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$\mathbf{a}_{z} \times \mathbf{a}_{x} = \mathbf{a}_{y}$	(1. 29)
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Example 1. 5:

Verify Lagrange's identity, which states that if **A** and **B** are two arbitrary vectors, then  $|\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}|^2 = \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{B}^2 - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B})^2$ 

# Solution:

From the definition of the cross product of two vectors, we have

$$|\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}|^2 = \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{B}^2 \sin^2 \theta$$
  
=  $\mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{B}^2 (1 - \cos^2 \theta)$   
=  $\mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{B}^2 - \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{B}^2 \cos^2 \theta = \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{B}^2 - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B})^2$ 

Just as multiplication of two vectors gives a scalar or vector result, multiplication of three vectors **A**, **B**, and **C** gives a scalar or vector result depending on how the vectors are multiplied. Thus we have scalar or vector triple product.

## 1.1.6.3 Scalar Triple Product

Given three vectors A, B, and C, we define the scalar triple product as,



Since the result of this vector multiplication is scalar these two equations are called the scalar triple product.

## 1.1.6.4 Vector Triple Product

For vectors A, B, and C, we define the vector triple product as

$\mathbf{A} \times (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{C}) - \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B})$	(1. 32)
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This is obtained using the "bac-cab" rule.

### Example 1.6:

Given vectors  $\mathbf{A} = 3\mathbf{a}_x + 4\mathbf{a}_y + \mathbf{a}_z$  and  $\mathbf{B} = 2\mathbf{a}_y - 5\mathbf{a}_z$ , find the angle between  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ .

#### Solution:

$(A_x, A_y, A_z)$ or $A_x \mathbf{a}_x + A_y \mathbf{a}_y + A_z \mathbf{a}_z$	(1. 33)
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Where  $\mathbf{a}_x$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_y$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_z$  are unit vectors along the x,y, and z directions.



Figure 1. 7: A point in Cartesian coordinates is defined by the intersection of the three planes: x = constant, y = constant, z = constant. The three unit vectors are normal to each of the three surfaces.

The ranges of the variables are:

$$-\infty \le x \le +\infty$$

$$-\infty \le y \le +\infty$$

$$-\infty \le z \le +\infty$$
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dealing with problems having cylindrical symmetry.

A point *P* in cylindrial coordinates is represented as  $(\rho, \phi, z)$  and is as shown in Figure 1.8. Observe Figure 1.8 closely and note how we define each space variable:  $\rho$  is the radius of the cylinder passing through *P* or the radial distance from the z-axis:  $\phi$ , called the azimuthal angle, is measured from the x-axis in the xy-plane; and z is the same as in the Cartesian system. The ranges of the variables are:

$0 \le  ho \le \infty$		
$0 \le \phi \le 2\pi$	(1. 35)	
$-\infty \le z \le +\infty$		

A vector **A** in cylindrical coordinates can be written as

$$(A_{\rho}, A_{\phi}, A_z)$$
 or  $A_{\rho}\mathbf{a}_{\rho} + A_{\phi}\mathbf{a}_{\phi} + A_z\mathbf{a}_z$  (1.36)

(called the colatitudes) is the angle between the z-axis and the position vector of *P*; and  $\phi$  is measured from the x-axis (the same azimuthal angle in cylindrical coordinates). According to these definitions, the ranges of the variables are

$0 \le r \le \infty$	
$0 \le \theta \le \pi$	(1. 48)
$0 \le \phi \le 2\pi$	
	•••

A vector **A** in spherical coordinates can be written as

$(A_r, A_{\theta}, A_{\phi})$ or $A_r \mathbf{a}_r + A_{\theta} \mathbf{a}_{\theta} + A_{\phi} \mathbf{a}_{\phi}$	(1. 49)
---	---------



Calculate the work  $\Delta W$  required to move the cart along the circular path from point A to point B if the force field is



Figure 1. 21: For this example.

## Solution:

The integral can be performed in Cartesian coordinates or in cylindrical coordinates. In Cartesian coordinates, we write

F. 
$$dl = (3xya_x + 4xa_y) (dx a_x + dy a_y)$$
  
 $= (3xy dx + 4x dy)$   
The equation of a circle is  $x^2 + y^2 = 4x^2 + e^2 t$  (e)  $dt$   
 $\int_{4}^{B} 10 A \int_{4}^{3x} \sqrt{16 - x^2} dx A \int_{0}^{4} 4\sqrt{16 - y^2} dy$   
 $= |-(16 - x^2)|_{4}^{0} + |4(\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{16 - y^2} + 8\sin^{-1}(\frac{y}{4}))|_{0}^{4}$   
 $= -64 + 16\pi$ 

In cylindrical coordinates, we write

$$\mathbf{F}.\,d\mathbf{l} = (3xy\mathbf{a}_x + 4x\mathbf{a}_y).(dr\,\mathbf{a}_r + rd\varphi\,\mathbf{a}_\varphi + dz\mathbf{a}_z)$$

