

Solution to Problem Set 1

1.

$$r'_i = \sum_j O_{ij} r_j.$$

so the square of the length is

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_i r'_i r'_i &= \sum_{ijk} O_{ij} r_j O_{ik} r_k, \\ &= \sum_{jk} r_j r_k \sum_i O_{ij} O_{ik}, \\ &= \sum_{jk} r_j r_k \sum_i (O^T)_{ji} O_{ik}. \end{aligned}$$

If we want the right-hand side to equal $\sum_j r_j r_j$, then we must require that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_i (O^T)_{ji} O_{ik} &= \delta_{jk} \quad \text{or} \\ O^T O &= I, \quad \text{then} \\ \sum_i r'_i r'_i &= \sum_{jk} r_j r_k \delta_{jk} = \sum_j r_j r_j \end{aligned}$$

which is what we want.

2. Under inversion $\mathbf{A} \rightarrow -\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{B} \rightarrow -\mathbf{B}$. Hence

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rightarrow (-\mathbf{A}) \cdot (-\mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}$$

On the other hand

$$\mathbf{C}' = \mathbf{A}' \times \mathbf{B}' \rightarrow (-\mathbf{A}) \times (-\mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{C}$$

so that $\mathbf{C}' \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$, *not* $-\mathbf{C}$.

3.a)

$$\phi(x, y) = e^x \cos(y),$$

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla\phi(x, y) &= e^x \cos(y)\hat{i} - e^x \sin(y)\hat{j}, \\ \nabla\phi(1, -\pi/4) &= \frac{e}{\sqrt{2}}\hat{i} + \frac{e}{\sqrt{2}}\hat{j}, \quad \text{so the direction is} \\ \hat{r} &= \frac{\hat{i} + \hat{j}}{\sqrt{2}} \quad \text{and} \\ |\nabla\phi(1, -\pi/4)| &= e.\end{aligned}$$

b)

$$\nabla\phi(0, \pi/3) = \frac{\hat{i} - \sqrt{3}\hat{j}}{2}.$$

A unit vector in the direction given is

$$\hat{s} = \frac{\hat{i} + \sqrt{3}\hat{j}}{2}$$

so that

$$\nabla\phi(0, \pi/3) \cdot \hat{s} = \frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{4} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

c)

$$\nabla\phi(0, \pi) = -\hat{i}$$

so the direction is $-\hat{i}$ and the magnitude is unity.

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla\phi(x, y, z) &= \nabla \frac{1}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{1/2}}, \\ &= \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \frac{1}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{1/2}}, \\ &= -\frac{x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}}, \\ &= -\frac{\mathbf{r}}{r^3} = -\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}.\end{aligned}$$

In spherical coordinates

$$\nabla \frac{1}{r} = \left(\hat{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \hat{\theta} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \hat{\phi} \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right) \frac{1}{r}$$

$$= -\frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2}.$$

5.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v} &= e^{kx} \sin(ky)\hat{\mathbf{i}} + e^{kx} \cos(ky)\hat{\mathbf{j}}, \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} &= \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z}, \\ &= ke^{kx} \sin(ky) - ke^{kx} \sin(ky) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

Because $v_z = 0$ and v_x and v_y only depend upon x and y , the only component of $\nabla \times \mathbf{v}$ which is not obviously zero is

$$(\nabla \times \mathbf{v})_z = \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x} = ke^{kx} \cos(ky) - ke^{kx} \cos(kx) = 0,$$

so $\nabla \times \mathbf{v} = 0$.

6.

$$\begin{aligned}\phi &= \frac{\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{r}}{r^3} = \frac{p_x x + p_y y + p_z z}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}}, \\ \nabla \phi &= \left(\frac{p_x}{r^3} - 3 \frac{p_x x^2}{r^5} \right) \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \left(\frac{p_y}{r^3} - 3 \frac{p_y y^2}{r^5} \right) \hat{\mathbf{j}} + \left(\frac{p_z}{r^3} - 3 \frac{p_z z^2}{r^5} \right) \hat{\mathbf{k}}, \\ &= -3 \frac{(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{r})\mathbf{r}}{r^5} + \frac{\mathbf{p}}{r^3}, \\ &= -\frac{1}{r^3} [3(\mathbf{p} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}})\hat{\mathbf{r}} - \mathbf{p}].\end{aligned}$$

When $\mathbf{p} = p\hat{\mathbf{k}}$, $\mathbf{p} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}} = p \cos \theta$, and

$$\nabla \phi = -\frac{p}{r^3} (3 \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{r}} - \hat{\mathbf{k}}).$$

This is plotted in your text in Fig. 5.55(a).

7. a)

$$\mathbf{F} = \hat{\mathbf{i}} \times \mathbf{r} = \hat{\mathbf{i}} \times (x\hat{\mathbf{i}} + y\hat{\mathbf{j}} + z\hat{\mathbf{k}}) = -z\hat{\mathbf{j}} + y\hat{\mathbf{k}}.$$

9. Consider the i 'th component

$$\begin{aligned}
 [\nabla \times (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B})]_i &= \sum_{jk} \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B})_k, \\
 &= \sum_{jk} \sum_{lm} \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \epsilon_{klm} A_l B_m, \\
 &= \sum_{jlm} \left[\sum_k \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{klm} \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} A_l B_m, \\
 &= \sum_{jlm} [\delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}] \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} A_l B_m, \\
 &= \sum_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} A_i B_j - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} A_j B_i, \\
 &= \sum_j B_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} A_i + A_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} B_j - B_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} A_j - A_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} B_i, \\
 &= (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) A_i + A_i (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}) - B_i (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla) B_i.
 \end{aligned}$$

As this is true for the i 'th component, it follows that

$$\nabla \times (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) = (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}) - \mathbf{B} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B}$$

which is the identity in the flyleaf of your book.