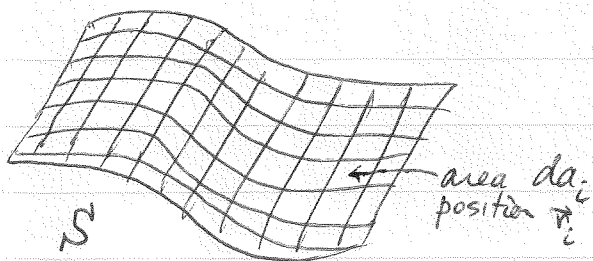


MathReviewSurface integrals over surface S 

tile surface with infinitesimally small tiles of area da_i at positions \vec{r}_i on S

$$\int_S da f(\vec{r}) \equiv \sum_i f(\vec{r}_i) da_i$$

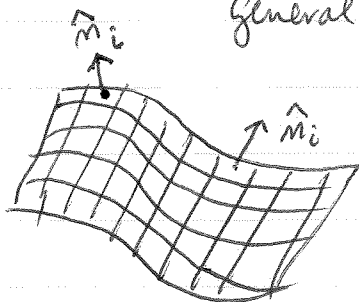
easy to evaluate analytically only for simple geometries.

example $S =$ flat rectangular surface at $x \in [x_0, x_1]$, $y \in [y_0, y_1]$, $z = z_0$ constant.

$$\Rightarrow \int_S da f(\vec{r}) = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} dx \int_{y_0}^{y_1} dy f(x, y, z_0)$$

vector surface integral $\int_S d\vec{a} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r}) \equiv \int_S da \hat{n} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r})$

where \hat{n} is the outward pointing unit vector normal to the surface S at point \vec{r} ; direction of \hat{n} will in general vary as position \vec{r} on surface varies.

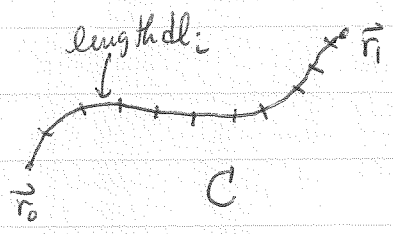


$$\int_S d\vec{a} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r}) = \sum_i da_i \hat{n}_i \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r}_i)$$

for flat rectangle example above, $\hat{n} = \hat{z}$ everywhere on S

$$\int_S d\vec{a} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r}) = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} dx \int_{y_0}^{y_1} dy \hat{z} \cdot \vec{u}(x, y, z_0) = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} dx \int_{y_0}^{y_1} dy u_z(x, y, z_0)$$

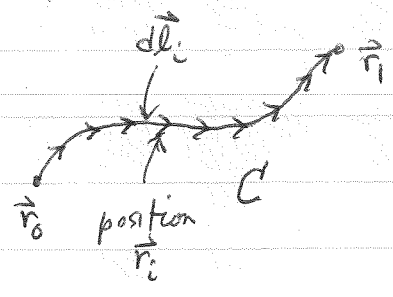
line integral along curve C



make curve C out of infinitesimally small straight line segments of length dl_i located at positions r_i on C

$$\int_C dl f(\vec{r}) \equiv \sum_i f(\vec{r}_i) dl_i$$

vector line integral



make curve out of infinitesimal displacements dl_i; direction of dl_i is tangent to C.

$$\int_C d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r}) \equiv \sum_i \vec{u}(\vec{r}_i) \cdot d\vec{l}_i$$

it is easy to convert vector line integral into an ordinary one dimensional integral, provided one has a parameterization of the curve C. For example, suppose curve is given by parameterization $\vec{r}(t) = x(t)\hat{x} + y(t)\hat{y} + z(t)\hat{z}$ where $\vec{r}(t_0) = \vec{r}_0$ and $\vec{r}(t_1) = \vec{r}_1$ are end points

Denote the points $\vec{r}_i = \vec{r}(t_i)$ where $t_i - t_{i-1} = \Delta t$

$$\int_C d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r}) = \sum_i \vec{u}(\vec{r}_i) d\vec{l}_i$$

By our definition, $d\vec{l}_i = \vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_{i-1} = \vec{r}(t_i) - \vec{r}(t_{i-1}) \approx \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \Delta t$

$$\int_C \vec{dl} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r}) = \sum_i \vec{u}(\vec{r}(t_i)) \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}(t_i)}{dt} \Delta t$$

$$= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r}(t))$$

Physical example: let $\vec{r}(t)$ be the trajectory of a particle in time as it moves under the action of a force \vec{F} . The work done on the particle is

work:
$$W = \int_C \vec{dl} \cdot \vec{F} = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \vec{F}(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} dt$$

here $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$ is just the velocity \vec{v}

$$\Rightarrow W = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \vec{F}(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \vec{v}(t) dt$$

But $\vec{F} \cdot \vec{v}$ is just the power that force expends on moving particle

$$\Rightarrow W = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} (\text{power}) dt$$

so by parameterizing the particles trajectory in terms of time t , we recover the familiar result from mechanics that

work done = time integral of power

another example: suppose we have a curve C in xy -plane that we can write as $y = y(x)$, $z = z_0$
 \Rightarrow can parameterize the curve as

$$\vec{r}(x) = x \hat{x} + y(x) \hat{y} + z_0 \hat{z} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{from } x = x_0 \\ \text{to } x = x_1 \end{array}$$

$$\int_C d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r}) = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} dx \frac{d\vec{r}}{dx} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r}(x))$$

$$= \int_{x_0}^{x_1} dx \left[\hat{x} + \frac{dy}{dx} \hat{y} \right] \cdot \vec{u}(x, y(x), z_0)$$

$$= \int_{x_0}^{x_1} dx \left[u_x(x, y(x), z_0) + \frac{dy(x)}{dx} u_y(x, y(x), z_0) \right]$$

Note: direction of doing vector line integral is important

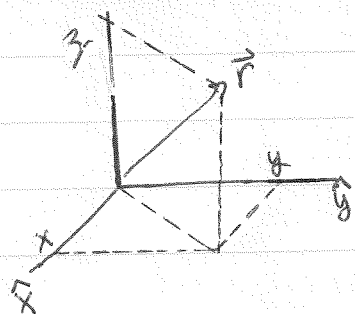
$$\int_{\vec{r}_0}^{\vec{r}_1} d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r}) = - \int_{\vec{r}_1}^{\vec{r}_0} d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{u}(\vec{r})$$



