# 3. Vector Calculus

A. Gradient of Scalar Field



## 1) Definition of gradient

Physical definition:

Vector that has the maximum space change rate of physical quantity Mathematical definition:

$$grad V \equiv \nabla V \triangleq \hat{n} \lim_{\Delta l \to 0} \left( \frac{\Delta V}{\Delta l} \right)_{\max} = \hat{n} \left( \frac{dV}{dl} \right)_{\max} = \hat{n} \frac{dV}{dn} \quad (2-48, 49)$$

<sup>\*</sup> maximum directional derivative

Note)  $\nabla$  is called the del or gradient operator Directional derivative:

$$\frac{dV}{dl} = \frac{dV}{dn}\frac{dn}{dl} = \frac{dV}{dn}\cos\alpha = \frac{dV}{dn}\hat{\boldsymbol{n}} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{l}} = (\nabla V) \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{l}}$$
(2-50)

2) Calculation of gradient in orthogonal curvilinear coordinates Space change rate of V:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (2-50) & \longrightarrow & dV = (\nabla V) \cdot dl & \gtrless & 0 \\ dl &= \hat{l} \, dl \end{array} \tag{2-51}$$

In orthogonal curvilinear coordinates  $(u_1,\,u_2,\,u_3)$ ,

$$dV = \frac{\partial V}{\partial l_{u_1}} dl_{u_1} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial l_{u_2}} dl_{u_2} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial l_{u_3}} dl_{u_3}$$

$$\stackrel{(9)}{=} \frac{\partial V}{h_1 \partial u_1} dl_{u_1} + \frac{\partial V}{h_2 \partial u_2} dl_{u_2} + \frac{\partial V}{h_3 \partial u_3} dl_{u_3}$$

$$= \left[ \left( \hat{u_1} \frac{\partial}{h_1 \partial u_1} + \hat{u_2} \frac{\partial}{h_2 \partial u_2} + \hat{u_3} \frac{\partial}{h_3 \partial u_3} \right) V \right] \cdot dl \qquad (2-51)*$$

By comparing RHS of (2-51) and (2-51)\*, we can define  $\nabla$  operator:

$$\nabla \equiv \left( \widehat{\boldsymbol{u}_1} \frac{\partial}{h_1 \partial u_1} + \widehat{\boldsymbol{u}_2} \frac{\partial}{h_2 \partial u_2} + \widehat{\boldsymbol{u}_3} \frac{\partial}{h_3 \partial u_3} \right)$$
(2-57)

Then, 
$$(\nabla V)_i = \frac{1}{h_i} \frac{\partial V}{\partial u_i}$$
,  $(i=1,2,3)$  (51)

## (e.g)

In Cartesian coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (x, y, z)$ ,  $h_1 = h_2 = h_3 = 1$  (10);

$$\nabla = \hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$$
(2-57)<sub>Cart.</sub> =(2-56)

In cylindrical coordinates  $(u_{1,}u_{2,}u_{3}) = (r,\phi,z)$ ,  $h_{1} = 1, h_{2} = r, h_{3} = 1$  (22);

$$\nabla = \hat{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \hat{\phi} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$$
(2-57)<sub>cyl.</sub>

In spherical coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (R, \theta, \phi)$ ,  $h_1 = 1$ ,  $h_2 = R$ ,  $h_3 = R \sin \theta$  (28);

$$\nabla = \hat{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \hat{\theta} \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \hat{\phi} \frac{1}{R \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$
(2-57)<sub>sph.</sub>

In toroidal coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (r, \phi, \theta)$ ,  $h_1 = 1$ ,  $h_2 = R = R_o + r\cos\theta$ ,  $h_3 = r(47)$ ;

$$\nabla \equiv \hat{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \hat{\phi} \frac{1}{R}\frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} + \hat{\theta}\frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}$$
(2-57)<sub>tor.</sub>

*Notes)* Properties of  $\nabla$  operator:

i) 
$$\nabla(f+g) = \nabla f + \nabla g$$
  
ii)  $\nabla(fg) = f \nabla g + g \nabla f$   
iii)  $\nabla f^n = n f^{n-1} \nabla f$ 

### B. Divergence of Vector Field



1) Definition of divergence

Physical definition:

Net outward flux of the vector quantity per unit volume Mathematical definition:

$$div \mathbf{A} \equiv \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} \triangleq \lim_{\Delta v \to 0} \left( \frac{\oint_{S} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s}}{\Delta v} \right)$$
(2-58)

2) Calculation of divergence in orthogonal curvilinear coordinates



FIGURE 2-18 A differential volume in Cartesian coord.

