

Revision.

1. Gradient : $\nabla\phi = \vec{i} \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z}$.

2. Gradient of a constant is a null vector $\vec{0}$.

3. Directional derivative : $\nabla\phi \cdot \frac{\vec{a}}{|\vec{a}|}$

4. Directional derivative is maximum in the direction and magnitude of the maximum is $|\nabla\phi|$.

5. Unit tangent vector : $\frac{\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}}{|\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}|}$.

6. Unit normal vector : $\hat{n} = \frac{\nabla\phi}{|\nabla\phi|}$.

7. Angle between surfaces : $\cos\theta = \frac{\nabla\phi_1 \cdot \nabla\phi_2}{|\nabla\phi_1| |\nabla\phi_2|}$.

surfaces cut orthogonally if $\nabla\phi_1 \cdot \nabla\phi_2 = 0$.

8. Divergence $\text{div } \vec{F} = \nabla \cdot \vec{F} = \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F_3}{\partial z}$.

* $\nabla \cdot \vec{F}$ is scalar.

* $\nabla \cdot \vec{F} = 0$ then \vec{F} is solenoidal

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

* $\nabla \times \vec{F}$ is a vector

* $\nabla \times \vec{F} = \vec{0}$ then \vec{F} is irrotational.

10. If $\vec{r} = x\vec{i} + y\vec{j} + z\vec{k}$ then $\nabla \cdot \vec{r} = 3$ and $\nabla \times \vec{r} = \vec{0}$.

** 11. $\text{curl}(\text{grad } \phi) = \vec{0}$ i.e. $\nabla \times (\nabla\phi) = \vec{0}$

** 12. $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{F}) = 0$ i.e. $\text{div}(\text{curl } \vec{F}) = 0$.

** 13. If \vec{A} and \vec{B} are irrotational then $\vec{A} \times \vec{B}$ is solenoidal.

Solution:

$$\nabla \times \vec{A} = \vec{0}, \quad \nabla \times \vec{B} = \vec{0}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Consider } \nabla \cdot (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) &= (\nabla \times \vec{A}) \cdot \vec{B} - (\nabla \times \vec{B}) \cdot \vec{A} \\ &= \vec{0} \cdot \vec{B} - \vec{0} \cdot \vec{A} = 0 - 0 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

**14 If $\nabla \phi$ and $\nabla \psi$ are irrotational, then $\nabla \phi \times \nabla \psi$ is solenoidal.

$$\text{Solution: } \nabla \times \nabla \phi = \vec{0}, \quad \nabla \times \nabla \psi = \vec{0}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot (\nabla \phi \times \nabla \psi) &= (\nabla \times \nabla \phi) \cdot \nabla \psi - (\nabla \times \nabla \psi) \cdot \nabla \phi \\ &= \vec{0} \cdot \nabla \psi - \vec{0} \cdot \nabla \phi = 0 \cdot 0 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

15. Conservative vector field.

Let \vec{F} be a vector field in space and let AB be a curve described from A to B. then

$\int_A^B \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ depends not only on the path C but also on

the terminal points A and B.

If the integral depends only on the end points but not on the path C, then \vec{F} is called a conservative vector field.

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

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

Equivalently, the work done in moving a particle, by the conservative force around the closed curve is $\nabla \times \vec{F} = \vec{0}$: