# Differential formulas in orthogonal coordinate systems

General coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3)$ 

$$\mathbf{e}_{u_i} = \frac{\nabla u_i}{|\nabla u_i|} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial u_i} / \left| \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial u_i} \right|$$

Let  $\mathbf{F}(P) = F_x \mathbf{e}_x + F_y \mathbf{e}_y + F_z \mathbf{e}_z = F_{u_1} \mathbf{e}_{u_1} + F_{u_2} \mathbf{e}_{u_2} + F_{u_3} \mathbf{e}_{u_3}$  be vector valued. Let u(P) be scalar valued.

Set 
$$h_i = \left| \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial u_i} \right| = \frac{1}{\left| \nabla u_i \right|} = \sqrt{\left( \frac{\partial x}{\partial u_i} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial y}{\partial u_i} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial z}{\partial u_i} \right)^2}, i = 1, 2, 3.$$

Then

(i) 
$$F_{u_i} = h_i^{-1} \left( F_x \frac{\partial x}{\partial u_i} + F_y \frac{\partial y}{\partial u_i} + F_z \frac{\partial z}{\partial u_i} \right), i = 1, 2, 3.$$

(vector component relationship)

(iia) 
$$d\mathbf{r} = h_1 du_1 \mathbf{e}_{u_1} + h_2 du_2 \mathbf{e}_{u_2} + h_3 du_3 \mathbf{e}_{u_3}$$
 (displacement vector)

(b) 
$$ds^2 = |d\mathbf{r}|^2 = h_1^2 du_1^2 + h_2^2 du_2^2 + h_3^2 du_3^2$$
 (arc length element)

(c) 
$$h_1h_2du_1du_2$$
,  $h_2h_3du_2du_3$ ,  $h_3h_1du_3du_1$  (surface elements)  
(d)  $dV = h_1h_2h_3du_1du_2du_3$  (volume element)

(iii) grad 
$$u = \nabla u = \sum_{i=1}^{3} \frac{1}{h_i} \frac{\partial u}{\partial u_i} \mathbf{e}_{u_i}$$

(iv) div 
$$\mathbf{F} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{h_1 h_2 h_3} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i} \left( \frac{h_1 h_2 h_3}{h_i} F_{u_i} \right)$$

(v) curl 
$$\mathbf{F} = \nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{h_1 h_2 h_3} \begin{vmatrix} h_1 \mathbf{e}_{u_1} & h_2 \mathbf{e}_{u_2} & h_3 \mathbf{e}_{u_3} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2} & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_3} \\ h_1 F_{u_1} & h_2 F_{u_2} & h_3 F_{u_3} \end{vmatrix}$$

(vi) 
$$\Delta u = \nabla^2 u = \frac{1}{h_1 h_2 h_3} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i} \left( \frac{h_1 h_2 h_3}{h_i^2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial u_i} \right)$$

#### Cartesian (rectangular) coordinates (x, y, z)

$$h_1 = h_2 = h_3 = 1$$

(ii) 
$$ds^2 = dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2$$

(iii) grad 
$$u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \mathbf{e}_x + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \mathbf{e}_y + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \mathbf{e}_z$$
  $(\mathbf{e}_x = \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{e}_y = \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{e}_z = \mathbf{k})$ 

(iv) div 
$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial z}$$

(v) curl 
$$\mathbf{F} = \left(\frac{\partial F_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial z}\right) \mathbf{e}_x + \left(\frac{\partial F_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial x}\right) \mathbf{e}_y + \left(\frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y}\right) \mathbf{e}_z$$

