

ANTENNA AND WAVE PROPAGATION

UNIT: I VECTOR ANALYSIS

Vector Algebra (in Cartesian coordinates only).*

- Vector analysis is a mathematical tool with which electromagnetic concepts are most conveniently expressed and best comprehended.
- A quantity can be either a scalar or a vector:
 - Scalar: is a quantity that has only magnitude.
(time, mass, distance, temperature, entropy, electric potential, population etc).
 - Vectors: is a quantity that has both magnitude and direction.
(velocity, force, displacement, electric field intensity).
- There is another class of physical quantities called tensors, of which scalars and vectors are special cases.
- To distinguish between scalars and vectors, vectors are represented with an arrow on top of the letter eg. \vec{A} and \vec{B} .
- EM theory is essentially a study of some particular fields.
 - Field: is a function that specifies a particular quantity everywhere in a region.
 - scalar fields: temperature distribution in a building, sound intensity in a theatre, electric potential in a region, refractive index of a stratified medium.
 - vector fields: gravitational force on a body in space, the velocity of raindrops in the atmosphere are examples of vector fields.

Vector

Unit Vector:

- A vector \vec{A} has both magnitude and direction.
- The magnitude of \vec{A} is a scalar written as A or $|\vec{A}|$.
- A unit vector \hat{a}_A along \vec{A} is defined as a vector whose magnitude is unity and its direction is along \vec{A} .

$$\hat{a}_A = \frac{\vec{A}}{|\vec{A}|}, \quad |\hat{a}_A| = 1$$

- A vector \vec{A} may be represented as:

$$\vec{A} = (A_x, A_y, A_z) = A_x \hat{a}_x + A_y \hat{a}_y + A_z \hat{a}_z$$

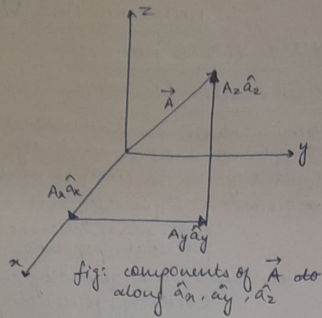
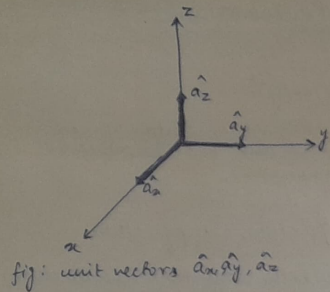
where, A_x, A_y, A_z are components of \vec{A} and $\hat{a}_x, \hat{a}_y, \hat{a}_z$ are unit vectors in x -, y - and z -directions respectively.

- The magnitude of vector \vec{A} is given by:

$$|\vec{A}| = \sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2}$$

and the unit vector \hat{a}_A along \vec{A} is given by:

$$\hat{a}_A = \frac{A_x \hat{a}_x + A_y \hat{a}_y + A_z \hat{a}_z}{\sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2}}$$



• Vector addition and subtraction:

- Addition: $\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B} = (A_x + B_x)\hat{a}_x + (A_y + B_y)\hat{a}_y + (A_z + B_z)\hat{a}_z$

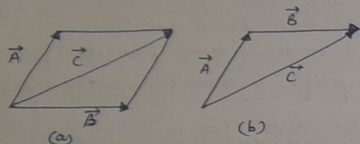


fig: vector addition
(a) parallelogram rule
(b) head to tail rule

- subtraction: $\vec{D} = \vec{A} - \vec{B} = (A_x - B_x)\hat{a}_x + (A_y - B_y)\hat{a}_y + (A_z - B_z)\hat{a}_z$

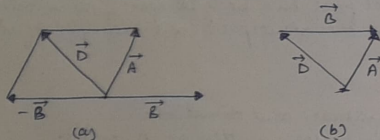


fig: vector subtraction
(a) parallelogram rule
(b) head to tail rule.

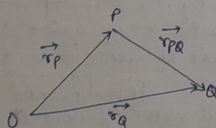
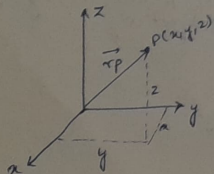
• Position and Distance vectors:

- Position vector: (radius vector) \vec{r}_P of point P is defined as the directed distance from origin O to P.

$$\vec{r}_P = OP = x\hat{a}_x + y\hat{a}_y + z\hat{a}_z \quad [P = (x, y, z)]$$

- Distance vector: is the displacement from one point to another.

$$\vec{r}_{PQ} = \vec{r}_Q - \vec{r}_P = x_Q\hat{a}_x - x_P\hat{a}_x + (y_Q - y_P)\hat{a}_y + (z_Q - z_P)\hat{a}_z$$



• Vector Multiplication:

- Dot product: (scalar product) is defined geometrically as the product of the magnitudes of \vec{A} and \vec{B} and the cosine of smaller angle between them, when they are drawn tail to tail.

