

1 Part a

If I can show that this equation is Ohm's law in the rest frame, since the equation is covariant, I will have shown that it is the covariant generalization of Ohm's law.

In the rest frame of the particle,

$$u'^{\alpha} = u'_{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$J'^{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho' \\ \vec{J}' \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

So,

$$u_{\beta} J^{\beta} = J^0 = \rho' \quad (3)$$

$$F^{\alpha\beta} u_{\beta} = F^{\alpha 0} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vec{E}' \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

Then, plugging these into the given equation,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \rho' \\ \vec{J}' \end{pmatrix} - \rho' \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \sigma \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vec{E}' \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

Equating components:

$$\rho' - \rho' = 0 \quad (6)$$

$$\vec{J}' = \sigma \vec{E}' \quad (7)$$

The second of which is just Ohm's law. So the given equation is the covariant generalization of Ohm's law.

2 Part b

From part a, I know that

$$J^{\alpha} - (u_{\beta} J^{\beta}) u^{\alpha} = \sigma F^{\alpha\beta} u_{\beta} \quad (8)$$

So,

$$J^0 - (u_\beta J^\beta) u^0 = \sigma F^{0\beta} u_\beta \quad (9)$$

$$J^i - (u_\beta J^\beta) u^i = \sigma F^{i\beta} u_\beta \quad (10)$$

Now, $j^0 = \rho$ and $u^0 = \gamma$. Then equation (9) can be written:

$$\rho - (u_\beta J^\beta) \gamma = \sigma F^{0\beta} u_\beta \quad (11)$$

Or,

$$u_\beta J^\beta = \frac{\rho - \sigma F^{0\beta} u_\beta}{\gamma} \quad (12)$$

Using this in equation(10) gives (along with $u^i = \gamma v^i$)

$$J^i - \rho v^i + \sigma F^{0\beta} u_\beta v^i = \sigma F^{i\beta} u_\beta \quad (13)$$

Let's look at a couple of these pieces by themselves.

- $\sigma F^{0\beta} u_\beta v^i$

$$F^{0\beta} u_\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -E_x & -E_y & -E_z \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma \\ -\gamma v_x \\ -\gamma v_y \\ -\gamma v_z \end{pmatrix} = \gamma \vec{E} \cdot \vec{v} \quad (14)$$

$$\text{So } \sigma F^{0\beta} u_\beta v^i = \sigma \gamma (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) v^i$$

- $\sigma F^{i\beta} u_\beta$

$$F^{i\beta} u_\beta = F^{i0} u_0 + F^{ij} u_j \quad (15)$$

Now,

$$F^{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -B_z & B_y \\ B_z & 0 & -B_x \\ -B_y & B_x & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (16)$$

$$u_j = -\gamma \begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \\ v_z \end{pmatrix} \quad (17)$$

So,

$$F^{ij} u_j = \gamma \begin{pmatrix} B_z v_y - B_y v_z \\ -B_z v_x + B_x v_z \\ B_y v_x - B_x v_y \end{pmatrix} = \gamma (\vec{v} \times \vec{B})^i \quad (18)$$

$$\text{So } \sigma F^{i\beta} u_\beta = \sigma \gamma E^i + \sigma \gamma (\vec{v} \times \vec{B})^i$$

Using these in equation(13)

$$J^i = \sigma\gamma \left(E^i + (\vec{v} \times \vec{B})^i - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) v^i \right) + \rho v^i \quad (19)$$

So, finally,

$$\vec{J} = \sigma\gamma \left(\vec{E} + (\vec{v} \times \vec{B}) - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) \vec{v} \right) + \rho \vec{v} \quad (20)$$

3 Part c

In the medium's rest frame,

$$J^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vec{J} \end{pmatrix} \quad (21)$$

And in the frame from part b,

$$J^\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ \vec{J} \end{pmatrix} \quad (22)$$

Transforming J^μ into the rest frame,

$$J'^0 = \rho' = \gamma (\rho - \vec{v} \cdot \vec{J}) = 0 \quad (23)$$

Or $\rho = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{J}$. Using this in the result from part b,

$$\vec{J} = \sigma\gamma \left(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B} - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) \vec{v} \right) + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{J}) \vec{v} \quad (24)$$

Assuming v is in the x -direction ($\vec{v} = v\hat{x}$),

$$\vec{J} = \sigma\gamma \left(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B} - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) \vec{v} \right) + J_x v^2 \hat{x} \quad (25)$$

Then

$$J_x = \sigma\gamma \left(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B} - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) \vec{v} \right)_x + J_x v^2 \quad (26)$$

$$J_x = \gamma^2 \left[\sigma\gamma \left(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B} - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) \vec{v} \right) \right]_x \quad (27)$$

And, finally,

$$\vec{J} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma\gamma^3 \left(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B} - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) \vec{v} \right)_x \\ \sigma\gamma \left(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B} - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) \vec{v} \right)_y \\ \sigma\gamma \left(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B} - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) \vec{v} \right)_z \end{pmatrix} \quad (28)$$

$$\rho = v\sigma\gamma^3 \left(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B} - (\vec{E} \cdot \vec{v}) \vec{v} \right)_x \quad (29)$$