

# Lecture #8 Integral Theorems and Potential Theory

## I. Integral Theorems

### A. Gauss' Theorem

1. Theorem: For a vector  $\underline{A}$  with continuous first derivatives over a simply connected volume in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,

$$\oint_{\partial V} \underline{A} \cdot d\underline{\sigma} = \int_V \nabla \cdot \underline{A} \, d\tau$$

↑  
closed surface  
enclosing volume

← volume

2. Relates the divergence of a vector throughout a volume to the flux of that vector through the surface.

3. If the volume is all  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (boundaries at infinity) and the volume integral converges, then  $\int_V \nabla \cdot \underline{A} \, d\tau = 0$

### B. Green's Theorem

1. Theorem: For two scalar functions,  $u$  &  $v$ ,

$$\int_V (u \nabla^2 v - v \nabla^2 u) \, d\tau = \oint_{\partial V} (u \nabla v - v \nabla u) \cdot d\underline{\sigma}$$

2. Proof:  $\nabla \cdot (u \nabla v) = u \nabla^2 v + \nabla u \cdot \nabla v$

$$\nabla \cdot (v \nabla u) = v \nabla^2 u + \nabla v \cdot \nabla u$$

$$f = u \quad \underline{g} = \nabla v$$

b. Similarly  $\nabla \cdot (v \nabla u) = v \nabla^2 u + \nabla v \cdot \nabla u$

c. Thus  $\int_V (u \nabla^2 v - v \nabla^2 u) \, d\tau = \int_V [\nabla \cdot (u \nabla v) - \nabla u \cdot \nabla v + \nabla v \cdot \nabla u - \nabla \cdot (v \nabla u)] \, d\tau$



I. (Continued)

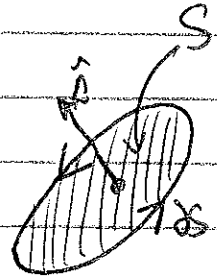
Haves ③

## D. Stoke's Theorem

1. Theorem:

$$\oint_{\partial S} \underline{B} \cdot d\underline{r} = \int_S \nabla \times \underline{B} \cdot d\underline{\sigma}$$

2. Relates the curl of a vector over a surface to the line integral around the perimeter



a. NOTE: Sign of line integral changes when integrating opposite direction, but  $S$  does normal for  $d\underline{\sigma} = \hat{n} dA$ .

3. For a closed surface, there is no perimeter along which to integrate, so

$$\oint_S \nabla \times \underline{B} \cdot d\underline{\sigma} = 0$$

a. Note:

$$\oint_{S=\partial V} \nabla \times \underline{B} \cdot d\underline{\sigma} = \int_V \underbrace{\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \underline{B})}_{=0!} dV = 0!$$

↑  
Gauss' Thm

4. Gradient Version:

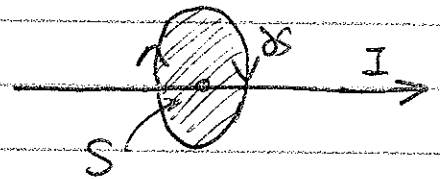
$$\int_S d\underline{\sigma} \times \nabla \phi = \oint_{\partial S} \phi d\underline{r}$$

5. Curl Version:

$$\int_S (d\underline{r} \times \nabla) \times \underline{P} = \oint_{\partial S} d\underline{r} \times \underline{P}$$

6. Ex: Ampere's Law

a. Consider a wire carrying a time-independent current  $I$



b.  $\nabla \times \underline{B} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \underline{E}}{\partial t} + \mu_0 \underline{J}$

Stoke's Thm.

Ampere's Law.

$$I = \int_S \underline{J} \cdot d\underline{\sigma} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \int_S (\nabla \times \underline{B}) \cdot d\underline{\sigma} \stackrel{\downarrow \text{Stoke's Thm.}}{=} \frac{1}{\mu_0} \oint_{\partial S} \underline{B} \cdot d\underline{r} \Rightarrow I = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \oint_S \underline{B} \cdot d\underline{r}$$

## II. Potential Theory

### A. Scalar Potential

1. Some forces may be expressed as the gradient of a scalar potential  $\phi$

$$\boxed{\underline{F} = -\nabla\phi}$$

a. A force has 3 components  $\underline{F}(x,y,z)$ , whereas a potential has one  $\phi(x,y,z)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  more simple mathematical description

b. Potential determined only to an additive constant  $\Rightarrow$  matter! only differences