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = AB \cos \theta_{AB}$$

If $\vec{A} = (A_x, A_y, A_z)$ and $\vec{B} = (B_x, B_y, B_z)$ then

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z$$

Scalar product or dot product results into a scalar quantity. Two vectors are said to be orthogonal or perpendicular with each other if $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$.

Dot product obeys following:

(i) commutative: $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = \vec{B} \cdot \vec{A}$

(ii) Distributive: $\vec{A} \cdot (\vec{B} + \vec{C}) = \vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} + \vec{A} \cdot \vec{C}$

(iii) $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{A} = |\vec{A}|^2 = A^2$

Also note that:

$$\hat{a}_x \cdot \hat{a}_y = \hat{a}_y \cdot \hat{a}_z = \hat{a}_z \cdot \hat{a}_x = 0$$

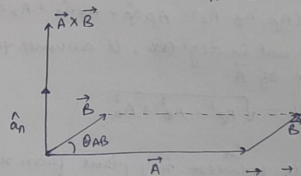
$$\hat{a}_x \cdot \hat{a}_x = \hat{a}_y \cdot \hat{a}_y = \hat{a}_z \cdot \hat{a}_z = 1$$

- Cross product: is a vector quantity whose magnitude is the area of the parallelogram formed by the two vectors and is in the direction of advance of a right-handed screw as \vec{A} is turned into \vec{B} .

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = AB \sin \theta_{AB} \hat{a}_n$$

If $\vec{A} = (A_x, A_y, A_z)$ and $\vec{B} = (B_x, B_y, B_z)$ then

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{a}_x & \hat{a}_y & \hat{a}_z \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \\ B_x & B_y & B_z \end{vmatrix}$$



$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = (A_y B_z - A_z B_y)\hat{a}_x + (A_z B_x - A_x B_z)\hat{a}_y + (A_x B_y - A_y B_x)\hat{a}_z$$

It is obtained by "crossing" terms in cyclic manner permutation, hence name "cross product".

Cross product obeys following:

(i) Anticommutative: $\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = -\vec{B} \times \vec{A}$

(ii) Not Associative: $\vec{A} \times (\vec{B} \times \vec{C}) \neq (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) \times \vec{C}$

(iii) Distributive: $\vec{A} \times (\vec{B} + \vec{C}) = \vec{A} \times \vec{B} + \vec{A} \times \vec{C}$

(iv) $\vec{A} \times \vec{A} = 0$

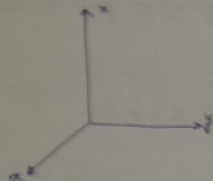
Also note that

$$\hat{a}_x \times \hat{a}_y = \hat{a}_z, \quad \hat{a}_y \times \hat{a}_z = \hat{a}_x, \quad \hat{a}_z \times \hat{a}_x = \hat{a}_y$$

$$\hat{a}_x \times \hat{a}_x = \hat{a}_y \times \hat{a}_y = \hat{a}_z \times \hat{a}_z = 0$$

Coordinate Systems and Transformation

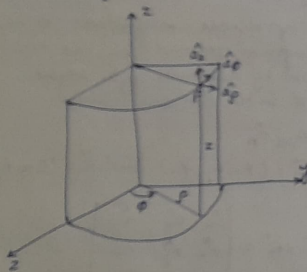
- A point or vector can be represented in any curvilinear coordinate system, which may be orthogonal or non-orthogonal.
- Nonorthogonal systems are hard to work with, and they are of little or no practical use.
- Orthogonal system is one in which the coordinate surfaces are mutually perpendicular.
e.g. Cartesian, circular cylindrical, spherical, elliptical cylindrical, parabolic cylindrical, conical, prolate spheroidal, oblate spheroidal, ellipsoidal.
- Cartesian coordinates (x, y, z)



$$\begin{aligned} -\infty < x < \infty \\ -\infty < y < \infty \\ -\infty < z < \infty \end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{A} = A_x \hat{a}_x + A_y \hat{a}_y + A_z \hat{a}_z = (A_x, A_y, A_z)$$

- Circular Cylindrical coordinates (ρ, ϕ, z)



$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \rho < \infty \\ 0 &\leq \phi < 2\pi, 360^\circ \\ -\infty &< z < \infty \end{aligned}$$

2π is excluded in the range for ϕ
since $\phi = 2\pi$ is equivalent to $\phi = 0$.

$$\vec{A} = (A_\rho, A_\phi, A_z) = A_\rho \hat{a}_\rho + A_\phi \hat{a}_\phi + A_z \hat{a}_z$$

\hat{a}_ϕ is not in degrees, it assumes the units of \vec{A} .

$$|\vec{A}| = \sqrt{A_\rho^2 + A_\phi^2 + A_z^2}$$

$\rho \rightarrow$ radius of the cylinder

$\phi \rightarrow$ azimuthal angle / angle between x - y plane from x -axis

$z \rightarrow$ height of the cylinder.