Math Review

Coordinate systems - orthonormal, right handed

1) "Cartesian" or "rectangular" coordinates



position vector

$$\vec{r} = x \hat{x} + y \hat{y} + z \hat{z}$$

any vector

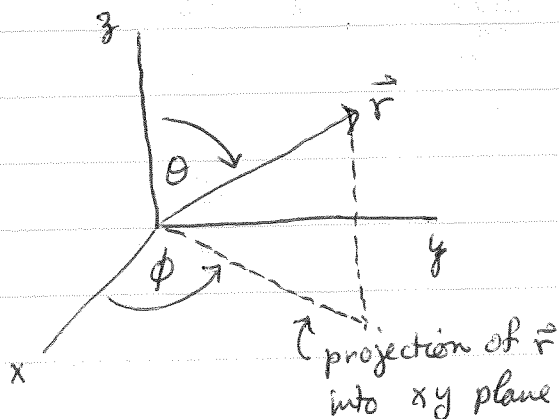
$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}) = A_x(\vec{r}) \hat{x} + A_y(\vec{r}) \hat{y} + A_z(\vec{r}) \hat{z}$$

differential displacement: $d\vec{r}$

$$d\vec{r} = dx \hat{x} + dy \hat{y} + dz \hat{z}$$

in some texts, use $\hat{i}, \hat{j}, \hat{k}$ instead of $\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{z}$

2) Spherical coordinates (r, θ, ϕ)



if $\vec{r} = x \hat{x} + y \hat{y} + z \hat{z}$, then

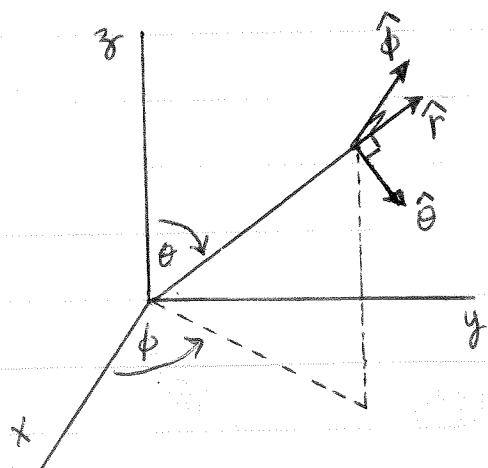
$$z = r \cos \theta$$

$$x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi$$

$$y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi$$

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} = |\vec{r}|$$

unit basis vectors in spherical coords: $\hat{r}, \hat{\theta}, \hat{\phi}$



$\hat{\phi}$ lies in xy plane, i.e. $\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi} = 0$

position vector

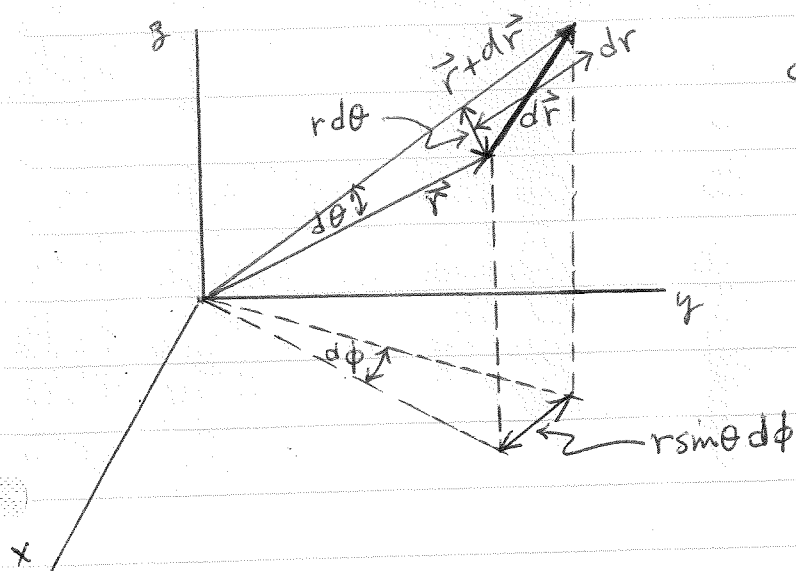
$$\vec{r} = r \hat{r}$$

any vector

$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}) = A_r(\vec{r}) \hat{r} + A_\theta(\vec{r}) \hat{\theta} + A_\phi(\vec{r}) \hat{\phi}$$

key difference between spherical and Cartesian coords:
 the directions of $\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{z}$ is independent of position \vec{r} .
 the directions of $\hat{r}, \hat{\theta}, \hat{\phi}$ vary as position \vec{r} varies.

differential displacement: $d\vec{r}$



$$d\vec{r} = dr \hat{r} + r d\theta \hat{\theta} + r \sin \theta d\phi \hat{\phi}$$

since $\hat{r}, \hat{\theta}, \hat{\phi}$ are orthogonal,
 the volume swept out as r, θ, ϕ
 vary by $dr, d\theta, d\phi$ is:

differential volume element:

$$d^3r = (dr)(r d\theta)(r \sin \theta d\phi) \\ = dr d\theta d\phi r^2 \sin \theta$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dy \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz f(x, y, z) = \int_0^{\infty} dr \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^{\pi} d\theta r^2 \sin \theta f(r, \theta, \phi)$$

differential surface element - for surface at fixed radius $r = R$

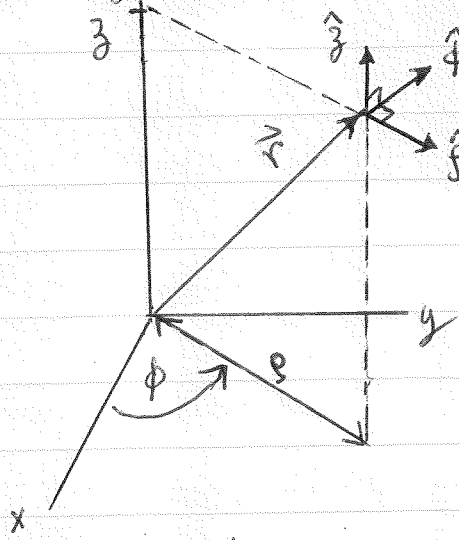
$$da = R^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi$$

$$\int_{S^1} da f(R) = \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^{\pi} d\theta R^2 \sin \theta f(R, \theta, \phi)$$

example: surface of sphere of radius R : use above with $f=1$

$$\text{Area} = \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^{\pi} d\theta R^2 \sin \theta = 2\pi R^2 (-\cos \theta) \Big|_0^{\pi} = 4\pi R^2$$

