

Tutorial n° 0: Vector calculus operators

Exercise 1

Calculate by integration the following quantities:

- 1- The circumference of a circle of radius R .
- 2- The area of a disk of radius R .
- 3- The lateral surface area of a cylinder of radius R and height H .
- 4- The volume of a cylinder of radius R and height H .
- 5- The surface area of a sphere and hemisphere of radius R .
- 6- The volume of a sphere of radius R .

Exercise 2

- 1- Calculate the gradient of the function $f(x, y, z) = x^2yz$.
- 2- Calculate the divergence of the vector $\vec{A} = 2xy\vec{i} + xy^3\vec{j} - 3yz^2\vec{k}$.
- 3- Calculate the rotational of the vector $\vec{B} = 2xy\vec{i} - 3yz^2\vec{j}$.

Exercise 3

1- In a Cartesian reference frame, a point M (x, y, z) is identified by the following position vector:

$$\overrightarrow{OM} = \vec{r} = x\vec{i} + y\vec{j} + z\vec{k}, \text{ where: } r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

Calculate: $\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} r, \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} \left(\frac{1}{r}\right), \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} (\ln r), \text{div } \vec{r}$ and $\overrightarrow{\text{rot}} \vec{r}$

2- In a spherical reference frame, let $f(r, \theta, \varphi)$ be a scalar function, its gradient is given by:

$$\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \vec{u}_r + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \vec{u}_\theta + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \varphi} \vec{u}_\varphi$$

Calculate $\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f$ for these cases: $f_1 = r, f_2 = \frac{1}{r}$ and $f_3 = k \frac{\cos \theta}{r^2}$

Table.1. Elements of length $d\vec{l}$, surface dS and volume dV in different coordinate systems

| Cartesian coordinate system (x, y, z) | Polar coordinate system (ρ, θ) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| $d\vec{l} = dx\vec{i} + dy\vec{j} + dz\vec{k}$ $dS = dx dy$ $dV = dx dy dz$ | $d\vec{l} = dr\vec{u}_r + r d\theta\vec{u}_\theta$ $dS = dr r d\theta$ |
| Cylindrical coordinate system (ρ, θ, z) | Spherical coordinate system (r, θ, φ) |
| $d\vec{l} = d\rho\vec{u}_\rho + \rho d\theta\vec{u}_\theta + dz\vec{k}$ $dS_\rho = \rho d\theta dz;$ (lateral Surface element) $dS_z = d\rho \rho d\theta.$ (Surface element of Base) $dV = d\rho \rho d\theta dz$ | $d\vec{l} = dr\vec{u}_r + r d\theta\vec{u}_\theta + r \sin \theta d\varphi\vec{u}_\varphi$ $dS = r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\varphi$ $dV = r^2 dr \sin \theta d\theta d\varphi$ |

Table.2. Differential operators.

| Operator of “Nabla” | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| In the Cartesian coordinate system: | $\vec{\nabla} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \vec{k}$ |
| In the cylindrical/polar coordinate system (ρ or r) : | $\vec{\nabla} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \vec{u}_\rho + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \vec{u}_\theta + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \vec{k}$ |
| In the spherical coordinate system: | $\vec{\nabla} = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \vec{u}_r + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \vec{u}_\theta + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} \vec{u}_\varphi$ |
| Gradient operator | |
| In the Cartesian coordinate system $f(x, y, z)$: | $\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f = \vec{\nabla} f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \vec{k}$ |
| In the cylindrical/polar coordinate system $f(\rho, \theta, z)$: | $\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \rho} \vec{u}_\rho + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \vec{u}_\theta + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \vec{k}$ |
| In the spherical coordinate system $f(r, \theta, \varphi)$: | $\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \vec{u}_r + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta} \vec{u}_\theta + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \varphi} \vec{u}_\varphi$ |
| Divergence operator | |
| In the Cartesian coordinate system $\vec{A}(A_x, A_y, A_z)$: | $\text{div} \vec{A} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$ |
| In the cylindrical/polar coordinate system $\vec{A}(A_\rho, A_\theta, A_z)$: | $\text{div} \vec{A} = \frac{\partial A_\rho}{\partial \rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial A_\theta}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$ |
| In the spherical coordinate system $\vec{A}(A_r, A_\theta, A_\varphi)$: | $\text{div} \vec{A} = \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial A_\theta}{\partial \theta} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial A_\varphi}{\partial \varphi}$ |
| Rotational operator | |
| In the Cartesian coordinate system $\vec{A}(A_x, A_y, A_z)$ | $\overrightarrow{\text{rot}} \vec{A} = \vec{\nabla} \wedge \vec{A} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \end{vmatrix} = \left(\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial z} \right) \vec{i} + \left(\frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} \right) \vec{j} + \left(\frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} \right) \vec{k}$ |
| In the cylindrical/Polar coordinate system $\vec{A}(A_\rho, A_\theta, A_z)$ | $\overrightarrow{\text{rot}} \vec{A} = \vec{\nabla} \wedge \vec{A} = \left(\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\partial A_\theta}{\partial z} \right) \vec{u}_\rho + \left(\frac{\partial A_\rho}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial \rho} \right) \vec{u}_\theta + \left(\frac{\partial A_\theta}{\partial \rho} - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial A_\rho}{\partial \theta} \right) \vec{k}$ |
| In the spherical coordinate system $\vec{A}(A_r, A_\theta, A_\varphi)$ | $\overrightarrow{\text{rot}} \vec{A} = \vec{\nabla} \wedge \vec{A} = \left(\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial A_\varphi}{\partial \theta} - \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial A_\theta}{\partial \varphi} \right) \vec{u}_r + \left(\frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \varphi} - \frac{\partial A_\varphi}{\partial r} \right) \vec{u}_\theta + \left(\frac{\partial A_\theta}{\partial r} - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \theta} \right) \vec{u}_\varphi$ |
| Laplacian operator | |
| In the Cartesian coordinate system: | $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\nabla} = \vec{\nabla}^2 = \Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}$ $\Delta \vec{A} = \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \vec{A}}{\partial z^2} \text{ (vector field)}$ $\Delta f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} \text{ (scalar field)}$ |
| In the cylindrical/polar coordinate system: | $\Delta \vec{A} = \frac{\partial^2 A_\rho}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 A_\theta}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 A_z}{\partial z^2}$ |
| In the spherical coordinate system : | $\Delta \vec{A} = \frac{\partial^2 A_r}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 A_\theta}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{1}{\rho^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 A_\varphi}{\partial \varphi^2}$ |
| Properties | |
| $\overrightarrow{\text{grad}}(f + g) = \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f + \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} g; \quad \overrightarrow{\text{grad}}(f \cdot g) = g \cdot \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f + f \cdot \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} g$ | |
| $\text{div}(\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f) = \text{laplacien } f = \Delta f; \quad \text{div}(f \cdot \vec{A}) = \vec{A} \cdot \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f + f \cdot \text{div} \vec{A}; \quad \text{div}(\overrightarrow{\text{rot}} \vec{A}) = \overrightarrow{\text{rot}}(\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} A) = 0$ | |

