

Spencer Lyon
Physics 441: Assignment #2 - Integral Calculus

Due on Friday, May 17, 2013

May 15, 2013

Problem 1.25

Using vectors

$$\mathbf{A} = (x)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (2y)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (3z)\hat{\mathbf{z}} \quad \mathbf{B} = (3y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-2x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

Check the following identities:

1. $\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{B} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) + \mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})$
2. $\nabla (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{A} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{B} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) + (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B} + (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{A}$
3. $\nabla \times (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) = (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{A} - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{A}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}) - \mathbf{B}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A})$

For this problem we will use the following definitions:

- $\nabla \times \mathbf{A} = (0)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$
- $\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = (0)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (-5)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$
- $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 6$
- $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$
- $\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} = (6xz)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (9yz)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (-2x^2 - 6y^2)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$
- $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = -xy$

We will now verify each of the identities:

1.

$$\begin{aligned}
 15z &= \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{B} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) - \mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \\
 &= \mathbf{B} \cdot ((0)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}}) - \mathbf{A} \cdot ((0)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (-5)\hat{\mathbf{z}}) \\
 &= 0 - (-15z) \\
 &= 15z \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Below I make the following substitutions:

- $\mathbf{A} \times [(0)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (-5)\hat{\mathbf{z}}] = (-10y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (5x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$
- $\mathbf{B} \times [(0)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}}] = 0$
- $(\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B} = (6y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-2x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$
- $(\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{A} = (3y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-4x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (-y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} &= \nabla(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{A} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{B} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) + (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B} + (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{A} \\
 &= (-10y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (5x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} + 0 + (6y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-2x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} + (3y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-4x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} \\
 &= (-y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$

3. Below I make the following substitution (as well as some from the previous part): $\nabla \times (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) = (-21y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (10x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (-21y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (10x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} &= \nabla \times (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) = (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{A} - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{A}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}) - \mathbf{B}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) \\
 &= (3y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-4x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} - (6y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-2x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} + \mathbf{A}(0) + \mathbf{B}(6) \\
 &= (3y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-4x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} - (6y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-2x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} + (18y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-12x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} \\
 &= (-21y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (10x)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (0)\hat{\mathbf{z}} \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 1.27

Prove that the divergence of a curl is always zero. Check it for

$$\mathbf{v} = (x^2)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (3xz^2)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (-2xz)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

The general form for the curl of a vector function is

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \left(\frac{\partial F_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial z} \right) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \left(\frac{\partial F_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial x} \right) \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \left(\frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} \right) \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

Taking the divergence of this we get:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{F}(x, y, z)) &= \nabla \cdot \left[\left(\frac{\partial F_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial z} \right) \hat{\mathbf{x}} - \left(\frac{\partial F_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial x} \right) \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \left(\frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} \right) \hat{\mathbf{z}} \right] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial F_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial z} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial F_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} \right) \\ &= \left[\frac{\partial^2 F_z}{\partial x \partial y} - \frac{\partial^2 F_z}{\partial y \partial x} \right] + \left[\frac{\partial^2 F_y}{\partial x \partial z} - \frac{\partial^2 F_y}{\partial z \partial x} \right] + \left[\frac{\partial^2 F_x}{\partial z \partial y} - \frac{\partial^2 F_x}{\partial y \partial z} \right] = 0 + 0 + 0 = 0 \quad \square\end{aligned}$$

Now I will verify using the vector \mathbf{v}

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{v}) &= \nabla \cdot ((-6xz)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (2z)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (3z^2)\hat{\mathbf{z}}) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [-6xz] + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [2z] + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} [3z^2] \\ &= -6z + (6z) = 0 \quad \square\end{aligned}$$

Problem 1.32

Check the fundamental theorem for gradients, using $T = x^2 + 4xy + 2yz^3$, the points $\mathbf{a} = (0, 0, 0)$, $\mathbf{b} = (1, 1, 1)$, and the three paths in Figure 1. The paths are:

1. $(0, 0, 0) \rightarrow (1, 0, 0) \rightarrow (1, 1, 0) \rightarrow (1, 1, 1)$
2. $(0, 0, 0) \rightarrow (0, 0, 1) \rightarrow (0, 1, 1) \rightarrow (1, 1, 1)$
3. The parabolic path $z = x^2, y = x$

