delta^i_j - s^i s_j$ .  $P^s$  splits into blocks.  
Read off,

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t [\partial_s^2 \psi] &\simeq -\partial_s [\partial_s \Phi], & \partial_t [\partial_s \Phi] &\simeq -\mu \partial_s [\partial_s^2 \psi], \\ \partial_t Z &\simeq \partial_s E_s, & \partial_t E_s &\simeq \partial_s Z, \\ \partial_t [\partial_s A_A] &\simeq \partial_s E_A, & \partial_t E_A &\simeq \partial_s [\partial_s A_A], \end{aligned}$$

Both PG and C principal symbols inherited! No coincidence. Can be shown for constrained Hamiltonian systems. Could have “constraint” variables in gauge.



## Strong hyperbolicity II

Principal symbol of each block,

$$P_{\mathcal{G}}^s = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -\mu & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad P_{\mathcal{C}}^s = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad P_{\mathcal{P}}^s = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- PG block has eigenvalues  $= \pm\sqrt{\mu}$ . Weak hyperbolicity if  $\mu \geq 0$ . Strong if  $\mu > 0$ .
- Others eigenvalues  $\pm 1$ , are diagonalizable.
- Characteristic variables,

$$[\partial_s \Phi] \mp [\partial_s^2 \psi], \quad E_s \pm Z, \quad E_A \mp [\partial_s A_A].$$

Notebook `Maxwell_Strong.nb`.



# Symmetric hyperbolicity I

- Which gauge conditions result in symmetric hyperbolic system? Every gauge that is strongly hyperbolic. Special to Maxwell!
- Given symmetric hyperbolic pure gauge, not known that there is a symmetric hyperbolic formulation.
- Are strongly, not symmetric hyperbolic formulations worse than symmetric ones? Sometimes choice that “works” might be the mathematically weaker one.
- With bigger gauge freedom, could be that choice of useful pure gauge that is not symmetric hyperbolic. Expectation is that we can't use that gauge to build symmetric formulation.





## Symmetric hyperbolicity II

Fully second order form,

$$\partial_t^2 \Phi \simeq \mu \gamma^{ij} \partial_i \partial_j \Phi, \quad \partial_t^2 A_i \simeq \gamma^{jk} \partial_j \partial_k A_i + \left(\frac{1}{\mu} - 1\right) \partial_t \partial_i \Phi.$$

In Lorenz gauge, each variable satisfies wave equation. Principal part matrix

$$A^p{}_{ik}{}^{jl} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \delta^p{}_i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \delta^p{}_i \delta^l{}_k \\ \mu \gamma^{pj} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma^{pj} \delta^l{}_k & \left(\frac{1}{\mu} - 1\right) \delta^p{}_k & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

Ansatz for energy density  $\epsilon$  with

$$\epsilon = u_{jm}^\dagger H^{ij\, km} u_{ik}, \quad u_{ik} = (\partial_i \Phi, \partial_i A_k, \partial_0 \Phi, \partial_0 A_k)^\dagger,$$



## Symmetric hyperbolicity III

... with parametrized ansatz for  $H^{ij\,km} =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} h_{11}^1 \gamma^{ij} & 0 & 0 & h_{14}^1 \gamma^{ik} \\ 0 & h_{22}^1 \gamma^{ij} \gamma^{km} + 2 h_{22}^2 \gamma^{k(i} \gamma^{j)m} & h_{23}^1 \gamma^{im} & 0 \\ 0 & h_{23}^1 \gamma^{jk} & h_{33}^1 & 0 \\ h_{14}^1 \gamma^{jm} & 0 & 0 & h_{44}^1 \gamma^{km} \end{pmatrix}$$

Imposing Hermiticity of  $S_i H^{ij\,mn} A^p_{j\,m}{}^{k\,l} s_p S_k =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & h_{14}^1 s^l & h_{11}^1 + h_{14}^1 (\frac{1}{\mu} - 1) & 0 \\ h_{23}^1 \mu s^n & 0 & 0 & h_{22}^1 \gamma^{ln} + 2 h_{22}^2 s^l s^n \\ h_{33}^1 \mu & 0 & 0 & h_{23}^1 s^l \\ 0 & h_{44}^1 \gamma^{ln} & \frac{1}{\mu} (h_{44}^1 (1 - \mu) + h_{14}^1 \mu) s^n & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$



