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INTRODUCTION

A physical quantity, which is a function of the position of a point in space, is called a **scalar point function** or a **vector point function** according as the quantity is a scalar or vector. Temperature, velocity are respectively scalar and vector point function. When a point function is defined at every point of certain region of space, then that region is called field.

Vector Differential Operator ∇ (del)

The operator ∇ is defined as $\nabla = \left(\vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right)$

2.1 Gradient of a scalar point function

Let $f(x, y, z)$ be defined and differentiable at each point (x, y, z) in a certain region of space. Then the gradient of f , written as ∇f or $gradf$ is defined as

$$\nabla f = \left(\vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) f = \left(\vec{i} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right)$$

If f is a scalar point function, then ∇f is a vector point function.

Level Surface

Let $f(x, y, z)$ be a scalar field over a region R. The points satisfying an equation of the type $f(x, y, z) = c$ (arbitrary constant) constitute a family of surfaces in three dimensional space. The surfaces of this family are called level surfaces.

2.2 Directional Derivatives of a Scalar Point Function

Definition: Let $f(x, y, z)$ define a scalar field in a region R and let P be any point in this region. Suppose Q is a point in this region in the neighborhood of P in the direction of a given unit vector \hat{a} . Then $\lim_{Q \rightarrow P} \frac{f(Q) - f(P)}{PQ}$, if it exists is called the directional derivative of $f(x, y, z)$ at P in the direction of \hat{a} .

Result 1: The directional derivative of a scalar field f at a point $P(x, y, z)$ in the direction of a unit vector \hat{a} is given by $\nabla f \cdot \hat{a}$. The directional derivative is maximum in the direction of $gradf$ and its maximum value is $|gradf|$.

Result 2: Unit normal to a surface $f = c$ is given by $\frac{\nabla f}{|\nabla f|}$

Result 3: Angle between two surfaces $\phi_1 = c, \phi_2 = c$ is given by $\cos \theta = \frac{\nabla \phi_1 \cdot \nabla \phi_2}{|\nabla \phi_1||\nabla \phi_2|}$

2.3 Divergence of a Vector Point Function

Definition: Let \vec{V} be any given differentiable vector point function. Then the divergence of \vec{V} written as $\nabla \cdot \vec{V}$ or $\operatorname{div} \vec{V}$ is defined as $\operatorname{div} \vec{V} = \nabla \cdot \vec{V} = \left(\vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot \vec{V} = \sum \vec{i} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{V}}{\partial x}$

If $\vec{V} = v_1 \vec{i} + v_2 \vec{j} + v_3 \vec{k}$ then $\operatorname{div} \vec{V} = \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial z}$.

Solenoidal Vector

A vector \vec{V} is said to be solenoidal if $\operatorname{div} \vec{V} = 0$.

Curl of a vector Point Function

Definition: Let \vec{F} be a vector point function. Then $\operatorname{curl} \vec{F}$ written as $\nabla \times \vec{F}$ is defined as $\operatorname{curl} \vec{F} = \sum \vec{i} \times \frac{\partial \vec{F}}{\partial x}$

If $\vec{F} = F_1 \vec{i} + F_2 \vec{j} + F_3 \vec{k}$ then $\operatorname{curl} \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ F_1 & F_2 & F_3 \end{vmatrix}$

Irrational Vector

A vector \vec{F} is said to be irrational if $\nabla \times \vec{F} = 0$. In this case we can represent $\vec{F} = \nabla \phi$, where ϕ is called scalar potential.

Note: 1 Physical meaning of $\nabla \cdot \vec{V}$.

If $\vec{V} = v_1 \vec{i} + v_2 \vec{j} + v_3 \vec{k}$ is a vector point function representing the instantaneous velocity of a moving fluid at the point (x, y, z) , then $\nabla \cdot \vec{V}$ represents rate of loss of fluid per unit volume at that point.

Note: 2 Physical meaning of $\operatorname{curl} \vec{F}$.

If \vec{F} represents the linear velocity of the point (x, y, z) of a rigid body that rotates about a fixed axis with constant angular velocity \bar{w} , then $\operatorname{curl} \vec{F}$ at that point represents $2\bar{w}$.

Example 2.1. If $\phi(x, y, z) = x^2y + y^2x + z^2$, find $\nabla \phi$ at the point $(1, 1, 1)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Solution: Let } \nabla \phi &= \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2y + y^2x + z^2) \\ &= \vec{i} (2xy + y^2) + \vec{j} (x^2 + 2yx) + \vec{k} (2z) \\ \therefore \nabla \phi_{(1,1,1)} &= \vec{i} (2+1) + \vec{j} (1+2) + \vec{k} (2) \\ &= 3\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} + 2\vec{k} \end{aligned}$$

Example 2.2. Find a unit normal vector to the level surface $x^2y + 2xz = 4$ at the point $(2, -2, 3)$.

Solution: The unit normal vector $\hat{n} = \frac{\nabla \phi}{|\nabla \phi|}$, where $\phi = x^2y + 2xz - 4$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } \nabla \phi &= \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2y + 2xz - 4) \\ &= \vec{i} (2xy + 2z) + \vec{j} (x^2) + \vec{k} (2x) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\nabla f(1, -2, 0) &= \vec{i}(-8+6) + \vec{j}(4) + \vec{k}(4) \\ &= -2\vec{i} + 4\vec{j} + 4\vec{k} \\ \Rightarrow |\nabla f| &= \sqrt{1+16+16}=6\end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{a} = -\frac{1}{3}\vec{i} + \frac{2}{3}\vec{j} + \frac{2}{3}\vec{k}$$

Example 2.3. Find the directional derivative of $f(x, y, z) = x^2yz + 4xz^2$ at the point $(1, -2, -1)$ in the direction of the vector $2\vec{i} - \vec{j} - 2\vec{k}$.

