

3.22 Consider the scalar function $T = r \sin \theta \cos \phi$. Determine the magnitude and direction of the maximum rate of change of T at $P(2, 6^\circ, 30^\circ)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla T &= \hat{a}_r \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} + \hat{a}_\theta \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial T}{\partial \theta} + \hat{a}_\phi \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial T}{\partial \phi} \quad \text{spherical coordinates} \\ &= \hat{a}_r \frac{d(r \sin \theta \cos \phi)}{dr} + \hat{a}_\theta \frac{1}{r} \frac{d(r \sin \theta \cos \phi)}{d\theta} \\ &\quad + \hat{a}_\phi \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{d(r \sin \theta \cos \phi)}{d\phi} \\ &= \hat{a}_r \sin \theta \cos \phi + \hat{a}_\theta \frac{r \cos \theta \cos \phi}{r} + \hat{a}_\phi \frac{-r \sin \theta \sin \phi}{r \sin \theta} \\ &= \hat{a}_r \sin \theta \cos \phi + \hat{a}_\theta \cos \theta \cos \phi - \hat{a}_\phi \sin \phi \\ \nabla T(2, 6^\circ, 30^\circ) &= \hat{a}_r \sin 6^\circ \cos 30^\circ + \hat{a}_\theta \cos 6^\circ \cos 30^\circ - \hat{a}_\phi \sin 30^\circ \\ &= 0.090524305 \hat{a}_r - 0.861281226 \hat{a}_\theta - 0.5 \hat{a}_\phi \end{aligned}$$

$$|\nabla T(2, 6^\circ, 30^\circ)| = \sqrt{\nabla T \cdot \nabla T} = \sqrt{(0.09052)^2 + (-0.8613)^2 + (-0.5)^2}$$

$$|\nabla T(2, 6^\circ, 30^\circ)| = 1$$

$$\hat{a}_{\nabla T} = \frac{\nabla T}{|\nabla T|} = 0.09052 \hat{a}_r - 0.86128 \hat{a}_\theta - 0.5 \hat{a}_\phi$$

OR

Note that $T = r \sin \theta \cos \phi = x$
 In Cartesian coordinates, $\nabla T = \nabla(x) = \hat{a}_x$ ← position independent

$$|\nabla T| = 1 \Rightarrow \hat{a}_{\nabla T} = \hat{a}_x$$