$$\hat{a}_\rho \cdot \hat{a}_\rho = \hat{a}_\phi \cdot \hat{a}_\phi = \hat{a}_z \cdot \hat{a}_z = 1$$

$$\hat{a}_\rho \cdot \hat{a}_\phi = \hat{a}_\phi \cdot \hat{a}_z = \hat{a}_z \cdot \hat{a}_\rho = 0$$

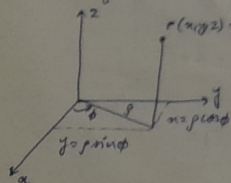
$$\hat{a}_\rho \times \hat{a}_\phi = \hat{a}_z, \quad \hat{a}_\phi \times \hat{a}_z = \hat{a}_\rho, \quad \hat{a}_z \times \hat{a}_\rho = \hat{a}_\phi$$

Relationship between cartesian and cylindrical coordinates:

$$\rho = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}, \quad z = z \quad (1)$$

$$x = \rho \cos \phi, \quad y = \rho \sin \phi, \quad z = z \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{a}_x &= \cos \phi \hat{a}_\rho - \sin \phi \hat{a}_\phi \\ \hat{a}_y &= \sin \phi \hat{a}_\rho + \cos \phi \hat{a}_\phi \\ \hat{a}_z &= \hat{a}_z \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \hat{a}_\rho &= \cos \phi \hat{a}_x + \sin \phi \hat{a}_y \\ \hat{a}_\phi &= -\sin \phi \hat{a}_x + \cos \phi \hat{a}_y \\ \hat{a}_z &= \hat{a}_z \end{aligned}$$

Note that $|\hat{a}_x| = |\hat{a}_y| = |\hat{a}_\rho| = |\hat{a}_\phi| = 1$ since $\sqrt{\sin^2 \phi + \cos^2 \phi} = 1$

In matrix form, we write the transformation of vector \vec{A} from (A_x, A_y, A_z) cartesian to (A_ρ, A_ϕ, A_z) cylindrical

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_\rho \\ A_\phi \\ A_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi & \sin \phi & 0 \\ -\sin \phi & \cos \phi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \\ A_z \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

The inverse of the transformation $(A_\rho, A_\phi, A_z) \rightarrow (A_x, A_y, A_z)$ is obtained as

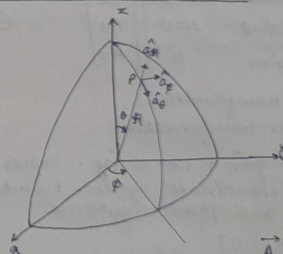
$$\begin{bmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \\ A_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi & \sin \phi & 0 \\ -\sin \phi & \cos \phi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A_\rho \\ A_\phi \\ A_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \\ A_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi & -\sin \phi & 0 \\ \sin \phi & \cos \phi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_\rho \\ A_\phi \\ A_z \end{bmatrix} \quad (4)$$

① and ② are for point-to-point transformation.

③ and ④ are for vector-to-vector transformation.

- Spherical coordinates (r, θ, ϕ)



$$0 \leq r < \infty$$

$$0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$$

$$0 \leq \phi < 2\pi$$

when ϕ changes from 0 to 2π , θ needs to be varied from 0 to π only to map the spherical volume within the distance r from the origin.

$$\vec{A} = A_r \hat{a}_r + A_\theta \hat{a}_\theta + A_\phi \hat{a}_\phi = (A_r, A_\theta, A_\phi)$$

$$|\vec{A}| = \sqrt{A_r^2 + A_\theta^2 + A_\phi^2}$$

$r \rightarrow$ radius of the sphere

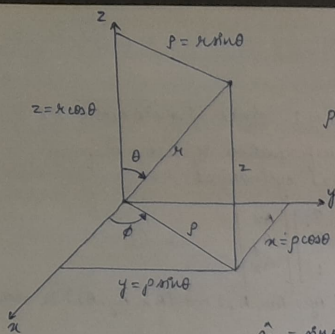
$\theta \rightarrow$ polar latitude / angle between z -axis and position vector r .

$\phi \rightarrow$ azimuthal angle / angle in x - y plane from x -axis.

$$\hat{a}_r \cdot \hat{a}_r = \hat{a}_\theta \cdot \hat{a}_\theta = \hat{a}_\phi \cdot \hat{a}_\phi = 1$$

$$\hat{a}_r \cdot \hat{a}_\theta = \hat{a}_\theta \cdot \hat{a}_\phi = \hat{a}_\phi \cdot \hat{a}_r = 0$$

$$\hat{a}_r \times \hat{a}_\theta = \hat{a}_\phi, \quad \hat{a}_\theta \times \hat{a}_\phi = \hat{a}_r, \quad \hat{a}_\phi \times \hat{a}_r = \hat{a}_\theta$$



Relationship between cartesian and cylindrical coordinates and spherical coordinates

$$\rho = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, \quad r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}, \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{z}$$

$$\phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi, \quad y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi, \quad z = r \cos \theta \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{a}_x &= \sin \theta \cos \phi \hat{a}_r + \cos \theta \cos \phi \hat{a}_\theta - \sin \phi \hat{a}_\phi \\ \hat{a}_y &= \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{a}_r + \cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{a}_\theta + \cos \phi \hat{a}_\phi \\ \hat{a}_z &= \cos \theta \hat{a}_r - \sin \theta \hat{a}_\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{a}_r &= \sin \theta \cos \phi \hat{a}_x + \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{a}_y + \cos \theta \hat{a}_z \\ \hat{a}_\theta &= \cos \theta \cos \phi \hat{a}_x + \cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{a}_y - \sin \theta \hat{a}_z \\ \hat{a}_\phi &= -\sin \phi \hat{a}_x + \cos \phi \hat{a}_y \end{aligned}$$

In matrix form, the $(A_x, A_y, A_z) \rightarrow (A_r, A_\theta, A_\phi)$ vector transformation is performed according to:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_r \\ A_\theta \\ A_\phi \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sin \theta \cos \phi & \sin \theta \sin \phi & \cos \theta \\ \cos \theta \cos \phi & \cos \theta \sin \phi & -\sin \theta \\ -\sin \phi & \cos \phi & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \\ A_z \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

The inverse transformation $(A_x, A_y, A_z) \rightarrow (A_r, A_\theta, A_\phi)$ is similarly obtained according to:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \\ A_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sin \theta \cos \phi & \cos \theta \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ \sin \theta \sin \phi & \cos \theta \sin \phi & \cos \phi \\ \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_r \\ A_\theta \\ A_\phi \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

① and ② are for point-to-point transformation.

③ and ④ are for vector-to-vector transformation.

Q: Given that $P(-2, 6, 3)$ and $\vec{A} = y\hat{a}_x + (x+z)\hat{a}_y$. Express P and \vec{A} in cylindrical and spherical coordinate system. Evaluate \vec{A} at P in the cartesian, cylindrical and spherical systems.

[Hint: for \vec{A} , $A_x = y$, $A_y = x+z$, $A_z = 0$]

Ans: Example 3.1 pg 37 [Sadiku]

Vector Calculus

• Differential length, area and volume

- Cartesian coordinate systems:

1) Differential displacement is given by:

$$d\vec{L} = dx\hat{a}_x + dy\hat{a}_y + dz\hat{a}_z$$

2) Differential normal surface area:

$$d\vec{S} = dxdy\hat{a}_z, \quad d\vec{S} = dydz\hat{a}_x, \quad d\vec{S} = dzdx\hat{a}_y$$

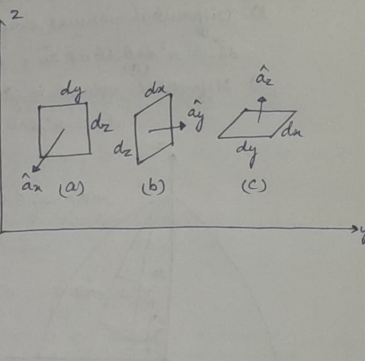
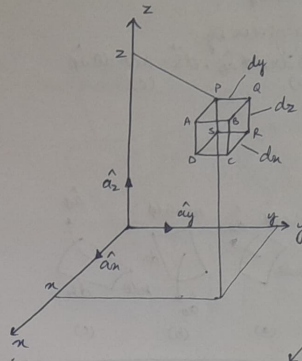
(c)

(a)

(b)

3) Differential volume is given by:

$$dv = dx dy dz$$



- Cylindrical Coordinate systems:

1) Differential displacement is given by

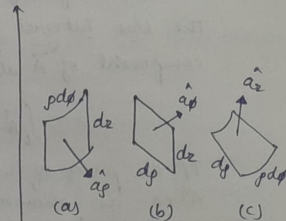
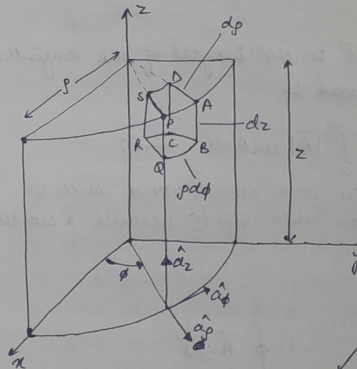
$$d\vec{L} = \rho d\phi \hat{a}_\phi + \rho d\theta \hat{a}_\theta + dz \hat{a}_z$$

2) Differential normal surface area is given by

$$d\vec{S} = \rho d\phi dz \hat{a}_\rho, \quad d\vec{S} = \rho d\theta dz \hat{a}_\theta, \quad d\vec{S} = \rho d\phi d\theta \hat{a}_z$$