Solution: The required directional derivative is $\nabla f \cdot \hat{a}$.
Here $\hat{a} = 2\vec{i} - \vec{j} - 2\vec{k}$.

$$\text{So } |\hat{a}| = \sqrt{4+1+4}=3 \text{ and } \hat{a} = \frac{\vec{a}}{|\vec{a}|} = \frac{2\vec{i} - \vec{j} - 2\vec{k}}{3}$$

$$\text{Now } \text{grad } f = \nabla f = \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2yz + 4xz^2)$$

$$= \vec{i}(2xyz + 4z^2) + \vec{j}(x^2z) + \vec{k}(x^2y + 8xz)$$

$$\text{Hence } (\nabla f)_{(1, -2, -1)} = \vec{i}(8) + \vec{j}(-1) + \vec{k}(-10)$$

$$\therefore \text{The directional derivative} = (8\vec{i} - \vec{j} - 10\vec{k}) \cdot \frac{2\vec{i} - \vec{j} - 2\vec{k}}{3}$$

$$= \frac{16}{3} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{20}{3} = \frac{37}{3} \text{ Units.}$$

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Example 2.4. Find the directional derivative of $f(x, y, z) = x^2 - 2y^2 + 4z^2$ at the point $(1, 1, -1)$ in the direction of $2\vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k}$.

Solution: The required directional derivative is $\nabla f \cdot \hat{a}$.

$$\text{Here } \hat{a} = \frac{2\vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k}}{\sqrt{4+1+1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(2\vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k})$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Now } \nabla f &= \vec{i} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2 - 2y^2 + 4z^2) + \vec{j} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x^2 - 2y^2 + 4z^2) + \\ &\quad \vec{k} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (x^2 - 2y^2 + 4z^2) = \vec{i}(2x) + \vec{j}(-4y) + \vec{k}(8z)\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{and } (\nabla f)_{(1, 1, -1)} = 2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} - 8\vec{k}$$

$$\text{Directional derivative} = (2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} - 8\vec{k}) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}(2\vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k})$$

$$= \frac{4 - 4 + 8}{\sqrt{6}} = \frac{8}{\sqrt{6}}$$

Example 2.5. Find the directional derivative of $f(x, y, z) = x^2 - y^2 + 2z^2$ at the point $P(1, 2, 3)$ in the direction of the line PQ , where Q is the point $(5, 0, 4)$.

Solution: Given $f(x, y, z) = x^2 - y^2 + 2z^2$

$$\text{Hence } \text{grad } f = \vec{i} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$$

$$= 2x\vec{i} - 2y\vec{j} + 4z\vec{k} = 2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} + 12\vec{k} \text{ at the point } (1, 2, 3).$$

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Also \overrightarrow{PQ} = Position of Q - Position vector of P.
 $= (5\vec{i} + 0\vec{j} + 4\vec{k}) - (\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}) = 4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}$

If \hat{a} be the unit vector in the direction of \overrightarrow{PQ} then

$$\hat{a} = \frac{4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}}{\sqrt{16+4+1}} = \frac{4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}}{\sqrt{21}}$$

\therefore The required directional derivative

$$= (\text{grad } f) \cdot \hat{a} = (2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} + 12\vec{k}) \cdot \frac{4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}}{\sqrt{21}} = \frac{28}{\sqrt{21}} = \frac{28}{21}\sqrt{21} = \frac{4}{3}\sqrt{21}$$

Example 2.6. In what direction from the point $(1, 1, -1)$ is the directional derivative of $f(x, y, z) = x^2 - 2y^2 + 4z^2$ a maximum? Also find the value of this maximum directional derivative.

Solution: We have $\text{grad } f = 2x\vec{i} - 4y\vec{j} + 8z\vec{k} = 2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} - 8\vec{k}$ at the point $(1, 1, -1)$.

The directional derivative of f is a maximum in the direction of $\text{grad } f = 2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} - 8\vec{k}$

The maximum value of this directional derivative

$$= |\text{grad } f| = |2\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} - 8\vec{k}| = \sqrt{4+16+64} = 2\sqrt{21}$$

Example 2.7. Show that the vector field \overline{F} given by $\overline{F} = (x^2 - yz)\vec{i} + (y^2 - zx)\vec{j} + (z^2 - xy)\vec{k}$ is irrotational. Find a scalar ϕ such that $\overline{F} = \nabla\phi$.

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Solution: We have

$$\text{curl } \overline{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ x^2 - yz & y^2 - zx & z^2 - xy \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \vec{i} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y}(z^2 - xy) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(y^2 - zx) \right]$$

$$- \vec{j} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(z^2 - xy) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(x^2 - yz) \right]$$

$$+ \vec{k} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(y^2 - zx) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(x^2 - yz) \right]$$

$$= (-x + x)\vec{i} - (-y + y)\vec{j} + (-z + z)\vec{k} = 0$$

\therefore The vector field \overline{F} is irrotational.

Let $F = \nabla\phi$ (or)

$$(x^2 - yz)\vec{i} + (y^2 - zx)\vec{j} + (z^2 - xy)\vec{k} = \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x}\vec{i} + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y}\vec{j} + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z}\vec{k}$$

$$\text{Then } \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} = x^2 - yz \text{ whence } \phi = \frac{x^3}{3} - xyz + f_1(y, z)$$

$$\therefore f_1(y, z) = \frac{y^3}{3} + \frac{z^3}{3}$$

$$\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} = y^2 - zx \text{ whence } \phi = \frac{y^3}{3} - xyz + f_2(x, z)$$

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$$\therefore f_2(x, z) = \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{y^3}{3}$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} = z^2 - xy \text{ whence } \phi = \frac{z^3}{3} - xyz + f_3(x, y)$$

$$\therefore f_3(x, y) = \frac{y^3}{3} + \frac{z^3}{3}$$

We choose ϕ satisfying all the above requirements of f_1, f_2, f_3 .

$$\Rightarrow \phi = \frac{x^3 + y^3 + z^3}{3} - xyz + C.$$

Example 2.8. Prove that the vector $(y^2 \cos x + z^3) \vec{i} + (2y \sin x - 4) \vec{j} + (3xz^2 + 2) \vec{k}$ is irrotational and find its scalar potential.

