

Electromagnetism: Pset #1

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Problem 1

Part (a)

- $\delta_i^i = \delta_1^1 + \delta_2^2 + \delta_3^3 = 3.$
- $\delta^{ij}\epsilon_{ijk} = \epsilon_{iik} = 0$
- $\epsilon^{ijk}\epsilon_{mjk} = 3(\delta_m^i\delta_j^j - \delta_m^j\delta_j^i) = 9\delta_m^i - 3\delta_m^i = 6\delta_m^i$
- $\epsilon^{ijk}\epsilon_{ijk} = \delta_i^i\delta_j^j - \delta_i^j\delta_j^i = 3^2 - 3 = 6$

Part (b)

$$\begin{aligned} B^i = \epsilon^{ijk}\partial_j A_k &\implies \epsilon_{ijk}B^k = \epsilon_{ijk}\epsilon^{kab}\partial_a A_b \\ &\implies \epsilon_{ijk}B^k = \epsilon_{ijk}\epsilon^{abk}\partial_a A_b \\ &\implies \epsilon_{ijk}B^k = (\delta_i^a\delta_j^b - \delta_i^b\delta_j^a)\partial_a A_b \\ &\implies \epsilon_{ijk}B^k = \partial_i A_j - \partial_j A_i \end{aligned}$$

Part (c)

$$\begin{aligned} [\nabla \times (\vec{A} \times \vec{B})]_i &= \epsilon_{ijk}\partial_j(\vec{A} \times \vec{B})_k \\ &= \epsilon_{ijk}\partial_j\epsilon_{kab}A_aB_b \\ &= \epsilon_{ijk}\epsilon_{abk}\partial_jA_aB_b \\ &= (\delta_{ia}\delta_{jb} - \delta_{ib}\delta_{ja})\partial_jA_aB_b \\ &= \partial_jA_iB_j - \partial_jA_jB_i \\ &= A_i\partial_jB_j + B_j\partial_jA_i - B_i\partial_jA_j - A_j\partial_jB_i \\ [\nabla \times (\vec{A} \times \vec{B})]_i &= [\vec{A}(\nabla \cdot \vec{B})]_i + [(\vec{B} \cdot \nabla)\vec{A}]_i - [\vec{B}(\nabla \cdot \vec{A})]_i - [(\vec{A} \cdot \nabla)\vec{B}]_i \end{aligned}$$

Hence Proved.

$$\begin{aligned} [\vec{A} \times (\nabla \times \vec{B})]_i &= \epsilon_{ijk}A_j(\nabla \times \vec{B})_k \\ &= \epsilon_{ijk}A_j\epsilon_{kab}\partial_a B_b \\ &= (\delta_{ia}\delta_{jb} - \delta_{ib}\delta_{ja})A_j\partial_a B_b \\ [\vec{A} \times (\nabla \times \vec{B})]_i &= A_b\partial_iB_b - A_j\partial_jB_i \\ [\vec{B} \times (\nabla \times \vec{A})]_i &= B_b\partial_iA_b - B_j\partial_jA_i \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
[\vec{A} \times (\nabla \times \vec{B})]_i + [\vec{B} \times (\nabla \times \vec{A})]_i &= A_b \partial_i B_b - A_j \partial_j B_i + B_b \partial_i A_b - B_j \partial_j A_i \\
&= \partial_i A_b B_b - A_j \partial_j B_i - B_j \partial_j A_i \\
[\vec{A} \times (\nabla \times \vec{B})]_i + [\vec{B} \times (\nabla \times \vec{A})]_i &= [\nabla(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B})]_i - [(\vec{A} \cdot \nabla)\vec{B}]_i - [(\vec{B} \cdot \nabla)\vec{A}]_i \\
[\nabla(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B})]_i &= [\vec{A} \times (\nabla \times \vec{B})]_i + [\vec{B} \times (\nabla \times \vec{A})]_i + [(\vec{A} \cdot \nabla)\vec{B}]_i + [(\vec{B} \cdot \nabla)\vec{A}]_i
\end{aligned}$$

Hence Proved.

$$\begin{aligned}
[\nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{A})]_i &= \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j (\nabla \times \vec{A})_k \\
&= \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j \epsilon_{kab} \partial_a A_b \\
&= \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{abk} \partial_j \partial_a A_b \\
&= (\delta_{ia} \delta_{jb} - \delta_{ib} \delta_{ja}) \partial_j \partial_a A_b \\
&= \partial_j \partial_i A_j - \partial_j \partial_j A_i \\
[\nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{A})]_i &= [\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{A})]_i - [\nabla^2 \vec{A}]_i
\end{aligned}$$

Hence Proved.