3) Differential volume is given by

$$dv = \rho d\rho d\phi dz$$



- Spherical coordinate system:

1) Differential displacement is given by

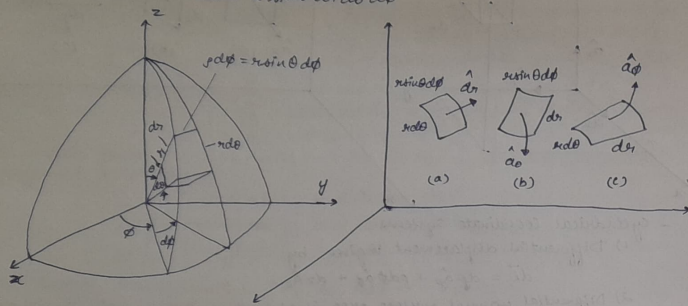
$$d\vec{r} = dr\hat{a}_r + r d\theta\hat{a}_\theta + r \sin\theta d\phi\hat{a}_\phi$$

2) Differential normal surface area is given by

$$d\vec{S} = r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi \hat{a}_n, \quad d\vec{S} = r \sin\theta dr d\phi \hat{a}_\theta, \quad d\vec{S} = r dr d\theta \hat{a}_\phi \quad (b) \quad (c)$$

3) Differential volume is given by

$$dv = r^2 \sin\theta dr d\theta d\phi$$



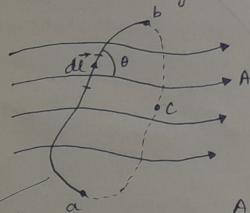
• Line, surface and volume integrals

- Line: By "line" we mean the path along a curve in space. Terms such as line, curve and contour are used interchangeably.

The line integral $\int_L \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{r}$ is the integral of the tangential component of \vec{A} along curve L.

$$\int_L \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_a^b |\vec{A}| \cos\theta dl \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

If the path of integration is a closed curve such as abca as shown below then eq. (1) becomes a closed contour integral.



$$\oint_L \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

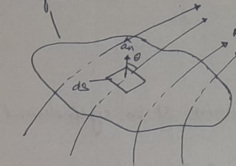
which is called the circulation of \vec{A} around L.

A common example of line integral is the work done on a particle.

- Surface: Given a vector field \vec{A} , continuous in a region containing the smooth surface S, we define the surface integral or the flux of \vec{A} through S as

$$\Psi = \int_S |\vec{A}| \cos\theta dS = \int_S \vec{A} \cdot \hat{a}_n dS$$

or simply $\Psi = \int_S \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{S}$ --- (2)



where, at any point on S, \hat{a}_n is the unit normal to S.

For a closed surface (defining a volume) eq. (2) becomes

$$\Psi = \oint_S \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{S}$$

which is referred to as the net outward flux of \vec{A} through S.

- Volume: Notice that a closed path defines an open surface, whereas a closed surface defines a volume.

We define the volume integral of the scalar ρ over the volume V, as

$$\int_V \rho dv \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

• Del operator

The del operator, written as ∇ , is the vector differential operator. In Cartesian coordinates,

$$\nabla = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \hat{a}_x + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \hat{a}_y + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \hat{a}_z \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

This operator, otherwise known as the gradient operator, is not a vector itself, but it operates on a scalar function.

The operator is useful in defining;

- The gradient of scalar V , ∇V
- The divergence of a vector \vec{A} , $\nabla \cdot \vec{A}$
- The curl of a vector \vec{A} , $\nabla \times \vec{A}$
- The Laplacian of a scalar V , $\nabla^2 V$

In cylindrical coordinates,

To obtain ∇ in terms of ρ, ϕ, z we use

$$\rho = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, \quad \tan \phi = \frac{y}{x}$$

Hence, and,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} - \frac{\sin \phi}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} + \frac{\cos \phi}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$

Substituting these in eq. (1) we obtain ∇ in cylindrical coordinates as

$$\nabla = \hat{a}_\rho \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} + \hat{a}_\phi \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} + \hat{a}_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \quad (2)$$

In spherical coordinates,

To obtain ∇ in terms of r, θ, ϕ we use

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}, \quad \tan \theta = \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{z}, \quad \tan \phi = \frac{y}{x}$$

and,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \sin \theta \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{\cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\sin \phi}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \sin \theta \sin \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{\cos \theta \sin \phi}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\cos \phi}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} = \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \frac{\sin \theta}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}$$

Substituting these in eq. (1) we obtain ∇ in spherical coordinates as

$$\nabla = \hat{a}_r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \hat{a}_\theta \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \hat{a}_\phi \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \quad (3)$$

Gradient of a scalar

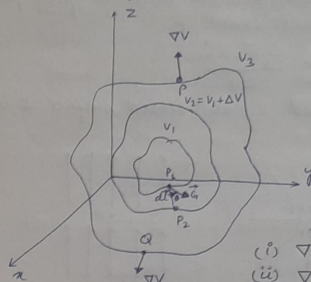
The gradient of a scalar field at any point is the maximum rate of change of the field at that point.

