

Liénard's power formula The rate at which energy leaves the charge is

$$\frac{dW}{dt_{ret}} = \frac{1}{(\partial t_{ret}/\partial t)} \left(\frac{dW}{dt} \right) = \kappa \frac{dW}{dt}$$

with

$$\frac{\partial t_{ret}}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{\kappa} \equiv \frac{1}{1 - \hat{R} \cdot \vec{v}/c} \Big|_{ret}$$

The latter follows from

$$t - t_{ret} = R/c \equiv |\vec{r} - \vec{s}(t_{ret})|/c$$

where $\vec{s}(t)$ is the particle's trajectory, and also $\vec{v}(t) = d\vec{s}/dt$. Explicitly

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (t - t_{ret}) &= 1 - \left(\frac{\partial t_{ret}}{\partial t} \right) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\vec{r} - \vec{s}(t_{ret})|/c &= \left(\frac{\partial t_{ret}}{\partial t} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{ret}} |\vec{r} - \vec{s}(t_{ret})|/c \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial t_{ret}}{\partial t} \right) \frac{(-\vec{r} + \vec{s}(t_{ret})) \cdot \vec{v}(t_{ret})/c}{|\vec{r} - \vec{s}(t_{ret})|} \\ &= - \left(\frac{\partial t_{ret}}{\partial t} \right) \hat{R} \cdot \vec{v}/c \Big|_{ret} \end{aligned}$$

The angular distribution of radiated power is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathcal{P}}{d\Omega} &= \kappa R^2 (\hat{R} \cdot \vec{S}_{rad}) = \frac{1}{\mu_0 c} \kappa R^2 |\vec{E}_{rad}|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(\frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 c^3} \right) \frac{1}{\kappa^5} \left| \hat{R} \times \left((\hat{R} - \vec{v}/c) \times \vec{a} \right) \right|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Integrating over all angles leads to the total power radiated (Liénard's formula).

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P} &= \frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 c^3} \right) \gamma^6 \left\{ a^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} |\vec{v} \times \vec{a}|^2 \right\} \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 c^3} \right) \left\{ \gamma^4 a^2 + \gamma^6 (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v}/c)^2 \right\} \end{aligned}$$

where $\gamma = 1/\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}$ is the ubiquitous Lorentz factor.

Some details: To carry out the angular integrations, we first resolve the square of the double cross-product as

$$\left| \hat{R} \times \left(\left(\hat{R} - \vec{v}/c \right) \times \vec{a} \right) \right|^2 = \kappa^2 a^2 + 2\kappa \left(\hat{R} \cdot \vec{a} \right) \left(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v}/c \right) - \frac{1}{\gamma^2} \left(\hat{R} \cdot \vec{a} \right)^2$$

Then evaluate

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I} &= \int d\Omega \frac{1}{\kappa^3} = 2\pi \int_{-1}^{+1} d(\cos \theta) \frac{1}{\left(1 - \frac{v}{c} \cos \theta\right)^3} \\ &= \frac{\pi c}{v} \left(\frac{1}{\left(1 - \frac{v}{c}\right)^2} - \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{v}{c}\right)^2} \right) \\ &= 4\pi \frac{1}{\left(1 - v^2/c^2\right)^2} \\ &= 4\pi \gamma^4 \end{aligned}$$

as well as

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\mathcal{I}} &= \int d\Omega \frac{1}{\kappa^4} \hat{R} = \frac{\vec{v}}{v^2} 2\pi \int_{-1}^{+1} d(\cos \theta) \frac{v \cos \theta}{\left(1 - \frac{v}{c} \cos \theta\right)^4} \\ &= \frac{\vec{v}}{v} \frac{1}{3} \frac{d\mathcal{I}}{d\left(\frac{v}{c}\right)} = \frac{4\pi \vec{v}}{3v} \left(4 \frac{v}{c} \gamma^6 \right) \\ &= \frac{16\pi}{3c} \gamma^6 \vec{v} \end{aligned}$$

using $d\gamma/d\left(\frac{v}{c}\right) = \frac{v}{c} \gamma^3$. Finally, there is

$$\int d\Omega \frac{1}{\kappa^5} \hat{R}_i \hat{R}_j \equiv a \delta_{ij} + b v_i v_j / v^2$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} (a+b)v^2 &= v_i v_j \int d\Omega \frac{1}{\kappa^5} \hat{R}_i \hat{R}_j \\ &= \int d\Omega \frac{v^2 \cos^2 \theta}{\kappa^5} \\ &= \frac{4\pi v^2}{3} \frac{1 + 5v^2/c^2}{\left(1 - v^2/c^2\right)^4} \\ &= 4\pi v^2 \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{5}{3} v^2/c^2 \right) \gamma^8 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
3a + b &= \delta_{ij} \int d\Omega \frac{1}{\kappa^5} \hat{R}_i \hat{R}_j \\
&= \int d\Omega \frac{1}{\kappa^5} \\
&= \frac{2\pi c}{4v} \left(\frac{1}{\left(1 - \frac{v}{c}\right)^4} - \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{v}{c}\right)^4} \right) \\
&= 4\pi (1 + v^2/c^2) \gamma^8
\end{aligned}$$

That is to say,

$$a = \frac{1}{3} (1 - v^2/c^2) 4\pi\gamma^8, \quad b = \frac{2v^2}{c^2} 4\pi\gamma^8$$

so

$$\int d\Omega \frac{1}{\kappa^5} \hat{R}_i \hat{R}_j = 4\pi \left(\frac{1}{3} \delta_{ij} \gamma^6 + \frac{2}{c^2} v_i v_j \gamma^8 \right)$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int d\Omega \frac{1}{\kappa^5} \left| \hat{R} \times \left((\hat{R} - \vec{v}/c) \times \vec{a} \right) \right|^2 &= \int d\Omega \left\{ \frac{1}{\kappa^3} a^2 + \frac{2}{\kappa^4} (\hat{R} \cdot \vec{a}) (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v}/c) - \frac{1}{\gamma^2 \kappa^5} (\hat{R} \cdot \vec{a})^2 \right\} \\
&= 4\pi\gamma^4 a^2 + 2 (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v}/c)^2 \frac{16\pi}{3} \gamma^6 - 4\pi \left(\frac{1}{3} a^2 \gamma^4 + 2 (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v}/c)^2 \gamma^6 \right) \\
&= \frac{8\pi}{3} \left\{ \gamma^4 a^2 + \gamma^6 (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v}/c)^2 \right\} \\
&= \frac{8\pi}{3} \gamma^6 \left\{ a^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} |\vec{v} \times \vec{a}|^2 \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

This gives Liénard's result.