

Advanced Physics Formula Sheet

1. Vector Calculus

Vector Algebra

- Dot Product:

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

- Cross Product:

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = (A_y B_z - A_z B_y) \hat{i} + (A_z B_x - A_x B_z) \hat{j} + (A_x B_y - A_y B_x) \hat{k}$$

- Scalar Triple Product:

$$\vec{A} \cdot (\vec{B} \times \vec{C}) = \vec{B} \cdot (\vec{C} \times \vec{A}) = \vec{C} \cdot (\vec{A} \times \vec{B})$$

- Vector Triple Product:

$$\vec{A} \times (\vec{B} \times \vec{C}) = \vec{B}(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{C}) - \vec{C}(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B})$$

Differential Operators

- Gradient:

$$\nabla \phi = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \hat{i} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \hat{j} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \hat{k}$$

- Divergence:

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{F} = \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial z}$$

- Curl:

$$\nabla \times \vec{F} = \left(\frac{\partial F_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial z} \right) \hat{i} + \left(\frac{\partial F_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial x} \right) \hat{j} + \left(\frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y} \right) \hat{k}$$

- Laplacian:

$$\nabla^2 \phi = \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2}$$

Integral Theorems

- Gauss's Divergence Theorem:

$$\iiint_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{F}) dV = \oint_S \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S}$$

- Stokes' Theorem:

$$\iint_S (\nabla \times \vec{F}) \cdot d\vec{S} = \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

2. Coordinate Systems

Cylindrical (ρ, ϕ, z)

- Del Operator:

$$\nabla = \hat{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} + \hat{\phi} \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$$

- Laplacian:

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

Spherical (r, θ, ϕ)

- Del Operator:

$$\nabla = \hat{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \hat{\theta} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \hat{\phi} \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$

- Laplacian:

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

3. Special Functions

Gamma Function

$$\Gamma(n) = \int_0^{\infty} x^{n-1} e^{-x} dx$$
$$\Gamma(n+1) = n\Gamma(n), \quad \Gamma(1/2) = \sqrt{\pi}$$

Bessel Functions

$$x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - n^2)y = 0$$
$$J_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k! \Gamma(n+k+1)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{n+2k}$$

Legendre Polynomials

$$(1-x^2)y'' - 2xy' + l(l+1)y = 0$$
$$P_l(x) = \frac{1}{2^l l!} \frac{d^l}{dx^l} (x^2-1)^l$$

4. Complex Analysis

Cauchy-Riemann Equations

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$$

Cauchy Integral Formula

$$f(a) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_C \frac{f(z)}{z-a} dz$$

Residue Theorem

$$\oint_C f(z) dz = 2\pi i \sum \text{Res}(f, a_k)$$

5. Fourier Analysis

Fourier Series

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \right)$$
$$a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$
$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

Fourier Transform

$$\hat{f}(k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$$
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(k) e^{ikx} dk$$

6. PDE Solutions

Wave Equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$
$$u(x, t) = f(x-ct) + g(x+ct)$$

Heat Equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$
$$u(x,t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi\alpha t}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\xi) e^{-(x-\xi)^2/4\alpha t} d\xi$$

Laplace’s Equation

$$\nabla^2 u = 0$$

In spherical: $u(r,\theta) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left(A_l r^l + \frac{B_l}{r^{l+1}} \right) P_l(\cos \theta)$

7. Tensors (Basics)

Metric Tensor

$$ds^2 = g_{ij} dx^i dx^j$$

Christoffel Symbols

$$\Gamma^k_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} g^{kl} \left(\frac{\partial g_{il}}{\partial x^j} + \frac{\partial g_{jl}}{\partial x^i} - \frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial x^l} \right)$$

8. Green’s Functions

$$LG(x,x') = \delta(x-x')$$

E.g., 1D: $G(x,x') = \frac{1}{2k} e^{-k|x-x'|}$

9. Integral Transforms

Laplace Transform

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t) dt$$

Convolution Theorem

$$\mathcal{L}\{f * g\} = F(s)G(s)$$