Solution: Let $\bar{F} = (y^2 \cos x + z^3) \vec{i} + (2y \sin x - 4) \vec{j} + (3xz^2 + 2) \vec{k}$.

$$\text{Then } \operatorname{curl} \bar{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ y^2 \cos x + z^3 & 2y \sin x - 4 & 3xz^2 + 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \vec{i} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (3xz^2 + 2) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (2y \sin x - 4) \right]$$

$$- \vec{j} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (3xz^2 + 2) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (y^2 \cos x + z^3) \right]$$

$$+ \vec{k} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (2y \sin x - 4) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (y^2 \cos x + z^3) \right]$$

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$$= \vec{i}(0 - 0) - \vec{j}(3z^2 - 3z^2) + \vec{k}(2y \cos x - 2y \cos x) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow \bar{F}$ is irrotational.

If ϕ is scalar potential let $\bar{F} = \nabla \phi$

$$\therefore \bar{F} = \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}$$

$$\Rightarrow (y^2 \cos x + z^3) \vec{i} + (2y \sin x - 4) \vec{j} + (3xz^2 + 2) \vec{k} = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \vec{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = y^2 \cos x + z^3; \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = 2y \sin x - 4; \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} = 3xz^2 + 2$$

Integrating partially, we get

$$\phi = y^2 \sin x + z^3 x + f_1(y, z)$$

$$\phi = y^2 \sin x - 4y + f_2(x, z)$$

$$\phi = xz^3 + 2z + f_3(x, y)$$

$$\therefore \phi = y^2 \sin x + z^3 x - 4y + 2z + C$$

Example 2.9. Find the angle between the surfaces $x^2 + yz = 2$ and $x + 2y - z = 2$ at $(1, 1, 1)$.

Solution: The first surface is $\phi_1 = x^2 + yz - 2 = 0$

$$\text{Then } \nabla \phi_1 = \left(\vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) (x^2 + yz - 2)$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2 + yz - 2) + \vec{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x^2 + yz - 2) + \vec{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (x^2 + yz - 2) \\
 &= \vec{i}(2x) + \vec{j}(z) + \vec{k}(y) = 2\vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k} \text{ at } (1, 1, 1).
 \end{aligned}$$

The second surface $\phi_2 = x + 2y - z - 2 = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Then } \nabla \phi_2 &= \left(\vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) (x + 2y - z - 2) \\
 &= \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x + 2y - z - 2) + \vec{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x + 2y - z - 2) + \vec{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (x + 2y - z - 2) \\
 &= \vec{i}(1) + \vec{j}(2) + \vec{k}(-1) = \vec{i} + 2\vec{j} - \vec{k} \text{ at } (1, 1, 1).
 \end{aligned}$$

Let ' θ' ' be the angle between the surfaces ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore \cos \theta &= \frac{\nabla \phi_1 \cdot \nabla \phi_2}{|\nabla \phi_1| |\nabla \phi_2|} \\
 &= \frac{(2\vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k})(\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} - \vec{k})}{\sqrt{6}\sqrt{6}} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$\therefore \theta = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

Example 2.10. Find a and b so that the surfaces $ax^2 - byz = (a+2)x$ and $4x^2y + z^3 = 4$ cut orthogonally at $(1, -1, 2)$.

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Solution:

$$\text{Here } \phi_1 = ax^2 - byz - (a+2)x = 0 \quad (2.1)$$

$$\text{and } \phi_2 = 4x^2y + z^3 - 4 = 0 \quad (2.2)$$

$$\text{Now } \nabla \phi_1 = \vec{i} \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial z}$$

$$= (2ax - a - 2)\vec{i} + (-bz)\vec{j} + (-by)\vec{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\nabla \phi_1) \text{ at } (1, -1, 2) = (2a - a - 2)\vec{i} - 2b\vec{j} + b\vec{k}$$

$$\text{and } \nabla \phi_2 = \vec{i} \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial z} = 8xy\vec{i} + 4x^2\vec{j} + 3z^2\vec{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\nabla \phi_2) \text{ at } (1, -1, 2) = -8\vec{i} + 4\vec{j} + 12\vec{k}$$

Since $\nabla \phi_1 \cdot \nabla \phi_2 = 0$, [\because surfaces intersect orthogonally]

$$\text{we get } [(a-2)\vec{i} - 2b\vec{j} + b\vec{k}] \cdot (-8\vec{i} + 4\vec{j} + 12\vec{k}) = 0$$

$$(\text{i.e.}) -8(a-2) - 8b + 12b = 0 \text{ (or)}$$

$$-2a + 4 + b = 0 \quad (2.3)$$

Also the point $(1, -1, 2)$ lies on $\phi_1 = 0$

Putting $x = 1, y = -1, z = 2$ in 2.1, we get

$$a + 2b - (a+2) = 0 \Rightarrow b = 1 \quad (2.4)$$

$$\text{Putting } b = 1 \text{ in eqn(2.3), we get } -2a + 5 = 0 \Rightarrow a = \frac{5}{2}$$

Example 2.11. Find the angle between the surfaces $z = x^2 + y^2 - 3$ and $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 9$ at the point $(2, -1, 2)$.

Solution: Let $\nabla\phi_1 = x^2 + y^2 - z - 3$ and $\nabla\phi_2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 9$.

$$\text{Now, } \nabla\phi_1 = \vec{i} \frac{\partial\phi_1}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial\phi_1}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial\phi_1}{\partial z} = \vec{i}(2x) + \vec{j}(2y) - \vec{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\nabla\phi_1) \text{ at } (2, -1, 2) = 4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - \vec{k}$$

$$\text{and } \nabla\phi_2 = \vec{i} \frac{\partial\phi_2}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial\phi_2}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial\phi_2}{\partial z} = 2x\vec{i} + 2y\vec{j} + 2z\vec{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\nabla\phi_2)_{(2,-1,2)} = 4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 4\vec{k}$$

If ' θ' ' be the angle between the surfaces ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 then

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\nabla\phi_1 \cdot \nabla\phi_2}{|\nabla\phi_1||\nabla\phi_2|}$$

$$\cos\theta = \frac{(4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - \vec{k}) \cdot (4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 4\vec{k})}{\sqrt{16+4+1}\sqrt{16+4+16}}$$

$$= \frac{16+4-4}{\sqrt{21}\sqrt{36}} = \frac{8}{3\sqrt{21}}$$

$$\therefore \theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{8}{3\sqrt{21}} \right)$$

Example 2.12. Find the equation of the tangent plane to the surface $xz^2 + x^2y = z - 1$ at the point $(1, -3, 2)$.