3) Cylindrical coordinates (ρ, ϕ, z)



$$\vec{r} = x \hat{x} + y \hat{y} + z \hat{z}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \rho \cos \phi$$

$$y = \rho \sin \phi$$

$$\rho = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

unit basis vectors in cylindrical coords: $\hat{\rho}, \hat{\phi}, \hat{z}$

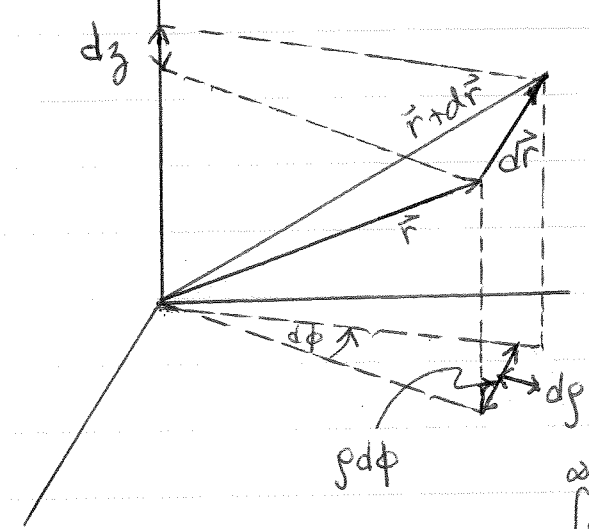
both $\hat{\rho}$ and $\hat{\phi}$ lie in xy plane. directions of position vector $\hat{\rho}, \hat{\phi}$ depend on position \vec{r}

$$\vec{r} = \rho \hat{\rho} + z \hat{z}$$

any vector

$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}) = A_\rho(\vec{r}) \hat{\rho} + A_\phi(\vec{r}) \hat{\phi} + A_z(\vec{r}) \hat{z}$$

differential displacement $d\vec{r}$



$$d\vec{r} = d\rho \hat{\rho} + \rho d\phi \hat{\phi} + dz \hat{z}$$

differential volume element:

$$d^3r = (d\rho)(\rho d\phi)(dz)$$

$$= d\rho d\phi dz \rho$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y, z) dx dy dz = \int_0^{\infty} d\rho \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz \rho f(\rho, \phi, z)$$

differential surface element - for surface of cylinder at fixed radius R , and length from $z = L_0$ to $z = L_1$

$$da = R d\phi dz$$

$$\int_S da f(\vec{r}) = \int_{L_0}^{L_1} dz \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi R f(R, \phi, z)$$

(9)

Review of vector differential operators (§ 1-2, 1-3)

Gradient: (1.2, 2)

$$\begin{aligned} f(\vec{r} + d\vec{r}) &= f(x+dx, y+dy, z+dz) \\ &= f(x, y, z) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} dz \end{aligned}$$

define gradient vector

$$\vec{\nabla} f(x, y, z) \equiv \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \hat{y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \hat{z}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(\vec{r} + d\vec{r}) = f(\vec{r}) + (\vec{\nabla} f) \cdot d\vec{r} \quad \text{since } d\vec{r} = dx \hat{x} + dy \hat{y} + dz \hat{z}$$

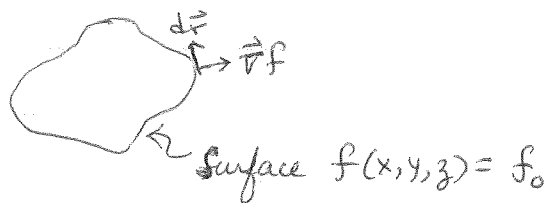
$$df \equiv f(\vec{r} + d\vec{r}) - f(\vec{r}) = (\vec{\nabla} f) \cdot (d\vec{r}) = |\vec{\nabla} f| |d\vec{r}| \cos \theta$$

where θ is angle between $\vec{\nabla} f$ and $d\vec{r}$

\Rightarrow geometrical meanings of gradient:

1) df is max, for a given $|d\vec{r}|$, when $\theta = 0$, i.e. when $d\vec{r}$ points along $\vec{\nabla} f$. $\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} f$ points in direction of greatest increase in function f .
 $|\vec{\nabla} f|$ is the slope of f in this direction

2) $df = 0$ when $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$, i.e. when $d\vec{r}$ is \perp to $\vec{\nabla} f$.
 $\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} f$ is normal to the surfaces of constant f .



3) $df = 0$ for all directions of $d\vec{r}$, if $\vec{\nabla} f = 0$.
 $\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} f(\vec{r}_0) = 0$ means \vec{r}_0 is a max, min, or saddle point of $f(\vec{r})$

Differential operator $\vec{\nabla} \equiv \hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$

gradient $f = \vec{\nabla} f = \hat{x} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$

Divergence (1.2.4)

apply $\vec{\nabla}$ to a vector function $\vec{v}(r)$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} &\equiv \left(\hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot (\hat{x} v_x + \hat{y} v_y + \hat{z} v_z) \\ &= \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} \equiv \text{divergence of } \vec{v} \end{aligned}$$

Curl or Circulation (1.2.5)

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v} &= \left(\hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \times (\hat{x} v_x + \hat{y} v_y + \hat{z} v_z) \\ &= \cancel{\left(\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} \right)} \hat{z} \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial v_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial z} \right) \hat{x} + \left(\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial x} \right) \hat{y} \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} \right) \hat{z} \end{aligned}$$

To remember how to compute curl, just think of cyclic permutations of $x y z$

$$x y z \quad (\vec{A} \times \vec{B})_x = A_y B_z - A_z B_y$$

$$y z x \quad (\vec{A} \times \vec{B})_y = A_z B_x - A_x B_z$$

$$z x y \quad (\vec{A} \times \vec{B})_z = A_x B_y - A_y B_x$$

use rules of differentiation to get product rules like:

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot (f \vec{A}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (f A_x) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (f A_y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (f A_z)$$