 $\oint_{S} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \left[ \int_{front} + \int_{back} + \int_{right} + \int_{left} + \int_{top} + \int_{bottom} \right] \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$  (2-59)

$$\int_{front} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{f}} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{f}} = \mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{f}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}} (\Delta y \,\Delta z)$$
$$= A \left( x + \Delta x/2, y, z \right) \Delta y \,\Delta z \tag{2-60}$$

$$= A_x(x_o + \Delta x/2, y_o, z_o) \Delta y \Delta z$$

$$(2-60)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Taylor \ expansion\\ at \ (x_o, y_o, z_o) \end{array} = \left[ A_x \Big|_o + \frac{\Delta x}{2} \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} \Big|_o + H O T \right] \Delta y \ \Delta z \end{array} \tag{2-61}$$

Likewise, 
$$\int_{back} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = -A_x(x_o - \Delta x/2, y_o, z_o) \Delta y \Delta z$$
(2-62)

$$= -\left[A_x|_o - \frac{\Delta x}{2} \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x}\Big|_o + HO.T.\right] \Delta y \,\Delta z \tag{2-63}$$

Then, (2-61) + (2-63) gives

$$\int_{front} + \int_{back} \left[ \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s} \approx \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} \right]_o \Delta x \Delta y \Delta z = \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} \Big|_o \Delta v \qquad (2-64)$$

Similarly, 
$$\left[\int_{right} + \int_{left}\right] \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s} \approx \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} \bigg|_o \Delta v$$
 (2-65)

$$\left[\int_{top} + \int_{bottom}\right] \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s} \approx \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z} \bigg|_o \Delta v$$
(2-66)

Finally, (2-64)+(2-65)+(2-66) in (2-59) results in

$$\oint_{S} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s} \approx \left( \frac{\partial A_{x}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_{y}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_{z}}{\partial z} \right) \Big|_{o} \Delta v$$
(2-67)

 $\lim_{\Delta v \to 0} \frac{(2-67)}{\Delta v}$  in (2-58) yields in Cartesian coordinates,

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{A} = \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$$
(2-68)

Generalization in orthogonal curvilinear coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3)$ :

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{A} = \frac{1}{h_1 h_2 h_3} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} (h_2 h_3 A_1) + \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2} (h_3 h_1 A_2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial u_3} (h_1 h_2 A_3) \right] (2-70)$$
$$= \frac{1}{h_1 h_2 h_3} \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i} \left( \frac{h_1 h_2 h_3}{h_i} A_i \right) \left[ = \frac{1}{h_1 h_2 h_3} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i} \left( \frac{h_1 h_2 h_3}{h_i} A_i \right) \begin{array}{c} by \ summation \\ convention \end{array} \right] (52)$$

In cylindrical coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (r, \phi, z)$ ,  $h_1 = 1, h_2 = r, h_3 = 1$  (22);

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{A} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (rA_r) + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial A_{\phi}}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$$
(2-70)<sub>cyl.</sub>

In spherical coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (R, \theta, \phi)$ ,  $h_1 = 1$ ,  $h_2 = R$ ,  $h_3 = R \sin \theta$  (28);

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{A} = \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (R^2 A_R) + \frac{1}{R \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin \theta A_\theta) + \frac{1}{R \sin \theta} \frac{\partial A_\phi}{\partial \phi} \qquad (2-70)_{\text{sph.}}$$

In toroidal coordinates  $(u_{1,}u_{2,}u_{3}) = (r,\phi,\theta)$ ,  $h_{1} = 1$ ,  $h_{2} = R = R_{o} + r\cos\theta$ ,  $h_{3} = r(47)$ ;

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{Rr} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (RrA_{r}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi} (rA_{\phi}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \Theta} (RA_{\theta}) \right] \qquad (2-70)_{\text{tor.}}$$

Notes)

 $\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{A} = 0$ 

 $\Rightarrow$  A: Solenoidal field = Divergenceless field = Divergence-free field

i) Azimuthal magnetic field produced by straight wire current





 $\nabla \cdot A \ge 0$ (outflux  $\ge$  influx)

