

proving vector calculus identities using Einstein's index summation

$$\begin{aligned}
\epsilon_{lmi}\epsilon_{jki} &= \delta_{lj}\delta_{mk} - \delta_{lk}\delta_{mj} \\
\nabla(\phi\vec{v}) &= \text{div}(\phi\vec{v}) = \partial_i(\phi v_i) = v_i\partial_i(\phi) + \phi\partial_i(v_i) \\
&= v \cdot \text{grad}(\phi) + \phi\text{div}(\vec{v}) \\
\nabla \cdot (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) &= \text{div}(\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) = \partial_i(\epsilon_{ijk}u_jv_k) = v_k\epsilon_{ijk}\partial_iu_j + u_j\epsilon_{ijk}\partial_iv_k = v_k\epsilon_{kij}\partial_iu_j - u_j\epsilon_{jik}\partial_iv_k \\
&= \vec{v} \cdot \text{curl}(\vec{u}) - \vec{u} \cdot \text{curl}(\vec{v}) \\
\nabla \times (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) &= \text{curl}(\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) = \epsilon_{lmi}\partial_m\epsilon_{ijk}u_jv_k = \epsilon_{lmi}\epsilon_{ijk}(v_k\partial_mu_j + u_j\partial_mv_k) \\
&= (\delta_{lj}\delta_{mk} - \delta_{lk}\delta_{mj})(v_k\partial_mu_j + u_j\partial_mv_k) \\
&= \delta_{lj}\delta_{mk}v_k\partial_mu_j + \delta_{lj}\delta_{mk}u_j\partial_mv_k - \delta_{lk}\delta_{mj}v_k\partial_mu_j - \delta_{lk}\delta_{mj}u_j\partial_mv_k \\
&= v_k\partial_ku_l + u_l\partial_kv_k - v_l\partial_ju_j - u_j\partial_jv_l \\
&= \vec{v} \cdot \text{grad}(\vec{u}) - \vec{u} \cdot \text{grad}(\vec{v}) + \vec{u}\text{div}(\vec{v}) - \vec{v}\text{div}(\vec{u}) \\
\nabla(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}) &= \text{grad}(u \cdot v) = \partial_i(u_jv_j) = u_j\partial_iv_j + v_j\partial_iu_j \\
&= u_j\partial_iv_j + v_j\partial_iu_j + u_j\partial_jv_i + v_j\partial_ju_i - u_j\partial_jv_i - v_j\partial_ju_i \\
&= u_j(\partial_iv_j - \partial_jv_i) + v_j(\partial_iu_j - \partial_ju_i) + u_j\partial_jv_i + v_j\partial_ju_i \\
&= u_j \begin{vmatrix} \partial_i & \partial_j \\ v_i & v_j \end{vmatrix}_k + v_j \begin{vmatrix} \partial_i & \partial_j \\ u_i & u_j \end{vmatrix}_k + u_j\partial_jv_i + v_j\partial_ju_i \\
&= \epsilon_{ijk}u_j \begin{vmatrix} \partial_i & \partial_j \\ v_i & v_j \end{vmatrix}_k + \epsilon_{ijk}v_j \begin{vmatrix} \partial_i & \partial_j \\ u_i & u_j \end{vmatrix}_k + u_j\partial_jv_i + v_j\partial_ju_i \\
&= \vec{u} \times \text{curl}(\vec{v}) + \vec{v} \times \text{curl}(\vec{u}) + \vec{u} \cdot \text{grad}(\vec{v}) + \vec{v} \cdot \text{grad}(\vec{u}) \\
\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{v}) &= \text{div}(\text{curl}(\vec{v})) \\
&= \partial_i\epsilon_{ijk}\partial_jv_k = \epsilon_{ijk}\partial_i\partial_jv_k = \epsilon_{ijk}\partial_{ij}v_k = 0
\end{aligned}$$

Observe that  $\epsilon_{ijk}$  is antisymmetric but  $\partial_i\partial_j$  is symmetric. For example, if  $k = 3$ ,

$$\partial_{ij}v_3 - \partial_{ji}v_3 = 0$$

with the same line of reasoning,

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \phi) = \text{curl}(\text{grad}(\phi)) = \epsilon_{ijk}\partial_j\partial_k\phi = \epsilon_{ijk}\partial_{jk}\phi = 0$$

bonus:

$$\begin{aligned}
\vec{u} \times (\nabla \times \vec{u}) &= \epsilon_{lmi}u_m\epsilon_{ijk}\partial_ju_k \\
&= \epsilon_{lmi}\epsilon_{ijk}u_m\partial_ju_k \\
&= (\delta_{lj}\delta_{mk} - \delta_{lk}\delta_{mj})u_m\partial_ju_k \\
&= u_k\partial_lu_k - u_j\partial_ju_l \\
&= \frac{1}{2}\nabla(u \cdot u) - u \cdot \nabla u
\end{aligned}$$

given  $\nabla(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}) = \partial_i(u_ju_j) = 2u_j\partial_iu_j$ .