(vi) 
$$\Delta u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2}$$

### Translated and rotated coordinates $(\xi, \eta, \zeta)$

$$\begin{cases} x = \xi_0 + a_{11}\xi + a_{12}\eta + a_{13}\zeta \\ y = \eta_0 + a_{21}\xi + a_{22}\eta + a_{23}\zeta \\ z = \zeta_0 + a_{31}\xi + a_{32}\eta + a_{33}\zeta \end{cases}$$
 ( $a_{ij}$ ) orthogonal matrix

$$h_1 = h_2 = h_3 = 1$$

(i) 
$$\begin{cases} F_{\xi} = a_{11}F_x + a_{21}F_y + a_{31}F_z \\ F_{\eta} = a_{12}F_x + a_{22}F_y + a_{32}F_z \\ F_{\zeta} = a_{13}F_x + a_{23}F_y + a_{33}F_z \end{cases}$$

(iia) 
$$d\mathbf{r} = d\xi \mathbf{e}_{\xi} + d\eta \mathbf{e}_{\eta} + d\zeta \mathbf{e}_{\zeta}$$
  
(b)  $ds^2 = d\xi^2 + d\eta^2 + d\zeta^2$ 

(b) 
$$ds^2 = d\xi^2 + d\eta^2 + d\zeta^2$$

(c) 
$$d\xi d\eta$$
,  $d\eta d\zeta$ ,  $d\zeta d\xi$ 

(d) 
$$dV = d\xi d\eta d\zeta$$

(iii) grad 
$$u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \mathbf{e}_{\xi} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} \mathbf{e}_{\eta} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \zeta} \mathbf{e}_{\zeta}$$

(iv) div 
$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{\partial F_{\xi}}{\partial \xi} + \frac{\partial F_{\eta}}{\partial \eta} + \frac{\partial F_{\zeta}}{\partial \zeta}$$

(v) curl 
$$\mathbf{F} = \left(\frac{\partial F_{\zeta}}{\partial \eta} - \frac{\partial F_{\eta}}{\partial \zeta}\right) \mathbf{e}_{\xi} + \left(\frac{\partial F_{\xi}}{\partial \zeta} - \frac{\partial F_{\zeta}}{\partial \xi}\right) \mathbf{e}_{\eta} + \left(\frac{\partial F_{\eta}}{\partial \xi} - \frac{\partial F_{\xi}}{\partial \eta}\right) \mathbf{e}_{\zeta}$$

$$(vi) \ \Delta u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \zeta^2}$$

# Cylindrical coordinates $(\rho, \varphi, z)$

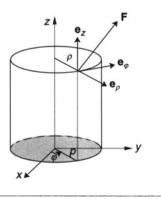
(**Polar coordinates in the plane:** Neglect terms with z.)

Coordinate transformations 
$$x = \rho \cos \varphi$$
,  $y = \rho \sin \varphi$ ,  $z = z$ 

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

$$h_1 = 1, h_2 = \rho, h_3 = 1$$
Basis vector relationship
$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{e}_x = \mathbf{e}_\rho \cos \varphi - \mathbf{e}_\varphi \sin \varphi \\ \mathbf{e}_y = \mathbf{e}_\rho \sin \varphi + \mathbf{e}_\varphi \cos \varphi \\ \mathbf{e}_z = \mathbf{e}_z \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{e}_z = \mathbf{e}_z \\ \mathbf{e}_p = \mathbf{e}_x \cos \varphi + \mathbf{e}_y \sin \varphi \\ \mathbf{e}_{\varphi} = -\mathbf{e}_x \sin \varphi + \mathbf{e}_y \cos \varphi \\ \mathbf{e}_z = \mathbf{e}_z \end{cases}$$



(i) Vector component relationship:

$$\begin{cases} F_x = F_\rho \cos \varphi - F_\varphi \sin \varphi \\ F_y = F_\rho \sin \varphi + F_\varphi \cos \varphi \\ F_z = F_z \end{cases} \iff \begin{cases} F_\rho = F_x \cos \varphi + F_y \sin \varphi \\ F_\varphi = -F_x \sin \varphi + F_y \cos \varphi \\ F_z = F_z \end{cases}$$

