

[mex196] Electromagnetic gauge transformation

Consider a particle of mass m and electric charge q moving (nonrelativistically) in an electromagnetic field described by the vector potential $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ and the scalar potential $\phi(\mathbf{r}, t)$. Show that the gauge transformation

$$\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{A}' \doteq \mathbf{A} + \nabla f(\mathbf{r}, t), \quad \phi \rightarrow \phi' \doteq \phi - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

is a canonical transformation. Find the generating function $F_2(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{P}, t)$.

Solution: