

2B29 Electromagnetic Theory.

iii) Some useful Mathematical Tools

VECTORS

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) &= \mathbf{b} \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{c} \cdot (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \\ \mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) &= (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})\mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{c} \\ (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) &= (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{d}) - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{d})(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})\end{aligned}$$

VECTOR CALCULUS

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \times \nabla \phi &= 0 \\ \nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) &= 0 \\ \nabla \cdot (\phi \mathbf{A}) &= \phi \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla \phi \\ \nabla \times (\phi \mathbf{A}) &= \nabla \phi \times \mathbf{A} + \phi \nabla \times \mathbf{A} \\ \nabla (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) &= (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B} + (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{B} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) \\ * \quad \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) &= (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) \cdot \mathbf{B} - (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{A} \\ \nabla \times (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) &= \mathbf{A}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}) - \mathbf{B}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) + (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{A} - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B} \\ * \quad \nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) &= \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{A}\end{aligned}$$

where

$$(\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B} = \hat{\mathbf{i}} \left(A_x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + A_y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + A_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) B_x + \hat{\mathbf{j}} \left(A_x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + A_y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + A_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) B_y + \hat{\mathbf{k}} \left(A_x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + A_y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + A_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) B_z$$

For a function that depends only on the distance $r = |\mathbf{r}| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$, e.g. as $\phi(r)$, $\mathbf{F}(r)$, then

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla &\equiv \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \frac{d}{dr}, \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \nabla \phi(r) = \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \frac{d\phi}{dr}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}(r) = \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{F}}{dr}, \quad \nabla \times \mathbf{F}(r) = \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \times \frac{d\mathbf{F}}{dr}, \\ \nabla^2 \phi &= \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{d\phi}{dr} \right) = \frac{1}{r} \frac{d^2(r\phi)}{dr^2} = \frac{d^2 \phi}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{d\phi}{dr}.\end{aligned}$$

EXPLICIT FORMS OF THE VECTOR OPERATORS

(a) Cartesian (x, y, z) , volume element $d\tau = dx dy dz$.

$$\nabla \psi = \hat{\mathbf{i}} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \hat{\mathbf{j}} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} + \hat{\mathbf{k}} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{A} = \hat{\mathbf{i}} \left(\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial z} \right) + \hat{\mathbf{j}} \left(\frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} \right) + \hat{\mathbf{k}} \left(\frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} \right)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{A} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{i}} & \hat{\mathbf{j}} & \hat{\mathbf{k}} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \end{vmatrix}$$

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

(b) Cylindrical polar (ρ, ϕ, z) , volume element $d\tau = \rho d\rho d\phi dz$.

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla\psi &= \hat{\rho}\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial\rho} + \hat{\phi}\frac{1}{\rho}\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial\phi} + \hat{z}\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial z} \\ \nabla\cdot\mathbf{A} &= \frac{1}{\rho}\frac{\partial(\rho A_\rho)}{\partial\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho}\frac{\partial A_\phi}{\partial\phi} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z} \\ \nabla\times\mathbf{A} &= \frac{1}{\rho}\begin{vmatrix} \hat{\rho} & \rho\hat{\phi} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial\rho} & \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ A_\rho & \rho A_\phi & A_z \end{vmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

(c) Spherical polar (r, θ, ϕ) , volume element $d\tau = r^2 \sin\theta dr d\theta d\phi$.

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla\psi &= \hat{r}\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial r} + \hat{\theta}\frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial\theta} + \hat{\phi}\frac{1}{r\sin\theta}\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial\phi} \\ \nabla\cdot\mathbf{A} &= \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial(r^2 A_r)}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r\sin\theta}\frac{\partial(\sin\theta A_\theta)}{\partial\theta} + \frac{1}{r\sin\theta}\frac{\partial A_\phi}{\partial\phi} \\ \nabla\times\mathbf{A} &= \frac{1}{r\sin\theta}\begin{vmatrix} \hat{r} & r\hat{\theta} & r\sin\theta\hat{\phi} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} & \frac{\partial}{\partial\phi} \\ A_r & r A_\theta & r\sin\theta A_\phi \end{vmatrix} \\ \nabla^2\psi &= \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\left(r^2\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial r}\right) + \frac{1}{r^2\sin\theta}\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}\left(\sin\theta\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial\theta}\right) + \frac{1}{r^2\sin^2\theta}\frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial\phi^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\left(r^2\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial r}\right) = \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial^2(r\psi)}{\partial r^2} = \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r}\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial r}\end{aligned}$$

INTEGRAL RELATIONS

If V is a volume with volume element $d\tau$ and S is a closed surface enclosing volume V and having a surface element dS and an outward normal $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ at dS then

$$* \quad \int_V \nabla\cdot\mathbf{A} d\tau = \oint_S \mathbf{A}\cdot\hat{\mathbf{n}} dS \quad (\text{Divergence theorem})$$

If S is an open surface and C is a contour bounding it with line element $d\boldsymbol{\ell}$ and the normal $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ to S is defined by the right-hand rule in relation to the sense of a line integral around C then

$$* \quad \int_S (\nabla\times\mathbf{A})\cdot\hat{\mathbf{n}} dS = \oint_C \mathbf{A}\cdot d\boldsymbol{\ell} \quad (\text{Stokes's theorem})$$