

Aside

LECTURE 14

$$\text{curl } \underline{u} = \nabla \times \underline{u}$$

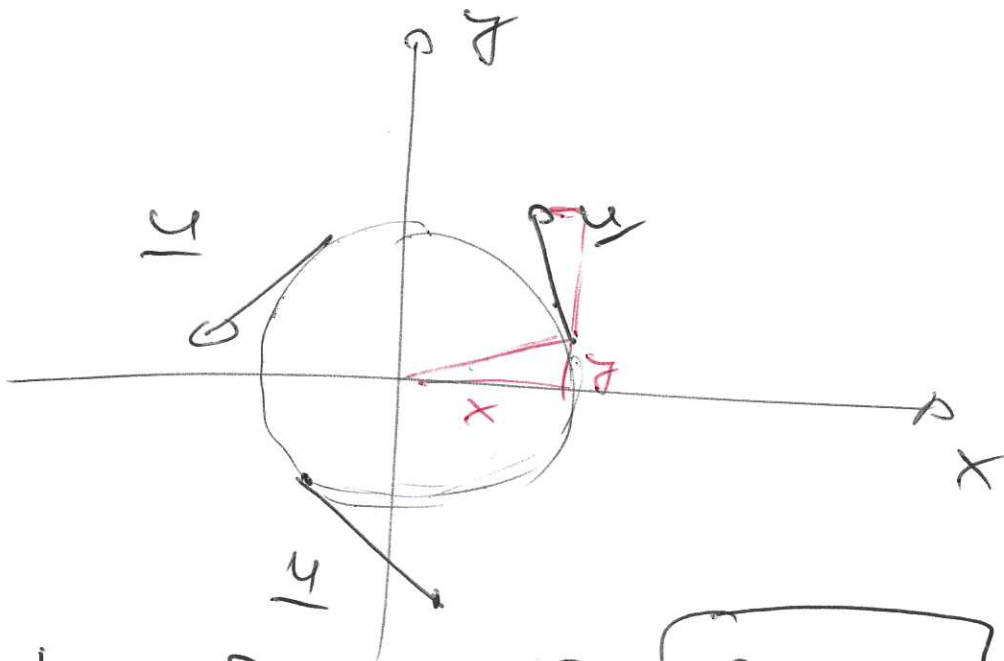
$$\nabla \times \underline{u} = \underline{0} \Rightarrow \text{irrotational}$$

$$\text{div } \underline{u} = \nabla \cdot \underline{u}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \underline{u} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{solenoidal.}$$

What is the relation between  $\nabla \times \underline{u}$  & rotation?

Consider the velocity field due to rigid body rotation about z axis.



$$|\underline{u}| = \Omega r = \Omega \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

↑  
Angular velocity.

$$\Rightarrow \underline{u} = \Omega \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{Direction } \checkmark$$

check magnitude

$$|\underline{u}| = \Omega \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + 0} = \Omega r \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{curl } \underline{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \\ u_z \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{curl } \underline{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 - 0 \\ 0 - 0 \\ 1 + 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{curl } \underline{u} = 2\Omega \underline{e}_z$$

So  $\text{curl } \underline{u}$  represents the  
vectorial rotation.

# Orthogonal curvilinear coordinates

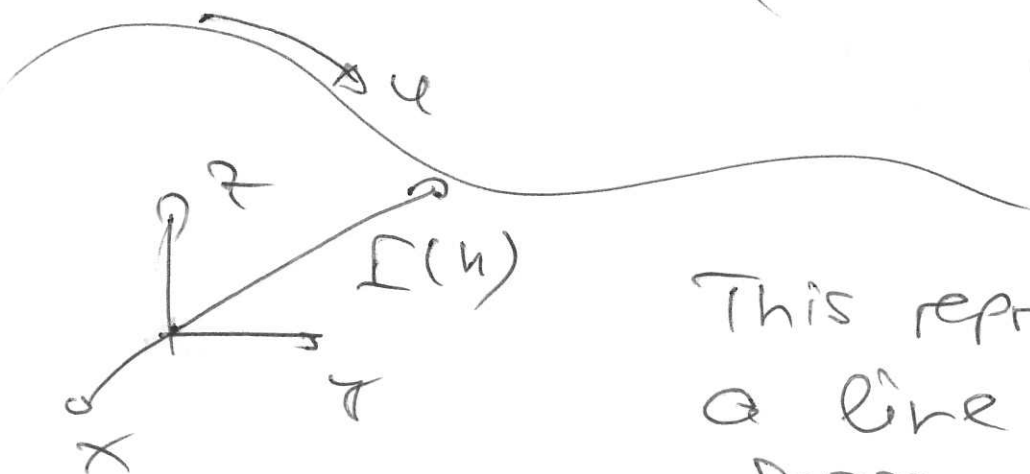
Earlier in course expressed  $\nabla^2 \phi$  in different coordinate systems. Tedious!

