

A PERSONAL PROOF OF THE STOKES' THEOREM:

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Abstract: in this paper you will find a personal, practical and direct demonstration of the Stokes' Theorem.

The Stokes' Theorem (practical proof-by Rubino!):

If we have a volume, we can hold it as made of many small volumes, as that in Fig. 1; for every small volume, the following holds: (and so it holds also for the whole volume...)

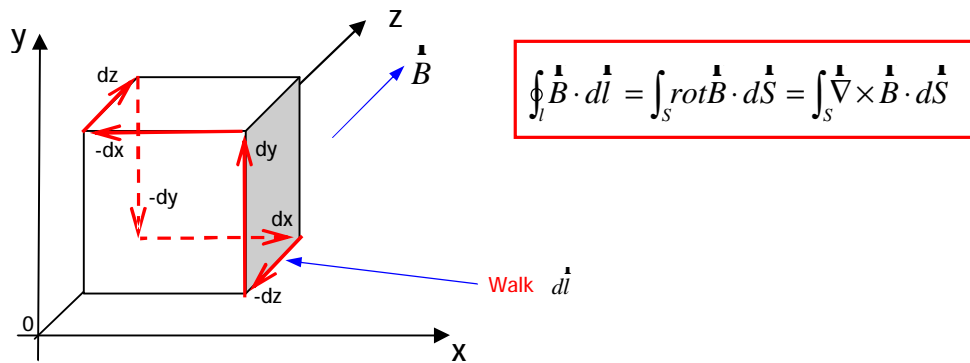


Fig. 1: For the Stokes' Theorem (proof by Rubino).

Let's figure out $\mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{l}$:

On dz B is B_z ; on dx B is B_x ; on dy B is B_y ;

on $-dz$ B is $B_z + \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial x} dx - \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial y} dy$, for 3-D Taylor's development and also because to go from the center of dz to that of $-dz$ we go up along x , then we go down along y and nothing along z itself.

Similarly, on $-dx$ B is $B_x - \frac{\partial B_x}{\partial z} dz + \frac{\partial B_x}{\partial y} dy$ and on $-dy$ B is $B_y - \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial z} dz$.

By summing up all contributions:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{l} &= B_z dz - (B_z + \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial x} dx - \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial y} dy) dz + B_x dx - (B_x - \frac{\partial B_x}{\partial z} dz + \frac{\partial B_x}{\partial y} dy) dx + B_y dy - \\ &+ (B_y - \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial z} dz) dy = (\frac{\partial B_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial z}) dy dz + (\frac{\partial B_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial x}) dx dz + (\frac{\partial B_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial B_x}{\partial y}) dx dy = \\ &= \mathbf{rot} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{\nabla} \times \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S} \quad \text{whereas here } d\mathbf{S} \text{ has got components } [\hat{x}(dydz), \hat{y}(dxdz), \hat{z}(dxdy)] \end{aligned}$$

that is, the statement: $\oint_l \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int_S \mathbf{rot} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \int_S \mathbf{\nabla} \times \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$, after having reminded of:

$$\mathbf{rot}\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ B_x & B_y & B_z \end{vmatrix}.$$

Appendix) Divergence Theorem (a well known and practical proof):

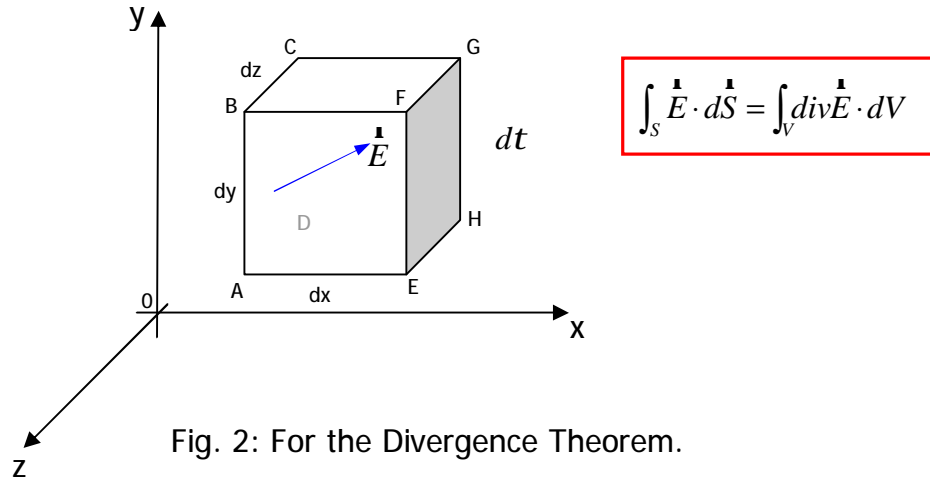


Fig. 2: For the Divergence Theorem.

Name f the flux of the vector \mathbf{E} ; we have:

$$df_{ABCD} = \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = -E_x(x, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) dydz \quad (\bar{y} \text{ means } y \text{ "mean"})$$

$$df_{EFGH} = E_x(x+dx, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) dydz, \text{ but we obviously know that also: (as a development):}$$

$$E_x(x+dx, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) = E_x(x, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) + \frac{\partial E_x(x, \bar{y}, \bar{z})}{\partial x} dx \text{ so:}$$

$$df_{EFGH} = E_x(x, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) dydz + \frac{\partial E_x(x, \bar{y}, \bar{z})}{\partial x} dx dydz \text{ and so:}$$

$$df_{ABCD} + df_{EFGH} = \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x} dV. \text{ We similarly act on axes } y \text{ and } z:$$

$$df_{AEHD} + df_{BCGF} = \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial y} dV$$

$$df_{ABFE} + df_{CGHD} = \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z} dV$$

And then we sum up the fluxes so found, having totally:

$$df = \left(\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z} \right) dV = (\text{div} \cdot \mathbf{E}) dV = (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) dV \text{ therefore:}$$

$$f_s(\mathbf{E}) = \int_f df = \int_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \int_V \text{div} \mathbf{E} \cdot dV = \int_V (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) \cdot dV \text{ that is the statement.}$$

Bibliography:

1) (L. Rubino) <http://vixra.org/pdf/1201.0002v1.pdf>

Thank you for your attention.

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