

Example: A charged particle and a time-independent \vec{B} -field, $\vec{B}(\vec{r})$.

$$\vec{F} = q \vec{v} \times \vec{B} = q \vec{v} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}); \quad F_x = q (\vec{v} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}))_x = q (v_y (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A})_z - v_z (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A})_y).$$

$$(\vec{v} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}))_x = v_y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} A_z - v_z \frac{\partial}{\partial y} A_x - v_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} A_x + v_x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} A_z + v_x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} A_x - v_x \frac{\partial}{\partial z} A_x \quad (\pm)$$

$$= v_x \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} + v_z \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} - v_x \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} - v_y \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} - v_z \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z}.$$

$$= \frac{d}{dx} (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{A}) - \frac{dA_x}{dt}. \quad (q, \dot{q} \text{ are independent, } \frac{dq}{dq} = 0.)$$

$$\frac{dA_x}{dt} = \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} \frac{dz}{dt} + \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial t} = 0.$$

$$\text{But } A_x = \frac{d}{dv_x} (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{A}) = \frac{d}{dv_x} (v_x A_x + v_y A_y + v_z A_z).$$

$$\text{Therefore } F_x = q \vec{v} \times \vec{B} = q \left[\frac{d}{dx} (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{A}) - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{d(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{A})}{dv_x} \right] = -\frac{dU}{dx} + \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial U}{\partial v_x},$$

$$\text{with } U = -q \vec{v} \cdot \vec{A}.$$

$$L = \frac{1}{2} m v^2 + q \vec{v} \cdot \vec{A}.$$