 $\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{A} = 0$ (outflux = influx)

## 3) Divergence ( or Gauss's ) theorem



$$\int_{V} \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{A} \, dv = \oint_{S} \boldsymbol{A} \cdot d\boldsymbol{s}$$
(2-75)

volume integral of the divergence

= total outflux thru surface S bounding volume V

(*Proof*) From (2–58),

$$\lim_{\Delta v_{j} \to 0} \sum_{j=1}^{N \gg 1} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A})_{j} \Delta v_{j} = \lim_{\Delta v_{j} \to 0} \sum_{j=1}^{N \gg 1} \oint_{S_{j}} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$
by definition
of volume integral
$$\int_{V} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} \, dv = \oint_{S} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s} \implies (2-75)$$

(e.g. 2-13)

Spherical shell volume enclosed by a multiply connected surface

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (R^2 \mathbf{F}_R) = \mathbf{k} R$$

$$= \frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} (\mathbf{k} R^3) = 3k$$

$$\int_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} dv = \int_V 3k \, dv$$

$$= 3k \int_V dv = 3k \frac{4\pi}{3} (R_2^3 - R_1^3)$$

$$= 4\pi k (R_2^3 - R_1^3) \quad (2-82)$$

$$\oint_S \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \left[ \oint_{outer} + \oint_{inner} \right] \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$

$$= \oint_{S_o} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}_o + \oint_{S_i} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}_i$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \left\{ \int_0^{\pi} \left[ (\mathbf{k} R_2) R_2^2 - (\mathbf{k} R_1) R_1^2 \right] \sin\theta \, d\theta \right\} d\phi$$

$$= 4\pi k (R_2^3 - R_1^3) \quad (2-83)$$



 $\therefore \nabla \times A$  is a measure of the strength of the vortex source or sink.

2) Calculation of curl in orthogonal curvilinear coordinates



 $u_i$  component of  $abla imes oldsymbol{A}$  in orthogonal curvilinear coordinates $(u_1,\,u_2,\,u_3)$ :

$$(\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A})_{u_i} = \hat{\boldsymbol{u}_i} \cdot (\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A}) = \lim_{\Delta s_{u_i} \to 0} \left( \frac{1}{\Delta s_{u_i}} \oint_{C_{u_i}} \boldsymbol{A} \cdot d\boldsymbol{l} \right)$$
(2-86)

In Cartesian coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (x, y, z),$  $(\nabla \times \mathbf{A})_x = \hat{\mathbf{x}} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \lim_{\Delta y \Delta z \to 0} \left( \frac{1}{\Delta y \Delta z} \oint_{\substack{\Box \\ 1, 2, 3, 4}} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l} \right)$ (2-87)

$$\oint_{\substack{1,2,3,4}} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \left[\int_{1}^{+} \int_{2}^{+} \int_{3}^{+} \int_{4}^{-}\right] \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l}$$

$$\int_{1}^{-} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{A}_{1} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{l}_{1} = \mathbf{A}_{1} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} \Delta \mathbf{z}$$
(2-87)\*

$$= A_{z}(x_{o}, y_{o} + \Delta y/2, z_{o}) \Delta z \qquad 0 \text{ for } \Delta y \ll 1$$

$$Taylor expansion_{at}(x_{o}, y_{o}, z_{o}) = \left[A_{z}|_{o} + \frac{\Delta y}{2} \frac{\partial A_{z}}{\partial y}\Big|_{o} + H \mathcal{O} T \right] \Delta z \qquad (2-89)$$

Likewise, 
$$\int_{3} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{A}_{3} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{l}_{3} = -\mathbf{A}_{3} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} \Delta z$$
$$= -\left[A_{z}|_{o} - \frac{\Delta y}{2} \frac{\partial A_{z}}{\partial y}\Big|_{o} + H \mathcal{O} \cdot T \cdot \right] \Delta z \qquad (2-91)$$

Then, (2-89) + (2-91) gives

$$\left[\int_{1}^{+} \int_{3}\right] \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l} \approx \frac{\partial A_{z}}{\partial y} \Big|_{o} \Delta y \Delta z$$
(2-92)

Similarly, 
$$\left[\int_{2}^{+} \int_{4}\right] \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l} \approx -\frac{\partial A_{y}}{\partial z}\Big|_{o} \Delta y \Delta z$$
 (2-93)

