

**Physics 110A, Spring 2021**  
**Solution to Homework 2**  
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1. (a)  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 E_r) = \begin{cases} \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}, & r < R, \\ 0, & r > R, \end{cases}, \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial E_r}{\partial \phi} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial E_r}{\partial \theta} \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = \boxed{\mathbf{0}}.$

(b)  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial B_\phi}{\partial \phi} = \boxed{0}, \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = -\frac{\partial B_\phi}{\partial z} \hat{\mathbf{s}} + \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} (s B_\phi) \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \begin{cases} \mu_0 J \hat{\mathbf{z}}, & s < a, \\ \mathbf{0}, & s > a. \end{cases}$

(c) Using cylindrical coordinates,

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{V} = \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} (s V_s) + \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial V_\phi}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\partial V_z}{\partial z} = \boxed{4 \cos^2 \phi + 6}.$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{V} = \left[ \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial V_z}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial V_\phi}{\partial z} \right] \hat{\mathbf{s}} + \left[ \frac{\partial V_s}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial V_z}{\partial s} \right] \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + \frac{1}{s} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial s} (s V_\phi) - \frac{\partial V_s}{\partial \phi} \right] \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \boxed{4 \sin \phi \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{z}}}.$$

(d)  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{V} = 4 \cos^2 \phi + 6$ ,  $d\tau = s d\phi ds dz$ , so

$$\int_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{V} d\tau = \int_0^2 \int_0^1 \int_0^{\pi/2} (4 \cos^2 \phi + 6) s d\phi ds dz = \boxed{4\pi}.$$

Top:  $z = 2$ ,  $d\mathbf{a} = s d\phi ds \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $\mathbf{V} = (\dots) \hat{\mathbf{s}} + (\dots) \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + 6 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $\int_{top} \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = \int_0^1 \int_0^{\pi/2} 6 s d\phi ds = \frac{3}{2}\pi$ .

Bottom:  $z = 0$ ,  $d\mathbf{a} = -s d\phi ds \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $\mathbf{V} = (\dots) \hat{\mathbf{s}} + (\dots) \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + 0 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $\int_{bottom} \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = 0$ .

Right:  $\phi = \pi/2$ ,  $d\mathbf{a} = ds dz \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$ ,  $\mathbf{V} = (\dots) \hat{\mathbf{s}} + 0 \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + (\dots) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $\int_{right} \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = 0$ .

Left:  $\phi = 0$ ,  $d\mathbf{a} = -ds dz \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$ ,  $\mathbf{V} = (\dots) \hat{\mathbf{s}} + 0 \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + (\dots) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $\int_{left} \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = 0$ .

Front:  $s = 1$ ,  $d\mathbf{a} = 1 d\phi dz \hat{\mathbf{s}}$ ,  $\mathbf{V} = (2 + \cos^2 \phi) \hat{\mathbf{s}} + (\dots) \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + (\dots) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $\int_{front} \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = \int_0^2 \int_0^{\pi/2} (2 + \cos^2 \phi) d\phi dz = \frac{5}{2}\pi$ .

Therefore, the total surface integral is

$$\oint_S \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = \frac{3}{2}\pi + 0 + 0 + 0 + \frac{5}{2}\pi = \boxed{4\pi}.$$

(e) On the top surface,  $\nabla \times \mathbf{V} = 4 \sin \phi \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $d\mathbf{a} = s d\phi ds \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ , so

$$\int_S \nabla \times \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = \int_0^1 \int_0^{\pi/2} (4 \sin \phi \cos \phi) s d\phi ds = \boxed{1}.$$

Left edge  $\phi = 0$ ,  $d\mathbf{l} = ds \hat{\mathbf{s}}$ ,  $\mathbf{V} = 3s \hat{\mathbf{s}} + (\dots) \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + (\dots) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $\int_{left} \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int_0^1 3s ds = \frac{3}{2}$ .

Right edge  $\phi = \pi/2$ ,  $d\mathbf{l} = ds \hat{\mathbf{s}}$ ,  $\mathbf{V} = 2s \hat{\mathbf{s}} + (\dots) \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + (\dots) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $\int_{right} \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int_1^0 2s ds = -1$ .

Front edge  $s = 1$ ,  $d\mathbf{l} = 1 d\phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$ ,  $\mathbf{V} = (\dots) \hat{\mathbf{s}} + \sin \phi \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} + (\dots) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ ,  $\int_{front} \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin \phi \cos \phi d\phi = \frac{1}{2}$ .

So, the total path integral is

$$\oint_{\mathcal{P}} \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \frac{3}{2} - 1 + \frac{1}{2} = \boxed{1}.$$

2. Since

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \times \mathbf{E} &= \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin \theta E_\phi) - \frac{\partial E_\theta}{\partial \phi} \right] \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{1}{r} \left[ \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial E_r}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r E_\phi) \right] \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \frac{1}{r} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r E_\theta) - \frac{\partial E_r}{\partial \theta} \right] \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \\ &= \frac{1}{r} \left[ -\frac{2K}{r^3} \sin \theta + \frac{2K}{r^3} \sin \theta \right] \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} = \mathbf{0},\end{aligned}$$

Helmholtz theorem guarantees that there exists a scalar function  $V(\mathbf{r})$  such that  $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V$ .