\uparrow scalar \uparrow vector

$$= f \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + A_x \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + f \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} + A_y \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$$

$$+ f \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z} + A_z \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot (f \vec{A}) = f \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} + \vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla} f$$

or

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (f \vec{A}) = \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (f A_z) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (f A_y) \right] \hat{x} + \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial z} (f A_x) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (f A_z) \right] \hat{y}$$

$$+ \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (f A_y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (f A_x) \right] \hat{z}$$

$$= \left[f \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} - f \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} A_z - \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} A_y \right] \hat{x}$$

$$+ \left[f \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} - f \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} A_x - \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} A_z \right] \hat{y}$$

$$+ \left[f \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} - f \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} A_y - \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} A_x \right] \hat{z}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times (f \vec{A}) = f (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}) + (\vec{\nabla} f) \times \vec{A}$$

see sec 1.2.6 for other examples

order of terms is important - it is $(\vec{\nabla} f) \times \vec{A}$ not $\vec{A} \times (\vec{\nabla} f)$

Second derivatives (1.2.7)

1) Laplacian

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} f) &= \left(\hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \hat{y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \hat{z} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} \equiv \nabla^2 f \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2) \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} f) &= \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) \right] \hat{x} \\ &+ \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right) \right] \hat{y} \\ &+ \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) \right] \hat{z} \\ &= 0 \quad \text{since } \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial z} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z \partial y} \quad \text{etc.} \end{aligned}$$

$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} f) = 0$ for any scalar function $f(\vec{r})$

$$\begin{aligned} 3) \vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}) &= \hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} \right) + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} \right) \\ &+ \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} \right) \\ &= \hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial x \partial z} \right) + \text{etc.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 4) \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial z} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial x} \right) \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial x \partial y} - \frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial x \partial z} + \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial y \partial z} - \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial y \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial z \partial x} - \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial z \partial y} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

So $\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v}) = 0$ for any vector function \vec{v}

$$\begin{aligned}
 5) \quad \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v}) &= \hat{x} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v})_z - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v})_y \right] \\
 &+ \hat{y} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial z} (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v})_x - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v})_z \right] \\
 &+ \hat{z} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v})_y - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v})_x \right] \\
 &= \hat{x} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial x} \right) \right] \\
 &+ \hat{y} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial v_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial z} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} \right) \right] \\
 &+ \hat{z} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial x} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial v_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial z} \right) \right] \\
 &= \hat{x} \left[-\frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial y^2} - \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial z^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial x \partial z} \right] \\
 &+ \hat{y} \left[-\frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial z^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial y \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial y \partial z} \right] \\
 &+ \hat{z} \left[-\frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial z \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial z \partial y} \right] \\
 &= \hat{x} \left[-\left(\frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial z^2} \right) + \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial x \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial x \partial z} \right] \\
 &+ \hat{y} \left[-\left(\frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial z^2} \right) + \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial y \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial y \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial y \partial z} \right] \\
 &+ \hat{z} \left[-\left(\frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial z^2} \right) + \frac{\partial^2 v_x}{\partial z \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 v_y}{\partial z \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial z \partial z} \right] \\
 &= \hat{x} \left[-\nabla^2 v_x \right] + \hat{y} \left[-\nabla^2 v_y \right] + \hat{z} \left[-\nabla^2 v_z \right] \\
 &+ \vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}) \quad (\text{see (3)})
 \end{aligned}$$

Define Laplacian of vector function:

$$\nabla^2 \vec{v} \equiv \hat{x} (\nabla^2 v_x) + \hat{y} (\nabla^2 v_y) + \hat{z} (\nabla^2 v_z)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v}) = -\nabla^2 \vec{v} + \vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v})$$

It is only easy to write what we mean by $\nabla^2 \vec{v}$
in Cartesian coordinates

or we could define more generally

$$\nabla^2 \vec{v} \equiv \vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}) - \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v})$$

could represent these in
spherical or cylindrical coords (coming soon!)
but result does not look simple

Example $\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = Q \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}$ electric field from point charge Q at origin

What is $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}$?

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z}$$

need to express \vec{E} in Cartesian coordinates to find E_x, E_y, E_z

$$\vec{E} = Q \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} = Q \frac{\hat{r}}{r^3} = Q \frac{(x \hat{x} + y \hat{y} + z \hat{z})}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x} = Q \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{x}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right] = \frac{1}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} - \frac{3x^2}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{5/2}}$$
$$= Q \left[\frac{1}{r^3} - \frac{3x^2}{r^5} \right]$$

Similarly, $\frac{\partial E_y}{\partial y} = \left[\frac{1}{r^3} - \frac{3y^2}{r^5} \right] Q$ and $\frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z} = \left[\frac{1}{r^3} - \frac{3z^2}{r^5} \right] Q$

So

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = Q \left[\frac{1}{r^3} - \frac{3x^2}{r^5} + \frac{1}{r^3} - \frac{3y^2}{r^5} + \frac{1}{r^3} - \frac{3z^2}{r^5} \right]$$
$$= Q \left[\frac{3}{r^3} - \frac{3(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)}{r^5} \right] = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{3}{r^2} - \frac{3r^2}{r^5} \right]$$
$$= 0!$$

So it looks like $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 0$ for a point charge. This turns out to not be quite correct as we will soon see.

Define Laplacian of vector function

$$\nabla^2 \vec{v} = \hat{x}(\nabla^2 v_x) + \hat{y}(\nabla^2 v_y) + \hat{z}(\nabla^2 v_z)$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{v}) = -\nabla^2 \vec{v} + \nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{v})$$

gradient, divergence, curl, Laplacian, in spherical + cylindrical coordinates

spherical coords: scalar func $f(r, \theta, \phi)$

gradient $\vec{\nabla} f$

you might think that $\vec{\nabla} f$ should be

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \hat{r} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \hat{\theta} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \phi} \hat{\phi}$$

using analogy with the form in cartesian coords

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \hat{y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \hat{z}$$

This is not correct. To get correct form, use definition:

$$df = f(\vec{r} + d\vec{r}) - f(\vec{r}) \equiv (\vec{\nabla} f) \cdot d\vec{r}$$

in spherical coords:

$$df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} dr + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} d\theta + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \phi} d\phi \quad (*)$$

$$d\vec{r} = dr \hat{r} + r d\theta \hat{\theta} + r \sin \theta d\phi \hat{\phi}$$

$$df = (\vec{\nabla} f) \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow df = (\vec{\nabla} f)_r dr + (\vec{\nabla} f)_\theta r d\theta + (\vec{\nabla} f)_\phi r \sin \theta d\phi$$

compare with (*) $\Rightarrow (\vec{\nabla} f)_r = \frac{\partial f}{\partial r}, (\vec{\nabla} f)_\theta = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta}, (\vec{\nabla} f)_\phi = \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \phi}$

$$\vec{\nabla} f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \hat{r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \hat{\theta} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \phi} \hat{\phi}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} = \hat{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \hat{\theta} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \hat{\phi} \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$

Divergence

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = \left(\hat{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \hat{\theta} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \hat{\phi} \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right) \cdot (\hat{r} v_r + \hat{\theta} v_\theta + \hat{\phi} v_\phi)$$

you might think this should be:

$$\frac{\partial v_r}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial \theta} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial \phi}$$

But this is not correct - because when we look at any particular term, for example $\hat{\theta} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\hat{r} v_r)$ we need to remember that \hat{r} , $\hat{\theta}$, $\hat{\phi}$ vary with position, + so derivatives of basis vectors must also be taken into account

$$\hat{\theta} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\hat{r} v_r) = \underbrace{\hat{\theta} \cdot \hat{r}}_{=0} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \theta} + \frac{v_r}{r} \underbrace{\hat{\theta} \cdot \frac{\partial \hat{r}}{\partial \theta}}_{\neq 0}$$

when take this into account correctly, find

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 v_r) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin \theta v_\theta) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial \phi}$$

* Note common mistake: $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} \neq \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial \phi} !!$

Similarly for curl:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v} &= \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin \theta v_\phi) - \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial \phi} \right] \hat{r} \\ &+ \frac{1}{r} \left[\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r v_\phi) \right] \hat{\theta} \\ &+ \frac{1}{r} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r v_\theta) - \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \theta} \right] \hat{\phi}\end{aligned}$$

Laplacian:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla^2 f &= \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \right) \\ &+ \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \phi^2}\end{aligned}$$

* Note common mistake: $\nabla^2 f \neq \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial r^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \phi^2}$!!!

One can similarly find for cylindrical coordinates:

gradient: $\vec{\nabla} f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \rho} \hat{\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \phi} \hat{\phi} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \hat{z}$

divergence $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} (\rho v_\rho) + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z}$

curl: $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v} = \left[\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial z} \right] \hat{\rho} + \left[\frac{\partial v_\rho}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial \rho} \right] \hat{\phi} + \frac{1}{\rho} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} (\rho v_\phi) - \frac{\partial v_\rho}{\partial \phi} \right] \hat{z}$

Laplacian $\nabla^2 f = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left(\rho \frac{\partial f}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2}$

Example 1 $\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = Q \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}$ electric field from point charge Q at origin

Compute $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}$ in spherical coords!

Since $E_\theta = E_\phi = 0$ and $E_r = Q \frac{1}{r^2}$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} &= \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 Q \frac{1}{r^2} \right) \\ &= Q \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (1) = 0! \end{aligned}$$

same answer as before! But maybe $\neq 0$ at $r=0$!

Example 2 Consider electric field from sphere of radius R filled with uniform charge density ρ_0
 \Rightarrow total charge on sphere is $Q = \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 \rho_0$

$$\text{electric field is } \vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \begin{cases} Q \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} & r > R \text{ outside} \\ Q \frac{r \hat{r}}{R^3} & r < R \text{ inside} \end{cases}$$

so $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 0$ for $r > R$ outside, as in Example 1
for $r < R$,

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} &= \frac{Q}{R^3} \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 \cdot r) \\ &= \frac{Q}{R^3} \frac{1}{r^2} 3r^2 = \frac{3Q}{R^3} = 4\pi \rho_0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 4\pi \rho_0$$

So for uniformly charged sphere,

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \begin{cases} 0 & r > R \text{ outside} \\ 4\pi\rho_0 & r < R \text{ inside} \end{cases}$$

Now suppose we viewed the point charge of Q not as a true point charge, but rather as a sphere of very small radius R with charge density $\rho_0 = \frac{Q}{\frac{4}{3}\pi R^3}$

We would then conclude that $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}$ for the pt charge was

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \begin{cases} 0 & r > R \text{ outside} \\ \frac{3Q}{R^3} & r < R \text{ inside} \end{cases}$$

As $R \rightarrow 0$, approaching the limit of a true point charge, then $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 0$ ~~almost~~ everywhere except at $r=0$ where $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{3Q}{R^3}$ is growing infinitely large! as $R \rightarrow 0$.

The function $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}$ above thus has peculiar property that it is zero everywhere except at a single point, at which it is infinite; moreover the integral of $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}$ over all space just gives $4\pi Q$. We will soon see that a

function with this strange behavior is called the Dirac delta function

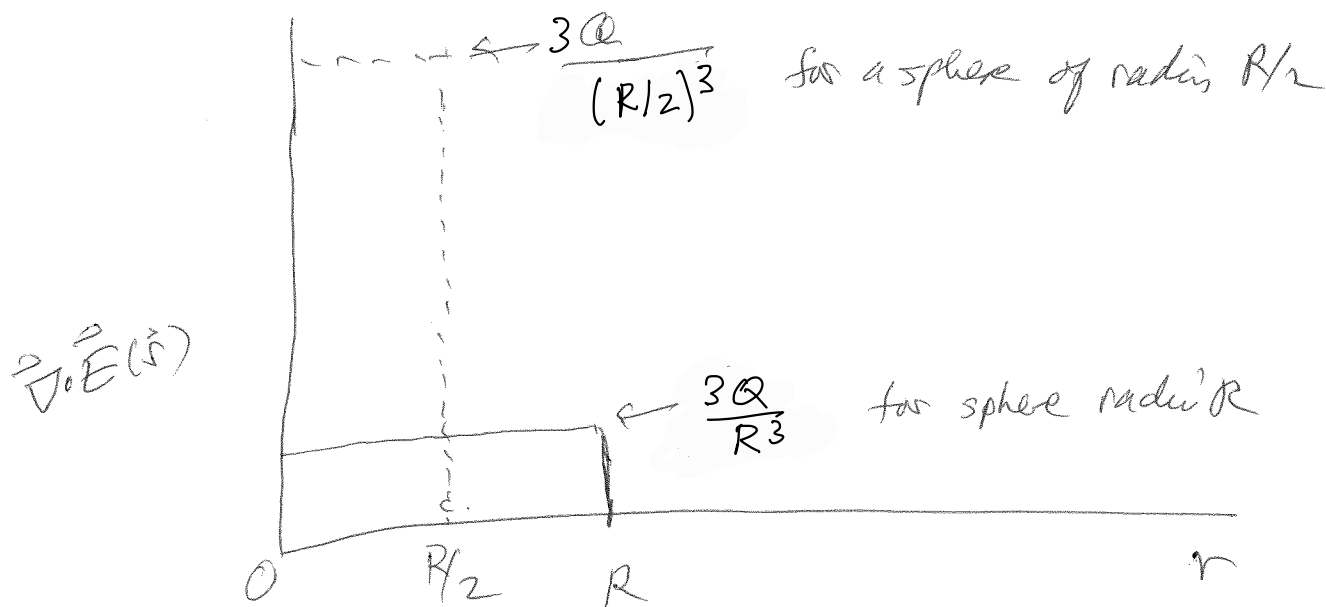
Note: When we directly computed for the point charge

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = Q \frac{1}{r^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (1)$$

this really gives zero only when $r > 0$.

