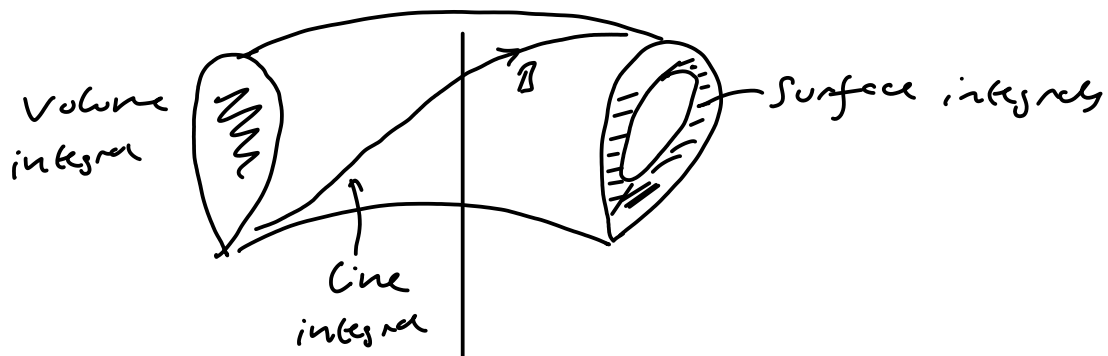


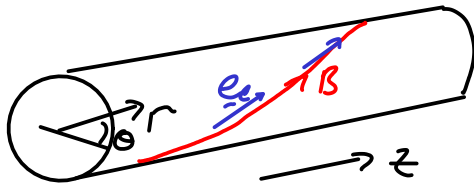
Non-orthogonal Coordinates

Contents

- Advantages of flux coordinates
- Screw pinch in cylindrical coordinates
- Aligning coordinates to magnetic field



Example: Screw pinch

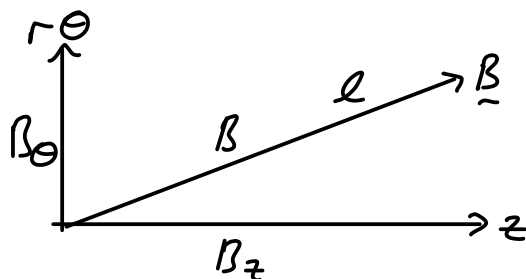


$$\underline{B} = B_\theta \hat{\theta} + B_z \hat{z}$$

Want to find
coordinate system
where $\underline{e}_\ell \propto \underline{B}$

$$\underline{e}_\ell \propto \underline{B} \rightarrow \underline{B} \cdot \underline{v} \rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial \ell}$$

Define ℓ to be length along \underline{B}



$$\ell = \frac{B}{B_z} z$$

(r, θ, ℓ)

$$\underline{e}_\ell = \frac{B}{B_z} \underline{e}_z$$

not aligned to \underline{B}

$$\underline{e}_l = \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial l} \quad \text{keep } r, \theta \text{ constant}$$

How does θ vary along B ?

$$r\theta = \frac{\beta_0}{B} l \Rightarrow \theta = \frac{\beta_0}{rB} l$$

along B field

Define

$$\eta = \theta - \frac{\beta_0}{rB} l \quad \text{constant along } B$$

Coordinates (r, η, l)

$$x = r \cos \theta = r \cos \left(\eta + \frac{\beta_0}{rB} l \right)$$

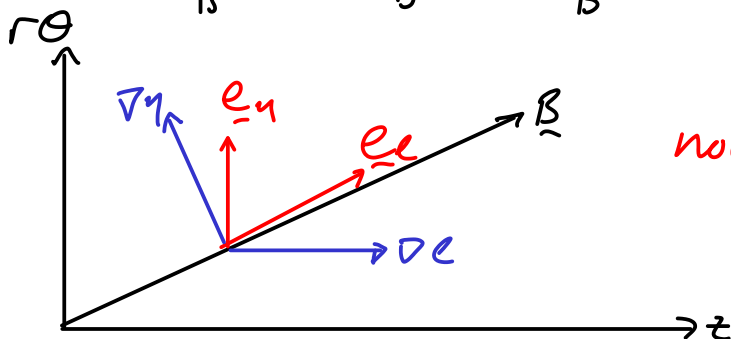
$$y = r \sin \theta = r \sin \left(\eta + \frac{\beta_0}{rB} l \right)$$

$$z = \frac{\beta_z}{B} l$$

Tangent basis

$$\underline{e}_\eta = \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial \eta} = -r \sin \theta \hat{x} + r \cos \theta \hat{y}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{e}_l = \frac{\partial \underline{r}}{\partial l} &= -r \sin \theta \frac{\beta_0}{Br} \hat{x} + r \cos \theta \frac{\beta_0}{Br} \hat{y} + \frac{\beta_z}{B} \hat{z} \\ &= \frac{\beta_0}{B} \hat{\theta} + \frac{\beta_z}{B} \hat{z} = \frac{\underline{\beta}}{B} \quad \text{unit vector in } B \text{ direction} \end{aligned}$$



non-orthogonal

$$\underline{e}_\eta \cdot \underline{e}_l = r \frac{\beta_0}{B}$$

Reciprocal basis

$$\nabla = \underline{e}^r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \underline{e}^\eta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \underline{e}^l \frac{\partial}{\partial \ell}$$

$$\nabla r$$

$$\eta = \theta - \frac{\beta_0}{r\beta} \ell$$

$$\nabla \ell = \frac{\beta}{\beta_t} \nabla t$$

$$\nabla \eta = \nabla \theta - \frac{\beta_0}{r\beta} \nabla \ell \left[+ \nabla \left(\frac{\beta_0}{r\beta} \right) \ell \right]$$

Derivatives along β

$$\underline{\beta} = \beta \underline{e}_\ell \quad \nabla = \nabla r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \nabla \eta \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} + \nabla \ell \frac{\partial}{\partial \ell}$$

$\underline{\beta} \cdot \nabla = \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial \ell}$