Geometric Implications of Maxwell’s Equations

FELIX T. SMITH, None — Maxwell’s synthesis of the varied results of the accumulated knowledge of electricity and magnetism, based largely on the searching insights of Faraday, still provide new issues to explore. A case in point is a well recognized anomaly in the Maxwell equations: The laws of electricity and magnetism require two 3-vector and two scalar equations, but only six dependent variables are available to be their solutions, the 3-vectors $\mathbf{E}$ and $\mathbf{B}$. This leaves an apparent redundancy of two degrees of freedom (J. Rosen, AJP 48, 1071 (1980); Jiang, Wu, Povinelli, J. Comp. Phys. 125, 104 (1996)). The observed self-consistency of the eight equations suggests that they contain additional information. This can be sought as a previously unnoticed constraint connecting the space and time variables, $\mathbf{r}$ and $t$. This constraint can be identified. It distorts the otherwise Euclidean 3-space of $\mathbf{r}$ with the extremely slight, time dependent curvature $k(t) = R_{\text{curv}}^2(t)$ of the 3-space of a hypersphere whose radius has the time dependence $dR_{\text{curv}} / dt = \pm c$ nonrelativistically, or $dR_{\text{curv}}^{\text{Lor}} / dt = \pm ic$ relativistically. The time dependence is exactly that of the Hubble expansion. Implications of this identification will be explored.

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None

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