Problem 2

Part (a)

Consider $(\vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l})$,

$$\begin{aligned}
(\vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l}) &= (A_x dx + A_y dy + A_z dz) \wedge (B_x dx + B_y dy + B_z dz) \\
&= (A_x B_y - A_y B_x) dx dy + (A_y B_z - A_z B_y) dy dz + (A_z B_x - A_x B_z) dz dx \\
&= (A_x B_y - A_y B_x) dx dy + (A_y B_z - A_z B_y) dy dz + (A_z B_x - A_x B_z) dz dx \\
&= (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) \cdot d\vec{a}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(\vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (\vec{C} \cdot d\vec{l}) &= (A_x dx + A_y dy + A_z dz) \wedge (B_x dx + B_y dy + B_z dz) \wedge (C_x dx + C_y dy + C_z dz) \\
&= (A_x B_y C_z - A_x B_z C_y + A_y B_z C_x - A_y B_x C_z + A_z B_x C_y - A_z B_y C_x) dx dy dz \\
&= [(A_x B_y - A_y B_x) C_z - (A_x B_z - A_z B_x) C_y + (A_y B_z - A_z B_y) C_x] dx dy dz \\
&= (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) \cdot \vec{C} dV
\end{aligned}$$

Consider spherical coordinates first,

$$\begin{aligned}
(\vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l}) &= (A_r dr + A_\theta r d\theta + A_\phi r \sin \theta d\phi) \wedge (B_r dr + B_\theta r d\theta + B_\phi r \sin \theta d\phi) \\
&= (A_r B_\theta - A_\theta B_r) r dr d\theta + (A_\theta B_\phi - A_\phi B_\theta) r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi + (-A_\phi B_r + A_r B_\phi) r \sin \theta d\phi dr
\end{aligned}$$

Comparing with the expression for $(\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) \cdot d\vec{a}$, one gets,

$$d\vec{a} = r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi \hat{r} + r \sin \theta d\phi dr \hat{\theta} + r dr d\theta \hat{\phi}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}
(\vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (\vec{C} \cdot d\vec{l}) &= (\vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (C_r dr + C_\theta r d\theta + C_\phi r \sin \theta d\phi) \\
&= [C_\phi (A_r B_\theta - A_\theta B_r) + C_r (A_\theta B_\phi - A_\phi B_\theta) + C_\theta (-A_\phi B_r + A_r B_\phi)] r^2 \sin \theta dr d\theta d\phi
\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore dV = r^2 \sin \theta dr d\theta d\phi$$

We repeat the same exercise for cylindrical coordinates,

$$\begin{aligned} (\vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l}) &= (A_s ds + A_\phi s d\phi + A_z dz) \wedge (B_s ds + B_\phi s d\phi + B_z dz) \\ &= (A_s B_\phi - A_\phi B_s) s ds d\phi + (A_z B_s - A_s B_z) ds dz + (A_\phi B_z - A_z B_\phi) s d\phi dz \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore d\vec{a} = s ds d\phi \hat{z} + ds dz \hat{\phi} + s d\phi dz \hat{s}$$

$$(\vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l}) \wedge (\vec{C} \cdot d\vec{l}) = [C_z(A_s B_\phi - A_\phi B_s) + C_\phi(A_z B_s - A_s B_z) + C_s(A_\phi B_z - A_z B_\phi)] s ds d\phi dz$$

$$\therefore dV = s ds d\phi dz$$

Part (b)

$$\begin{aligned} (dx + dy - dz) \wedge (dx + dy + dz) &= dx \wedge dy + dx \wedge dz + dy \wedge dx + dy \wedge dz - dz \wedge dx - dz \wedge dy \\ &= dx dy - dz dx - dx dy + dy dz - dz dx + dy dz \\ &= 2(dy dz - dz dx) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} [(x - y) dx + (x + y) dy + z dz] \wedge [(x - y) dx + (x + y) dy] &= (x^2 - y^2) dx \wedge dy + (x^2 - y^2) dy \wedge dx \\ &\quad + z(x - y) dz \wedge dx + z(x + y) dz \wedge dy \\ &= z(x - y) dz dx - z(x + y) dy dz \end{aligned}$$

Part (c)

