

Important Vector Identities and Theorems

Below is a compilation of vector identities and theorems written in standard notation, with bold letters representing vectors.

Vector Identities

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) = (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{B} \cdot (\mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{A}) = (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) \cdot \mathbf{A} \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{A} \times (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) = (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{C})\mathbf{B} - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B})\mathbf{C} \quad (2)$$

$$(\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) \cdot (\mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{D}) = (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{C})(\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{D}) - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{D})(\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{C}) \quad (3)$$

$$(\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) \times (\mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{D}) = (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{D})\mathbf{C} - (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{C})\mathbf{D} \quad (4)$$

$$\nabla(fg) = \nabla(gf) = f\nabla g + g\nabla f \quad (5)$$

$$\nabla \cdot (f\mathbf{A}) = f\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + \nabla f \cdot \mathbf{A} \quad (6)$$

$$\nabla \times (f\mathbf{A}) = f\nabla \times \mathbf{A} + \nabla f \times \mathbf{A} \quad (7)$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{B} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) - \mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \quad (8)$$

$$\nabla \times (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) = (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{A} - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{A}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}) - \mathbf{B}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) \quad (9)$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}) = (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A})\mathbf{B} + (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B} \quad (10)$$

$$\mathbf{A} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) = (\nabla\mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{A} - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B} \quad (11)$$

$$\nabla(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) = (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B} + (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{B} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) \quad (12)$$

$$\nabla^2 f = \nabla \cdot \nabla f \quad (13)$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla f) = 0 \quad (14)$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = 0 \quad (15)$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{A} \quad (16)$$

Theorems

$$\int_V \nabla f dV = \int_S \mathbf{n} \cdot f dS \quad (17)$$

$$\int_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} dV = \int_S \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS \quad (18)$$

$$\int_V \nabla \times \mathbf{F} dV = \int_S \mathbf{F} \times \mathbf{n} dS \quad (19)$$

$$\int_V (f\nabla^2 g - g\nabla^2 f) dV = \int_S \mathbf{n} \cdot (f\nabla g - g\nabla f) dS \quad (20)$$

$$\int_V \{\mathbf{A} \cdot [\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})] - \mathbf{B} \cdot [\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})]\} dV = \int_S \mathbf{n} \cdot [\mathbf{B} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) - \mathbf{A} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})] dS \quad (21)$$

$$\int_V \nabla^2 \mathbf{A} dV = \int_S (\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{A} dS \quad (22)$$

$$\int_V [\mathbf{B}(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) + (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B}] dV = \int_S \mathbf{B}(\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{A}) dS \quad (23)$$