We can ~~also~~ obtain general expressions for grad, div, curl. for general orthogonal curvilinear coords.

Reminder: Vector derivative

vector  $\underline{\Gamma}$  parametrised by scalar parameter  $u$

$$\underline{\Gamma}(u) = \begin{pmatrix} x(u) \\ y(u) \\ z(u) \end{pmatrix} = x(u)\underline{i} + y(u)\underline{j} + z(u)\underline{k}$$

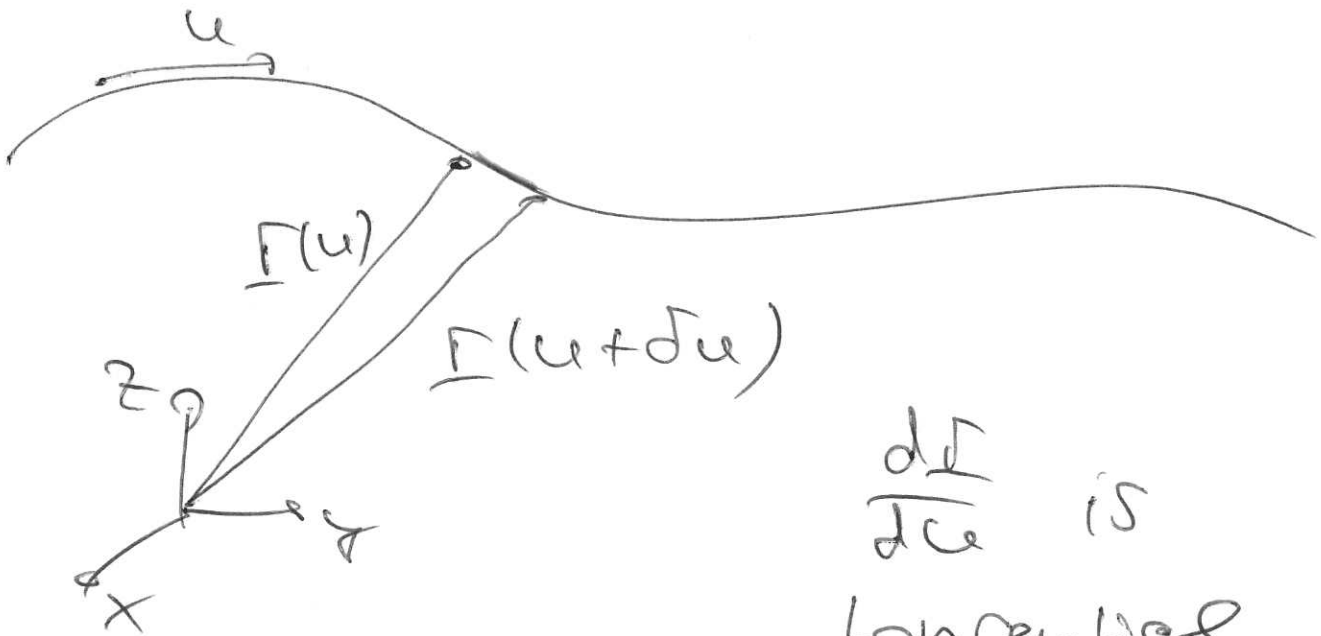


This represents a line in space.

Vector deriv:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{du} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{dx}{du} \\ \frac{dy}{du} \\ \frac{dz}{du} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{du} = \lim_{\delta u \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathbf{r}(u+\delta u) - \mathbf{r}(u)}{\delta u}$$



$\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{du}$  is  
tangent to the  
curve.

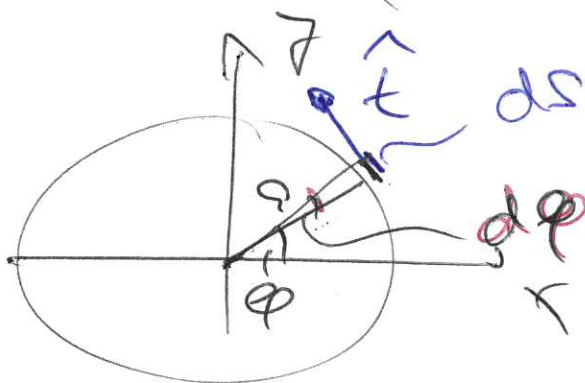
If  $u = s = \text{arc length}$  then

$$\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{ds} = \hat{\mathbf{T}}$$

is a unit  
tangent to  
the curve.