Since the integral is to be performed along the indicated path where only the angle  $\varphi$  is changing, we have dr = 0 and dz = 0. Also r = 4. Therefore

$$\mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = (3xy\mathbf{a}_x + 4x\mathbf{a}_y) \cdot (4d\varphi \, \mathbf{a}_\varphi)$$
$$\mathbf{a}_x \mathbf{a}_\varphi = -\sin\varphi$$
$$\mathbf{a}_y \mathbf{a}_\varphi = \cos\varphi$$

The integral becomes

$$\int_{3} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int_{0}^{1} (x^{2} - 1) dx = \left| \frac{x^{3}}{3} - x \right|_{0}^{1} = -\frac{2}{3}$$

For segment 4, x= 1,  $= \mathbf{a}_x - z\mathbf{a}_y - y^2 \mathbf{a}_z$  ,  $d\mathbf{l} = dy \mathbf{a}_y + dz \mathbf{a}_z$  , so

$$\int_{4} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int (-z \, dy - y^2 dz)$$

But on 4, z = y; that is, dz = dy. Hence,

$$\int_{3} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int_{1}^{0} (-y - y^{2}) dy = \left| -\frac{y^{2}}{2} - \frac{y^{3}}{3} \right|_{1}^{0} = \frac{5}{6}$$

By putting all these together, we obtain

$$\int_{L} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = -\frac{1}{3} + 0 - \frac{2}{3} + \frac{5}{6} = -\frac{1}{6}$$

#### Example 1. 27:

Calculate the circulation of  $A = \rho \cos \varphi \mathbf{a}_{\rho} + z \sin \varphi \mathbf{a}_{z}$  around the edge  $i \phi z$  the wedge defined by  $0 < \rho < 2, 0 \le t \le 60^\circ, z = 0$  and shown in Figure 4.



Figure 1. 23: For this example.

### Solution :

Answer: 1

#### Example 1. 28:

Find the volume of a cylinder that has a radius a and *a* length *L*.



Figure 1. 24: For this example.

## Solution:

The volume of a cylinder is calculated to be

$$\Delta v = \int dv = \int_{z=0}^{z=L} \int_{\varphi=0}^{\varphi=2\pi} \int_{r=0}^{r=3} r dr \, d\varphi \, dz = \pi a^2 L$$

# 1.3.4 DEL OPERATOR

The del operator, written  $\nabla$ , is the vector differential operator. In Cartesian coordinates,

$$\nabla = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \mathbf{a}_x + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \mathbf{a}_y + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \mathbf{a}_z$$

This vector differential operator, otherwise rown as the *gradient operator*, is not a vector in itself, but when it operates that car function, for the file, a vector ensues. The operator is useful in defining

**D** 11. The gradient of a column 
$$(W)$$
 it is  $\nabla V$ .

2. The divergence of a vector  $\mathbf{A}$ , written as  $\nabla$ .  $\mathbf{A}$ .

- 3. The curl of a vector **A**, written as  $\nabla \times \mathbf{A}$ .
- 4. The Laplacian of a scalar V, written as  $\nabla^2 V$ .

Each of these will be denned in detail in the subsequent sections. Before we do that, it is appropriate to obtain expressions for the del operator  $\nabla$  in cylindrical and spherical coordinates.

Cartesian coordinates	$\nabla = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \mathbf{a}_x + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \mathbf{a}_y + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \mathbf{a}_z$	(1. 82)
Cylindrical coordinates	$\nabla = \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \mathbf{a}_{\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \mathbf{a}_{\phi} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \mathbf{a}_{z}$	(1. 83)
Spherical coordinates	$\nabla = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \mathbf{a}_r + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \mathbf{a}_{\theta} + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \mathbf{a}_{\phi}$	(1. 84)



Figure 1. 25: Illustration of the divergence of a vector field at P; (a) positive divergence, (b) negative divergence, (c) zero divergence.

The divergence of **A** at point *P* is given by:



Figure 1. 26: Volume v enclosed by surface S.

## Example 1. 31:

Determine the divergence of these vector fields:

Cylindrical coordinates	$\nabla \times \mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{\rho} \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{\rho} & \rho \mathbf{a}_{\phi} & \mathbf{a}_{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ A_{\rho} & \rho A_{\phi} & A_{z} \end{vmatrix}$	(1. 97)
Spherical coordinates	$\nabla \times \mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{a}_r & r  \mathbf{a}_\theta & r  \sin \theta  \mathbf{a}_\phi \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \\ A_r & r A_\theta & r  \sin \theta  A_\phi \end{vmatrix}$	(1. 98)

The physical significance of the curl of a vector field is evident; the curl provides the maximum value of the circulation of the field per unit area (or circulation density) and indicates the direction along which this maximum value occurs. The curl of a vector field **A** at a point *P* may be regarded as a measure of the circulation or how much the field curls around *P*. For example, Figure 1.26(a) shows that the curl of a vector field around *P* is directed out of the page. Figure 1.26(b) shows a vector field with zero curl.



Figure 1. 28: Determining the sense of dl and dS involved in Stokes's theorem.