Solution: Let $\phi = xz^2 + x^2y - z + 1 = 0$

$$\therefore \nabla\phi = \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} = \vec{i}(z^2 + 2xy) + \vec{j}(x^2) + \vec{k}(2xz - 1)$$

$$(\nabla\phi)_{(1,-3,2)} = -2\vec{i} + \vec{j} + 3\vec{k}$$

Direction ratios of the normal to the plane is $(-2, 1, 3)$.

Required tangent plane passes through $(1, -3, 2)$. [Plane equation through (x_1, y_1, z_1) is $a(x - x_1) + b(y - y_1) + c(z - z_1) = 0$ where a, b, c are dR's of normal to the plane]

\Rightarrow Its equation is $-2(x - 1) + (y + 3) + 3(z - 2) = 0$.

$$\text{(or) } -2x + y + 3z + 2 + 3 - 6 = 0$$

$$\text{(or) } 2x - y - 3z + 1 = 0$$

Example 2.13. Find the constants a, b, c so that $\vec{F} = (x + 2y + az)\vec{i} + (bx - 3y - z)\vec{j} + (4x + cy + 2z)\vec{k}$ may be irrotational. For these values of a, b, c , find its scalar potential.

Solution: We know that \vec{F} is irrotational if $\text{curl } \vec{F} = 0$.

$$\nabla \times \vec{F} = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ x + 2y + az & bx - 3y - z & 4x + cy + 2z \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{i} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y}(4x + cy + 2z) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(bx - 3y - z) \right]$$

$$- \vec{j} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(4x + cy + 2z) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(x + 2y + az) \right]$$

$$+ \vec{k} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (bx - 3y - z) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x + 2y + az) \right] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{i}(c+1) - \vec{j}(4-a) + \vec{k}(b-2) = 0$$

$$(i.e.) c+1=0, 4-a=0, b-2=0$$

$$(i.e.) a=4, b=2 \text{ and } c=-1$$

Using these values in \vec{F} , we get

$$\vec{F} = (x + 2y + 4z) \vec{i} + (2x - 3y - z) \vec{j} + (4x - y + 2z) \vec{k}$$

Let ϕ be the scalar potential. We consider $\vec{F} = \nabla\phi$.

$$\therefore (x + 2y + 4z) \vec{i} + (2x - 3y - z) \vec{j} + (4x - y + 2z) \vec{k} = \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = x + 2y + 4z; \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = 2x - 3y - z; \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} = 4x - y + 2z$$

Integrating, $\phi = \frac{x^2}{2} + 2yx + 4zx + f_1(y, z)$, $\phi = 2xy - 3\frac{y^2}{2} - yz + f_2(x, z)$ and $\phi = 4xz - yz + z^2 + f_3(x, y)$

$$f_1(y, z) = \frac{-3y^2}{2} + y^2 + z^2, f_2(x, z) = 4zx + z^2 + \frac{x^2}{2},$$

$$f_3(x, y) = 2xy - \frac{3y^2}{2} + \frac{x^2}{2}$$

We must choose ϕ , satisfying the above condition.

$$\therefore \phi = \frac{x^2}{2} - 3\frac{y^2}{2} + z^2 + 2xy + 4zx - yz + C$$

Example 2.14. If $\vec{F} = 3x^2 \vec{i} + 5xy^2 \vec{j} + xyz^3 \vec{k}$, find $\nabla \cdot \vec{F}$, $\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{F})$, $\nabla \times \vec{F}$, $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{F})$ and $\nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{F})$ at the point $(1, 2, 3)$.

Solution: Let $\nabla \cdot \vec{F} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(F_1) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(F_2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(F_3)$

$$\text{Here } F_1 = 3x^2, F_2 = 5xy^2, F_3 = xyz^3$$

$$\therefore \nabla \cdot \vec{F} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(3x^2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(5xy^2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(xyz^3)$$

$$= 6x + 10xy + 3xyz^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (\nabla \cdot \vec{F})_{(1,2,3)} = 6 + 20 + 54 = 80.$$

$$\text{Also } \nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{F}) = \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\nabla \cdot \vec{F})$$

$$= \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (6x + 10xy + 3xyz^2)$$

$$= \vec{i}(6 + 10y + 3yz^2) + \vec{j}(10x + 3xz^2) + \vec{k}(6xyz)$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{F})_{(1,2,3)} = \vec{i}(6 + 20 + 54) + \vec{j}(10 + 27) + \vec{k}(36)$$

$$= 80 \vec{i} + 37 \vec{j} + 36 \vec{k}$$

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$$\text{Now } \nabla \times \vec{F} = \operatorname{curl} \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ 3x^2 & 5xy^2 & xyz^3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \vec{i}(xz^3) - \vec{j}(yz^3) + \vec{k}(5y^2)$$

$$(\nabla \times \vec{F})_{(1,2,3)} = 27\vec{i} - 54\vec{j} + 20\vec{k}$$

$$\text{Also } \nabla(\nabla \times \vec{F}) = \operatorname{div} \operatorname{curl} \vec{F} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(xz^3) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(-yz^3) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(5y^2)$$

$$= z^3 - z^3 = 0 \quad [\text{Note: } \div \operatorname{curl} \vec{F} = 0 \text{ is a vector identity}]$$

$$\text{and } \nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{F}) = \operatorname{curl} \operatorname{curl} \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ xz^3 & -yz^3 & 5y^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \vec{i}(10y + 3z^2y) - \vec{j}(-3xz^2) + \vec{k}(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{F}))_{(1,2,3)} = (20 + 54)\vec{i} - (-27)\vec{j} = 74\vec{i} + 27\vec{j}$$

