

16.5: Curl & Divergence.

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Overview

This section along w/ the next two are bridging sections.

The key concepts we will learn help us later. $\text{Curl} \Rightarrow$ Stokes's Thm.

$\text{Div} \Rightarrow$ Divergence Thm.

At the core, each of these Thms is similar to Green's Thm in that

An integral over a boundary is equated to a multiple integral over the region w/in the boundary.

Curl & Div

The Del Operator. $\nabla = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \vec{k}$

$$\nabla f = \left\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right\rangle \quad (f \text{ a scalar fct.})$$

Exo! If $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^3 + z^4$, find ∇f .

If $\vec{F} = P\vec{i} + Q\vec{j} + R\vec{k}$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{F} = \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right\rangle \cdot \langle P, Q, R \rangle$$

$$= \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial R}{\partial z} \quad (\text{a scalar field})$$

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we call this scalar product the divergence of \vec{F}

$$\text{div}(\vec{F}) = \nabla \cdot \vec{F}$$

ex 1: If $\vec{F} = e^{xy} \sin z \vec{j} + y \arctan\left(\frac{x}{z}\right) \vec{k}$
find $\text{div}(\vec{F})$

$$\text{div}(\vec{F}) = 0 + x e^{xy} \sin z + \frac{y}{1 + \left(\frac{x}{z}\right)^2} \cdot \frac{-x}{z^2}$$

Now consider $\nabla \times \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ P & Q & R \end{vmatrix}$ (vector field)

we call this vector product the curl of \vec{F}

$$\text{curl}(\vec{F}) = \nabla \times \vec{F}$$

ex 2: (see ex 1). find $\text{curl}(\vec{F})$

$$\text{curl}(\vec{F}) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ 0 & e^{xy} \sin z & y \arctan\left(\frac{x}{z}\right) \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(y \arctan\left(\frac{x}{z}\right) \right) - e^{xy} \cos z \right) \vec{i} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(y \arctan\left(\frac{x}{z}\right) \right) \vec{j} + y e^{xy} \sin z \vec{k}$$

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Ex 3: (see ex 1) If $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^3 + z^4$

find $\text{curl}(\nabla f)$.

$$\text{curl}(F) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ 2x & 3y^2 & 4z^3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 0\vec{i} - 0\vec{j} + 0\vec{k} = \vec{0}$$

Thm: If f is a fct of three variables that has cont. second order partials, then $\text{curl}(\nabla f) = \vec{0}$

□ proof (uses Clairaut's Thm).

⇒ If \vec{F} is conservative, then $\text{curl}(\vec{F}) = \vec{0}$

Q: If $\text{curl}(\vec{F}) = \vec{0}$, does this mean that \vec{F} is conservative?

Q: If $\text{curl}(\vec{F}) \neq \vec{0}$, does this mean \vec{F} is not conservative?

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Thm: If \vec{F} is a vector field on all of \mathbb{R}^3 whose components have continuous partials and $\text{curl}(\vec{F}) = \vec{0}$, then \vec{F} is a conservative vector field.

Ex 5: Determine if $\vec{F} = \langle y \cos xy, x \cos(xy), -\sin z \rangle$ is conservative... if so... Find f .

Thm: If $\vec{F} = \langle P, Q, R \rangle$ is a vector field on \mathbb{R}^3 w/ cont. 2nd order partials of $P, Q, \& R$, then $\text{div}(\text{curl}(\vec{F})) = 0$.

see analogy to $\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) = 0$.
Does that satisfy assumptions

Ex 6: Show that the vector field $\vec{F} = \langle 0, e^{xy} \sin z, y \cos(\frac{x}{z}) \rangle$ can't be written as the curl of another vector field, that is, $\vec{F} \neq \text{curl} \vec{G}$

see (ex 1) ... $\text{div}(\vec{F}) \neq 0 \Rightarrow \nexists \vec{G}$ s.t. $\vec{F} = \text{curl}(\vec{G})$.

The Laplace Operator

$$\text{div}(\nabla f) = \nabla \cdot \nabla f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2}$$

We call $\nabla^2 = \nabla \cdot \nabla$ the Laplace operator

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which is tied to Laplace's Eq.

$$\nabla^2 f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

$$\text{AND } \nabla^2 \vec{F} = \nabla^2 P \vec{i} + \nabla^2 Q \vec{j} + \nabla^2 R \vec{k}$$

Div, Curl, & Green's Thm

$$\text{recall } \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \iint_D \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dA = \int_C P dx + Q dy$$

↑
force field
dotted w/ a differential.

↑
scalar fct

(I) Curl If $\vec{F} = \langle P, Q, 0 \rangle$, then $\text{curl}(\vec{F}) = \nabla \times \vec{F}$

$$\text{curl}(\vec{F}) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ P & Q & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \left\langle 0, 0, \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right\rangle$$

(no "z" in P & Q)

to get the k component
out as a scalar fct...

$$\text{curl}(\vec{F}) \cdot \vec{k} = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}$$

$$\text{AND } \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \iint_D \text{curl}(\vec{F}) \cdot \vec{k} dA$$

The line integral of the tangential component of \vec{F} along C as the double integral of the vertical component of $\text{curl}(\vec{F})$ over the region D enclosed by C .

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Divergence

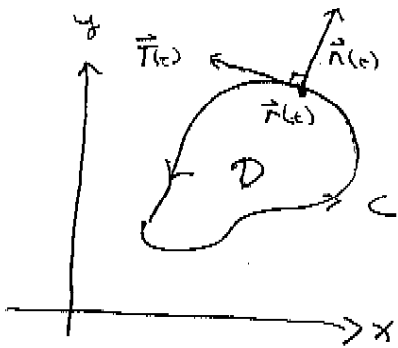
(II) If C is given by the vector equation

$$\vec{r}(t) = x(t)\vec{i} + y(t)\vec{j}, \quad a \leq t \leq b$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{T}(t) = \frac{\vec{r}'(t)}{|\vec{r}'(t)|} = \frac{x'(t)}{|\vec{r}'(t)|} \vec{i} + \frac{y'(t)}{|\vec{r}'(t)|} \vec{j} \quad (\text{unit tangent vector})$$

now define $\vec{n}(t)$ as

$$\vec{n}(t) = \frac{y'(t)}{|\vec{r}'(t)|} \vec{i} - \frac{x'(t)}{|\vec{r}'(t)|} \vec{j} \quad \text{which is a normal vector to } C \text{ pointing away from } D.$$



recall $\int_C F(x,y) ds = \int_a^b F(\vec{r}(t)) |\vec{r}'(t)| dt$

\uparrow scalar fact. \uparrow arclength is positive
 \downarrow
 $\vec{F} \cdot \vec{n}$ is a scalar fact.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} ds &= \int_a^b (\vec{F} \cdot \vec{n})(t) |\vec{r}'(t)| dt \\ &= \int_a^b \left[\frac{P(x(t), y(t)) y'(t)}{|\vec{r}'(t)|} - \frac{Q(x(t), y(t)) x'(t)}{|\vec{r}'(t)|} \right] |\vec{r}'(t)| dt \\ &= \oint_C P dy - Q dx \\ &= \iint_D \underbrace{\left[\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} - \left(-\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} \right) \right]}_{\text{div}(\vec{F})} dA \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{AND } \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} ds = \iint_D \text{div}(\vec{F}) dA \quad \text{which means}$$

the line integral of the normal component of \vec{F} along C is equal to the double integral of the divergence of \vec{F} over the region D enclosed by C .