Let ω be the 2-form in R^4 . The general expression for ω is,

$$\omega = \sum_{i \neq j} a_{ij} dx^i \wedge dx^j$$

We need to look for a 2-form that satisfies $\omega \wedge \omega = 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \omega \wedge \omega &= \sum_{i \neq j} a_{ij} dx^i \wedge dx^j \wedge \sum_{m \neq n} a_{mn} dx^m \wedge dx^n \\ &= (a_{12} - a_{21}) dx_1 \wedge dx_2 + (a_{23} - a_{32}) dx_2 \wedge dx_3 + (a_{34} - a_{43}) dx_3 \wedge dx_4 + (a_{24} - a_{42}) dx_2 \wedge dx_4 \\ &\quad + (a_{13} - a_{31}) dx_1 \wedge dx_3 + (a_{14} - a_{41}) dx_1 \wedge dx_4 \\ &= b_{12} dx_1 \wedge dx_2 + b_{23} dx_2 \wedge dx_3 + b_{34} dx_3 \wedge dx_4 + b_{13} dx_1 \wedge dx_3 + b_{14} dx_1 \wedge dx_4 + b_{24} dx_2 \wedge dx_4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\omega \wedge \omega = 0 \implies b_{12}b_{34} - b_{13}b_{24} + b_{14}b_{23} = 0$$

The above expression reminds us of the determinant of a 3×3 matrix where,

$$b_{ij} = x_i y_j - x_j y_i \implies a_{ij} = x_i y_j \quad (\text{by comparison})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \omega &= \sum_{i \neq j} x_i y_j dx^i \wedge dx^j \\ &= \sum_{i \neq j} x_i dx^i \wedge y_j dx^j \\ \omega &= \sum_{i,j} x_i dx^i \wedge y_j dx^j \end{aligned}$$

Hence proved that ω can be written as the wedge product of two 1-forms.

Problem 3

Part (a)

Given,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Omega &= \frac{1}{p!} \Omega_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \dots i_p} dx^{i_1} \wedge dx^{i_2} \dots \wedge dx^{i_m} \dots dx^{i_p} \\
 &= \frac{1}{p!} \Omega_{i_m i_2 \dots i_1 \dots i_p} dx^{i_m} \wedge dx^{i_2} \dots \wedge dx^{i_1} \dots dx^{i_p} \\
 &= -\frac{1}{p!} \Omega_{i_m i_2 \dots i_1 \dots i_p} dx^{i_1} \wedge dx^{i_2} \dots \wedge dx^{i_m} \dots dx^{i_p} \\
 \implies \Omega_{i_m i_2 \dots i_1 \dots i_p} &= -\Omega_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \dots i_{p+1}} dx^{i_1} \implies \text{antisymmetric}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 d\Omega &= \frac{1}{p!} d\Omega_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \dots i_p} dx^{i_1} \wedge dx^{i_2} \dots \wedge dx^{i_m} \dots dx^{i_p} \\
 &= \frac{1}{p!} (\partial_k \Omega_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \dots i_p} dx^{i_k}) \wedge dx^{i_1} \wedge dx^{i_2} \dots \wedge dx^{i_m} \dots dx^{i_p} \\
 &= \frac{1}{p!} (\partial_k \Omega_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \dots i_{p+1}} dx^{i_k}) \wedge dx^{i_1} \wedge dx^{i_2} \dots \wedge dx^{i_m} \dots dx^{i_{p+1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Where in the last step, we have assumed that x_{i_k} is not in the wedge products to the right of the brackets. Now, we need to shift the dx^{i_k} to its position in the serial order. This will require us to do neighbouring flips $k-1$ times. Then,

$$d\Omega = (-1)^{(k-1)p} \frac{1}{p!} \partial_k \Omega_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \dots i_{p+1}} dx^{i_1} \wedge dx^{i_2} \dots \wedge dx^{i_m} \dots dx^{i_{p+1}}$$

We can permute the indices $p+1$ times and add them, so as to get,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (p+1)d\Omega &= \frac{1}{p!} (d\Omega)_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \dots i_{p+1}} dx^{i_1} \wedge dx^{i_2} \dots \wedge dx^{i_m} \dots dx^{i_{p+1}} \\
 d\Omega &= \frac{1}{(p+1)!} (d\Omega)_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \dots i_{p+1}} dx^{i_1} \wedge dx^{i_2} \dots \wedge dx^{i_m} \dots dx^{i_{p+1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

As the wedge products are antisymmetric under the exchange of indices, the only way that LHS can be invariant is if $(d\Omega)_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m \dots i_{p+1}}$ is also antisymmetric in the exchange of indices.

