

Contents

CHAPTER

1	PHILOSOPHY AND LOGIC OF PHYSICAL THEORY	
1-1	The nature and aim of theory in physics	1
1-2	The hierarchy of theories	3
1-3	A plan for the presentation of the classical theory of charged particles	6
2	A SHORT HISTORY OF THE CLASSICAL THEORY OF CHARGED PARTICLES	
2-1	Before Lorentz	8
2-2	The work of Lorentz and Abraham	11
2-3	The impact of relativity	16
2-4	Attempts at modification and the eventual formulation of the theory for point charges.	19
3	FOUNDATIONS OF CLASSICAL MECHANICS	
	A. THE EQUIVALENCE OF STATIC COORDINATE SYSTEMS	26
3-1	Reference frames	26
3-2	The Euclidean group	27
	B. THE RELATIVITY OF VELOCITY	28
3-3	Force and the law of inertia	28
3-4	Galilean invariance	30
3-5	Inertial frames of reference	31
3-6	Lorentz invariance	32
	C. THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUIVALENCE	35
3-7	Three kinds of mass	36
3-8	Free fall	37
3-9	Fictitious forces and apparent gravitational fields	39
3-10	Einstein's principle of equivalence	41
3-11	Experimental confirmation	42
	D. THE RELATIVITY OF ACCELERATION	43
3-12	Local inertial frames.	43
3-13	Gravitational forces and space curvature	45
3-14	Mach's principle	47

xii CONTENTS

	E. THE BASIC PROBLEM OF CLASSICAL DYNAMICS	50
3-15	Causality	50
3-16	The initial-value problem for Newtonian interactions	52
3-17	Conservation laws	54
4	THE MAXWELL-LORENTZ FIELD	
	A. THE EQUATIONS	61
4-1	Lorentz's microscopic theory	61
4-2	Free electromagnetic fields	63
4-3	Potentials and gauges	65
4-4	The solenoidal form of the Maxwell-Lorentz equations	68
4-5	The covariant form of the Maxwell-Lorentz equations	70
	B. THE SOLUTIONS	74
4-6	Covariant solution of the source-free equations	74
4-7	The potentials	77
4-8	The field strengths	83
	C. THE CONSERVATION LAWS	85
4-9	The Lagrangian and invariance under translations	86
4-10	Invariance under proper homogeneous Lorentz transformations	94
4-11	Gauge invariance	102
4-12	Conformal invariance	104
5	ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION	
5-1	Momentum and energy of radiation	106
5-2	Local criterion for radiation	113
5-3	Radiation from uniformly accelerated charges	114
5-4	Synchrotron radiation	121
6	THE CHARGED PARTICLE	
	A. STRUCTURE AND KINEMATICS	123
6-1	The Abraham-Lorentz-Poincaré model	123
6-2	Charged particles without structure	127
6-3	The relativistic Lorentz electron	129
	B. DYNAMICS OF A SINGLE CHARGED PARTICLE	134
6-4	The asymptotic conditions	134
6-5	Deductions from the Maxwell-Lorentz equations and the conservation laws	137
6-6	The equations of motion	145
6-7	Physical meaning of the equations of motion	149
6-8	Existence, uniqueness, and perturbation series of the solutions	153
6-9	The action principle	157
	C. SPECIAL SYSTEMS	168
6-10	The free particle	168
6-11	Uniform acceleration	169
6-12	The intrinsic orbit geometry	173
6-13	The pulse	176

6-14	The oscillator	179
6-15	Coulomb force problems	182
7	GENERALIZATIONS	
7-1	Systems of more than one charged particle	188
7-2	Action at a distance	194
7-3	The test charge	196
7-4	Charged particles with structure	197
7-5	Point particles with spin	204
8	THE RELATION OF THE CLASSICAL LORENTZ-INVARIANT CHARGED-PARTICLE THEORY TO OTHER LEVELS OF THEORY	
	A. CLASSICAL THEORIES	209
8-1	The nonrelativistic approximation	209
8-2	The limit to neutral particles	213
8-3	Is the principle of equivalence valid for charged particles?	215
8-4	General relativity	220
	B. QUANTUM THEORIES.	224
8-5	Nonrelativistic quantum mechanics	224
8-6	Relativistic quantum mechanics	230
8-7	Quantum electrodynamics	238
9	THE THEORY'S STRUCTURE AND PLACE IN PHYSICS	
9-1	Radiation fields, Coulomb fields, and other kinds of electromagnetic fields	241
9-2	Symmetry properties of the theory	245
9-3	The structure of the theory.	254
9-4	The theory in its larger context	261
A-1	THE SPACE-TIME OF SPECIAL RELATIVITY	
A1-1	Derivation of the Lorentz transformation	267
A1-2	Lorentz transformations and space rotations	270
A1-3	The Lorentz groups	274
A1-4	Proper time and kinematics	275
A1-5	Spacelike planes	279
A1-6	The light-cone surface element	282
A-2	THE SPACE-TIME OF GENERAL RELATIVITY	
A2-1	Generalizing Minkowski space	286
A2-2	The covariant derivative	287
A2-3	Parallelism and curvature tensor	289
A2-4	Geodesics	291
A2-5	Riemann space and Minkowski space	293
	Author index	299
	Subject index	301