When $r=0$, the above is really an indeterminate expression of the form $\frac{0}{0}$ so we don't know what is its real value

The preceding example tells us that the value of $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}$ at $r=0$ is really infinite!



as radius of sphere decrease, height of $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}$ goes up. As $R \rightarrow 0$, $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} \rightarrow \infty$ at $r=0$

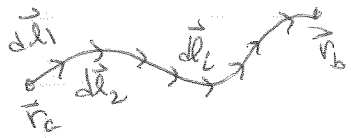
Integral vector calculus (Griffiths §1-3)

1) Gradients + line integrals

along path C $\int_C d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{\nabla} f = f(\vec{r}_b) - f(\vec{r}_a)$ independent of path C



proof: for a pt on curve \vec{r} ,
 $d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{\nabla} f = f(\vec{r} + d\vec{l}) - f(\vec{r})$
 by definition of gradient



$$\int d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{\nabla} f = [f(\vec{r}_a + d\vec{l}_1) - f(\vec{r}_a)] + [f(\vec{r}_a + d\vec{l}_1 + d\vec{l}_2) - f(\vec{r}_a + d\vec{l}_1)] + \dots + [f(\vec{r}_b) - f(\vec{r}_b - d\vec{l}_N)] = f(\vec{r}_b) - f(\vec{r}_a)$$

$\Rightarrow \oint_C d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{\nabla} f = 0$ if C is a closed path
 as then $\vec{r}_a = \vec{r}_b$
 start = end

A small hand-drawn diagram of a closed circular path with $\vec{r}_a = \vec{r}_b$ at the bottom.

2) Divergences + Surface Integrals : Gauss's Theorem

$$\int_V d^3x (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}) = \oint_S \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{a}$$

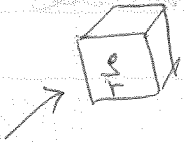
where S is closed surface bounding volume V.
 $d\vec{a} = \hat{m} da$ where \hat{m} is outward normal to S.

Gauss's theorem provides the geometrical meaning for divergence operator.

$\oint_S \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{a}$ is "flux of \vec{v} " through the surface S

If \vec{v} represents velocity field of a fluid, then $\oint_S \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{a}$ gives the total rate that fluid is flowing out the surface S . (see prob 1.32)

divergence $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}(\vec{r})$ then gives the flux of \vec{v} out of the pt \vec{r} . To see this:



ΔV small, so that \vec{v} is \approx constant over volume ΔV

$$\int_{\Delta V} d^3r \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} \approx \Delta V [\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}(\vec{r})] = \oint_S \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{a}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}(\vec{r}) \approx \frac{1}{\Delta V} \oint_S \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{a}$$

= flux per unit volume of \vec{v} out of the point S' ,

3) ~~Curl and line integrals: Stokes Theorem~~

~~$$\int_S d\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v}) = \oint_C \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{s}$$~~

$\Rightarrow \oint_S \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{a} = 0$ unless $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} \neq 0$ somewhere inside S



$$\oint_{S_1} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{a} = \oint_{S_2} \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{a}$$

provided $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$ in region between S_1 and S_2

Example: Consider $\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = Q \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}$ for a

point charge at origin. Compute $\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a}$ for

the surface S of a sphere of radius R . Since $d\vec{a} = da \hat{m}$
for \vec{r} on S , $= da \hat{r}$

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) \cdot d\vec{a} = Q \frac{\hat{r}}{R^2} \cdot da \hat{r} = Q \frac{1}{R^2} da$$

is constant over surface of sphere S

$$\Rightarrow \oint \vec{E}(\vec{r}) \cdot d\vec{a} = \left(Q \frac{1}{R^2} \right) (4\pi R^2)$$

flux of \vec{E}
through S

$$= 4\pi Q$$

\uparrow area of S

independent of radius R !

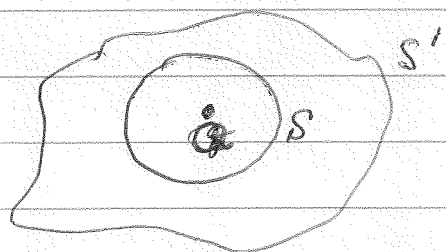
divergence of \vec{E} at origin is therefore

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}(0) = \frac{1}{\frac{4}{3}\pi R^3} \oint_S \vec{E}(\vec{r}) \cdot d\vec{a} = \frac{3Q}{R^3} \rightarrow \infty$$

as $R \rightarrow 0$

This is the same answer we got from our model of the point charge as a uniformly charged sphere of small but finite radius.

Note that it did not matter what was the shape of the surface on which we did the integration



$$\frac{Q}{\epsilon_0} = \oint_S d\vec{a} \cdot \vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \oint_{S'} d\vec{a} \cdot \vec{E}(\vec{r})$$

where the last equality follows since $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 0$ everywhere in between S and S'

So we have $\oint_S d\vec{a} \cdot \vec{E} = \begin{cases} 4\pi Q & \text{for any surface } S \text{ that} \\ & \text{contains the charge } Q \\ 0 & \text{for any surface } S' \text{ that} \\ & \text{does not contain } Q \end{cases}$

equivalently

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for all } \vec{r} \neq 0 \\ \frac{4\pi Q}{\Delta V} \rightarrow \infty & \text{at } r=0, \text{ where} \\ & \Delta V \text{ is volume of} \\ & \text{small region containing} \\ & Q. \end{cases}$$

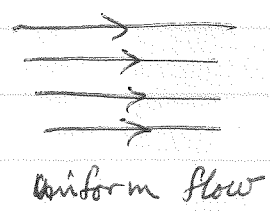
$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}$ therefore has the following properties: it vanishes everywhere except at $\vec{r}=0$. At $\vec{r}=0$ it is infinite in just the right way that $\int d^3r \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}$ is a finite constant $4\pi Q$. We will see that a function which has this behavior is the "Dirac delta function"

