

Homework Assignment #1

(due Aug. 19, 2020, 11am, via gradescope)

1. Find the separation vector \mathbf{r} from the source point (4,1,6) to the field point (5,3,4). Determine its magnitude (r), and construct the unit vector $\hat{\mathbf{r}}$.
2. Using arrows of appropriate relative magnitude and direction, sketch a representative set of vectors for each of the following vector fields:
 - (a) $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{r}) = -y\hat{\mathbf{x}} + x\hat{\mathbf{y}}$
 - (b) $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{r}) = (-y\hat{\mathbf{x}} + x\hat{\mathbf{y}})/(x^2 + y^2)$
 - (c) $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{r}) = \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \hat{\mathbf{y}}$
3. Proof the equation before Eq.(1.18) in Griffiths's book, that is show that $(\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) \cdot (\mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{D}) = (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{C})(\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{D}) - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{D})(\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{C})$
Hint: Define the vector \mathbf{E} to be $\mathbf{E} \equiv (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B})$ and apply Eq. (1.15) to the left side of the equation you try to show. Then replace \mathbf{E} again with $(\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B})$ and apply Eq. (1.17). Then just a bit more simplifying.
4. Griffiths 1.11