Example 2.15. If \vec{r} is the position vector of the point (x, y, z) with respect to the origin, prove that $\operatorname{div} \vec{r} = 3$, $\operatorname{curl} \vec{r} = 0$, $\nabla(r^n) = nr^{n-2}\vec{r}$

Solution: Let $\vec{r} = x\vec{i} + y\vec{j} + z\vec{k}$

$$\text{Then } \operatorname{div} \vec{r} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(z) = 1 + 1 + 1 = 3$$

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$$\text{Also } \operatorname{curl} \vec{r} = \nabla \times \vec{r} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ x & y & z \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \vec{i} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y}(z) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(y) \right] - \vec{j} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(z) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(x) \right] \\ + \vec{k} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(x) \right] = 0$$

$$\text{and } \nabla(r^n) = \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(r^n) = \sum \vec{i} nr^{n-1} \frac{\partial r}{\partial x}$$

$$\text{Here } \vec{r} = x\vec{i} + y\vec{j} + z\vec{k} \Rightarrow r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} = |\vec{r}|$$

$$(\text{i.e.}) \quad r^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2.$$

Differentiating partially w.r.to x, we get

$$2r \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = 2x \Rightarrow \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = \frac{x}{r}.$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} = \frac{y}{r}, \quad \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} = \frac{z}{r}$$

$$\text{Now } \operatorname{grad}(r^n) = \nabla(r^n) = \sum \vec{i} nr^{n-1} \frac{x}{r} \\ = \frac{nr^{n-1}}{r} (x\vec{i} + y\vec{j} + z\vec{k}) = nr^{n-2} \vec{r}$$

Example 2.16. Prove that i) $\operatorname{curl} \operatorname{grad} \phi = 0$ ii) $\operatorname{div} \operatorname{curl} \vec{F} = \nabla(\nabla \times \vec{F}) = 0$ iii) $\operatorname{div}(\phi \vec{u}) = \phi \operatorname{div} \vec{u} + \nabla \phi \cdot \vec{u}$

Solution: (i) We know that $\text{grad}\phi = \nabla\phi = \vec{i}\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} + \vec{j}\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} + \vec{k}\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z}$

$$\text{curl grad}\phi = \nabla \times (\nabla\phi) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \vec{i} \left[\frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial y\partial z} - \frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial z\partial y} \right] - \vec{j} \left[\frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial x\partial z} - \frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial z\partial x} \right]$$

$$+ \vec{k} \left[\frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial x\partial y} - \frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial y\partial x} \right] = 0$$

(ii) Let $\vec{F} = F_1 \vec{i} + F_2 \vec{j} + F_3 \vec{k}$

$$\therefore \text{curl } \vec{F} = (\nabla \times \vec{F}) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ F_1 & F_2 & F_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \vec{i} \left[\frac{\partial F_3}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial z} \right] - \vec{j} \left[\frac{\partial F_3}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial z} \right] + \vec{k} \left[\frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \right]$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{\partial F_3}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial z} \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[\frac{\partial F_3}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial z} \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left[\frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \right] \\ &= \frac{\partial^2 F_3}{\partial x \partial y} - \frac{\partial^2 F_2}{\partial x \partial z} + \frac{\partial^2 F_1}{\partial y \partial z} - \frac{\partial^2 F_3}{\partial y \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 F_2}{\partial z \partial x} - \frac{\partial^2 F_1}{\partial z \partial y} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

(iii) We know that $\text{div } \vec{F} = \sum \vec{i} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{F}}{\partial x}$

$$\Rightarrow \text{div}(\phi \vec{u}) = \sum \vec{i} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\phi \vec{u})$$

$$= \sum \vec{i} \cdot \left[\vec{u} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + \phi \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x} \right]$$

$$= \sum \left[\vec{i} \cdot \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \cdot \vec{u} \right) \right] + \sum \left[\vec{i} \cdot \left(\phi \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x} \right) \right]$$

$$= \left[\sum \vec{i} \cdot \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right] \cdot \vec{u} + \phi \left[\sum \vec{i} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x} \right] = \nabla \phi \cdot \vec{u} + \phi \text{div } \vec{u}$$

Example 2.17. Find the value of n , if $r^n \vec{r}$ is both solenoidal and irrotational, when $\vec{r} = x \vec{i} + y \vec{j} + z \vec{k}$

Solution:

$$\text{Consider } \text{div}(r^n \vec{r}) = \nabla r^n \cdot \vec{r} + r^n \text{div } \vec{r} \quad (2.5)$$

$$[\because \text{div}(\phi \vec{u}) = \phi \text{div } \vec{u} + \nabla \phi \cdot \vec{u}]$$

We know that $\text{div } \vec{r} = 3, \nabla r^n = nr^{n-2} \vec{r}$

$$\text{From (2.5), } \text{div } r^n \vec{r} = (nr^{n-2} \vec{r} \cdot \vec{r}) + r^n (3)$$

$$= nr^{n-2} r^2 + 3r^n = nr^n + 3r^n = (n+3)r^n$$

$\Rightarrow r^n \vec{r}$ is solenoidal means $\text{div } r^n \vec{r} = 0$, which is possible only when $n = -3$.

We know that $\operatorname{curl}(\phi \bar{u}) = \nabla \phi \times \bar{u} + \phi \operatorname{curl} \bar{u}$

$$\therefore \operatorname{curl}(r^n \bar{r}) = \nabla r^n \times \bar{r} + r^n \operatorname{curl} \bar{r}$$

$$= nr^{n-2}(\bar{r} \times \bar{r}) + r^n \cdot 0 = 0 \quad (\text{as } \bar{r} \times \bar{r} = 0, \operatorname{curl} \bar{r} = 0)$$

$\Rightarrow r^n \bar{r}$ is irrotational if $\operatorname{curl}(r^n \bar{r}) = 0$, (i.e.) whatever be the value of n .

Hence $r^n \bar{r}$ is solenoidal as well as irrotational when $n = -3$.