"field lines"

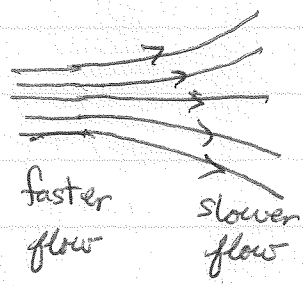
draw lines pointed in direction of $\vec{v}(\vec{r})$

density of lines proportional to $|\vec{v}(\vec{r})|$

\vec{v} is velocity field:



uniform flow



faster flow

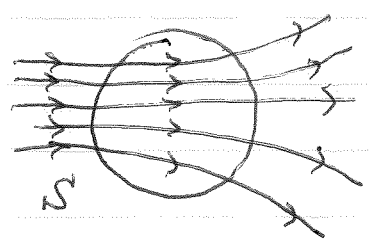
slower flow

$\int_S d\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v} \propto$ number of lines passing through S
counting with (+) sign if line goes out
and with (-) sign if line goes in

If field lines are continuous, then $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$

$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} \neq 0$ only at point where field lines become singular.

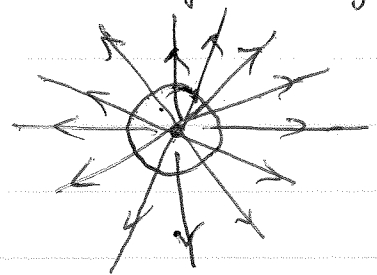
example



$\int_S d\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$ since field lines continuous, the number of lines going into S = number of lines going out of S . This will be true for any surface S .

$0 = \int_S d\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v} = \int_V d^3r \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}$ for any S
 $\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$

example: \vec{E} from point charge

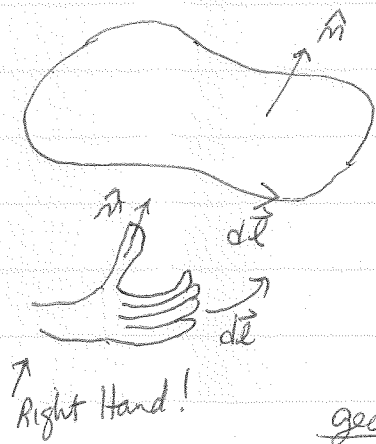


$\int_S d\vec{a} \cdot \vec{E} > 0$ as lines only pass out of S .
 $\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} \neq 0$ somewhere inside of S .
(at center where charge is)

3) Curl and Line Integrals : Stokes Theorem

$$\int_S d\vec{a} \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{v}) = \oint_C d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{v}$$

where S is an open surface with boundary C



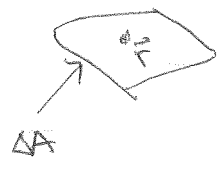
must choose $d\vec{a} = \hat{n} da$ and $d\vec{l}$ consistent with right hand rule, i.e. if align right thumb along \hat{n} (normal to surface) then $d\vec{l}$ must be in direction that fingers point along

geometrical meaning for curl operator

$\oint_C d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{v}$ is the "circulation" of \vec{v} around the loop C

If \vec{v} represents velocity of fluid, and C is a pipe containing fluid (or \vec{v} is velocity of electrons and C is wire loop) then $\oint_C d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{v}$ gives the net circulation of fluid going C around in the loop.

$\nabla \times \vec{v}$ gives the circulation of \vec{v} at the pt \vec{r}



$$\int_{\Delta A} d\vec{a} \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{v}) \cong \Delta A \hat{n} \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{v}(\vec{r})) = \oint d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{v}$$

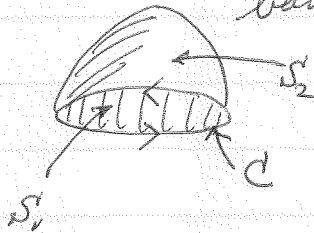
↑
normal to ΔA

$$\hat{n} \cdot [\nabla \times \vec{v}(\vec{r})] = \frac{1}{\Delta A} \oint d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{v}$$

circulation per unit area of \vec{v} at point \vec{r} .

$\Rightarrow \int_{S'} d\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v})$ depends only on the boundary line of S'

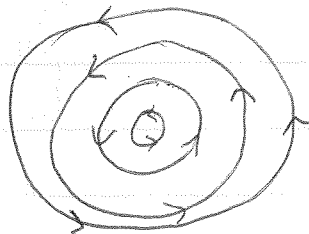
$\int_{S_1} d\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v}) = \int_{S_2} d\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v})$ if S_1 and S_2 have same boundary C'



$\Rightarrow \oint_{S'} d\vec{a} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v} = 0$ for closed surface S' , as boundary curve $C = 0!$

in terms of field lines:

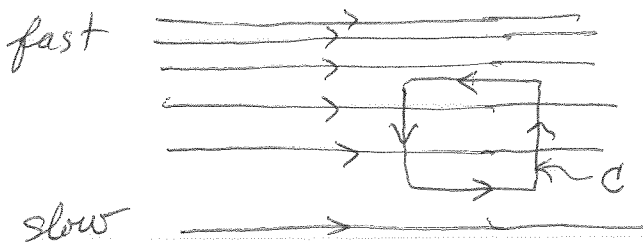
example



Clearly, if we have field lines that close upon themselves, then we must have $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v} \neq 0$ somewhere inside the loop as $\oint d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{v} \neq 0$ along such a curve

But we can also have $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v} \neq 0$ in other situations:

Shear flow:



$\oint_C d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{v} \neq 0!$

Dirac delta function (§ 1-5)

we saw $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left(\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) = 0$ everywhere except at $\vec{r} = 0$

But $\oint_S d\vec{a} \cdot \left(\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) = 4\pi$ for any S that encloses $\vec{r} = 0$

$$\int_V d^3r \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left(\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left(\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) \rightarrow \infty \text{ at } \vec{r} = 0,$$

V enclosed by $S \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left(\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right)$ is not an ordinary continuous function