Finally, (2-92)+(2-93) in (2-87) results in

$$(\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A})_{x} = \frac{\partial A_{z}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_{y}}{\partial z}$$
(2-94)

Also, y- and z-components can be found by a cyclic order in x, y, and z as follows:

$$\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A} = \hat{\boldsymbol{x}} \left( \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial z} \right) + \hat{\boldsymbol{y}} \left( \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} \right) + \hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \left( \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} \right)$$
(2-95)  
$$= \begin{vmatrix} \hat{\boldsymbol{x}} & \hat{\boldsymbol{y}} & \hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \end{vmatrix}$$
(2-96)

Generalization in orthogonal curvilinear coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3)$ :

$$\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A} = \frac{1}{h_1 h_2 h_3} \begin{vmatrix} \widehat{u}_1 h_1 & \widehat{u}_2 h_2 & \widehat{u}_3 h_3 \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2} & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_3} \\ h_1 A_1 & h_2 A_2 & h_3 A_3 \end{vmatrix}$$
(2-97)

$$(\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A})_{i} = \sum_{j,k=1}^{3} \varepsilon_{ijk} \frac{1}{h_{j}h_{k}} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_{j}} (h_{k}A_{k})$$
(53)

or 
$$= \varepsilon_{ijk} \frac{1}{h_j h_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_j} (h_k A_k)$$
 by summation convention (53)\*

In cylindrical coordinates  $(u_{1,}u_{2,}u_{3})=\,(r,\phi,z),\ h_{1}=\,1,\,h_{2}=\,r,\,h_{3}=\,1$  (22) ;

$$\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A} = \frac{1}{r} \begin{vmatrix} \hat{\boldsymbol{r}} & \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \boldsymbol{r} & \hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ A_r & rA_{\phi} & A_z \end{vmatrix}$$
(2-97)<sub>cyl.</sub> (2-98)

In spherical coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (R, \theta, \phi)$ ,  $h_1 = 1$ ,  $h_2 = R$ ,  $h_3 = R \sin \theta$  (28);

$$\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A} = \frac{1}{R^{2} \sin \theta} \begin{vmatrix} \hat{\boldsymbol{R}} & \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} R & \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}} R \sin \theta \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial R} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \\ A_{R} & R A_{\theta} & (R \sin \theta) A_{\phi} \end{vmatrix}$$
(2-70)<sub>sph.</sub> (2-99)

In toroidal coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (r, \phi, \theta)$ ,  $h_1 = 1, h_2 = R = R_o + r \cos \theta$ ,  $h_3 = r$ (47);

$$\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A} = \frac{1}{Rr} \begin{vmatrix} \hat{r} & \hat{\Phi} R & \hat{\Theta} r \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \Theta} \\ A_r & RA_{\Phi} & rA_{\Theta} \end{vmatrix}$$
(2-70)<sub>tor.</sub>

Note)

 $\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A} = 0$ 

 $\Rightarrow A: Curl-free field = Irrotational (or lamellar) field due to no rotation$  $= Conservative field due to <math display="block">\oint_{C} A \cdot dl = 0$ 

#### 3) Stokes's theorem



*Note)* For any closed surface S with no open surface with a rim C,  $\oint_{S} (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) \cdot d\mathbf{s} = 0 \qquad (2-103)*$ 

#### D. Laplacian Operator

1) Definition of Laplacian

Laplacian = divergence of gradient (of a scalar or a vector)

$$\nabla^2 \triangleq \nabla \cdot \nabla$$

(54)

2) Calculation of Laplacian in orthogonal curvilinear coordinates

(52) 
$$\Rightarrow \nabla \cdot = \frac{1}{h_1 h_2 h_3} \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i} \left( \frac{h_1 h_2 h_3}{h_i} \right)$$
  
(51)  $\Rightarrow \nabla_i = \frac{1}{h_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i}$ 

(52), (51) in (54):

$$\nabla^{2} \triangleq \nabla \cdot \nabla = \frac{1}{h_{1}h_{2}h_{3}} \sum_{i=1}^{3} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_{i}} \left( \frac{h_{1}h_{2}h_{3}}{h_{i}} \frac{1}{h_{i}} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_{i}} \right)$$
(55)

In Cartesian coordinates  $(u_1,\,u_2,\,u_3)\!=\!(x,\,y,\,z),\ h_1\!=\,h_2\!=\,h_3\!=\!1$  (10) ;

$$\nabla^{2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\frac{\partial}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial y^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial z^{2}}$$
(55)<sub>Car.</sub>