Problem 4

Part (a)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_C x^3 dx + \int_C \left(\frac{x^3}{3} + xy^2 \right) dy &= \int_{x^2+y^2 \leq 4} \left[-\frac{\partial x^3}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{x^3}{3} + xy^2 \right) \right] dx dy \\
 &= \int_{x^2+y^2 \leq 4} [x^2 + y^2] dx dy \\
 &= \int_0^2 r^3 dr \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \\
 &= 8\pi
 \end{aligned}$$

Part (b)

The generalized Stokes Theorem tells us,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\Gamma} d\omega &= \int_{\partial\Gamma} \omega \\ \int_{\Gamma} d(z^2 dx \wedge dy) &= \int_{\partial\Gamma} z^2 dx \wedge dy \\ \int_{\Gamma} (2z dz \wedge dx \wedge dy) &= \int_{\partial\Gamma} z^2 dx \wedge dy \\ \int_0^1 \rho d\rho \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^1 2z dz &= \int_{\partial\Gamma} z^2 dx \wedge dy \\ \int_{\partial\Gamma} z^2 dx \wedge dy &= \pi\end{aligned}$$

Part (c)

For spherical coordinates,

$$d\vec{a} = r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi \hat{r} + r \sin \theta d\phi dr \hat{\theta} + r dr d\theta \hat{\phi}$$

$$\begin{aligned}d(\vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}) &= d(A_r dr + A_\theta r d\theta + A_\phi r \sin \theta d\phi) \\ &= -\partial_\theta A_r dr d\theta + \partial_\phi A_r d\phi dr + (r \partial_r A_\theta + A_\theta) dr d\theta - r \partial_\phi A_\theta d\theta d\phi - \sin \theta (r \partial_r A_\phi + A_\phi) d\phi dr \\ &\quad + r(A_\phi \cos \theta + \partial_\theta \sin \theta) d\theta d\phi \\ &= (-\partial_\theta A_r + (r \partial_r A_\theta + A_\theta)) dr d\theta + [\partial_\phi A_r - \sin \theta (r \partial_r A_\phi + A_\phi)] d\phi dr + [r(A_\phi \cos \theta + \partial_\theta \sin \theta) - r \partial_\phi A_\theta] d\theta d\phi\end{aligned}$$

Comparing with $\nabla \times \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{a}$, we get,

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = \frac{1}{\sin \theta} [(A_\phi \cos \theta + \partial_\theta \sin \theta) - \partial_\phi A_\theta] \hat{r} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} [\partial_\phi A_r - \sin \theta (r \partial_r A_\phi + A_\phi)] \hat{\theta} + \frac{1}{r} (-\partial_\theta A_r + (r \partial_r A_\theta + A_\theta)) \hat{\phi}$$

$$\begin{aligned}d(\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{a}) &= d(B_r r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi + B_\theta r \sin \theta d\phi dr + B_\phi r dr d\theta) \\ &= [\partial_r (B_r r^2 \sin \theta) + \partial_\theta (B_\theta r \sin \theta) + \partial_\phi (B_\phi r)] r^2 \sin \theta dr d\theta d\phi \\ \implies \nabla \cdot \vec{B} &= \partial_r (B_r r^2 \sin \theta) + \partial_\theta (B_\theta r \sin \theta) + \partial_\phi (B_\phi r)\end{aligned}$$

For cylindrical coordinates,

$$d\vec{a} = s ds d\phi \hat{z} + ds dz \hat{\phi} + s d\phi dz \hat{s}$$

$$\begin{aligned}d(\vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}) &= d(A_s ds + A_\phi s d\phi + A_z dz) \\ &= (A_\phi + s \partial_s A_\phi - \partial_\phi A_s) ds d\phi + (s \partial_z A_\phi - \partial_\phi A_z) d\phi dz + (\partial_z A_s - \partial_s A_z) dz ds\end{aligned}$$

Comparing with $\nabla \times \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{a}$, we get,

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = \frac{1}{s} (s \partial_z A_\phi - \partial_\phi A_z) \hat{s} + (\partial_z A_s - \partial_s A_z) \hat{\phi} + \frac{1}{2} (A_\phi + s \partial_s A_\phi - \partial_\phi A_s) \hat{z}$$

$$\begin{aligned}d(\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{a}) &= d(B_z s ds d\phi + B_\phi ds dz + B_s s d\phi dz) \\ &= [\partial_z B_z + \frac{1}{s} \partial_\phi B_\phi + \frac{1}{s} \partial_s (B_s s)] s ds dz d\phi \\ \implies \nabla \cdot \vec{B} &= \partial_z B_z + \frac{1}{s} \partial_\phi B_\phi + \frac{1}{s} \partial_s (B_s s)\end{aligned}$$