The fields.py script is meant to be as close to vector calculus as possible. It uses 3D lists to describe a 3D scalar field, so that index i corresponds to coordinate x_i , i.e. $f(x, y, z) \sim f[x, y, z]$.

For 3D vector fields, however, we need another index to describe which component of the vector, at a point in \mathbb{R}^3 , we want. The first index is used for this, so that $f_i(x,y,z)=f[i,x,y,z]$. NumPy's einsum allows us to preforme regular vector calculus operations on these fields. dot product is given by

$$h(x, y, z) = \vec{f} \cdot \vec{g} = \hat{e}_i \cdot \hat{e}_i f_i(x, y, z) g_i(x, y, z) = f_i(x, y, z) g_i(x, y, z),$$

and becomes

$$h = einsum["ixyz, ixyz \rightarrow xyz", f, g]$$

. Defining eijk[i, j, k] = ϵ_{ijk} , the Levi-Cevita symbol, allows us to implement the cross product of two fields, as

$$\vec{h} = \vec{f} \times \vec{g} = \hat{e}_i h_i(x, y, z) = \epsilon_{ijk} f_j(x, y, z) g_k(x, y, z)$$

becomes

NumPys build in function gradient() makes it possible to implement differential operators like the curl. As gradien(f, axis = i + 1) takes the difference along axis coordinate x_i (the +1 comes from skipping the component index), we can make a 5D (!) matrix Df with indexes such that $\partial_i f_j(x,y,z) \sim \text{Df}[i, j, x, y, z]$, and thus impulement curl,

$$\vec{h} = \nabla \times \vec{f} = \hat{e}_i h_i(x, y, z) = \hat{e}_i \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j f_k(x, y, z)$$

as