In cylindrical coordinates  $(u_{1\!,}u_{2\!,}u_{3})=\,(r,\phi,z),\ h_1\!=1,\,h_2\!=r,\,h_3\!=\!1$  (22) ;

$$\nabla^{2} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \phi^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial z^{2}}$$
(55)<sub>cyl.</sub>

In spherical coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (R, \theta, \phi)$ ,  $h_1 = 1$ ,  $h_2 = R$ ,  $h_3 = R \sin \theta$  (28);

$$\nabla^{2} = \frac{1}{R^{2} \sin \theta} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left( R^{2} \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right]$$
$$= \frac{1}{R^{2}} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left( R^{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \right) + \frac{1}{R^{2} \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{R^{2} \sin^{2} \theta} \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \phi^{2}} \qquad (55)_{\text{sph.}}$$

In toroidal coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (r, \phi, \theta)$ ,  $h_1 = 1, h_2 = R = R_o + r\cos\theta$ ,  $h_3 = r$ (47);

$$\nabla^{2} = \frac{1}{Rr} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( Rr \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi} \left( \frac{r}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \Theta} \left( \frac{R}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \Theta} \right) \right]$$
$$= \frac{1}{Rr} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( Rr \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{R^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \phi^{2}} + \frac{1}{Rr^{2}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( R \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) \right]$$
(55)<sub>tor.</sub>

#### E. Vector Identities

#### 1) Two null identities

a) Identity I

The curl of gradient always results in a null vector.

$$\nabla \times (\nabla V) \equiv \mathbf{0} \tag{2-105}$$

(Proof 1) Using Stokes's theorem (2-103), (2-51)

$$\underbrace{\int_{S} [\nabla \times (\nabla V)] \cdot ds}_{\text{For any surface } ds, \quad \nabla \times (\nabla V) = \mathbf{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad (2-106, \ 107)$$

(Proof 2) Using the notation (summation convention) & the symbol  $\epsilon_{ijk}$ ,

$$\begin{split} \underline{\left[\nabla \times (\nabla V)\right]_{i}} &= \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{j}} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial x_{k}}\right) \\ &= \epsilon_{ikj} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{k}} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial x_{j}}\right) \text{ by exchanging indices j \& k} \\ &= -\epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{k}} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial x_{j}}\right) \text{ by the property of symbol } \epsilon_{ijk} \\ &= -\epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{j}} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial x_{k}}\right) \text{ since } \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x_{k} \partial x_{j}} = \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x_{j} \partial x_{k}} \\ &= 0 \text{ because a = - a only for a = 0.} \end{split}$$

Notes)

 $\nabla \times (\nabla V) = \nabla \times A = 0$ 

 $\Rightarrow$  **A**: a curl-free (conservative) vector field that can always be expressed as the gradient of a scalar field ( $\nabla V$ ).

(e.g.) In electrostatics,  $\nabla \times E = 0$ . Therefore, E can be found from scalar electric potential V such that  $E = -\nabla V$ . (2-108)

#### b) Identity II

The divergence of curl always vanishes.

$$abla \cdot (
abla \times A) \equiv \mathbf{0}$$
 (2-109)

(Proof 1) Using divergence theorem (2-75) & Stokes's theorem (2-103),

$$\underbrace{\int_{V} \nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) \, dv}_{V} = \oint_{S} (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$
(2-110)



(Proof 2) Using the notation (summation convention) & the symbol  $\epsilon_{ijk}$ ,

$$\begin{split} \underline{\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times A)} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\nabla \times A)_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial A_k}{\partial x_j} \right) = \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \frac{\partial A_k}{\partial x_j} \right) \\ &= \epsilon_{jik} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \frac{\partial A_k}{\partial x_i} \right) \text{ by exchanging indices i & j} \\ &= -\epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \frac{\partial A_k}{\partial x_i} \right) \text{ by the property of symbol } \epsilon_{ijk} \\ &= -\epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \frac{\partial A_k}{\partial x_j} \right) \text{ since } \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_i} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \\ &= 0 \text{ because a = - a only for a = 0.} \end{split}$$

Notes)

 $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \boldsymbol{A}) = \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{B} = 0$ 

