

*Introduction to Finite Element
Modelling in Geosciences:*
Formula Sheet

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Vector operations

$$\text{grad}(u) = \nabla u = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix} u \quad (1)$$

$$\text{div}(\mathbf{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \nabla^T \mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial y} \quad (2)$$

Integration by parts (1D)

$$\int_a^b f(x) \frac{dg(x)}{dx} dx = - \int_a^b \frac{df(x)}{dx} g(x) dx + [f(x)g(x)]_a^b \quad (3)$$

Integration by parts (higher dimensions)

$$\int_{\Omega} f \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} dV = - \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} g dV + \oint_{\partial\Omega} f g n_i dS \quad (4)$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot \nabla g dV = - \int_{\Omega} g \nabla \cdot \mathbf{f} dV + \oint_{\partial\Omega} g \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS \quad (5)$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla f \cdot \nabla g dV = - \int_{\Omega} f \nabla^2 g dV + \oint_{\partial\Omega} f \nabla g \cdot \mathbf{n} dS \quad (6)$$

Tensor products

Given a vector of 1D functions, $P(s) = (P_1(s), P_2(s), \dots, P_m(s))$, we can define a 2D tensor product with the coordinates (ξ, η)

$$\begin{aligned}
 N_{11}(\xi, \eta) &= P_1(\xi)P_1(\eta) \\
 N_{21}(\xi, \eta) &= P_2(\xi)P_1(\eta) \\
 N_{31}(\xi, \eta) &= P_3(\xi)P_1(\eta) \\
 &\vdots \\
 N_{m1}(\xi, \eta) &= P_m(\xi)P_1(\eta) \\
 N_{12}(\xi, \eta) &= P_1(\xi)P_2(\eta) \\
 &\vdots \\
 N_{m2}(\xi, \eta) &= P_m(\xi)P_2(\eta) \\
 &\vdots \\
 N_{mm}(\xi, \eta) &= P_m(\xi)P_m(\eta)
 \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

In general we have,

$$N_{ij} = P_i(\xi)P_j(\eta), \quad \text{for all } 1 \leq i, j \leq m \tag{8}$$

A 3D tensor product can similarly be defined with the coordinates (ξ, η, ζ) via

$$N_{ijk} = P_i(\xi)P_j(\eta)P_k(\zeta), \quad \text{for all } 1 \leq i, j, k \leq m \tag{9}$$

We note that the 1D basis used need not be the same length, for example one could define

$$N_{ijk} = U_i(\xi)V_j(\eta)W_k(\zeta), \tag{10}$$

where $U(s) = (U_1(s), \dots, U_m(s))$, $V(s) = (V_1(s), \dots, V_n(s))$, $W(s) = (W_1(s), \dots, W_p(s))$ and where $m \neq n \neq p$.