

Module 6 - Vector calculus – Tutorial sheet

Easy

1. Find the directional derivative of $\text{div}\vec{A}$ at the point (4, 4, 2) in the direction of the corresponding outer normal of the sphere $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 36$, where $\vec{A} = xz\vec{i} + yx\vec{j} + zy\vec{k}$.

Ans: 5/3

2. Find the directional derivative of $\phi = 4e^{2x-y+z}$ at the point (1,1,-1) in the directional towards the point (3,-5,6).
3. Find a unit normal vector to the surface $x^3 + y^3 + 3xyz = 3$ at the point (1,2,-1)
4. Find the divergence and curl of the vector $\vec{V} = xyz\vec{i} + 3x^2y\vec{j} + (xz^2 - y^2z)\vec{k}$ at the point (2,-1,1)
5. Find the value of a so that the vector $\vec{F} = (x + 3y)\vec{i} + (y - 2z)\vec{j} + (x + az)\vec{k}$ is solenoidal. [Ans: -2]

Medium

6. Show that the vector \vec{F} is given by $\vec{F} = (x^2 - yz)\vec{i} + (y^2 - zx)\vec{j} + (z^2 - xy)\vec{k}$ is irrotational. Find its scalar potential ϕ . [Ans: $\phi = \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{y^3}{3} + \frac{z^3}{3} - xyz + c$]
7. Prove that $\vec{F} = (y^2 \cos x + z^3)\vec{i} + (2y \sin x - 4)\vec{j} + (3xz^2)\vec{k}$ is irrotational and find its scalar potential.
8. Prove that $\vec{F} = r^2\vec{r}$ is conservative and find the scalar potential ϕ such that $\vec{F} = \nabla\phi$
9. If $\text{grad}(f) = 2xyzi + (x^2z + z^2)\vec{j} + (x^2y + 2yz + 3z^2)\vec{k}$ and $f(1,0,-1)=11$, then find $f(x,y,z)$.

Ans: $f(x,y,z) = x^2yz + yz^2 + z^3 + 12$

10. Find $f(r)$ if the vector $f(r)\vec{r}$ is both solenoidal and irrotational. Ans : c/r^3

Hard

11. Find the directional derivative of the function $\phi = x^2 - y^2 + 2z^2$ at the point (1,2,3) in the direction of the line PQ where Q is the point (5,0,4) Ans : $\frac{28}{\sqrt{21}}$
12. Prove that $\nabla^2 f(r) = f''(r) + \frac{2}{r}f'(r)$.
13. If the directional derivative of $\phi = ax^2y + by^2z + cz^2x$ at the point (1,1,1) has maximum magnitude 15 in the direction parallel to the line $\frac{x-1}{2} = \frac{(y-3)}{-2} = \frac{z}{1}$, find the values of a , b and c

$$a = \pm \frac{20}{9}, \quad b = \pm \frac{55}{9} \quad \text{and} \quad c = \pm \frac{50}{9}$$

Ans :

14. If r is a position vector of the point (x,y,z) with respect to the origin, prove that

$$(i) \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{1}{r} \vec{r} \right) = \frac{2}{r} \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) \nabla \left[\nabla \cdot \left(\frac{1}{r} \vec{r} \right) \right] = -\frac{2}{r^3}$$

15. If \vec{a} is a constant vector and \vec{r} is a position vector of (x,y,z) with respect to origin, prove that $\nabla \times [(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{r}) \vec{r}] = \vec{a} \times \vec{r}$.