(iia) 
$$d\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{e}_{\rho} d\rho + \mathbf{e}_{\sigma} \rho d\varphi + \mathbf{e}_{\tau} dz$$

(displacement vector)

(iia) 
$$d\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{e}_{\rho} d\rho + \mathbf{e}_{\varphi} \rho d\varphi + \mathbf{e}_{z} dz$$
  
(iib)  $ds^{2} = d\rho^{2} + \rho^{2} d\varphi^{2} + dz^{2}$ 

(arc length element)

(iic) 
$$\rho d\rho d\varphi$$
,  $\rho d\varphi dz$ ,  $dz d\rho$ 

(surface elements)

(iid) 
$$dV = \rho d\rho d\phi dz$$

(volume element)

(iii) grad 
$$u = \nabla u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \rho} \mathbf{e}_{\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \phi} \mathbf{e}_{\phi} + \frac{du}{dz} \mathbf{e}_{z}$$

(iv) div 
$$\mathbf{F} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial (\rho F_{\rho})}{\partial \rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial F_{\phi}}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\partial F_{z}}{\partial z}$$

(v) curl 
$$\mathbf{F} = \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{F} = \nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \left(\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial \varphi} - \frac{\partial F_{\varphi}}{\partial z}\right) \mathbf{e}_{\rho} + \left(\frac{\partial F_{\rho}}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial \rho}\right) \mathbf{e}_{\varphi} + \frac{1}{\rho} \left(\frac{\partial (\rho F_{\varphi})}{\partial \rho} - \frac{\partial F_{\rho}}{\partial \varphi}\right) \mathbf{e}_z$$

(vi) 
$$\Delta u = \nabla^2 u = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial u}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \varphi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = u_{\rho\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} u_{\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho^2} u_{\phi\phi} + u_{zz}$$

## Spherical coordinates $(r, \theta, \phi)$

Coordinate transformations

 $x = r \sin \theta \cos \varphi$ ,  $y = r \sin \theta \sin \varphi$ ,  $z = r \cos \theta$ 

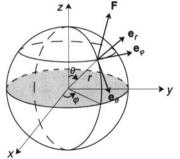
$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$
,  $\theta = \arccos(z/\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2})$ ,  $\varphi = \tan^{-1}(y/x)$  (suitable branch)

$$h_1 = 1, h_2 = r, h_3 = r \sin \theta$$

Basis vector relationship

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{e}_{x} = \mathbf{e}_{r} \sin \theta \cos \varphi + \mathbf{e}_{\theta} \cos \theta \cos \varphi - \mathbf{e}_{\varphi} \sin \varphi \\ \mathbf{e}_{y} = \mathbf{e}_{r} \sin \theta \sin \varphi + \mathbf{e}_{\theta} \cos \theta \sin \varphi + \mathbf{e}_{\varphi} \cos \varphi \\ \mathbf{e}_{z} = \mathbf{e}_{r} \cos \theta - \mathbf{e}_{\theta} \sin \theta \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{e}_r = \mathbf{e}_x \sin \theta \cos \varphi + \mathbf{e}_y \sin \theta \sin \varphi + \mathbf{e}_z \cos \theta \\ \mathbf{e}_\theta = \mathbf{e}_x \cos \theta \cos \varphi + \mathbf{e}_y \cos \theta \sin \varphi - \mathbf{e}_z \sin \theta \\ \mathbf{e}_\varphi = -\mathbf{e}_x \sin \varphi + \mathbf{e}_y \cos \varphi \end{cases}$$