The gradient of a scalar field V is a vector that represents both the magnitude and direction of the maximum space rate of increase of V .

$$\nabla V = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \hat{a}_x + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \hat{a}_y + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \hat{a}_z \right) V$$

$$\nabla V = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \hat{a}_x + \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} \hat{a}_y + \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \hat{a}_z \quad (1)$$

The gradient of V can be expressed in cartesian coordinates as in eq. (1).



for cylindrical coordinates:

$$\nabla V = \frac{\partial V}{\partial \rho} \hat{a}_\rho + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} \hat{a}_\phi + \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \hat{a}_z \quad (2)$$

for spherical coordinates:

$$\nabla V = \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \hat{a}_r + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \hat{a}_\theta + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} \hat{a}_\phi \quad (3)$$

formulas on gradient:

$$(i) \nabla(V+U) = \nabla V + \nabla U$$

$$(ii) \nabla(VU) = V \nabla U + U \nabla V$$

$$(iii) \nabla \left(\frac{V}{U} \right) = \frac{U \nabla V - V \nabla U}{U^2}$$

$$(iv) \nabla V^n = n V^{n-1} \nabla V$$

where U and V are scalars and n is an integer.

Fundamental properties of the gradient of a scalar field V :

- 1) The magnitude of ∇V equals the maximum rate of change in V per unit distance.
- 2) ∇V points in the direction of maximum rate of change of V .
- 3) ∇V at any point is perpendicular to the constant V surface that passes through that point.
- 4) The projection of ∇V in the direction of a unit vector \hat{a} is $\nabla V \cdot \hat{a}$ in the direction of \hat{a} and is called the directional derivative of V along \hat{a} . This is the rate of change of V in the direction of \hat{a} .

$$\text{Directional derivative: } \Delta V = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \nabla V}{|\vec{a}|}$$

- 5) If $\vec{A} = \nabla V$, V is said to be the scalar potential of \vec{A} .

Q: Find the gradient of the following scalar fields:

$$(a) V = e^{-z} \sin 2x \cosh y \quad (b) V = \rho^2 z \cos 2\phi \quad (c) W = 10 \pi \sin^2 \theta \cos \phi$$

$$\text{Ans: (a) } 2e^{-z} \cos 2x \cosh y \hat{a}_x + e^{-z} \sin 2x \sinh y \hat{a}_y - e^{-z} \sin 2x \cosh y \hat{a}_z$$

$$(b) 2\rho z \cos 2\phi \hat{a}_\rho - 2\rho z \sin 2\phi \hat{a}_\phi + \rho^2 \cos 2\phi \hat{a}_z$$

$$(c) 10 \pi \sin 2\theta \cos \phi \hat{a}_r + 10 \pi \sin 2\theta \cos \phi \hat{a}_\theta - 10 \pi \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{a}_\phi$$

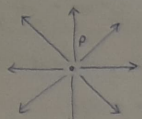
Divergence of a vector and divergence theorem:

The divergence of \vec{A} as the net outward flow of fluid per unit volume over a closed incremental surface.

The divergence of \vec{A} at a given point P is the outward flux per unit volume as the volume shrinks about P .

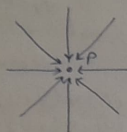
$$\text{div } \vec{A} = \nabla \cdot \vec{A} = \lim_{\Delta V \rightarrow 0} \frac{\oint_S \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{S}}{\Delta V}$$

where ΔV is the volume enclosed by the closed surface S in which P is located.



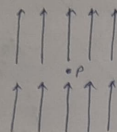
(a)

positive divergence



(b)

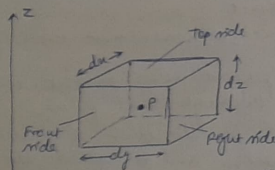
negative divergence



(c)

zero divergence.

The divergence of a vector field can also be viewed as simply the limit of the field's source strength per unit volume (of source density); it is positive at a source point in the field, and negative at a sink point, or zero elsewhere where there is neither sink nor source.



The divergence of \vec{A} at point $P(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ in a Cartesian system is given by

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{A} = \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z} \quad (1)$$

In cylindrical coordinates

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{A} = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} (\rho A_\rho) + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial A_\phi}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z} \quad (2)$$

In spherical coordinates

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{A} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 A_r) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (A_\theta \sin \theta) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial A_\phi}{\partial \phi} \quad (3)$$

The following properties of the divergence of a vector field

- 1) It provides a scalar field (because scalar product is involved).
- 2) $\nabla \cdot (\vec{A} + \vec{B}) = \nabla \cdot \vec{A} + \nabla \cdot \vec{B}$
- 3) $\nabla \cdot (V\vec{A}) = V \nabla \cdot \vec{A} + \vec{A} \cdot \nabla V$

From the definition of divergence of \vec{A} , it is not difficult to expect that

$$\oint_S \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{S} = \int_V \nabla \cdot \vec{A} dV$$

This is called the divergence theorem, otherwise known as Gauss-Ostrogradsky theorem.