2. What conditions must  $\underline{F}$  satisfy for  $\phi$  to exist?

a. Works:  $W = \int_A^B \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r} = - \int_A^B \nabla\phi \cdot d\underline{r} = - \int_A^B d\phi = \phi(A) - \phi(B)$

i.  $\nabla\phi \cdot d\underline{r} = (\hat{e}_x \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} + \hat{e}_y \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} + \hat{e}_z \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z}) \cdot (dx \hat{e}_x + dy \hat{e}_y + dz \hat{e}_z) = \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} dy + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z} dz = d\phi$

ii. Thus, value of integral is independent of the path  
 $\Rightarrow$  depends only on end points.

iii.  $\oint \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r} = 0$  over closed path.

iv. Conservative Force: Work done is independent of path.

b. Curl:  $\nabla \times \underline{F} = \nabla \times (-\nabla\phi) = 0!$

Force must have zero curl.

3. Ex: Compute Gravitational Potential from Force Law

$$\underline{F}_G = - \frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r^2} \hat{r} = - \frac{k}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

a. If  $\underline{F}_G = -\nabla\phi_G$ , we must integrate.

$$\int_{\infty}^r \underline{F}_G \cdot d\underline{r} = - \int_{\infty}^r \nabla\phi_G \cdot d\underline{r} = - \int_{\infty}^r d\phi_G = \phi_G(\infty) - \phi_G(r)$$

$\infty \leftarrow$  choose reference  $\phi_G(\infty) = 0!$

## II. A3 (Continued)

b. So  $\phi_G(r) = - \int_{\infty}^r \vec{F}_G \cdot d\vec{x} = - \int_{\infty}^r \left( -\frac{k\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) \cdot d\vec{x} = + \int_{\infty}^r \frac{k dr}{r^2}$  Hawes 5

$$= \frac{-k}{r} \Big|_{\infty}^r = -\frac{k}{r} + \frac{k}{\infty} = \boxed{-\frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r} = \phi_G(r)}$$

## B. Vector Potential:

1. For a vector that is solenoidal (divergence free), we may enforce this property by introducing a vector potential.

$$\boxed{\vec{B} = \nabla \times \vec{A}}$$

a.  $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = \nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{A}) = 0!$  Very useful for magnetic field!

2a. In fact, if  $\vec{B}$  is solenoidal, a vector potential  $\vec{A}$  exists.

b. But, the vector potential is not unique!

c. You may add not only an arbitrary constant, but also the gradient of any scalar function  $\nabla\phi$  without changing  $\vec{B}$ .

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

## C. Electromagnetic Scalar and Vector Potentials

1. Choosing  $\vec{B} = \nabla \times \vec{A}$  to always satisfy  $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$ , we can substitute into Faraday's Law,

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = -\nabla \times \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \Rightarrow \nabla \times \left[ \vec{E} + \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \right] = 0$$

2. Since  $\vec{E} + \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t}$  is curl-free, it may be written as the gradient of a scalar,  $-\nabla\phi$ .

3. Thus

$$\boxed{\vec{B} = \nabla \times \vec{A}}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{E} = -\nabla\phi - \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t}}$$

But  $\vec{A}$  is still arbitrary because you may add a gradient of a scalar!

## II. C. (Continued)

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4. Gauge Conditions: Choice to specify form of  $\underline{A}$ .

a. Lorentz Gauge: 
$$\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \underline{A} = 0$$

b. Coulomb's Law: 
$$\frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} = \nabla \cdot \underline{E} = -\nabla^2 \phi - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla \cdot \underline{A} = -\nabla^2 \phi + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Lorentz gauge decouples  $\underline{A}$  &  $\phi$  such that  $\phi$  is entirely determined by  $\rho$ .

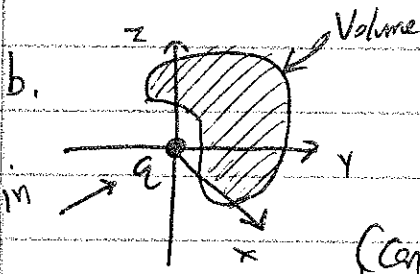
## D. Gauss' Law (not Gauss' Thm)

1. Gauss' Law:

$$\oint_{\partial V} \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{r} = \begin{cases} \frac{q}{\epsilon_0} & \text{if } \partial V \text{ encloses charge } q \\ 0 & \text{if } \partial V \text{ does not enclose } q. \end{cases}$$

2. Proof: a. Electric Field for a point charge  $q$  is 
$$\underline{E} = \frac{q \hat{r}}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}$$

Case 1:  
Charge not in  
Volume.

