

# Electromagnetic Theory I

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# Chapter 1: Vector Analysis

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- ✓ Vector Algebra
- ✓ Differential Calculus
- ✓ Integral Calculus
- ✓ Curvilinear Coordinates
- ✓ The Dirac Delta Function
- ✓ The Theory of Vector Fields

# Differential Calculus

## (i) Gradient

$$df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} dz$$
$$\left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \hat{y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \hat{z} \right) \cdot (dx \hat{x} + dy \hat{y} + dz \hat{z}) = \vec{\nabla} f \cdot d\vec{l}$$

Gradient of  $f$

What is the physical meaning of the gradient?

$$\vec{\nabla} f \cdot d\vec{l} = |\vec{\nabla} f| |d\vec{l}| \cos \theta$$

For a fixed distance  $|d\vec{l}|$ , the greatest change in  $f$  occurs along the direction of the gradient

**\*\*Gradient is a vector that points in the direction of maximum increase of a function. Its magnitude gives the slope (rate of increase) along this maximal direction.**

# Gradient

**Example:** find the gradient of the magnitude of the position vector

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

$$\frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} = \frac{x}{r}$$

$$\frac{\partial r}{\partial y} = \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} = \frac{y}{r}$$

$$\frac{\partial r}{\partial z} = \frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} = \frac{z}{r}$$

$$\rightarrow \vec{\nabla} r = \frac{x}{r} \hat{x} + \frac{y}{r} \hat{y} + \frac{z}{r} \hat{z} = \frac{1}{r} (x \hat{x} + y \hat{y} + z \hat{z}) = \frac{\vec{r}}{r} = \hat{r}$$

The distance from the origin increases most rapidly in the radial direction



# The del operator ( $\vec{\nabla}$ )

$$\vec{\nabla} = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \hat{y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \hat{z} \right)$$

A vector operator (not a vector)

**It can act on other scalar/vector functions as follows**

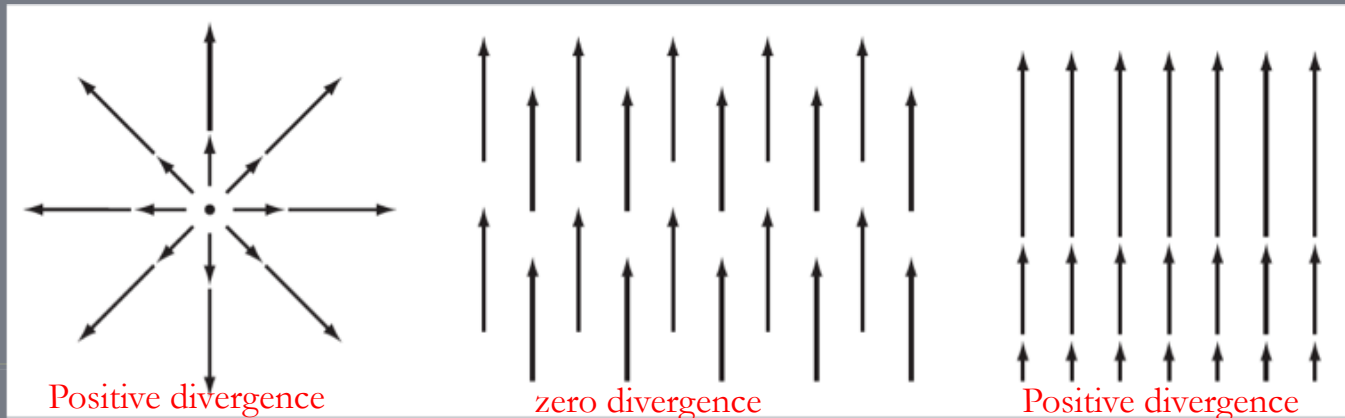
- On scalar function  $f$  (gradient):  $\vec{\nabla} f$
- On a vector function via dot product (divergence):  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}$
- On a vector function via cross product (curl):  $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v}$

# The divergence ( $\text{div}(\vec{v})$ or $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v}$ )

For the vector field,  $\vec{v} = v_x \hat{x} + v_y \hat{y} + v_z \hat{z}$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z}$$

A scalar, a measure of how much the vector field spread out (diverges) from the point of interest