# Symmetric hyperbolicity IV

... for every spatial vector  $s^i$ , gives,

$$h_{14}^1 = h_{23}^1, \quad h_{33}^1 = h_{11}^1, \quad h_{22}^2 = 0, \quad h_{44}^1 = h_{22}^2,$$

for  $\mu = 1$ , and otherwise,

$$\begin{aligned} h_{14}^1 &= h_{23}^1 \mu, & h_{33}^1 &= \frac{h_{11}^1 + (1 - \mu)h_{23}^1}{\mu}, \\ h_{22}^1 &= h_{23}^1 \mu, & h_{22}^2 &= 0, & h_{44}^1 &= h_{23}^1 \mu, \end{aligned}$$

Last thing: positivity. Lorenz;

$$h_{11}^1 = 1, \quad h_{23}^1 = 0, \quad h_{22}^1 = 1, \quad h_{22}^2 = 0,$$

does the trick. Generic case positive with  $h_{23}^1 < \frac{1}{2+\mu}$ .



# Symmetric hyperbolicity V

## Comments:

- Could write down MDBCs that render the IBVP well-posed. They would still not be satisfactory. Why?
- There are numerical methods, called summation by parts, that can use the energy to guarantee stability in numerical approximation.
- See `Maxwell_Symmetric.nb`. Needs xTensor.



# Laplace-Fourier method I

Crucial complication: constraints. Complicates the analysis of the IBVP. MDBC's will pump constraint violation into the domain.

Require:

- Well-posedness (goes without saying).
- Constraint preservation. Interested in solutions to Maxwell, so BCs had better respect constraints. In numerics, ok for BCs to cause violation if converges.
- Radiation and gauge control. BCs should control the physical radiation in appropriate way.



## Laplace-Fourier method II

Performing the Laplace-Fourier transform gives

$$\begin{aligned}s^2 \hat{\Phi} &= \mu [\partial_x^2 - \omega^2] \hat{\Phi}, \\ s^2 \hat{A}_x &= [\partial_x^2 - \omega^2] \hat{A}_x + \left(\frac{1}{\mu} - 1\right) s \partial_x \hat{\Phi}, \\ s^2 \hat{A}_{\hat{\omega}} &= [\partial_x^2 - \omega^2] \hat{A}_{\hat{\omega}} + \left(\frac{1}{\mu} - 1\right) i \omega s \hat{\Phi}, \\ s^2 \hat{A}_{\hat{\nu}} &= [\partial_x^2 - \omega^2] \hat{A}_{\hat{\nu}},\end{aligned}$$

vector  $\hat{A}_i$  has been decomposed

$$\hat{A}_i = \hat{x}_i \hat{A}_{\hat{x}} + \hat{\omega}_i \hat{A}_{\hat{\omega}} + \hat{\nu}_i \hat{A}_{\hat{\nu}}.$$

with  $\hat{x}^i$ , a unit vector in the x-direction,  $\hat{\omega}^i$  a unit vector in the  $\omega^i$  direction, and  $\hat{\nu}^i$  a unit vector orthogonal to both  $\hat{x}^i$  and  $\hat{\omega}^i$ .



# Laplace-Fourier method III

Reduce to first order,

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_x \hat{\Phi} &= \kappa D \hat{\Phi}, & \partial_x D \hat{\Phi} &= -\kappa \tau'_{+\mu} \tau'_{-\mu} \hat{\Phi}, \\ \partial_x \hat{A}_x &= \kappa D \hat{A}_x, & \partial_x D \hat{A}_x &= -\kappa \tau'_+ \tau'_- \hat{A}_x + \kappa \left(1 - \frac{1}{\mu}\right) s' D \hat{\Phi}, \\ \partial_x \hat{A}_{\hat{\omega}} &= \kappa D \hat{A}_{\hat{\omega}}, & \partial_x D \hat{A}_{\hat{\omega}} &= -\kappa \tau'_+ \tau'_- \hat{A}_{\hat{\omega}} + i \omega' \kappa \left(1 - \frac{1}{\mu}\right) s' \hat{\Phi}, \\ \partial_x \hat{A}_{\hat{\nu}} &= \kappa D \hat{A}_{\hat{\nu}}, & \partial_x D \hat{A}_{\hat{\nu}} &= -\kappa \tau'_+ \tau'_- \hat{A}_{\hat{\nu}}.\end{aligned}$$

with

$$\tau'_{\pm} = \pm \sqrt{s'^2 + \omega'^2}$$

$$\tau'_{\pm\mu} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{s'^2}{\mu} + \omega'^2},$$



