

Problem 12-18) From Problem 34, part (b), we have $\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{B} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) - \mathbf{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})$. Replacing \mathbf{B} , which, in general, is a function of position \mathbf{r} , with the constant vector \mathbf{C} , makes the second curl on the right-hand side of the above identity to vanish. We will then have $\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{C} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A})$. Applying Gauss's theorem to the left-hand-side of this equation, we find

$$\int_{\text{volume}} \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{C}) \, dv = \oint_{\text{surface}} [\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) \times \mathbf{C}] \cdot d\mathbf{s} = -\oint_{\text{surface}} [\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) \times d\mathbf{s}] \cdot \mathbf{C} = -\mathbf{C} \cdot \oint_{\text{surface}} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) \times d\mathbf{s}. \quad (1)$$

On the right-hand-side, the volume integral may be somewhat simplified, as follows:

$$\int_{\text{volume}} \mathbf{C} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) \, dv = \mathbf{C} \cdot \int_{\text{volume}} \nabla \times \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) \, dv. \quad (2)$$

The above expressions are valid for *any* (arbitrary) constant vector \mathbf{C} and, moreover, they are equal to each other. We conclude that the coefficients of \mathbf{C} on the right-hand-sides of Eqs. (1)

and (2) must be the same, that is, $\int_{\text{volume}} \nabla \times \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) \, dv = -\oint_{\text{surface}} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) \times d\mathbf{s}$.