# The divergence

**Example:** find the divergence of the following three vector fields: (a)  $\vec{v} = \vec{r}$  (b)  $\vec{v} = \hat{z}$  (c)  $\vec{v} = z \hat{z}$  (d)  $\vec{v} = y \hat{x} - x \hat{y}$

$$(a) \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{r} = \frac{\partial x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial z} = 1 + 1 + 1 = 3$$

$$(b) \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

$$(c) \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial z} = 1$$

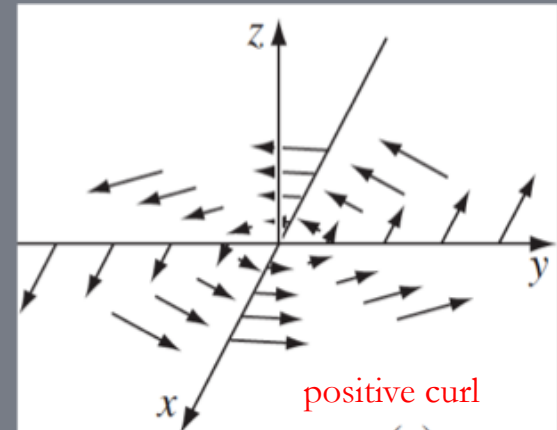
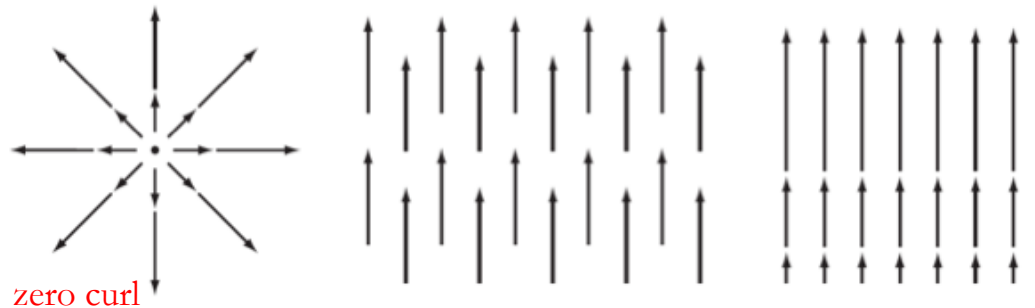
$$(d) \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial x}{\partial y} = 0$$

# The curl (*rot* ( $\vec{v}$ ) or $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v}$ )

For the vector field,  $\vec{v} = v_x \hat{x} + v_y \hat{y} + v_z \hat{z}$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ v_x & v_y & v_z \end{vmatrix}$$

A scalar, a measure of how much the vector field curl(or rotates) around the point of interest





# The curl

**Example:** find the curl of the following three vector fields:

(a)  $\vec{v} = x \hat{y}$  (b)  $\vec{v} = -y \hat{x} + x \hat{y}$

$$(a) \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ 0 & x & 0 \end{vmatrix} = (0)\hat{x} + (0)\hat{y} + (1)\hat{z} = \hat{z}$$

$$(b) \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ -y & x & 0 \end{vmatrix} = (0)\hat{x} + (0)\hat{y} + (1 + 1)\hat{z} = 2\hat{z}$$

# Product Rules

$$(a) \vec{\nabla}(fg) = f\vec{\nabla}g + g\vec{\nabla}f$$

$$(b) \vec{\nabla}(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}) = \vec{A} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}) + \vec{B} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}) + (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{B} + (\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{A}$$

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

$$(d) \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) = \vec{B} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}) - \vec{A} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B})$$

$$(e) \vec{\nabla} \times (f\vec{A}) = f(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}) - \vec{A} \times \vec{\nabla}f$$

$$(d) \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) = (\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{A} - (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\vec{B} + \vec{A}(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B}) - \vec{B}(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A})$$

Quotient rules are easily obtained from the above rules

# Second Derivatives

(a) Divergence of gradient:  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\nabla} f = \nabla^2 f = \Delta f$  (Laplacian of  $f$ )

(b) Curl of gradients:  $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{\nabla} f = 0$

(c) Gradient of divergence:  $\vec{\nabla}(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v})$

(d) Divergence of curl:  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{v}) = 0$

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