Note that this curl formula above has  $r$  in the denominator, so it implicitly assumes  $r \neq 0$ . Therefore, we actually don't know if  $\nabla \times \mathbf{E}$  is zero at the origin or not. However, you can use the formal definition of curl

$$(\nabla \times \mathbf{E}) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = \lim_{S \rightarrow 0} \frac{\oint_{\mathcal{P}} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l}}{\mathcal{S}}$$

that we discussed in the discussion section to prove  $\nabla \times \mathbf{E}$  is indeed zero at the origin.

To find out  $V$ , we write  $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V$  in component form:

$$-\frac{\partial V}{\partial r} = E_r = \frac{2K}{r^3} \cos \theta, \quad (1)$$

$$-\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} = E_\theta = \frac{K}{r^3} \sin \theta, \quad (2)$$

$$-\frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} = E_\phi = 0. \quad (3)$$

Integrating equation(1) with respect to  $r$ , we get

$$-V = -\frac{K}{r^2} \cos \theta + C(\theta, \phi), \quad (4)$$

where  $C$  is a constant of  $r$ , but may contain  $\theta$  and  $\phi$  dependence. Next we differentiate equation(4) with respect to  $\theta$  and  $\phi$  separately:

$$\begin{aligned}-\frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} &= \frac{K}{r^2} \sin \theta + \frac{\partial C}{\partial \theta}, \\ -\frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} &= \frac{\partial C}{\partial \phi},\end{aligned}$$

and compare the two results with equations(2)(3). We conclude that  $\partial C / \partial \theta = \partial C / \partial \phi = 0$ , i.e.,  $C$  actually does not depend on  $\theta$  and  $\phi$ , and is truly a constant. Since we can drop any constant from the potential, equation(4) reduces to

$$\boxed{V(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{K}{r^2} \cos \theta.}$$

3. (a) Let  $\mathbf{F} = T\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ , and apply divergence theorem

$$\int_{\mathcal{V}} \nabla \cdot (T\hat{\mathbf{x}}) d\tau = \oint_{\mathcal{S}} T\hat{\mathbf{x}} \cdot d\mathbf{a}.$$

From product rule,  $\nabla \cdot (T\hat{\mathbf{x}}) = \nabla T \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}} + T(\nabla \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}) = \nabla T \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}$ , so the equation above reduces to

$$\left( \int_{\mathcal{V}} \nabla T d\tau \right) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \left( \oint_{\mathcal{S}} T d\mathbf{a} \right) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

This means the  $x$  component of  $\int_{\mathcal{V}} \nabla T d\tau$  equals to the  $x$  component of  $\oint_{\mathcal{S}} T d\mathbf{a}$ . We can repeat our trick by choosing  $\mathbf{F} = T\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  and  $\mathbf{F} = T\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ , then we are able to conclude

$$\boxed{\int_{\mathcal{V}} \nabla T d\tau = \oint_{\mathcal{S}} T d\mathbf{a}}$$

since the two vectors have the same three corresponding components.

- (b) Let  $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{V} \times \hat{\mathbf{x}}$  and apply divergence theorem:

$$\int_{\mathcal{V}} \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{V} \times \hat{\mathbf{x}}) d\tau = \oint_{\mathcal{S}} (\mathbf{V} \times \hat{\mathbf{x}}) \cdot d\mathbf{a}.$$

From product rule,  $\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{V} \times \hat{\mathbf{x}}) = \hat{\mathbf{x}} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{V}) - \mathbf{V} \cdot (\nabla \times \hat{\mathbf{x}}) = \hat{\mathbf{x}} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{V})$ , and from the property of triple product,  $(\mathbf{V} \times \hat{\mathbf{x}}) \cdot d\mathbf{a} = (d\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{V}) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}$ , so the equation above reduces to

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \int_{\mathcal{V}} (\nabla \times \mathbf{V}) d\tau = \oint_{\mathcal{S}} (d\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{V}) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}.$$

Using the same argument as in (a), we conclude that

$$\boxed{\int_{\mathcal{V}} (\nabla \times \mathbf{V}) d\tau = - \oint_{\mathcal{S}} \mathbf{V} \times d\mathbf{a}.$$

- (c) Let  $\mathbf{F} = T\nabla U - U\nabla T$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} &= \nabla \cdot (T\nabla U - U\nabla T) \\ &= \nabla T \cdot \nabla U + T\nabla^2 U - \nabla U \cdot \nabla T - U\nabla^2 T \\ &= T\nabla^2 U - U\nabla^2 T. \end{aligned}$$

Plug this expression into divergence theorem, and we get

$$\boxed{\int_{\mathcal{V}} (T\nabla^2 U - U\nabla^2 T) d\tau = \oint_{\mathcal{S}} (T\nabla U - U\nabla T) \cdot d\mathbf{a}.$$