Example 2.18. Prove that $f(r) \bar{r}$ is an irrotational vector.

Solution:

$$\text{Consider } \operatorname{curl}(f(r) \bar{r}) = \nabla f(r) \times \bar{r} + f(r) \operatorname{curl} \bar{r} \quad (2.6)$$

$$\therefore \nabla f(r) = \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(r) = \sum \vec{i} f'(r) \frac{\partial r}{\partial x}$$

$$= \sum \vec{i} f'(r) \frac{x}{r} = \frac{f'(r)}{r} (x \vec{i} + y \vec{j} + z \vec{k}) = \frac{f'(r)}{r} \bar{r}$$

Further $\operatorname{curl} \bar{r} = 0$.

$$\text{From (2.6), } \operatorname{curl}(f(r) \bar{r}) = \frac{f'(r)}{r} (\bar{r} \times \bar{r}) + f(r) \cdot 0 = 0 + 0 = 0.$$

$\Rightarrow f(r) \bar{r}$ is an irrotational vector.

Example 2.19. Prove that $\nabla^2 r^n = n(n+1)r^{n-2}$ where $\bar{r} = x \vec{i} + y \vec{j} + z \vec{k}$.

Solution: We know that $\nabla^2 \phi = \nabla \cdot (\nabla \phi)$.

Hence $\nabla^2 r^n = \nabla \cdot (\nabla r^n) = \nabla \cdot (nr^{n-2} \bar{r})$.

Since $\nabla \cdot (\phi \bar{u}) = \nabla \phi \cdot \bar{u} + \phi \operatorname{div} \bar{u}$

$$\text{We have } \nabla \cdot (nr^{n-2} \bar{r}) = \nabla nr^{n-2} \cdot \bar{r} + nr^{n-2} \operatorname{div} \bar{r} \quad (2.7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } \nabla (nr^{n-2}) &= \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} nr^{n-2} = \sum \vec{i} n(n-2)r^{n-3} \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} \\ &= \sum \vec{i} n(n-2)r^{n-3} \frac{x}{r} = \sum n(n-2)r^{n-4} x \vec{i} \end{aligned} \quad (2.8)$$

Now put (2.8) in (2.7), we have

$$\nabla (nr^{n-2}) = n(n-2)r^{n-4} \bar{r} \cdot \bar{r} + nr^{n-2} \cdot 3$$

$$= nr^{n-2}(n-2+3) = n(n+1)r^{n-2}$$

Example 2.20. Find the angle between the normals to the surface $x^2 = yz$ at the points $(1, 1, 1)$ and $(2, 4, 1)$.

Solution: Let \bar{n}_1 = unit normal to $x^2 - yz = 0$ at $(2, 4, 1)$.

$$\text{(i.e.) } \bar{n}_1 = \frac{\nabla \phi}{|\nabla \phi|}.$$

$$\nabla \phi = \sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2 - yz) \text{ as } \phi = x^2 - yz$$

$$= \vec{i}(2x) + \vec{j}(-z) + \vec{k}(-y)$$

$$\text{at } (2, 4, 1) \Rightarrow \bar{n}_1 = 4 \vec{i} - \vec{j} - 4 \vec{k}$$

$$\text{Similarly } \bar{n}_2 = \frac{\sum \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2 - yz)}{|\nabla \phi|} \text{ at } (1, 1, 1).$$

$$\therefore \overrightarrow{n_2} = 2\vec{i} - \vec{j} - \vec{k}$$

If ' θ ' is the required angle then

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\overline{n_1} \cdot \overline{n_2}}{|\overline{n_1}| |\overline{n_2}|} = \frac{(4\vec{i} - \vec{j} - 4\vec{k}) \cdot (2\vec{i} - \vec{j} - \vec{k})}{\sqrt{16+1+16} \cdot \sqrt{4+1+1}}$$

$$= \frac{8+1+4}{\sqrt{33}\sqrt{6}} = \frac{13}{\sqrt{198}}$$

$$\therefore \theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{13}{3\sqrt{22}} \right)$$

Example 2.21. Prove that $\vec{A} = (2x + yz)\vec{i} + (4y + zx)\vec{j} - (6z - xy)\vec{k}$ is solenoidal as well as irrotational. Also find the scalar potential of \vec{A} .

Solution: We know that

$$\operatorname{div} \vec{A} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(2x + yz) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(4y + zx) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(-6z + xy)$$

$$= 2 + 4 - 6 = 0$$

$\therefore \vec{A}$ is solenoidal.

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{curl} \vec{A} &= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ 2x + yz & 4y + zx & -6z + xy \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \vec{i} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y}(-6z + xy) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(4y + zx) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$- \vec{j} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(-6z + xy) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(2x + yz) \right]$$

$$+ \vec{k} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(4y + zx) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(2x + yz) \right]$$

$$= \vec{i}(x - x) - \vec{j}(y - y) + \vec{k}(z - z) = 0$$

$\therefore \vec{A}$ is irrotational.

Let $\phi(x, y, z)$ be the scalar potential of \vec{A} .

$$\text{Then } \vec{A} = \nabla \phi = \vec{i} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z}$$

$$\text{Hence } \vec{i} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} = (2x + yz)\vec{i} + (4y + zx)\vec{j} - (6z - xy)\vec{k}$$

Equating the components by $\vec{i}, \vec{j}, \vec{k}$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = 2x + yz \quad (2.9)$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = 4y + zx \quad (2.10)$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} = -6z + xy \quad (2.11)$$

Partially integrating (2.9), (2.10) and (2.11) w.r.to x, y, z respectively, we get

$$\phi = x^2 + xyz + a \text{ constant independent of } x$$

$$\therefore \vec{n}_2 = 2\vec{i} - \vec{j} - \vec{k}$$

If ' θ' ' is the required angle then

$$\begin{aligned}\cos \theta &= \frac{\vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{n}_2}{|\vec{n}_1||\vec{n}_2|} = \frac{(4\vec{i} - \vec{j} - 4\vec{k}) \cdot (2\vec{i} - \vec{j} - \vec{k})}{\sqrt{16+1+16} \cdot \sqrt{4+1+1}} \\ &= \frac{8+1+4}{\sqrt{33}\sqrt{6}} = \frac{13}{\sqrt{198}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{13}{3\sqrt{22}} \right)$$

Example 2.21. Prove that $\vec{A} = (2x + yz)\vec{i} + (4y + zx)\vec{j} - (6z - xy)\vec{k}$ is solenoidal as well as irrotational. Also find the scalar potential of \vec{A} .