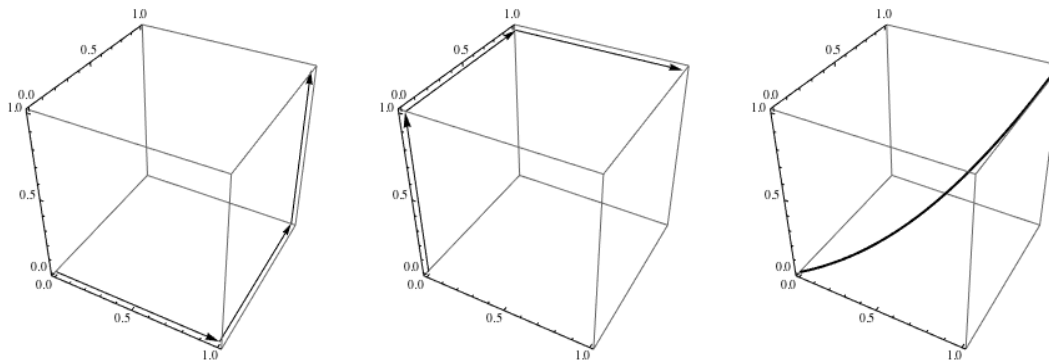


Figure 1: The three paths for problem 1.32

We first start with

$$\nabla T = (2x + 4y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (4x + 2z^3)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (6yz^2)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

We will be integrating

$$\nabla T \cdot d\mathbf{l} = (2x + 4y)\partial x + (4x + 2z^3)\partial y + (6yz^2)\partial z$$

1. The three integrals below represent the three segments.

- $y = z = \partial y = \partial z = 0$ x from 0 to 1: $\int_0^1 (2x + 4[y=0])\partial x = x^2|_0^1 = 1$

- $x = 1, \partial x = \partial z = z = 0$, and we integrate y from 0 to 1: $\int_0^1 (4[x = 1] + 2[z = 0]^3) dy = 4y|_0^1 = 4$
- $x = y = 1, dx = dy = 0$ and we integrate z from 0 to 1: $\int_0^1 (6[y = 1]z^2) dz = 2z^3|_0^1 = 2$

Putting them together we get that $\int_a^b \nabla T \cdot d\mathbf{l} = 1 + 4 + 2 = 7$

2.
 - $y = x = dy = dx = 0$ z from 0 to 1: $\int_0^1 (6[y = 0]z^2) dz = 0$
 - $z = 1, dx = dz = x = 0$, and we integrate y from 0 to 1: $\int_0^1 (4[x = 0] + 2[z = 1]^3) dy = 2y|_0^1 = 2$
 - $z = y = 1, dz = dy = 0$ and we integrate x from 0 to 1: $\int_0^1 (2x + 4[y = 1]) dx = x^2|_0^1 + 4 = 5$

Putting them together we get that $\int_a^b \nabla T \cdot d\mathbf{l} = 0 + 2 + 5 = 7$

3. We do this one in a single shot by replacing all y and z terms in $\nabla T \cdot d\mathbf{l}$ with terms of only x . We need to remember that $y = x$ and $z = x^2$. That makes $dy = dx$ and $dz = 2dx$.

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla T \cdot d\mathbf{l} &= (2x + 4x)dx + (4x + 2x^6)dx + (3x^4)2dx \\ &= (10x + 14x^6)dx\end{aligned}$$

Now I can integrate x from 0 to 1:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 (10x + 14x^6)dx &= [5x^2 + 2x^7]|_0^1 \\ &= 2 + 5 = 7\end{aligned}$$

These are all the same so we have verified the fundamental theorem for gradients for this function along the given paths. \square

Problem 1.34

Test Stokes' theorem for the function $\mathbf{v} = (xy)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (2yz)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (3zx)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ using the triangular region defined by the points $(0, 0, 0)$, $(0, 0, 2)$, and $(0, 2, 0)$ that moves in the counter clockwise direction..

Stokes' theorem gives the following:

$$\int_S (\nabla \times \mathbf{v}) \cdot d\mathbf{a} = \oint_{\mathbb{P}} \mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{l}$$

We will need to know that $\nabla \times \mathbf{v} = (-2y)\hat{\mathbf{x}} + (-3z)\hat{\mathbf{y}} + (-x)\hat{\mathbf{z}}$.

Also, from the rotation of the curve, we can say that $d\mathbf{a}$ is oriented in the $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ direction. With that we can say that $d\mathbf{a} = (ydz)\hat{\mathbf{x}}$.

