

Last class we have seen that a scalar, vector or a tensor field can be represented as functions of points, vectors or ordered triple of reals.

Setting: Euclidean point space  $\mathcal{E}$ , with a cartesian coordinate system. Let  $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{E}$  be an open subset of  $\mathcal{E}$   
 $\downarrow$   
 means subset

means at every point  $p \in \mathcal{D}$ ,  
 $\exists$  an arbitrarily small ball  
 that lies entirely in  $\mathcal{D}$ .

Definitions: Given a scalar field  $\phi$ , a vector field  $\underline{v}$  and a second order tensor field  $\underline{T}$  on  $\mathcal{D}$  ( $\Rightarrow \phi: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\underline{v}: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow V$ ,  $\underline{T}: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \text{Lin}$ ), we define

• gradient of  $\phi$ :  $\nabla \phi = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} (\underline{x}_1, \underline{x}_2, \underline{x}_3) \underline{e}_i$   
 $=: \phi_{,i} \underline{e}_i$  (notation)  
 $\hookrightarrow$  vector field

• gradient of  $\underline{v}$ :  $\nabla \underline{v} = \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} \underline{e}_i \otimes \underline{e}_j = v_{i,j} \underline{e}_i \otimes \underline{e}_j$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  tensor field

• divergence of  $\underline{v}$ :  $\text{div } \underline{v} := \text{tr}(\nabla \underline{v}) = v_{i,i}$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  scalar field

• curl of  $\underline{v}$  :  $\text{curl } \underline{v} = \nabla \times \underline{v}$

$$= \varepsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial v_k}{\partial x_j} \underline{e}_i$$
$$= \varepsilon_{ijk} v_{kj} \underline{e}_i \quad \text{--- vector field}$$

• Laplacian :  $\text{div } \Delta(\square) = \text{div}(\nabla \square)$

$$\therefore \Delta \phi = \text{div}(\nabla \phi) = (\nabla \phi)_{i,i}$$

$$\boxed{\Delta \phi = \phi_{,ii}} \quad \text{--- scalar field}$$

Similarly

$$\boxed{\Delta \underline{v} = v_{i,jj} \underline{e}_i} \quad \text{--- vector field}$$

• divergence :  $\text{div } T = \frac{\partial T_{ij}}{\partial x_j} \underline{e}_i = T_{ij,j} \underline{e}_i$

↳ vector field

IMPORTANT:

1) Gradient increases the order of a <sup>generalized</sup> tensor by 1:

$\nabla(\text{scalar field})$  is a vector field

$\nabla(\text{vector "})$  is a tensor field

2) Divergence decreases the order of a <sup>generalized</sup> tensor by 1:

$\text{div}(\text{vector field})$  is a scalar field

$\text{div}(\text{tensor "})$  is a vector field.

3) From ① and ②, Laplacian does not change the order.

(3)

4) curl also preserves the order. In this class we only consider curl of a vector field.

Let's now see what exactly is a gradient.

A gradient is a generalization of a derivative to higher dimension. Suppose  $s$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ -valued function defined on  $\mathbb{R}$ . i.e.  $s: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . We all know

$$\frac{ds}{dr}(r_0) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{s(r_0 + \varepsilon) - s(r_0)}{\varepsilon} \quad \text{--- ①}$$

An alternate way of looking at ① is

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left[ s(r_0 + \varepsilon) - s(r_0) - \frac{ds}{dr}(r_0) \varepsilon \right] = 0 \quad \text{--- ②}$$

$\frac{ds}{dr}(r_0)$  measures the rate at which  $s$  changes

at  $r_0$  when we take a step  $\varepsilon$  that is arbitrarily small.

Now, what if  $s: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ?

(4)

In addition to taking a small step of size  $\varepsilon$ , we must also mention the direction of the step taken

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[ s(\underset{\sim}{x}_0 + \varepsilon \underset{\sim}{u}) - s(\underset{\sim}{x}_0) - \boxed{\phantom{0}}_{\underset{\sim}{x}_0}(\varepsilon \underset{\sim}{u}) \right] = 0$$

↗ now at vector!

