

Exercise 1. Vector Identities.

In Electrodynamics we frequently use standard vector identities. To practice with Einstein summation convention prove the following identities:

1. $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}) \mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}) \mathbf{c}$
2. $(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) = (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{d}) - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{d})(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})$
3. $\mathbf{R}\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{R}\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b})$
4. $\nabla \times \nabla\psi = 0$
5. $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = 0$
6. $\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \Delta\mathbf{A}$
7. $\nabla(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) = (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B} + (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{B} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})$

where $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$ and \mathbf{d} are vectors, \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} are vectorfields, ψ is a function and $\mathbf{R} \in \text{SO}(3)$. Moreover assume that all components A_i, B_j and also ψ are in $\mathcal{C}(2)$, i.e. two times continuously differentiable.

Don't write out cross products explicitly, but use the index notation involving the Levi-Civita symbol ε_{ijk} .

Exercise 2. Gauss and Stokes theorems.

1. Consider the vector field in \mathbb{R}^3 (in Cartesian coordinates)

$$\mathbf{V}(x, y, z) = (xy, z^2y^2, z^2 + y), \tag{1}$$

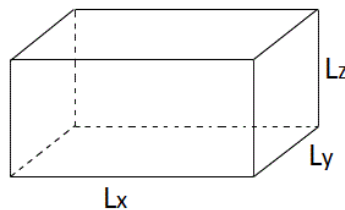
and a parallelepiped domain

$$\mathcal{D} = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid 0 \leq x \leq L_x, 0 \leq y \leq L_y, 0 \leq z \leq L_z, \}. \tag{2}$$

Check the validity of the divergence theorem, by proving that

$$\int_{\mathcal{D}} d^3x \nabla \cdot \mathbf{V} = \int_{\partial\mathcal{D}} \mathbf{V} \cdot d\hat{\mathbf{A}}, \tag{3}$$

where $\partial\mathcal{D}$ is the border surface of the parallelepiped \mathcal{D} in figure.



Note: Given a surface \mathbf{A} , parametrized as $\mathbf{A} = \{A_x(s, t), A_y(s, t), A_z(s, t)\}$, the surface vector $d\hat{\mathbf{A}}$ is defined as

$$d\hat{\mathbf{A}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial s} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t}. \quad (4)$$

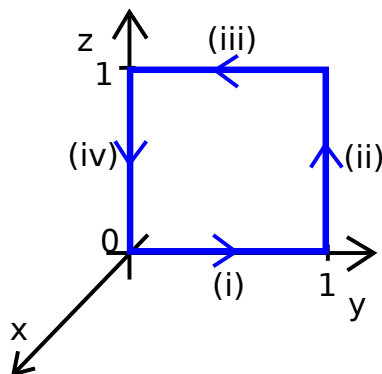
When parametrizing the parallelepiped, pay attention to the orientation of the surfaces.

2. Consider the vector field

$$\mathbf{V}(x, y, z) = (0, 6xz + 9y^2, 12yz^2).$$

Check that \mathbf{V} fulfills Stokes' theorem for the area/path defined in the figure, i.e. calculate both sides of the equation

$$\oint \mathbf{V} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int (\nabla \times \mathbf{V}) \cdot d\hat{\mathbf{A}}. \quad (5)$$



Exercise 3. *Electric field from a charged line.*

1. Consider an infinite line with constant charge density $\lambda = q/L$.
 - (a) Using Gauss law, find the value of the electric field \vec{E} generated by the line.
 - (b) Compute \vec{E} again, now using Coulomb's law.

Hint. Find first the components of the electric field parallel (E_{\parallel}) and perpendicular (E_{\perp}) to the line, as described in the picture.
2. Consider now a charged line of length L .
 - (a) Compute the two components E_{\parallel} and E_{\perp} of the electric field.

Hint. Introduce a parameter x_0 related to a shift from the middle of the line. Be careful with the integration limits!
 - (b) Take the limit for $L \rightarrow \infty$. You should recover the same values as in (1b).
3. Explore the limit $L/2 \ll (x_0, R)$. In this case the observation point is very far and we expect to recover the $1/r^2$ behavior of a point-like charge.

Is it enough to expand up to first order, or do you need one more?

Hint. Notice that now x_0 is not part of the line anymore, but is somewhere very far from it. Therefore the definition of the two angles θ_a and θ_b needs to be changed. Also, in order to compare the result with your expectation, write it in terms of radial and tangential components with respect to a spherical surface.