The divergence theorem states that the total outward flux of a vector field \vec{A} through the closed surface S is the same as the volume integral of the divergence of \vec{A} .

Proof: Subdivide volume V into a large number of small cells. If the k^{th} cell has volume ΔV_k and is bounded by surface S_k .



$$\oint_S \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{S} = \sum_k \oint_{S_k} \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{S} = \sum_k \frac{\oint_{S_k} \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{S}}{\Delta V_k} \Delta V_k \quad (1)$$

Since the net outward flux to one cell is inward to some neighbouring cells, there is cancellation on every interior surface, so the sum of the surface integrals over the S_k 's is the same as the surface integral over the surface S .

Taking the limit of right-hand side of eq. (1) gives

$$\oint_S \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{S} = \int_V \nabla \cdot \vec{A} dV$$

Q: Determine the divergence of these vector fields:

- (a) $\vec{P} = x^2 y z \hat{a}_x + x z \hat{a}_z$
- (b) $\vec{Q} = \rho \sin \phi \hat{a}_\rho + \rho^2 z \hat{a}_z + z \cos \phi \hat{a}_\theta$
- (c) $\vec{T} = \frac{1}{r^2} \cos \theta \hat{a}_r + r \sin \theta \cos \phi \hat{a}_\theta + \cos \theta \hat{a}_\phi$

Ans: (a) $\nabla \cdot \vec{P} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2 y z) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (0) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (x z) = 2xy z + x$

(b) $\nabla \cdot \vec{Q} = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} (\rho^2 \sin \phi) + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} (\rho^2 z) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (z \cos \phi)$

(c) $\nabla \cdot \vec{T} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (\cos \theta) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (r \sin^2 \theta \cos \phi) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} (\cos \theta)$
 $= 2 \cos \theta \cos \phi$

• Curl of a vector and Stoke's theorem

The curl of \vec{A} is an axial (or rotational) vector whose magnitude is the maximum circulation of \vec{A} per unit area tends to zero and whose direction is the normal direction of the area when the area is oriented to make the circulation maximum.

That is,

$$\text{curl } \vec{A} = \nabla \times \vec{A} = \left(\lim_{\Delta S \rightarrow 0} \frac{\oint_L \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}}{\Delta S} \right) \hat{a}_n \rightarrow$$

where the area ΔS is bounded by the curve L and \hat{a}_n is the unit vector normal to the surface ΔS and is determined by using the right-hand rule.

This is independent of the coordinate system (in eq. *)

In cartesian coordinates the curl of \vec{A} is found using

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{a}_x & \hat{a}_y & \hat{a}_z \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{--- (1.a)}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = \left[\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial z} \right] \hat{a}_x + \left[\frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} \right] \hat{a}_y + \left[\frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} \right] \hat{a}_z \quad \text{--- (1.b)}$$

Using point-to-point vector transformation techniques, we obtain the curl of \vec{A} in cylindrical coordinates as

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = \frac{1}{\rho} \begin{vmatrix} \hat{a}_\rho & \rho \hat{a}_\phi & \hat{a}_z \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ A_\rho & \rho A_\phi & A_z \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{--- (2.a)}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = \frac{1}{\rho} \left[\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial \phi} - \rho \frac{\partial A_\phi}{\partial z} \right] \hat{a}_\rho + \left[\frac{\partial A_\rho}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial \rho} \right] \hat{a}_\phi + \frac{1}{\rho} \left[\frac{\partial(\rho A_\phi)}{\partial \rho} - \frac{\partial A_\rho}{\partial \phi} \right] \hat{a}_z \quad \text{--- (2.b)}$$

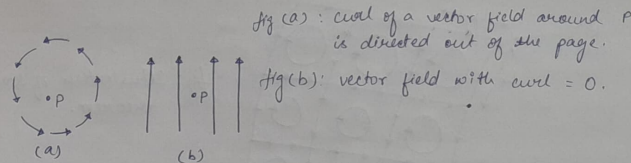
In spherical coordinates as

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \begin{vmatrix} \hat{a}_r & r \hat{a}_\theta & r \sin \theta \hat{a}_\phi \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \\ A_r & r A_\theta & r \sin \theta A_\phi \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{--- (3.a)}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \left[\frac{\partial(A_\phi \sin \theta)}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\partial A_\theta}{\partial \phi} \right] \hat{a}_r + \frac{1}{r} \left[\frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial(r A_\phi)}{\partial r} \right] \hat{a}_\theta + \frac{1}{r} \left[\frac{\partial(r A_\theta)}{\partial r} - \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \theta} \right] \hat{a}_\phi \quad \text{--- (3.b)}$$

