ECE230: Fields & Waves (Lect. 4, Winter 2021)

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Divergence theorem



- Any arbitrary volume can be chopped up into tiny boxes. Two such sie-by-side boxes have been shown above.
- What happens to the outward flux at the surface shared by the boxes?
- Add up the outward fluxes from all the tiny boxes spanning the macroscopic volume: $\oint_{S_{big}} \vec{V} \cdot \vec{ds} = \int_{V_{big}} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{V}) dv$

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$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left(\vec{\nabla}U\right) = \left(\hat{x}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{y}\frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{z}\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right) \cdot \left(\hat{x}\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + \hat{y}\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} + \hat{z}\frac{\partial U}{\partial z}\right) = \left(\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial z^2}\right)$$

• Shorthand:
$$\vec{\nabla}.(\vec{\nabla}U) = \nabla^2 U$$

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$$\nabla^2 \equiv \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}\right)$$
, known as Laplacian operator

- A scalar field φ(x, y, z) that has ∇²φ = 0 over a region in space, cannot have a local maxima or minima in that region.
- Proof: assume that the field ϕ has a local minima. So, each of $\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2}$, $\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2}$ and $\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2}$ must be positive and would add up to a positive number.
- At best, we can have a saddle point (say, $\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2}$ and $\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} > 0$ and $\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2} < 0$ yielding $\nabla^2 \phi = 0$)



Hyperbolic paraboloid and Paul trap



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$$z - \frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{x^2}{a^2} = 0$$

- Assume there's a roof of this shape and you need to stabilize a football at the saddle point. Can you do that?
- Wolfgang Paul: Nobel prize 1989 for Paul trap (Demo, Demo)

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

Definition of curl: line integral along an infinitesimal loop



- $\oint \vec{A} \cdot \vec{d}l = \left\{ A_y(x_0, y_0, z_0) \frac{dz}{2} \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial Z} \right\} dy \left\{ A_y(x_0, y_0, z_0) + \frac{dz}{2} \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial Z} \right\} dy + \left\{ A_z(x_0, y_0, z_0) + \frac{dy}{2} \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} \right\} dz \left\{ A_z(x_0, y_0, z_0) \frac{dy}{2} \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} \right\} dz$
- $\oint \vec{A}.\vec{d}l = \left(\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial Z}\right) dy dz$
- $\oint \vec{A}.\vec{d}l = \underset{dS \to 0}{Lt} \left\{ \left(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \right) . \hat{x} \right\} dS = \underset{dS \to 0}{Lt} \left(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \right) . \vec{dS}$

Finite loop: Stoke's theorem



• Divide the finite blue loop into infinitesimal small

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$$\int_{Blue} \left(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \right) . \vec{dS} = \sum_{Reds} \left(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \right) . \vec{dS} = \sum_{Reds} \oint_{Reds} \vec{A} . \vec{dI} \Rightarrow$$
$$\int_{Blue} \left(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} \right) . \vec{dS} = \oint_{Blue} \vec{A} . \vec{dI}$$

• When is Stoke's theorem not applicable?

Mobius Strip: the one-sided surface



• Which way does the area vector point?