Example: Circle radius  $a$

$$\underline{\Gamma}(\varphi) = \begin{pmatrix} a \cos \varphi \\ a \sin \varphi \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

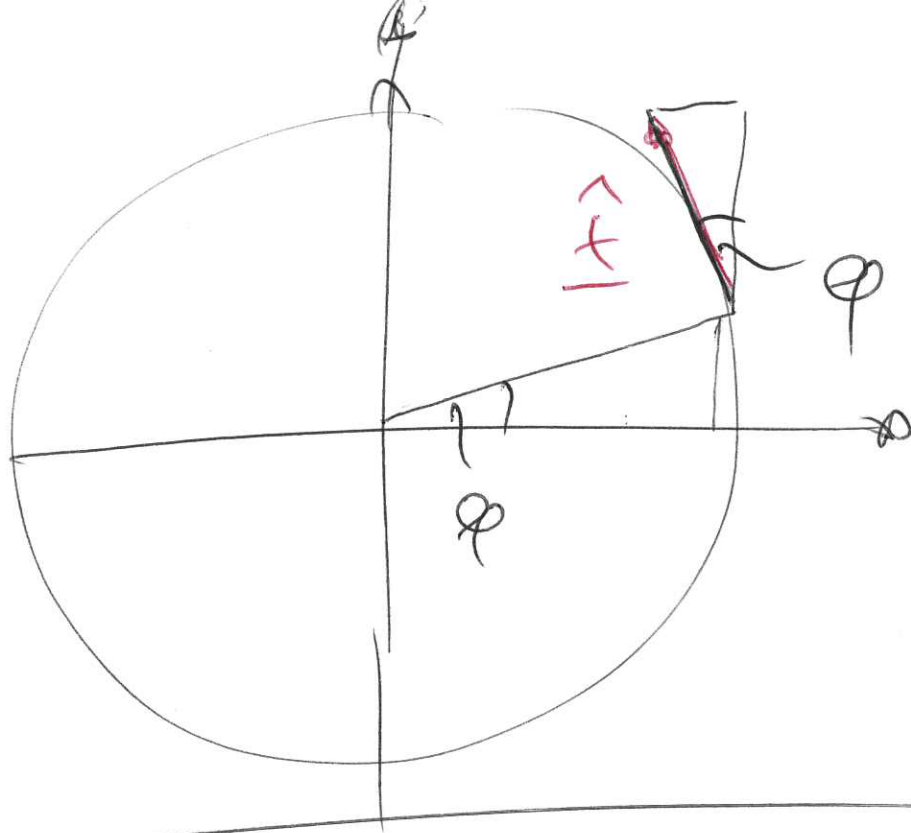


Can rewrite in terms of  
arc length:  $ds = a d\varphi$

$$s = a\varphi ; \varphi = s/a$$

$$\underline{\Gamma}(s) = \begin{pmatrix} a \cos\left(\frac{s}{a}\right) \\ a \sin\left(\frac{s}{a}\right) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{d\underline{r}}{ds} = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin\left(\frac{s}{a}\right) \\ \cos\left(\frac{s}{a}\right) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \varphi \\ \cos \varphi \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



Curvilinear coordinates are defined as a mapping between  $(x, y, z) \rightarrow (u_1, u_2, u_3)$

Assume that this mapping is one-to-one, continuous & has continuous first derivs.

$x(u_1, u_2, u_3)$   $y(u_1, u_2, u_3)$  &  $z(u_1, u_2, u_3)$

$\Rightarrow$  Any point  $P$  may be identified by exactly one triple of either  $(x, y, z)$  or  $(u_1, u_2, u_3)$