# Laplace-Fourier method IV

The general  $L_2$  solution at  $x = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{\Phi} &= \sigma_{\Phi}, & D\hat{\Phi} &= \tau'_{-\mu}\sigma_{\Phi}, \\
 \hat{A}_x &= -\frac{\sigma_Z}{\tau'_-} - \frac{\tau'_{-\mu}\sigma_{\Phi}}{s'} - \frac{i\omega'\sigma_{A_{\hat{\omega}}}}{\tau'_-}, \\
 D\hat{A}_x &= -\sigma_Z - \frac{\tau'^2_{-\mu}\sigma_{\Phi}}{s'} - i\omega'\sigma_{A_{\hat{\omega}}}, \\
 \hat{A}_{\hat{\omega}} &= \sigma_{A_{\hat{\omega}}} - \frac{i\omega'\sigma_{\Phi}}{s'}, \\
 D\hat{A}_{\hat{\omega}} &= \tau'_-\sigma_{A_{\hat{\omega}}} - \frac{i\omega'\tau'_{-\mu}\sigma_{\Phi}}{s'}, \\
 \hat{A}_{\hat{\nu}} &= \sigma_{A_{\hat{\nu}}}, & D\hat{A}_{\hat{\nu}} &= \tau'_-\sigma_{A_{\hat{\nu}}},
 \end{aligned}$$

Sum of gauge  $\sigma_{\Phi}$ , constraint  $\sigma_Z$  and physical  $\sigma_{A_{\hat{\omega}}}, \sigma_{A_{\hat{\nu}}}$  parts.





# Laplace-Fourier method V

- Gauge field  $\Phi$  and the constraint  $Z$  satisfy wave equations, the obvious choice is something like a Sommerfeld condition

$$[\partial_t - \sqrt{\mu} \partial_x]^2 \Phi \hat{=} \partial_t g_\Phi, \quad [\partial_t - \partial_x] Z \hat{=} \partial_t g_Z,$$

on each. Applications choose  $g_Z = 0$ .

- Electric and magnetic fields gauge invariant, unambiguously represent field strength,

$$[\partial_t - \partial_x](\partial_t A_A + \partial_A \Phi - \partial_x A_A + \partial_A A_x) = \partial_t g_A.$$

$[\phi_0$  in the terminology of Teukolsky].



# Laplace-Fourier method VI

LF transforming and solving gives, for example:

$$\hat{\Phi} = \frac{s' \hat{g}_{\Phi}}{(s' + \sqrt{s'^2 + \mu \omega'^2})^2},$$

$$\hat{A}_x = \frac{i \omega' \hat{g}_{\hat{\omega}}}{(s' + \sqrt{s'^2 + \omega'^2})^2} + \frac{\hat{g}_Z}{s' + \sqrt{s'^2 + \omega'^2}} + \frac{\sqrt{s'^2 + \mu \omega'^2} \hat{g}_{\Phi}}{\sqrt{\mu} (s' + \sqrt{s'^2 + \mu \omega'^2})^2},$$

$$\hat{A}_{\hat{\omega}} = \frac{\sqrt{s'^2 + \omega'^2} \hat{g}_{\hat{\omega}}}{(s' + \sqrt{s'^2 + \omega'^2})^2} - \frac{i \omega' \hat{g}_Z}{(s' + \sqrt{s'^2 + \omega'^2})^2} - \frac{i \omega' \hat{g}_{\Phi}}{(s' + \sqrt{s'^2 + \mu \omega'^2})^2},$$

terms like  $s' + \sqrt{s'^2 + \omega'^2}$  are bounded away from zero.

See notebook `Maxwell1_LF.nb`.



# Laplace-Fourier method VII

Final comments:

- With Lorenz gauge strong well-posedness can be shown for constraint preserving boundary conditions using the energy method with a special symmetrizer,
- Alternatively with the Kreiss-Winicour cascade approach.
- I *think* this is the first time BS shown for our family of gauges.



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# Conclusions

Looked at formulations of Electromagnetism suitable for free-evolution:

- For every strongly hyperbolic pure gauge, built a formulation which was itself strongly hyperbolic. Likewise for symmetric hyperbolicity.
- Used Laplace-Fourier method to investigate boundary stability with CPBCs.
- To understand the ins-and-outs I recommend that you study the mathematica notebooks in tandem with the lecture notes.



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## Some references

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