

Vector Methods

Why be familiar with vector methods?

- Coordinate transformations
- Matrices and their use in transformations
- Vector Addition & Subtraction $\vec{A} + \vec{B}, \vec{A} - \vec{B}$
- Vector Multiplication
 - 1) w/ scalar $s\vec{A}$
 - 2) scalar product (inner product) $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_i B_i$
 - 3) vector product $\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = \varepsilon_{ijk} A_j B_k$
 - 4) outer product $A_i B_j$

– Vector Calculus

1) Scalar derivative	$\frac{d\vec{A}}{ds}$
2) Gradient	$\vec{\nabla}\phi$
3) Divergence	$\vec{\nabla}\cdot\vec{A}$
4) Curl	$\vec{\nabla}\times\vec{A}$
5) Laplacian	$\nabla^2\phi$
6) Scalar Integral	$\int\vec{A}dv$
7) Line Integral	$\int\vec{A}\cdot d\vec{s}$
Surface Integral	$\int\vec{A}\cdot\hat{n}da$
8) Gauss' theorem	$\int\vec{A}\cdot\hat{n}da = \int(\vec{\nabla}\cdot\vec{A})dv$
Stokes' theorem	$\int\vec{A}\cdot d\vec{s} = \int(\vec{\nabla}\times\vec{A})\cdot\hat{n}da$

Use of Vectors (Tensors) and Vector methods allows:

- describing the problem without explicit reference to a particular coordinate system.
- “Ease” of transforming explicit results from one coordinate system to another.
- Compact, concise way of expressing complicated results.

My Notation

Arbitrary scalar quantity:

s

Arbitrary vector quantity:

\vec{A}, \vec{B}

A vector component:

A_i, A_j (arbitrary)

A_1, A_3 (more explicit)

A_x, A_θ (very explicit)

A unit vector:

\hat{e}

A unit vector component:

\hat{e}_i, \hat{e}_k (arbitrary)

\hat{e}_1, \hat{e}_2 (more explicit)

$\hat{e}_y, \hat{e}_\theta$ (very explicit)

Matrix:

\bar{A}

Matrix components:

A_{ij}, A_{ik} (arbitrary)

A_{13}, A_{32} (more explicit)

$A_{xx}, A_{r\theta}$ (very explicit)

Summations

$$\sum_{j=1}^3 \lambda_{ij} A_j = \lambda_{i1} A_1 + \lambda_{i2} A_2 + \lambda_{i3} A_3$$

We will write this as: $\lambda_{ij} A_j$ (implicit sum for doubled indices)

Exception: Matrix elements, λ_{ij}

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_{ii} &= \lambda_{11} \text{ or } \lambda_{22} \text{ or } \lambda_{33} \\ &\neq \sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_{ii} = \lambda_{11} + \lambda_{22} + \lambda_{33} \end{aligned}$$