$\boxed{\phantom{0}}_{\underset{\sim}{x}_0}$  should take as input a vector  $\varepsilon \underset{\sim}{u}$  and output a scalar.

$\boxed{\phantom{0}}_{\underset{\sim}{x}_0}$  - linear in its arguments.

$\Rightarrow \boxed{\phantom{0}}_{\underset{\sim}{x}_0}$  is a linear transformation  $\square: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

In lecture (5), page (2) we noted that a vector can be viewed as a linear transformation from  $V$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ ! In fact, any " " from  $V$  to

viewed as  $\underset{\sim}{v}: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\underset{\sim}{v}(\underset{\sim}{w}) = \underset{\sim}{v} \cdot \underset{\sim}{w}.$$

In fact, given an inner product any linear transformation

$\underset{\sim}{\square}: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  can be "identified" with a unique vector!

The above statement is commonly referred to as the Riesz representation theorem.

Therefore, at each point  $\underline{x}_0$ , we can identify  $\square(\underline{x}_0)$  with a unique vector  $\underline{V}_{\underline{x}_0}$  as:

$$\square_{\underline{x}_0}(\varepsilon u) = \underline{V}_{\underline{x}_0} \cdot (\varepsilon \underline{u}) \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

Therefore (3) defines a vector field  $v: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow V$ , which at any point gives the "direction and rate" of maximum change. The vector field  $\underline{V}$  is in fact the gradient of  $S$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{V} &= \nabla S. \\ &= \left( \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_2}, \frac{\partial S}{\partial x_3} \right) (x_1, x_2, x_3). \end{aligned}$$

Divergence theorem: Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be an open subset of  $E$  with a piecewise smooth boundary, and let

$\varphi: \overline{\mathcal{D}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\underline{V}: \overline{\mathcal{D}} \rightarrow V$ , and  $T: \overline{\mathcal{D}} \rightarrow \text{Lin}$  be smooth fields on  $\overline{\mathcal{D}}$  ( $:= \mathcal{D} \cup (\partial \mathcal{D})$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{D}$  along with its boundary).

Then

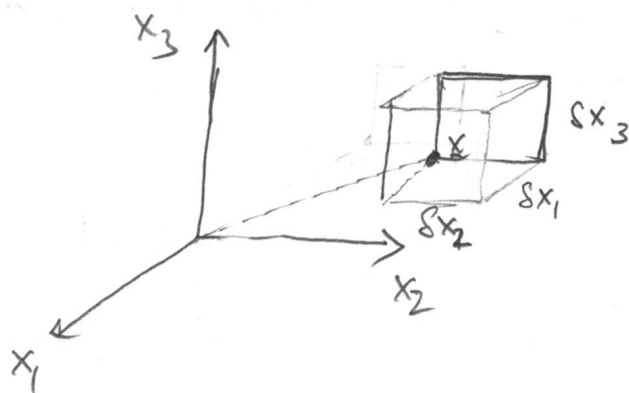
(6)

$$(4) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \int_{\partial\Omega} \phi \underline{n} \, dA = \int_{\Omega} \nabla \phi \, dV \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Equality of vectors}} \\ \int_{\partial\Omega} \underline{v} \cdot \underline{n} \, dA = \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \underline{v} \, dV \quad \text{--- scalars} \\ \int_{\partial\Omega} \underline{T} \underline{n} \, dA = \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \underline{T} \, dV \quad \text{--- vectors.} \end{array} \right.$$

where  $\underline{n}$  is the outward unit normal on  $\partial\Omega$ .

