

▷ Scalar fields & Vector fields

$$f(x, y, z, t)$$

$$\vec{A}(x, y, z, t)$$

At each point in space and at a given time, a scalar quantity is assigned:

- temperature distribution in a room. (3D)
- altitude of landscape (2D)
- ...

At each point in space and at a given time, a vector quantity is assigned: flow velocity in a river.

Ignore the time dependence for a while
 ⇒ static scalar/vector fields.

▷ Derivatives of vector fields

⊙ If $f = f(x)$ (function of x ; 1D scalar fields), then one can define

$$\left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_0} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + \epsilon) - f(x_0)}{\epsilon}$$

⊙ If $\vec{v} = \vec{v}(t)$ (vector a time-dep. vector), then one can define

$$\frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\vec{v}(t + \Delta t) - \vec{v}(t)}{\Delta t}$$

In other words, $\left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_0}$ would tell us how does f varies at x_0 when the argument deviates from x_0 by an infinitesimal amount dx :

$$df = \left(\frac{df}{dx} \right) dx$$

← Linear relation

⊙ Extending to 3D scalar fields, $F(x, y, z)$.

$$dF = \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \right)_{y,z} dx + \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \right)_{x,z} dy + \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \right)_{x,y} dz$$

→ partial derivatives

In a Cartesian coordinates, one can express the above in a more compact form:

$$dF = \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \hat{y} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} \hat{z} \right) \cdot \underbrace{(dx \hat{x} + dy \hat{y} + dz \hat{z})}_{= d\vec{r}}$$

$$= \underbrace{\vec{\nabla} F}_{\text{vector field}} \cdot \underbrace{d\vec{r}}_{\text{vector field}}$$

$$= |\vec{\nabla} F| |d\vec{r}| \cos \theta$$

* dF is maximum when $\theta = 0$. i.e. $\vec{\nabla} F$ is in the same direction as $d\vec{r}$.

Therefore, $\vec{\nabla} F$ indicates the direction of maximum increase in F . And $|\vec{\nabla} F|$ is the slope of change in that direction.

EX $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$; $\vec{r} = x \hat{x} + y \hat{y} + z \hat{z}$

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

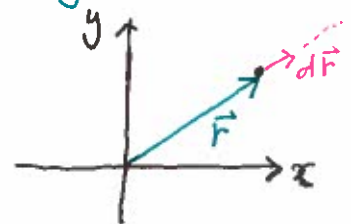
$$= \frac{1}{r} \cdot \frac{2x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \hat{x} + \dots + \frac{1}{r} \frac{2z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \hat{z}$$

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

r : distance from the origin changes maximally in the radial dir.

HW Prob. 1.12 & 1.13 & ~~1.14~~

geometrical meaning of $\vec{\nabla}$ $\rightarrow \vec{\nabla}(r^2)$ & $\vec{\nabla}(1/r)$



"Del" operator

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

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

operator acting on F (everything following $\vec{\nabla}$)

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} &= \hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ &= \hat{x} \partial_x + \hat{y} \partial_y + \hat{z} \partial_z \\ &= \hat{e}_i \partial_i \end{aligned}$$

"Vector operator".
behaves as if it is a vector!!

o Three basic ways of operations (action)

(i) $\vec{\nabla} F(x,y,z) = \text{"Gradient"} (\hat{e}_i \partial_i) F = \hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}\right) + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}\right) + \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial z}\right)$ ← vector.

(ii) $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}(x,y,z) = \text{"Divergence"} (\hat{e}_i \partial_i) \cdot (\hat{e}_j A_j) = (\hat{e}_i \cdot \hat{e}_j) \partial_i A_j = \delta_{ij} \partial_i A_j$

(iii) $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}(x,y,z) \text{"curl"}$
 $= \hat{e}_i \partial_i \times \hat{e}_j A_j$ (operates on all but \hat{e}_j is fixed!)
 $= \partial_i A_i$
 $= \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$ ← scalar

Special attention for the

$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} = \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j A_k \hat{e}_i$ ← vector

$$\begin{aligned} &= \hat{e}_1 (\partial_2 A_3 - \partial_3 A_2) + \hat{e}_2 (\partial_3 A_1 - \partial_1 A_3) + \hat{e}_3 (\partial_1 A_2 - \partial_2 A_1) \\ &= \hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial z} \right) + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} \right) + \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} \right) \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \partial_x & \partial_y & \partial_z \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \end{vmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

— skip —

EX Recognizing $\vec{\nabla}$ as a vector operator,

- (i) $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\nabla}$ (scalar field) → scalar
- (ii) $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{\nabla}$ (scalar field) = 0 ($\vec{A} \times \vec{A} = 0$)
- (iii) $\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \text{vector field}) = 0$ ($\vec{A} \cdot (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) = 0$)
- (iv) $\vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \text{vector field})$ → vector
scalar field
- (v) $\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \text{vector field})$ → vector