Solution: We know that

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{div} \vec{A} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(2x + yz) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(4y + zx) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(-6z + xy) \\ &= 2 + 4 - 6 = 0\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore \vec{A}$ is solenoidal.

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{curl} \vec{A} &= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ 2x + yz & 4y + zx & -6z + xy \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \vec{i} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y}(-6z + xy) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(4y + zx) \right]\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}& -\vec{j} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(-6z + xy) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(2x + yz) \right] \\ & + \vec{k} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(4y + zx) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(2x + yz) \right] \\ & = \vec{i}(x - x) - \vec{j}(y - y) + \vec{k}(z - z) = 0\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore \vec{A}$ is irrotational.

Let $\phi(x, y, z)$ be the scalar potential of \vec{A} .

$$\text{Then } \vec{A} = \nabla \phi = \vec{i} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z}$$

$$\text{Hence } \vec{i} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} = (2x + yz)\vec{i} + (4y + zx)\vec{j} - (6z - xy)\vec{k}$$

Equating the components by $\vec{i}, \vec{j}, \vec{k}$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = 2x + yz \quad (2.9)$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = 4y + zx \quad (2.10)$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} = -6z + xy \quad (2.11)$$

Partially integrating (2.9), (2.10) and (2.11) w.r.to x, y, z respectively, we get

$$\phi = x^2 + xyz + a \text{ constant independent of } x$$

$\phi = 2y^2 + xyz + a$ constant independent of y

$\phi = -3z^2 + xyz + a$ constant independent of z

Hence a possible form of ϕ is $\phi = x^2 + 2y^2 - 3z^2 + xyz + a$.

Example 2.22. Prove that the directional derivative of $\phi = x^3y^2z$ at $(1, 2, 3)$ is maximum along the direction $9\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} + \vec{k}$. Also find the maximum directional derivative.

Solution: Given $\phi = x^3y^2z$

$$\text{Hence } \nabla\phi = \left(\vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) (x^3y^2z)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^3y^2z) + \vec{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x^3y^2z) + \vec{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (x^3y^2z) \\ &= (3x^2y^2z)\vec{i} + (2x^3yz)\vec{j} + (x^3y^2)\vec{k} \\ &= 36\vec{i} + 12\vec{j} + 4\vec{k} = 4(9\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} + \vec{k}) \end{aligned}$$

We know that the directional derivative of ϕ is maximum along the direction $\nabla\phi$.

Hence it is maximum along the direction $4(9\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} + \vec{k})$, (i.e.) along $(9\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} + \vec{k})$.

Magnitude of this vector $= 4\sqrt{9^2 + 3^2 + 1^2} = 4\sqrt{91}$ and this is the maximum directional derivative.

EXERCISE

- Find the unit normal to the surface $x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2 = 7$ at the point $(1, -1, 2)$. [Ans: $\frac{\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}}{3}$]
- If $\nabla\phi = yz\vec{i} + zx\vec{j} + xy\vec{k}$, find ϕ . [Ans : $\phi = xyz + c$]
- If $\phi(x, y, z) = x^2y - 2y^2z^3$, find $\nabla\phi$ at the point $(1, -1, 2)$. [Ans : $-2\vec{i} + 33\vec{j} - 24\vec{k}$]
- Show that the vector $\vec{v} = (x + 3y)\vec{i} + (y - 3z)\vec{j} + (x - 2z)\vec{k}$ is solenoidal.
- Show that the vector $\vec{A} = 3x^2y\vec{i} + (x^3 - 2yz^2)\vec{j} + (3z^2 - 2y^2z)\vec{k}$ is irrotational.
- If \bar{a} is a constant, find $\operatorname{div}(\bar{r} \times \bar{a})$. [Ans: 0]
- Determine the constant 'a' so that the vector $\vec{v} = (x + 3y)\vec{i} + (y - 2z)\vec{j} + (x + az)\vec{k}$ is solenoidal. [Ans: a = -2]
- Evaluate $\operatorname{div}\bar{f}$ where $\bar{f} = 2x^2z\vec{i} - xy^2z\vec{j} + 3y^2x\vec{k}$ [Ans : $2xz(2 - y)$]
- If $u = x^2 - y^2 + 4z$, show that $\nabla^2u = 0$.

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10. If $\vec{F} = x^2y\vec{i} + xz\vec{j} + 2yz\vec{k}$, verify that $\operatorname{div} \operatorname{curl} \vec{F} = 0$.
11. Find the equation of the tangent plane to the surface $z = x^2 + y^2$ at the point $(2, -1, 5)$. [Ans : $4x - 2y - z = 5$]
12. If $\vec{F} = (x + y + 1)\vec{i} + \vec{j} - (x + y)\vec{k}$, show that \vec{F} is perpendicular to $\operatorname{curl} \vec{F}$
13. Find the maximum directional derivative of $\phi = x^3y^2z$ at the point $(1, 1, 1)$ [Ans : $\sqrt{14}$]
14. Find the value of a , if $\vec{F} = (axy - z^3)\vec{i} + (a - 2)x^2\vec{j} + (1 - a)xz^2\vec{k}$ is irrotational.
15. If \vec{u} and \vec{v} are irrotational, prove that $(\vec{u} \times \vec{v})$ is solenoidal.
16. Show that $\vec{F} = (\sin y + z)\vec{i} + (x \cos y - z)\vec{j} + (x - y)\vec{k}$ is irrotational.
17. When is a vector said to be (i) solenoidal, (ii) irrotational?
18. Find the unit normal to the surface $x^4 - 3xyz + z^2 + 1 = 0$ at the point $(1, 1, 1)$. [Ans: $\frac{1}{\sqrt{11}}(\vec{i} - 3\vec{j} - \vec{k})$]
19. If $r = |\vec{r}|$, where $\vec{r} = x\vec{i} + y\vec{j} + z\vec{k}$, prove that $\nabla \log |\vec{r}| = \frac{\vec{r}}{r^2}$
20. Find $\operatorname{grad} f$, where f is given by $f = x^3 - y^3 + xz^2$ at the point $(1, -1, 2)$. [Ans : $7\vec{i} - 3\vec{j} + 4\vec{k}$]