(i) Vector component relationship:

$$\begin{cases} F_x = F_r \sin \theta \cos \varphi + F_\theta \cos \theta \cos \varphi - F_\varphi \sin \varphi \\ F_y = F_r \sin \theta \sin \varphi + F_\theta \cos \theta \sin \varphi + F_\varphi \cos \varphi \\ F_z = F_r \cos \theta - F_\theta \sin \theta \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\begin{cases} F_r = F_x \sin \theta \cos \varphi + F_y \sin \theta \sin \varphi + F_z \cos \theta \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} F_r = F_x \sin \theta \cos \varphi + F_y \sin \theta \sin \varphi + F_z \cos \theta \\ F_\theta = F_x \cos \theta \cos \varphi + F_y \cos \theta \sin \varphi - F_z \sin \theta \\ F_\varphi = -F_x \sin \varphi + F_y \cos \varphi \end{cases}$$

(iia) 
$$d\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{e}_r dr + \mathbf{e}_{\theta} r d\theta + \mathbf{e}_{\theta} r \sin\theta d\phi$$
 (displacement vector)

(iib) 
$$ds^2 = dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + r^2 \sin^2\theta d\phi^2$$
 (arc length element)

(iic) 
$$rdrd\theta$$
,  $r^2\sin\theta d\theta d\phi$ ,  $r\sin\theta d\phi dr$  (surface elements)

(iid) 
$$dV = r^2 \sin\theta dr d\theta d\phi$$
 (volume element)

(iii) grad 
$$u = \nabla u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \mathbf{e}_r + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} \mathbf{e}_{\theta} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{du}{d\varphi} \mathbf{e}_{\varphi}$$

(iv) div 
$$\mathbf{F} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial (r^2 F_r)}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial (F_{\theta} \sin \theta)}{\partial \theta} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial F_{\varphi}}{\partial \varphi}$$

(v) curl 
$$\mathbf{F} = \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{F} = \nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \left( \frac{\partial (F_{\varphi} \sin \theta)}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\partial F_{\theta}}{\partial \varphi} \right) \mathbf{e}_r +$$

$$+\frac{1}{r\sin\theta}\left(\frac{\partial F_r}{\partial \varphi}-\sin\theta\frac{\partial (rF_\varphi)}{\partial r}\right)\mathbf{e}_\theta+\frac{1}{r}\!\!\left(\!\frac{\partial (rF_\theta)}{\partial r}\!-\!\frac{\partial F_r}{\partial \theta}\!\right)\mathbf{e}_\varphi$$

$$(vi) \Delta u = \nabla^2 u = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \varphi^2} =$$

$$= \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} \left( (1 - \xi^2) \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \right) + \frac{1}{1 - \xi^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \varphi^2} \right] \quad \text{if } \xi = \cos \theta$$

# 11.3 Line Integrals

#### **Differential forms**

 $f, g: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}, h: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ . Differential form:

$$\omega = fdg = f\left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial x_1}dx_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_n}dx_n\right)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_n} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_n}$$
1.  $d(af + bg) = a df + b dg$  2.  $d(fg) = f dg + g df$ 

3. 
$$d\left(\frac{f}{g}\right) = \frac{g df - f dg}{g^2}$$
 4. 
$$d(h(f)) = h'(f)df$$

#### **Exact differential forms**

In  $\mathbf{R}^2$ :  $\omega = P dx + Q dy$  is exact if there exists  $\Phi(x, y)$  called *primitive function* of  $\omega$  such that  $\Phi'_x = P$ ,  $\Phi'_y = Q$ , (i.e.  $\omega = d\Phi$ ).

Test: P dx + Q dy exact  $\Leftrightarrow P'_y = Q'_x$ , (in a simply connected domain).

In  $\mathbb{R}^3$ :  $\omega = P dx + Q dy + R dz$  is exact if there exists  $\Phi(x, y, z)$  [primitive function] such that  $\Phi'_x = P$ ,  $\Phi'_y = Q$ ,  $\Phi'_z = R$ , (i.e.  $\omega = d\Phi$ ).

Test: P dx + Q dy + R dz exact  $\Leftrightarrow$  curl $(P, Q, R) = \mathbf{0} \Leftrightarrow P'_y = Q'_x, P'_z = R'_x, Q'_z = R'_y$ , (in a simply connected domain).