• Divergence

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = \partial_i A_i = \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$$

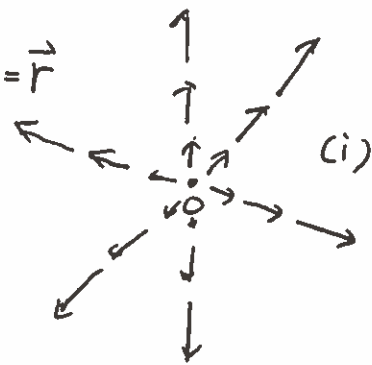
* geometrically $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}$ is a measure of how much the vector \vec{A} spreads out (diverges) from the point of interest.
local

** Consider the vector field \vec{A} as flow velocity, then a point of $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} > 0$ is a source (sink).

Ex

(i) Consider $\vec{A}(x, y, z) = x\hat{x} + y\hat{y} + z\hat{z} = \vec{r}$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = \partial_x x + \partial_y y + \partial_z z = +3$$

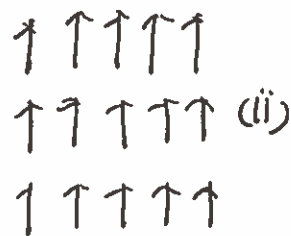


(ii) $\vec{A} = a\hat{z}$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = \partial_z a = 0$$

(iii) $\vec{A} = z\hat{z}$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = \partial_z z = +1$$

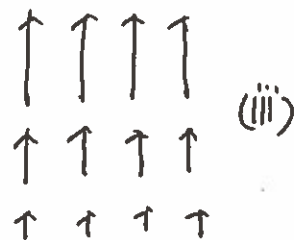


(iv) $\vec{A} = y^2\hat{x} + (2xy + z^2)\hat{y} + 2yz\hat{z}$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = \partial_x y^2 + \partial_y (2xy + z^2) + \partial_z (2yz)$$

$$= 0 + z + 2y$$

$$= z(x+y)$$



HW

Prob. 1.16

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{r}}{r^2} \right) = ?$$

▷ Curl

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j A_k \hat{e}_i$$

* Geometrically $\nabla \times \vec{A}$ is a measure of how much the vector \vec{A} swirls around the point of interest.

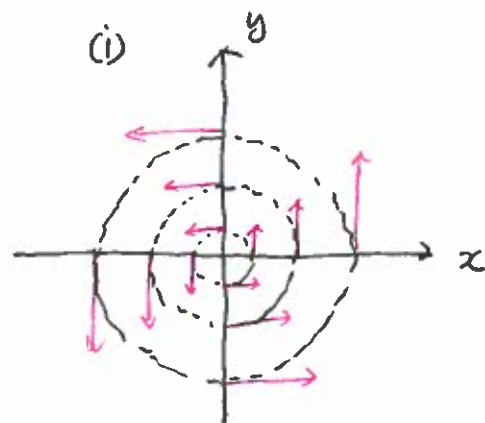
** Imagine placing a paddlewheel at the point. If the vector fields make the wheel rotate, then $\nabla \times \vec{A} \neq 0$

*** The direction of $\nabla \times \vec{A}$ indicates the direction of the rotation axis.

EX

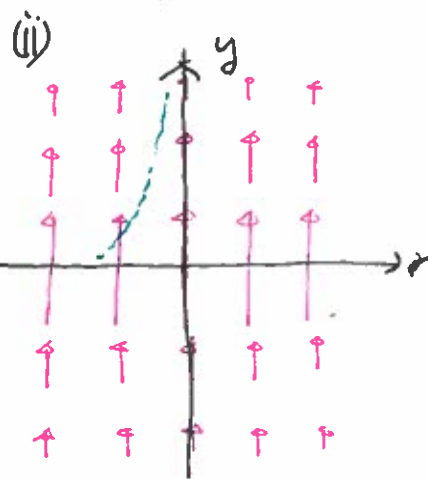
(i) $\vec{A} = \omega(-y\hat{x} + x\hat{y})$ ($\omega > 0$).