A non-rigorous proof of (4b) :

First assume  $\Omega$  is a cube of size  $\delta x_1, \delta x_2, \delta x_3$  with a corner located at  $\underline{x}$ :



$$\int_{\partial\Omega} \underline{v} \cdot \underline{n} \, dA = (\delta x_2)(\delta x_3) \left[ \underline{v}(\underline{x}, x_2, x_3) \cdot (-\underline{e}_1) + \underline{v}(x_1 + \delta x_1, x_2, x_3) \cdot \underline{e}_1 \right] \\ + (\delta x_1)(\delta x_2) \left[ \underline{v}(x_1, x_2, x_3) \cdot (-\underline{e}_3) + \underline{v}(x_1, x_2, x_3 + \delta x_3) \cdot \underline{e}_3 \right]$$

$$+ (\delta x_1) (\delta x_3) \left[ \underline{V}(x_1, x_2, x_3) \cdot (-\underline{e}_2) + \underline{V}(x_1, x_2 + \delta x_2, x_3) \cdot \underline{e}_2 \right] \quad (7)$$

Dividing (4) by  $\delta V = (\delta x_1) (\delta x_2) (\delta x_3)$  : (4)

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \underbrace{\frac{1}{\delta V}}_{= (\delta x_1) (\delta x_2) (\delta x_3)} \int_{\partial \mathcal{D}} \underline{V} \cdot \underline{n} \, dA &= \frac{\underline{V}(x_1 + \delta x_1, x_2, x_3) - \underline{V}(x_1, x_2, x_3)}{\delta x_1} \cdot \underline{e}_1 \\ &+ \frac{\underline{V}(x_1, x_2, x_3 + \delta x_3) - \underline{V}(x_1, x_2, x_3)}{\delta x_3} \cdot \underline{e}_3 \\ &+ \frac{\underline{V}(x_1, x_2 + \delta x_2, x_3) - \underline{V}(x_1, x_2, x_3)}{\delta x_2} \cdot \underline{e}_2 \end{aligned}$$

Taking the limit  $\delta x_i \rightarrow 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\delta x_i \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\delta V} \int_{\partial \mathcal{D}} \underline{V} \cdot \underline{n} \, dA &= \frac{\partial V_i}{\partial x_i} V \\ &= \operatorname{div} \underline{V} \quad \text{--- (5)} \end{aligned}$$

For an arbitrary shaped  $\mathcal{D}$ , we may approximate  $\mathcal{D}$  using a stack of cubes  $\mathcal{D}_i$ , and write

$$\int_{\partial \mathcal{D}} \underline{V} \cdot \underline{n} \, dA = \sum_i \int_{\partial \mathcal{D}_i} \underline{V} \cdot \underline{n} \, dA \stackrel{\text{From (5)}}{=} \sum_i (\operatorname{div} \underline{V}) \Delta V$$

$$= \int_{\mathcal{D}} (\operatorname{div} \underline{v}) dV.$$

Identities :  $\phi, \psi$  - scalar fields  
 $\underline{u}, \underline{v}$  - vector fields,  $T$  - tensor field

$$(a) \quad \nabla(\phi\psi) = \phi \nabla\psi + \psi \nabla\phi$$

$$(b) \quad \operatorname{div}(\phi \underline{u}) = \phi \operatorname{div} \underline{u} + \underline{u} \cdot \nabla \phi$$

$$(c) \quad \nabla \times (\phi \underline{u}) = \nabla \phi \times \underline{u} + \phi \nabla \times \underline{u}$$

$$(d) \quad \operatorname{div}(\underline{u} \times \underline{v}) = \underline{v} \cdot \nabla \times \underline{u} - \underline{u} \cdot \nabla \times \underline{v}$$

$$(e) \quad \operatorname{div}(\phi T) = T \nabla \phi + \phi \operatorname{div} T$$

$$(f) \quad \operatorname{div}(T \underline{v}) = (\operatorname{div} T^T) \cdot \underline{v} + T \cdot (\nabla \underline{v})^T$$

$$(g) \quad \operatorname{div}(\underline{u} \otimes \underline{v}) = \underline{u} (\operatorname{div} \underline{v}) + (\nabla \underline{u}) \underline{v}$$

$$(h) \quad \nabla(\underline{u} \cdot \underline{v}) = (\nabla \underline{u})^T \underline{v} + (\nabla \underline{v})^T \underline{u}$$