We can finally say that $(\nabla \times \mathbf{v}) \cdot d\mathbf{a} = -2ydydz$

We need to evaluate the integral $\int_S (\nabla \times \mathbf{v}) \cdot d\mathbf{a}$, but before we can do that we need to define the bounds of integration for the integrals in y and z . A simple way to do this is to write y as a function of z using the expression

$$y = 2 - z$$

. The bounds of integration then become 0 to $z = 2$ for y and 0 to 2 for z .

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_S (\nabla \times \mathbf{v}) \cdot d\mathbf{a} &= \int_0^2 \left(\int_0^{z-2} -2y dy \right) dz \\
&= \int_0^2 (-y^2|_0^{z-2}) dz \\
&= \int_0^2 -(2-z)^2 dz \\
&= - \int_0^2 (z^2 - 4z + 4) dz \\
&= - \left[\frac{1}{3} z^3 - 2z^2 + 4z \right]_0^2 \\
&= - \left(\frac{8}{3} - 8 + 8 \right) = \frac{8}{3}
\end{aligned}$$

To verify this we need to check that $\oint_{\mathbb{P}} \mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \frac{8}{3}$. To do this we need to know that $\mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = (xy)dx + (2yz)dy + (3zx)dz$. I will break the integral into three sections, each representing one leg of the triangle.

1. Bottom leg: $x = z = dx = dz = 0$ and y goes from 0 to 2. Plugging zeros in we see that $\mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = 0$, therefore the integral for this section is 0.
2. Hypotenuse: $x = dx = 0$, $z = 2 - y$, $dz = -dy$, and y goes from 2 to 0. Plugging things in we see that $\mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = (2yz)dy = (2y(2-y))dy$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_2^0 (2y(2-y))dy &= \int_2^0 4y - y^2 dy \\
&= - \int_0^2 4y - y^2 dy \\
&= - \left(2y^2 - \frac{2}{3}y^3 \right) \Big|_0^2 \\
&= - \left(8 - \frac{16}{3} \right) = -\frac{8}{3}
\end{aligned}$$

3. Vertical leg: $x = dx = y = dy = 0$. z goes from 2 to 0. Plugging zeros in we see that $\mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = 0$, therefore the integral for this section is 0.

Putting all three pieces together we see that the line integral way gave us $0 - \frac{8}{3} + 0 = -\frac{8}{3}$, which is what we got above. \square

Problem 1.43

1. find the divergence of the function

$$\mathbf{v} = (s(2 + \sin^2(\phi)))\hat{s} + s \sin \phi \cos \phi \hat{\phi} + (3z)\hat{z}$$

2. Test the divergence theorem for this function, using the quarter of radius 2, height 5 defined in the first quadrant of the x-y plane.
3. Find the curl of \mathbf{v} .

1. From the book we can get that the divergence in spherical coordinates is equal to:

$$\frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s}(s v_s) + \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z}$$

Applying that to our function we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} &= \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} (ss(2 + \sin^2(\phi))) + \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial (s \sin \phi \cos \phi)}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\partial 3z}{\partial z} \\
 &= \frac{1}{s} 2s(2 + \sin^2 \phi) + \frac{1}{s} s(\cos^2 \phi - \sin^2 \phi) + 3 \\
 &= 4 + 2\sin^2 \phi + \cos^2 \phi - \sin^2 \phi + 3 \\
 &= 4 + \cos^2 \phi + \sin^2 \phi + 3 \\
 &= 4 + 1 + 3 = 8
 \end{aligned}$$

2. We need to show that the two sides of the integral are equal. The first is easy.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} d\tau &= \int_0^2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \int_0^5 8s ds d\phi dz \\
 &= 8 \left(\frac{s^2}{2} \right) \Big|_0^2 (\phi) \Big|_0^{\pi/2} (z) \Big|_0^5 \\
 &= 40\pi
 \end{aligned}$$

Now for the hard part... We need to integrate over all 5 pieces of the surface (top, bottom, left, right, curved).

(a) Top: $z = 5$, where $\phi : 0 \rightarrow \pi/2$ and $s : 0 \rightarrow 2$. We also need to know that $\mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = 3z s ds d\phi$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int \mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{a} &= \int_0^2 \int_0^{\pi/2} 3(z=5) s ds d\phi \\
 &= 15 \left(\frac{s^2}{2} \right) \Big|_0^2 (\phi) \Big|_0^{\pi/2} = 15\pi
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Left: $\phi = \pi/2$, where $z : 0 \rightarrow 5$ and $s : 0 \rightarrow 2$. We also need to know that $\mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = s \sin \phi \cos \phi ds dz = 0$. That makes the integral for this part equal to 0.