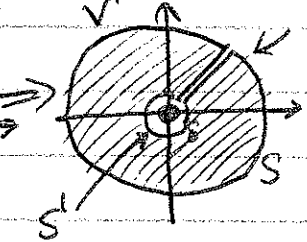
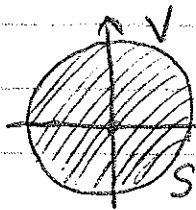


$$\int_V \nabla \cdot \underline{E} d\underline{r} = \oint_{\partial V} \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{r} = 0$$

But  $\nabla \cdot \underline{E} = 0$

(Central force has zero divergence)

c. Case 2: Charge in Volume



Simply connected  
region (not  
enclosing  $q$ )

$$\int_{\partial V'} \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{r} = \oint_S \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{r} + \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \oint_{S'} \frac{\hat{r} \cdot d\underline{r}'}{r'^2} = 0$$

radius of inner surface  $S'$

$$d\underline{r}' = -\hat{r} dA = -\hat{r} (r'^2 d\Omega)$$

$$d. \oint_{S'} \frac{\hat{r} \cdot d\underline{r}'}{r'^2} = \oint_{S'} \frac{\hat{r} \cdot (-\hat{r} r'^2 d\Omega)}{r'^2} = -\oint_{S'} d\Omega = -4\pi$$

e. Thus 
$$\oint_S \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{r} = \frac{+q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} (+4\pi) = \frac{q}{\epsilon_0} \checkmark$$

## II. (Continued)

Haves ⑦

### E. Poisson's Equation

1. For a time independent situation,  $\underline{E} = -\nabla\phi$

2.

$$\nabla \cdot \underline{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \Rightarrow \boxed{\nabla^2 \phi = -\frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}} \quad \text{Poisson's Equation}$$

3. If charge density  $\rho=0$ ,  $\Rightarrow \boxed{\nabla^2 \phi = 0}$  Laplace's Equation

4. Handling derivatives at  $r=0$  for a point charge  $q$  at  $r=0$ :

a. Dirac Delta Functions

$$\boxed{\nabla^2 \phi = -\frac{q}{\epsilon_0} \delta(\underline{r})} \quad (\text{charge } q \text{ at } \underline{r}=0)$$

b. Potential for a point charge is

$$\phi = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \Rightarrow \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \nabla^2 \left(\frac{1}{r}\right) = -\frac{q}{\epsilon_0} \delta(\underline{r})$$

c. Thus, we obtain

$$\boxed{\nabla^2 \left(\frac{1}{r}\right) = -4\pi \delta(\underline{r})} \quad \text{Handles derivatives that don't exist at } \underline{r}=0.$$

d. Can also be written

$$\boxed{\nabla_1^2 \left(\frac{1}{r_{12}}\right) = -4\pi \delta(\underline{r}_1 - \underline{r}_2)}$$

where  $r_{12} = |\underline{r}_1 - \underline{r}_2|$  and  $\nabla_1$  implies derivatives apply to  $\underline{r}_1$ .

### F. Helmholtz's Theorem

1. Two theorems establish conditions for uniqueness and existence of solutions in time-independent electromagnetic problems.

2. Theorem One:

A vector field is uniquely specified by giving its divergence and curl within a simply connected region and its normal component on the boundary.

Still applies even when delta functions are needed within the region.

II.F. (Continued)

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3. Rescaled:  $\underline{P}$  is unique if  $\nabla \cdot \underline{P} = S$  and  $\nabla \times \underline{P} = \underline{C}$  are given in volume and  $\underline{P}_n$  is specified on boundary.

4. Helmholtz's Theorem:

A vector  $\underline{P}$  with both source and circulation densities vanishing at infinity may be written as the sum of two parts, one solenoidal and one irrotational.

$$\underline{P} = -\nabla\phi + \nabla \times \underline{A}$$

5.  $\Rightarrow$  General form for any well-behaved vector field.

6. Helmholtz's Theorem legitimizes the division of quantities in electromagnetic theory into irrotational  $\underline{E}$  and solenoidal  $\underline{B}$

a.  $S = \nabla \cdot \underline{P} \Rightarrow$  charge density

b.  $\underline{C} = \nabla \times \underline{P} \Rightarrow$  current density