The following are the properties of the curl:

- 1) The curl of vector field is another vector field.
- 2) $\nabla \times (\vec{A} + \vec{B}) = \nabla \times \vec{A} + \nabla \times \vec{B}$
- 3) $\nabla \times (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) = \vec{A} (\nabla \cdot \vec{B}) - \vec{B} (\nabla \cdot \vec{A}) + (\vec{B} \cdot \nabla) \vec{A} - (\vec{A} \cdot \nabla) \vec{B}$
- 4) $\nabla \times (\nabla \phi) = \nabla \times \nabla \phi = 0$
- 5) The divergence of the curl of a vector field vanishes; i.e., $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{A}) = 0$.
- 6) The curl of the gradient of a scalar field vanishes; i.e., $\nabla \times \nabla \phi = 0$ or $\nabla \times \nabla = 0$.

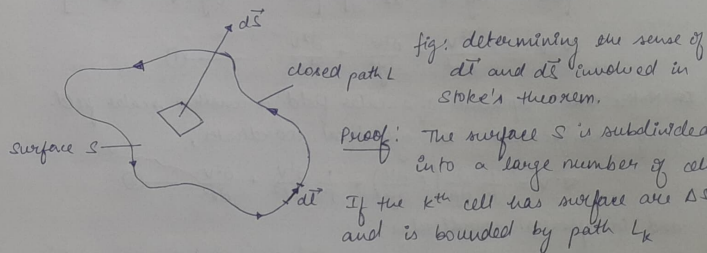


Also, from the definition of the curl of \vec{A} in eq. (1.a), we may expect that

$$\oint_L \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_S (\nabla \times \vec{A}) \cdot d\vec{S}$$

This is called Stoke's theorem.

Stoke's theorem states that the circulation of vector field \vec{A} around a (closed) path L is equal to the surface integral of the curl of \vec{A} over the open surface S bounded by L , provided \vec{A} and $\nabla \times \vec{A}$ are continuous on S .



$$\oint_L \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l} = \sum_K \oint_{L_K} \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l} = \sum_K \frac{\oint_{L_K} \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}}{\Delta S_K} \Delta S_K$$

There is cancellation on every interior path, so the sum of the line integrals around the k^{th} is the same as the line integral around the bounding curve L .

Therefore, taking the limit of the right-hand side of the above equation as $\Delta s_k \rightarrow 0$ and incorporating eq. (3), we get

$$\oint_L \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_V (\nabla \times \vec{A}) \cdot d\vec{l}.$$

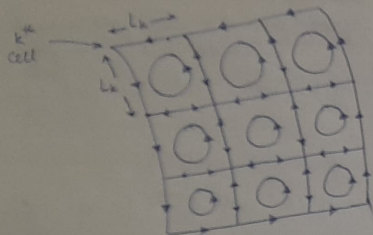


Fig: Illustration of Stokes' theorem.

* Laplacian of a Scalar

The Laplacian of a scalar field V , written as $\nabla^2 V$, is the divergence of the gradient of V .

In cartesian coordinates,

$$\text{Laplacian } V = \nabla \cdot \nabla V = \nabla^2 V$$

$$= \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \hat{a}_x + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \hat{a}_y + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \hat{a}_z \right] \cdot \left[\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \hat{a}_x + \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} \hat{a}_y + \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \hat{a}_z \right]$$

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Notice that: Laplacian of a scalar field is another scalar field.

Using transformation, In cylindrical coordinates,

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left(\rho \frac{\partial V}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

and in spherical coordinates,

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \phi^2} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

A scalar field V is said to be harmonic in a given region if its Laplacian vanishes in that region.

In other words, if

$$\nabla^2 V = 0 \quad \text{--- *}$$

is satisfied in the region, the solution for V in eq. (4) is harmonic (it is of the form of sine or cosine).

eq. (4) is called Laplace's equation.

Laplacian of a vector \vec{A} , $\nabla^2 \vec{A}$ is defined as the gradient of the divergence of \vec{A} minus the curl of the curl of \vec{A} .

$$\nabla^2 \vec{A} = \nabla (\nabla \cdot \vec{A}) - \nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{A}) \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Eq. (4) can be applied in any coordinate system.

In cartesian coordinates only eq. (4) becomes,

$$\nabla^2 \vec{A} = \nabla^2 A_x \hat{a}_x + \nabla^2 A_y \hat{a}_y + \nabla^2 A_z \hat{a}_z \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

Q: Find the Laplacian of the scalar fields

(a) $V = e^{-z} \sin 2x \cosh y$

(b) $U = \rho^2 z \cos 2\phi$

(c) $W = 10x \sin^2 \theta \cos \phi$

Ans: Example 3.11 [Sadiku]

Q: Prove $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{A}) = 0$.