

Vector Calculus Refresher

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Gradient

$$\mathit{grad}(f) = \nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \mathbf{j} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{A} = (A_1, \dots, A_n)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{A}} = d\mathbf{A} = (\nabla \mathbf{A})^T = \left(\frac{\partial A_i}{\partial x_j} \right)_{ij}$$

Divergence

$$\mathbf{F} = F_x \mathbf{i} + F_y \mathbf{j} + F_z \mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathit{div} \mathbf{F} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot (F_x, F_y, F_z) = \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial z}$$

Curl

$$\mathbf{F} = F_x \mathbf{i} + F_y \mathbf{j} + F_z \mathbf{k}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{F} &= \nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \times (F_x, F_y, F_z) = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ F_x & F_y & F_z \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial F_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial z} \right) \mathbf{i} + \left(\frac{\partial F_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial x} \right) \mathbf{j} + \left(\frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y} \right) \mathbf{k} \end{aligned}$$

Laplacian

$$\Delta f = \nabla^2 f = \nabla \cdot (\nabla f) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2}$$

$$\Delta \mathbf{T} = \nabla^2 \mathbf{T} = (\nabla \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{T}$$

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

$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla \psi) = \nabla^2 \psi = \Delta \psi$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) \quad \text{is undefined}$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \varphi) = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{A}$$

Maxwell's equations

Permittivity of free space ϵ_0 , permeability of free space μ_0 , speed of light $c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0\mu_0}}$. In SI units

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left(\mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{H} = \frac{1}{\mu} \mathbf{B}.$$

Maxwell's equations

Vacuum with no charge ($\rho = 0$) and no currents ($\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{0}$)

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{B}}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_0 \sin(-\omega t + \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B}_0 \sin(-\omega t + \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_0 \cdot \mathbf{B}_0 = 0 = \mathbf{E}_0 \cdot \mathbf{k} = \mathbf{B}_0 \cdot \mathbf{k}$$

Refer to the reading material "Least Action Principle, Geometry of Special Relativity, Particles in E&M fields, by Prof. Litvinenko" for details.

4-potential (φ, \vec{A}) , where φ is called the scalar potential and \vec{A} is termed the vector potential of electromagnetic field.

$$\vec{E} = -\text{grad}(\varphi) - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \Rightarrow \text{curl} \vec{E} = -\text{curl}(\text{grad}(\varphi)) - \frac{1}{c} \text{curl} \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\vec{B} = \text{curl} \vec{A} \Rightarrow \text{div} \vec{B} = \text{div}(\text{curl} \vec{A}) = 0$$