(c) Bottom: $z = 0$, where $\phi : 0 \rightarrow \pi/2$ and $s : 0 \rightarrow 2$. We also need to know that $\mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = -3(z=0) s ds d\phi = 0$. This makes the integral for this part equal to 0.

(d) Right: $\phi = 0$, where $z : 0 \rightarrow 5$ and $s : 0 \rightarrow 2$. We also need to know that $\mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = -s \sin \phi \cos \phi ds dz = 0$. That makes the integral for this part equal to 0.

(e) Curved part: $s = 2$, where $\phi : 0 \rightarrow \pi/2$ and $z : 0 \rightarrow 5$. We also need to know that $\mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = (s=2)(2 + \sin^2 \phi)(s=2) dz d\phi = 4(2 + \sin^2 \phi) dz d\phi$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int \mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{a} &= \int_0^5 \int_0^{\pi/2} 4(2 + \sin^2 \phi) dz d\phi \\
 &= \left(\frac{5x}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \sin(2x) \right) \Big|_0^{\pi/2} (z) \Big|_0^5 = 25\pi
 \end{aligned}$$

Putting all these pieces together we get that the integral is $15\pi + 0 + 0 + 0 + 25\pi = 40\pi$, which is the same thing we got doing the integral the other way.

3. We now find the curl of \mathbf{v} using the expression for the curl in spherical coordinates that we find in the book.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \nabla \times \mathbf{v} &= \left(\frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial z} \right) \hat{s} + \left(\frac{\partial v_s}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial s} \right) \hat{\phi} + \frac{1}{s} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial s} (s v_\phi) - \frac{\partial v_s}{\partial \phi} \right] \hat{z} \\
 &= (0 - 0) \hat{s} + (0 - 0) \hat{\phi} + \frac{1}{s} [2s \sin \phi \cos \phi - 2s \sin \phi \cos \phi] \hat{z} = 0 \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 1.45

Evaluate the following integrals

1. $\int_{-2}^2 (2x+3)\delta(3x)dx$
2. $\int_0^2 (x^3+3x+2)\delta(1-x)dx$
3. $\int_{-1}^1 9x^2\delta(3x+1)dx$
4. $\int_{-\infty}^a \delta(x-b)dx$

For this problem we simply use various properties of the delta distribution that we can find in book.

1. For this part we use: $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)\delta(kx)dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{|k|}\delta(x)\right]$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-2}^2 (2x+3)\delta(3x)dx &= \int_{-2}^2 (2x+3)\frac{1}{3}\delta(x)dx \\ &= \frac{1}{3}[2(x=0)+3] \\ &= \frac{1}{3}(0+3) = 1\end{aligned}$$

2. For this part we use the above property and: $f(x)\delta(x-b) = f(b)$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^2 (x^3+3x+2)\delta(1-x)dx &= \int_0^2 (x^3+3x+2)\delta(-1[x-1])dx \\ &= \int_0^2 (x^3+3x+2)\delta(x-1)dx \\ &= [x=1]^2 + 3[x=1] + 2 = 6\end{aligned}$$

3. For this part we use the same properties as the previous part

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-1}^1 9x^2\delta(3x+1)dx &= \int_{-1}^1 9x^2\delta(3[x+1/3])dx \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 9x^2\frac{1}{3}\delta(x+1/3)dx \\ &= 9(x=-1/3)^2(1/3) = 1/3\end{aligned}$$

4. This one is a bit tricky, but it equal to the following:

$$\int_{-\infty}^a \delta(x-b)dx = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a > b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \square$$

Problem 1.49

Evaluate the integral

$$J = \int_{\mathcal{V}} e^{-r} \cdot \left(\nabla \cdot \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2} \right) d\tau$$

(where \mathbb{V} is a sphere of radius R , centered at the origin) by two different methods as in Ex. 1.16

We will follow the same course that Example 1.16 did:

1. We begin by re-writing the divergence:

$$\nabla \cdot \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2} = 4\pi\delta^3(\mathbf{r})$$