2 VECTOR CALCULUS

21. What is the greatest rate of increase of $u = xyz^2$ at the point $(1, 0, 3)$? [Ans: 9]
22. Prove that $\operatorname{grad} f(u) = f'(u) \operatorname{grad} u$
23. Find the directional derivative of the function $\phi = xy^2 + yz^3$ at the point $(2, -1, 1)$ in the direction of the normal to the surface $x \log z - y^2 + 4$ at the point $(-1, 2, 1)$.
[Ans: $\frac{15}{\sqrt{17}}$ units]
24. Find the constants a and b , so that the surfaces $5x^2 - 2yz - 9x = 0$ and $ax^2y + bz^3 = 4$ may cut orthogonally at the point $(1, -1, 2)$. [Ans: $a=4, b=1$]
25. Find the angle between the surfaces $x^2 - y^2 - z^2 = 11$ and $xy + yz - zx = 18$ at the point $(6, 4, 3)$.
[Ans: $\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{-24}{\sqrt{5246}}\right)$]
26. Show that $\vec{u} = (2x^2 + 8xy^2z)\vec{i} + (3x^3y - 3xy)\vec{j} - (4y^2z^2 + 2x^3z)\vec{k}$ is not solenoidal, but $\vec{v} = xyz^2 \vec{u}$ is solenoidal.
27. Find the directional derivative of $\phi = 2xy + z^2$ at the point $(1, -1, 3)$ in the direction of $\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$ [Ans: $\frac{14}{3}$]
28. If $\nabla \phi = 2xyz^3\vec{i} + x^2z^3\vec{j} + 3x^2yz^2\vec{k}$, find $\phi(x, y, z)$ given that $\phi(1, -2, 2) = 4$. [Ans : $\phi = x^2yz^3 + 20$]
29. If $r = |\vec{r}|$, where \vec{r} is the position vector of the point

(x, y, z) with respect to the origin, prove that $\nabla^2 f(r) = f''(r) + \frac{2}{r} f'(r)$

30. Find the directional derivative of $\phi = xy + yz + zx$ in the direction of vector $\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$ at $(1, 2, 0)$. [Ans: $\frac{10}{3}$]
31. Find the angle of intersection at $(4, -3, 2)$ of spheres $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 29$ and $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 4x - 6y - 8z - 47 = 0$. [Ans: $\cos^{-1} \sqrt{19/29}$]
32. Find $\nabla\phi$ and $|\nabla\phi|$ when $\phi = (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)e^{-(x^2+y^2+z^2)^{1/2}}$
[Ans: $(2-r)\vec{r}, (2-r)e^{-r}\vec{r}$]
33. If $u = 3x^2y$ and $v = xz^2 - 2y$, then find $\text{grad}[(\text{grad}u).(\text{grad}v)]$
[Ans: $(6yz^2 - 4x)\vec{i} + 6xz^2\vec{j} + 12xyz\vec{k}$]
34. Find $\text{div } \vec{f}$ and $\text{curl } \vec{f}$ where $\vec{f} = \text{grad}(x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz)$ [Ans: $\text{div } \vec{f} = 6(x + y + z), \text{curl } \vec{f} = 0$]
35. Find the directional derivative of $\phi = xy^2 + yz^3$ at the point $P(2, -1, 1)$ in the direction of PQ where Q is the point $(3, 1, 3)$. [Ans: $-\frac{11}{3}$]
36. Find the values of λ and μ if the surfaces $\lambda x^2 - \mu yz = (\lambda + 2)x$ and $4x^2y + z^3 = 4$ cut orthogonally at the point $(1, -1, 2)$. [Ans: $\lambda = \frac{5}{2}, \mu = 1$]
37. Prove that $yz^2\vec{i} + (xz^2 - 1)\vec{j} + 2(xyz - 1)\vec{k}$ is irrotational

and find its scalar potential. [Ans: $xy^2 - y - z + c$]

38. Find the angle between the surfaces $x \log z = y^2 - 1$ and $x^2y = 2 - z$ at the point $(1, 1, 1)$. [Ans: $\cos^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{30}} \right)$]
39. Find the directional derivative of $\phi = 2x^2 + 3y^2 + z^2$ at $(2, 1, 3)$ in the direction of the vector $\vec{i} - 2\vec{k}$. [Ans: $-\frac{4}{\sqrt{5}}$]
40. Prove that $e^x[(2y + 3z)\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}]$ is irrotational and find its scalar potential. [Ans: $e^x(2y + 3z) + c$]
41. Given the vector field $\vec{v} = (x^2 - y^2 + 2xz)\vec{i} + (xz - xy + yz)\vec{j} + (z^2 + x^2)\vec{k}$. Find $\text{curl } \vec{v}$. Show that the vectors given by $\text{curl } \vec{v}$ at $P_0(1, 2, -3)$ and $P_1(2, 3, 12)$ are orthogonal.
42. A fluid motion is given by $\vec{v} = (y + z)\vec{i} + (z + x)\vec{j} + (x + y)\vec{k}$. Is this motion irrotational? If so, find the velocity potential. [Ans: yes, $\phi = xy + yz + zx$]
43. In what direction from $(3, 1, -2)$ is the directional derivative $\phi = x^2y^2z^4$ maximum? Find the magnitude of this maximum. [Ans: $96\sqrt{19}$]
44. Establish the relation: $\text{curl curl } \vec{f} = \text{grad div } \vec{f} - \nabla^2 \vec{f}$.