 $\Rightarrow B: a divergence-free (solenoidal) vector field that can be$  $expressed as the curl of another vector field (<math>\nabla \times A$ ). (e.g.) For the magnetic flux density B,  $\nabla \cdot B = 0$ . Therefore, B can be found from the vector magnetic potential Asuch that  $B = \nabla \times A$ . (2-112)

#### 2) Some other useful vector identities

See the inside of the front cover of the text

or 'NRL Plasma Formulary' on the lecture note website.

a) 
$$\nabla (fV) = f \nabla V + V \nabla f$$
  
b)  $\nabla \cdot (fA) = f \nabla \cdot A + A \cdot \nabla f$  (2-114)  
c)  $\nabla \times (fA) = f \nabla \times A + \nabla f \times A$  (2-115)  
d)  $\nabla \cdot (A \times B) = B \cdot (\nabla \times A) - A \cdot (\nabla \times B)$   
e)  $\nabla \times (A \times B) = (B \cdot \nabla)A - (A \cdot \nabla)B - B(\nabla \cdot A) + A(\nabla \cdot B)$   
f)  $\nabla (A \cdot B) = (A \cdot \nabla)B + (B \cdot \nabla)A + A \times (\nabla \times B) + B \times (\nabla \times A)$   
g)  $\nabla \times (\nabla \times A) = \nabla (\nabla \cdot A) - \nabla^2 A$ 

$$(Proof d) \quad \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) = \nabla_i (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B})_i = \nabla_i \epsilon_{ijk} A_j B_k$$
$$= \epsilon_{ijk} [(\nabla_i A_j) B_k + A_j (\nabla_i B_k)]$$
$$= B_k \epsilon_{ijk} \nabla_i A_j - A_j \epsilon_{jik} \nabla_i B_k$$
$$= B_k (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})_k - A_j (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_j$$
$$= \mathbf{B} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) - \mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})$$
$$(Proof g) \quad [\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})]_i = \epsilon_{ijk} \nabla_j (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})_k$$
$$= \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{klm} \nabla_j \nabla_l A_m$$
$$= (\delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}) \nabla_j \nabla_l A_m$$
$$= \nabla_i \nabla_j A_j - \nabla_j \nabla_j A_i$$
$$= \nabla_i (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla^2 A_i$$
$$\Rightarrow \quad \nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{A}$$

### F. Field Classification

 $\nabla \cdot F = 0$  : F = Solenoidal (or Divergenceless or Divergence-free) field  $\nabla \times F = 0$  : F = Irrotational (or Conservative or lamellar or Curl-free) field i)  $\nabla \cdot F = 0$  &  $\nabla \times F = 0$ 

(e.g.) In electrostatics in charge free regions,  $\nabla \cdot E = 0$ ,  $\nabla \times E = 0$ ii)  $\nabla \cdot F = 0 \& \nabla \times F \neq 0$ 

(e.g.) In magnetostatics in current carrying medium,  $\nabla \cdot B = 0, \nabla \times B = \mu_o J$ iii)  $\nabla \cdot F \neq 0 \& \nabla \times F = 0$ 

(e.g.) In electrostatics in charged regions,  $\nabla \cdot E = \rho_v / \epsilon, \ \nabla \times E = 0$ iv)  $\nabla \cdot F \neq 0 \& \nabla \times F \neq 0$ 

(e.g.) In electromagnetics in charged regions with time-varying magnetic fields,

$$abla \cdot \boldsymbol{E} = 
ho_v / \epsilon, \quad \nabla \times \boldsymbol{E} = -\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{B}}{\partial t}$$

#### Helmholtz's Theorem :

Both  $\nabla \cdot F$  and  $\nabla \times F$  are specified everywhere.  $\Rightarrow$  The field vector F is determined. (The strengths of both the flow and vortex sources are specified.  $\Rightarrow$  The field vector F is determined.)

In the electromagnetic model based on the deductive (axiomatic) approach,  $\nabla \cdot F$  and  $\nabla \times F$  for electromagnetic fields are specified by the fundamental postulates (axioms), which will then develop other theorems and phenomena.

# Homework Set 2

- 1) P.2-18
- 2) P.2-20
- 3) P.2-21
- 4) P.2-23
- 5) P.2-26
- 6) P.2-29. In addition, also prove (2-115) by using summation convention and Levi-Civita symbol  $\epsilon_{ijk}$ .
- 7) P.2-30