Exercise-01

- 1- The perimeter of a circle (simple integral).

We have: $dl = r d\theta$ and $r = R$

$$C = \int_0^{2\pi} R d\theta = R(2\pi - 0) = 2\pi R$$

- 2- Area of a disk (double integral).

We have: $dS = dr r d\theta$ et $r = R = cte$

$$S_{cercle} = \iint_S dr r d\theta = \int_0^R r dr \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta = \left[\frac{r^2}{2} \right]_0^R [\theta]_0^{2\pi} = \pi R^2$$

- 3- Lateral surface of a cylinder (double integral).

We have: $dS = \rho d\theta dz$ et $\rho = R = cte$

$$V_{cyl} = \iint_S \rho d\theta dz = \rho \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \int_0^H dz = 2\pi RH$$

- 4- Volume of a cylinder V (triple integral).

We have: $dV = d\rho \rho d\theta dz$

$$V_{cyl} = \iiint_V d\rho \rho d\theta dz = \int_0^R \rho d\rho \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \int_0^H dz = \left[\frac{\rho^2}{2} \right]_0^R [\theta]_0^{2\pi} [z]_0^H = \pi R^2 H$$

- 5- Area of a hemisphere S (double integral).

We have: $dS = r d\theta r \sin \theta d\varphi$ et $r = R = cte$

$$S_{sphère} = \iint_S r d\theta r \sin \theta d\varphi = r^2 \int_0^\pi \sin \theta d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi = 4\pi R^2$$

$$S_{demi-sphère} = 2\pi R^2$$

- 6- Volume of a sphere V (triple integral).

We have: $dV = r d\theta r \sin \theta d\varphi$

$$V_{sphère} = \iiint_V dr r d\theta r \sin \theta d\varphi = \int_0^R r^2 dr \int_0^\pi \sin \theta d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi = \frac{4}{3} \pi R^3$$

Exercise-02

1- $\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f = \vec{\nabla} f = 2xyz \vec{i} + x^2z \vec{j} + x^2y \vec{k}$

2- $\text{div} \vec{A} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = 2y + 3xy^2 - 6yz$

3- $\overrightarrow{\text{rot}} \vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \wedge \vec{B} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ 2xy & -3yz^2 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 6yz \vec{i} - 2x \vec{k}$

Exercise-03

We have $\begin{cases} \vec{r} = x \vec{i} + y \vec{j} + z \vec{k} \\ r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \end{cases}$

1) Calculations

* $\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} r = \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} \vec{k}$

(1)

$$* \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} r = \frac{2x}{2\sqrt{x^2+y^2+z^2}} \vec{i} + \frac{2y}{2\sqrt{x^2+y^2+z^2}} \vec{j} + \frac{2z}{2\sqrt{x^2+y^2+z^2}} \vec{k} = \frac{\vec{r}}{r}$$

$$* \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} \left(\frac{1}{r}\right) = \frac{\partial \left(\frac{1}{r}\right)}{\partial x} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial \left(\frac{1}{r}\right)}{\partial y} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial \left(\frac{1}{r}\right)}{\partial z} \vec{k} = -\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}$$

$$* \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} (\ln r) = \frac{\partial (\ln r)}{\partial x} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial (\ln r)}{\partial y} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial (\ln r)}{\partial z} \vec{k} = \frac{\vec{r}}{r^2}$$

$$* \text{div } \vec{r} = \frac{\partial r_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial r_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial r_z}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial z} = 3$$

$$* \overrightarrow{\text{rot}} \vec{r} = \vec{\nabla} \wedge \vec{r} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ x & y & z \end{vmatrix} = \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial y}{\partial z}\right) \vec{i} + \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\right) \vec{j} + \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial x}{\partial y}\right) \vec{k} = \vec{0}$$

2) Calculating: $\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f_1$, $\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f_2$ et $\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f_3$

$$\begin{cases} \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f_1 = \vec{u}_r \\ \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f_2 = -\frac{1}{r^2} \vec{u}_r \\ \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} f_3 = -\frac{2k \cos \theta}{r^3} \vec{u}_r - \frac{k \sin \theta}{r^3} \vec{u}_\theta \end{cases}$$