This motivates the Dirac delta function

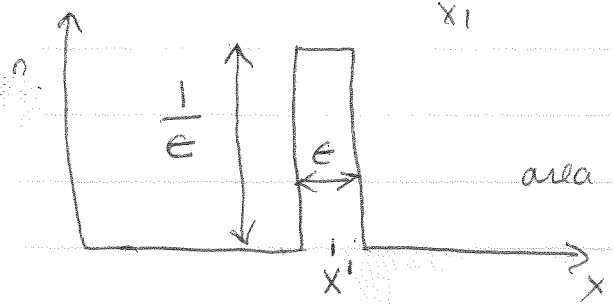
$$\delta(x-x') = \begin{cases} 0 & x \neq x' \\ \infty & x = x' \end{cases}$$

$$\text{and } \int_{x_1}^{x_2} dx \delta(x-x') = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_1 < x' < x_2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Can think of $\delta(x-x')$ as being a limit of a sequence of functions:

$$\text{Let } f_\epsilon(x-x') = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |x-x'| > \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ \frac{1}{\epsilon} & \text{if } |x-x'| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} dx f_\epsilon(x-x') = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_1 < x' - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \text{ and } x_2 > x' + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ 0 & \text{if } x_2 < x' - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \text{ or } x_1 > x' + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \end{cases}$$



area under curve = 1

$$\delta(x-x') = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} f_\epsilon(x-x')$$

Properties of $\delta(x-x')$

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} dx g(x) \delta(x-x') = \begin{cases} g(x') & \text{if } x_1 < x' < x_2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Proof: since integrand is zero everywhere except at $x=x'$ we can evaluate $g(x)$ at x' and make it

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_{x_1}^{x_2} dx g(x') \delta(x-x') = g(x') \underbrace{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} dx \delta(x-x')} \\ &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_1 < x' < x_2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Ex: Consider

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx g(x) \delta(ax+b) = ?$$

if $a > 0$ let $y \equiv ax+b$ $dx = \frac{dy}{a}$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dy}{a} g\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right) \delta(y) = \frac{g\left(-\frac{b}{a}\right)}{a}$$

if $a < 0$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_{+\infty}^{-\infty} \frac{dy}{a} g\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right) \delta(y) = - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dy}{a} g\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right) \delta(y) \\ &= - \frac{g\left(-\frac{b}{a}\right)}{a} \end{aligned}$$

general $\Rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx g(x) \delta(ax+b) = \frac{g\left(-\frac{b}{a}\right)}{|a|}$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\delta(ax+b) = \frac{1}{|a|} \delta\left(x + \frac{b}{a}\right)}$$

because $\int dx g(x) \frac{\delta(x + \frac{b}{a})}{|a|} = \frac{1}{|a|} g(-\frac{b}{a})$

In general, if $D_1(x)$ and $D_2(x)$ are two expressions involving δ -functions, then $D_1 = D_2$ if

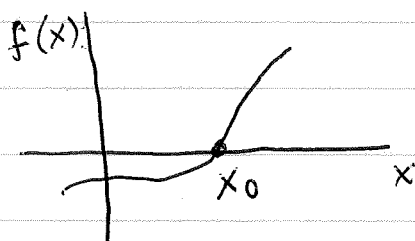
$$\int dx g(x) D_1(x) = \int dx g(x) D_2(x)$$

for any function $g(x)$

Another property of the Dirac δ -function

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} dx g(x) \delta(f(x)) = \frac{g(x_0)}{\left| \frac{df(x_0)}{dx} \right|}$$

if f is monotonic increasing or decreasing with x_0 such that $f(x_0) = 0$ and $x_1 < x_0 < x_2$



To see this, note that the only place the integrand is non-zero is when the argument of the δ -function vanishes, i.e. when $f(x) = 0$. This happens at $x = x_0$. So we can expand $f(x)$ in Taylor series about x_0 . To lowest order we have

$$f(x) \approx f(x_0) + \left(\frac{df(x_0)}{dx} \right) (x - x_0) = \frac{df(x_0)}{dx} (x - x_0)$$

since $f(x_0) = 0$. $f(x)$ now has the form

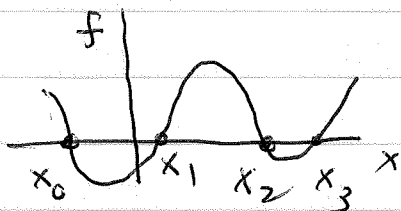
$$f(x) = ax + b \quad \text{with} \quad a = \frac{df(x_0)}{dx} \quad \text{and} \quad b = -\left(\frac{df(x_0)}{dx} \right) x_0$$

So from previous example we get

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$$\int dx g(x) \delta(f(x)) = \frac{g(x_0)}{\left| \frac{df(x_0)}{dx} \right|}$$

For a more general $f(x)$ that is not monotonic and may have several zeros at x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots we have



$$\int_{x_a}^{x_b} dx g(x) \delta(f(x)) = \sum_{\substack{i \\ \text{such that} \\ x_a < x_i < x_b}} \frac{g(x_i)}{\left| \frac{df(x_i)}{dx} \right|}$$

3-dimensional δ -function

$$\delta^3(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') = \delta(x - x') \delta(y - y') \delta(z - z')$$

$$\int_V f(\vec{r}) \delta^3(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') d^3r = \begin{cases} f(\vec{r}') & \text{if } \vec{r}' \in V \\ 0 & \text{if } \vec{r}' \notin V \end{cases}$$

Recall we said

$$\vec{\nabla}_0 \cdot \left(\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) = \nabla_0 \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{r} - \vec{r}'}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|^3} \right) = 4\pi \delta^3(\vec{r} - \vec{r}')$$

Very important result to remember!!

since $\vec{\nabla}_0 \cdot \left(\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) = 0$ except at $\vec{r} = \vec{r} - \vec{r}' = 0$

and $\int_V d^3r \vec{\nabla}_0 \cdot \left(\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) = \oint_S d\vec{a} \cdot \left(\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) = \begin{cases} 4\pi & \text{if } V \text{ contains } \vec{r}' \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Now we saw in workshop

$$\vec{\nabla} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) = -\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}$$

In workshop we did this calculation in Cartesian coords.

Now to see this we can do the differentiation in spherical coordinates

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) &= \hat{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) + \frac{\hat{\theta}}{r} \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right)}_{=0} + \frac{\hat{\phi}}{r \sin \theta} \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right)}_{=0} \\ &= -\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\vec{\nabla}_0 \cdot \left(\vec{\nabla} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) \right) = \vec{\nabla}_0 \cdot \left(-\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) = -4\pi \delta^3(\vec{r})$$

or

$$\nabla^2 \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) = -4\pi \delta^3(\vec{r})$$

very important to remember!