We can now evaluate the integral

$$\begin{aligned} J &= \int_{\mathbb{V}} e^{-r} \cdot \left(\nabla \cdot \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2} \right) d\tau \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{V}} e^{-r} 4\pi\delta^3(\mathbf{r}) d\tau \\ &= 4\pi e^{-0} = 4\pi \end{aligned}$$

2. To do this part we move the derivative term over to the e^{-r} and then finish it out. Note that we use $d\mathbf{a} = r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi \hat{\mathbf{r}}$ and $d\tau = 4\pi r^2 dr$

$$\begin{aligned} J &= \int_{\mathbb{V}} e^{-r} \cdot \left(\nabla \cdot \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2} \right) d\tau \\ &= - \int_{\mathbb{V}} \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2} \cdot [\nabla e^{-r}] d\tau + \oint_{\mathbb{S}} e^{-r} \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2} \cdot d\mathbf{a} \\ &= \int \frac{1}{r^2} e^{-r} 4\pi r^2 dr + \int e^{-r} \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2} \cdot r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi \hat{\mathbf{r}} \\ &= 4\pi \int_0^\infty e^{-r} dr + e^{-R} \int \sin\theta d\theta d\phi \\ &= 4\pi (-e^{-r}) \Big|_0^\infty + 4\pi e^{-R} = 4\pi \end{aligned}$$

Those two integrals gave us the same answer so we are done. □

Problem 1.63

1. Find the divergence of the function

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r}.$$

First compute it directly, as in Eq 1.84. Test your result using the divergence theorem as in Eq 1.85. Is there a delta function at the origin, as there was for $\frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2}$? What is the general formula for the divergence of $r^n \hat{\mathbf{r}}$? [Answer: $\nabla \cdot (r^n \hat{\mathbf{r}}) = (n+2)r^{n-1}$, unless $n = -2$, in which case it is $4\pi\delta^3(\mathbf{r})$; for $n < -2$, the divergence is ill-defined at the origin.]

2. Find the *curl* of $r^n \hat{\mathbf{r}}$. Test your conclusion using problem 1.61b [Answer: $\nabla \times (r^n \hat{\mathbf{r}}) = 0$]

1. We now find the divergence using the expression for divergence in spherical coordinates.

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} &= \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \left[v_r = \frac{1}{r} \right] \right) + 0\hat{\theta} + 0\hat{\phi} \\ &= \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial r}{\partial r} \\ &= \frac{1}{r^2} \end{aligned}$$

Recall that the divergence theorem states that

$$\int (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) d\tau = \oint \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{a}$$

We now use the divergence theorem to verify our result. Note that we follow equation 1.85 in using $d\mathbf{a} = R^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi \hat{\mathbf{r}}$ and $d\tau = r^2 \sin\theta dr d\theta d\phi$

$$\begin{aligned} \int (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) d\tau &= \int \frac{1}{r^2} r^2 \sin\theta dr d\theta d\phi \\ &= \int_0^R \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} dr \sin\theta d\theta d\phi \\ &= 4\pi R \end{aligned}$$

We now verify that this is the same as the other half of the divergence theorem

$$\begin{aligned} \oint \mathbf{v} \cdot d\mathbf{a} &= \oint \left(\frac{1}{R} \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot (R^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi \hat{\mathbf{r}}) \right) \\ &= R \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} \sin\theta d\theta d\phi \\ &= 4\pi R \end{aligned}$$

These two expressions are equal so we did calculate the divergence correctly.

It doesn't look like there is a delta function at the origin because the function is linear in R .

We now need an expression for the divergence of $r^n \hat{\mathbf{r}}$. We will use the general form of the divergence in spherical coordinates from the book.

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot r^n \hat{\mathbf{r}} &= \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 [r^n]) + 0 + 0 \\ &= \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 r^n) \\ &= \frac{1}{r^2} (n+2) r^{n+1} \\ &= (n+2) r^{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

2. We now seek to find the curl of $r^n \hat{\mathbf{r}}$. We again use the expression for the curl in spherical coordinates:

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{v} = \frac{1}{r \sin\theta} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin\theta v_\phi) - \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial \phi} \right] \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{1}{r} \left[\frac{1}{\sin\theta} \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r v_\phi) \right] \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \frac{1}{r} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r v_\theta) - \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \theta} \right] \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}$$

Applying that definition to our function we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times (r^n \hat{\mathbf{r}}) &= 0 \hat{\mathbf{r}} + 0 \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + 0 \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

□