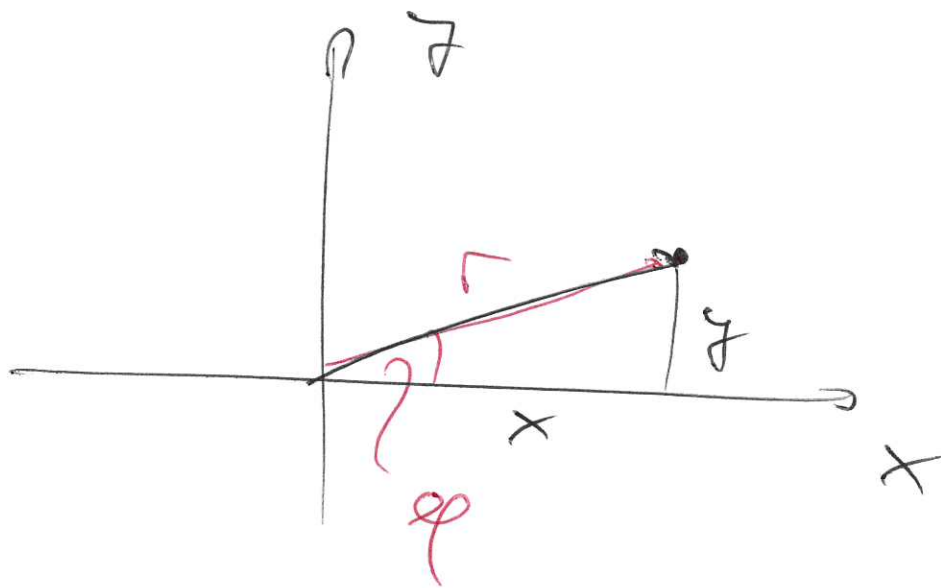
Example: cylindrical polars:

$$u_1 = r; \quad u_2 = \varphi; \quad u_3 = z$$

$$x(u_1, u_2, u_3) = x(r, \varphi) = r \cos \varphi$$

$$y(u_1, u_2, u_3) = y(r, \varphi) = r \sin \varphi$$

$$z(u_1, u_2, u_3) = z = z$$



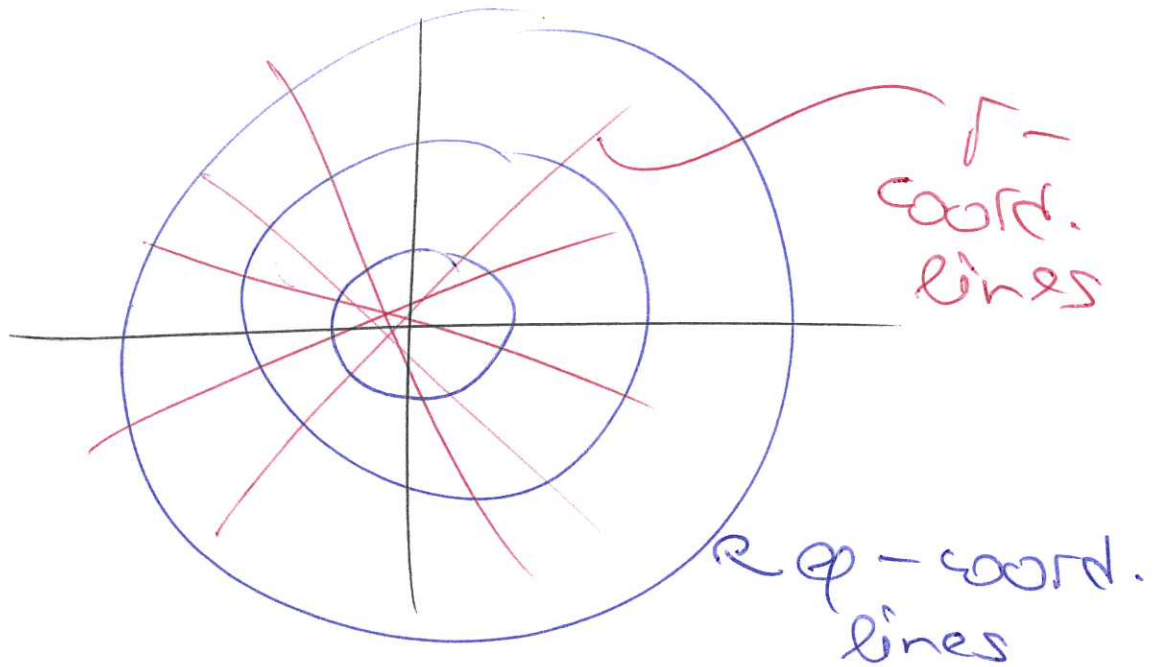
If  $u_1$  is varied while keeping  $u_2$  &  $u_3$  constant we obtain a line in space:  $u_1$ -coordinate curve.

In our example:

- $u_1$  ( $r$ )-coordinate lines are straight lines through origin.



- $u_2(\varphi)$ -coordinate lines are circles



Note: Coordinate lines intersect at a right angle.

This is what defines an orthogonal coord. system.