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \vec{A} &= \omega \left\{ (\partial_y V_z - \partial_z V_y)\hat{x} + (\partial_z V_x - \partial_x V_z)\hat{y} + (-\partial_x V_y + \partial_y V_x)\hat{z} \right\} \\ &= \underline{2\omega} \hat{z} \quad (> 0) \\ &\quad \text{everywhere.} \end{aligned}$$



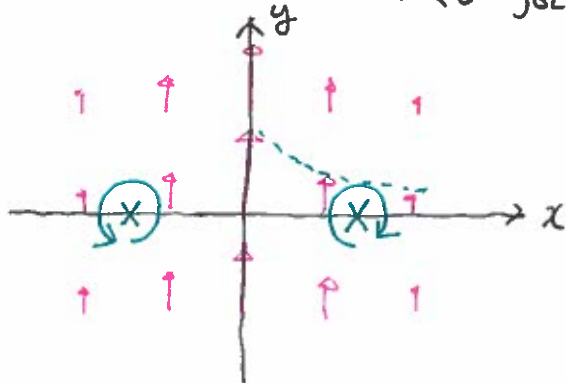
(ii) $\vec{A} = e^{-y^2} \hat{y}$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \vec{A} &= (\partial_y A_z - \partial_z A_y)\hat{x} \\ &\quad + (\partial_x A_y - \partial_y A_x)\hat{z} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



(iii) $\vec{A} = e^{-x^2} \hat{y}$

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = -2x e^{-x^2} \hat{z} = \begin{cases} > 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ < 0 & \text{for } x > 0 \end{cases}$$



HW Prob. 1.18 .

6

► Product rules ~~and double derivatives~~.

○ Ordinary derivatives

$$\frac{d}{dx}(f+g) = \frac{df}{dx} + \frac{dg}{dx}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(kf) = k \frac{df}{dx} \quad \text{for } k: \text{const.}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(f \cdot g) = f \frac{dg}{dx} + g \frac{df}{dx}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{f}{g}\right) = \frac{g \frac{df}{dx} - f \frac{dg}{dx}}{g^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla(\alpha f + \beta g) &= \alpha \nabla f + \beta \nabla g ; & \nabla \cdot (\alpha \vec{A} + \beta \vec{B}) &= \alpha \nabla \cdot \vec{A} + \beta \nabla \cdot \vec{B} \\ & & \nabla \times (\alpha \vec{A} + \beta \vec{B}) &= \alpha \nabla \times \vec{A} + \beta \nabla \times \vec{B} \end{aligned}$$

where α, β are const.

$$\nabla(fg) = f \nabla g + g \nabla f$$

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

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

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

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

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

$$\nabla\left(\frac{f}{g}\right) = \frac{g \nabla f - f \nabla g}{g^2}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{A}}{g}\right) = \frac{g \nabla \cdot \vec{A} - \vec{A} \cdot (\nabla g)}{g^2}$$

$$\nabla \times \left(\frac{\vec{A}}{g}\right) = \frac{g (\nabla \times \vec{A}) + \vec{A} \times (\nabla g)}{g^2}$$

$$\dagger \vec{\nabla} \cdot (f\vec{A}) = \partial_i (fA_i) = A_i \partial_i f + f \partial_i A_i = \vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla} f + f \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} \quad 19$$

$$\begin{aligned} \ddagger \vec{\nabla} \times (f\vec{A}) &= \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j (fA_k) \hat{e}_i \\ &= \epsilon_{ijk} \{ A_k (\partial_j f) + f (\partial_j A_k) \} \hat{e}_i \\ &= \epsilon_{ijk} (\partial_j f) A_k \hat{e}_i + f \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j A_k \hat{e}_i \\ &= \vec{\nabla} f \times \vec{A} + f \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \end{aligned}$$

* R. Feynman manipulation

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) = \underbrace{\vec{\nabla}_A}_{\text{works as if a regular vector acting only on } A(B)} \times (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) + \underbrace{\vec{\nabla}_B}_{\text{and applies BAC-CAB rule: } \vec{A} \times (\vec{B} \times \vec{C}) = \vec{B}(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{C}) - \vec{C}(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B})}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla}_A \times (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) &= \cancel{\vec{A} \times \vec{\nabla}_A \times \vec{B}} (\vec{\nabla}_A \cdot \vec{B}) \vec{A} - (\vec{\nabla}_A \cdot \vec{A}) \vec{B} \\ &= (\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_A) \vec{A} - \vec{B} (\vec{\nabla}_A \cdot \vec{A}) \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla}_B \times (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) &= (\vec{\nabla}_B \cdot \vec{B}) \vec{A} - (\vec{\nabla}_B \cdot \vec{A}) \vec{B} \\ &= \vec{A} (\vec{\nabla}_B \cdot \vec{B}) - (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_B) \vec{B} \end{aligned}$$

\therefore Now drop \vec{A} and \vec{B} in $\vec{\nabla}_{A,B}$ and combine two

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

HW Prob. 1.22 (a) & (b)

(a) $(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{B}$; what is the \hat{x} -comp?
 Scalar vector.