


Vector Differentiation  
Practice Problems

S.Y. B. Tech sem II  
Branch - Computer  
ITVS

DIV-A	DIV-B	Questions
1	64	Show that $[\vec{p} + \vec{q}, \vec{q} + \vec{r}, \vec{r} + \vec{p}] = (\vec{p} + \vec{q}) \cdot [(\vec{q} + \vec{r}) \times (\vec{r} + \vec{p})] = 2[\vec{p} \vec{q} \vec{r}]$
2	65	If $\vec{l}, \vec{m}, \vec{n}$ are three non-coplanar vectors, prove that $[\vec{l} \vec{m} \vec{n}](\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{l} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{l} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{l} \\ \vec{m} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{m} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{m} \\ \vec{n} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{n} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{n} \end{vmatrix}$
3	66	Prove that the points (2, 1, 1), (0, 1, -3), (3, 2, -1) and (7, 2, 7) are coplanar.
4	67	Show that the vectors are coplanar: $2\vec{i} - \vec{j} + \vec{k}$ , $\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} - 3\vec{k}$ , $3\vec{i} + \vec{a}\vec{j} + 5\vec{k}$ if $a = -4$
5	68	Prove that the points (1, 1, 1), (2, -1, 1), (3, 1, 2) and (5, 1, 3) are coplanar.
6	69	Prove that $\vec{i} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{i}) + \vec{j} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{j}) + \vec{k} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{k}) = 2\vec{a}$
7	70	Prove that $\vec{a} \times [\vec{b} \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{d})] = (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{d})(\vec{a} \times \vec{c}) - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})(\vec{a} \times \vec{d})$
8	71	Prove that $[\vec{b} \times \vec{c}, \vec{c} \times \vec{a}, \vec{a} \times \vec{b}] = [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]^2$
9	72	Prove that $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + \vec{b} \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) + \vec{c} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) = 0$
10	73	Prove that $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) + (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) \cdot (\vec{a} \times \vec{d}) + (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{d}) = 0$
11	74	Prove that $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) = [\vec{a} \vec{c} \vec{d}]\vec{b} - [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{d}]\vec{a}$ , where $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ are coplanar vectors.
12	75	Prove that $\vec{d} \cdot [\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}))] = (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{d})[\vec{a} \vec{c} \vec{d}]$
13	76	If $\frac{d\vec{a}}{dt} = \vec{u} \times \vec{a}$ & $\frac{d\vec{b}}{dt} = \vec{u} \times \vec{b}$ , prove that $\frac{d}{dt}[\vec{a} \times \vec{b}] = \vec{u} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$
14	77	If $\vec{r} = a \cos t \vec{i} + a \sin t \vec{j} + at \tan \alpha \vec{k}$ , show that $\left[ \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}, \frac{d^2\vec{r}}{dt^2}, \frac{d^3\vec{r}}{dt^3} \right] = a^3 \tan \alpha$
15	78	Show that $\frac{d}{dt} \left[ \vec{u} \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} \frac{d^2\vec{u}}{dt^2} \right] = \left[ \vec{u} \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} \frac{d^3\vec{u}}{dt^3} \right]$
16	79	If $\vec{A} = (\sin t)\vec{i} + (\cos t)\vec{j} + t\vec{k}$ , $\vec{B} = (\cos t)\vec{i} - (\sin t)\vec{j} - 3\vec{k}$ , $\vec{C} = 2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - \vec{k}$ find $\frac{d}{dt}[\vec{A} \times (\vec{B} \times \vec{C})]$ at $t = 0$
17	80	If $\vec{a} = \vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - 3\vec{k}$ , $\vec{b} = 2\vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k}$ , $\vec{c} = \vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - \vec{k}$ Find $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$ and $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times \vec{c}$
<b>GRADIENT and DIRECTIONAL DERIVATIVES</b>		
18	81	Find $\nabla \phi$ if $\phi = 3x^2y - y^3z^2$ at (1, -2, 1)
19	82	Find the directional derivative of $\phi = x^2y + y^2z + z^2x^2$ at $P(1, 2, 1)$ in the direction of the normal to the surface $x^2 + y^2 - z^2x = 1$ at $Q(1, 1, 1)$
20	83	Find the directional derivative of $\phi = 2x^3y - 3y^2z$ at $P(1, 2, -1)$ in the direction towards $Q(3, -1, 5)$ . In what direction from P is the directional derivative maximum? Find the magnitude of maximum directional derivative.
21	84	Find the directional derivative of $\phi = x^4 + y^4 + z^4$ at $A(1, -2, 1)$ in the direction of AB where B is (2, 6, -1). Also find the maximum directional derivative of $\phi$ at (1, -2, 1).
22	85	Find the directional derivative of $\phi = x^2y^2 + y^2z^2 + z^2x^2$ at (1, 1, -2) in the direction of the tangent to the curve $x = e^{-t}$ , $y = 2\sin t + 1$ , $z = t - \cos t$ at $t = 0$
23	86	Find the directional derivative of $\phi = e^{2x} \cos yz$ at (0, 0, 0) in the direction of the tangent to the curve $x = a \sin t$ , $y = a \cos t$ , $z = at$ at $t = \pi/4$ .

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24	87	Find the directional derivative of $\phi = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ in the direction of the line $\frac{x}{3} = \frac{y}{4} = \frac{z}{5}$ at $(1, 2, 3)$
25	88	Find the directional derivative of $\phi = x^2 y \cos z$ in the direction of the line $\vec{a} = 2i + 3j + 2k$ at $(1, 2, \pi/2)$
26	89	Find the acute angle between the surface $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 9$ and $z = x^2 + y^2 - 3$ at $(2, -1, 2)$
27	90	Find the angle between the two surfaces $x^2 + y^2 + az^2 = 6$ and $z = 4 - y^2 + bxy$ at $(1, 1, 2)$
28	91	Find the rate of change of $\phi = xy + yz + zx$ at $(1, -1, 2)$ in the direction of the normal to the surface $x^2 + y^2 = z + 4$ .
29	92	In what direction is the directional derivative of $\phi = 2xz - y^2$ at $(1, 3, 2)$ maximum? Find its magnitude.
30	93	Find the rate of change of $\phi = x y^2 + y z^3$ at $(2, -1, 1)$ in the direction of the normal to the surface $x \log z - y^2 + 4 = 0$ at $(-1, 2, 1)$
31	94	Find the angle between the normals to the surfaces $x^2 y + 2xz = 4$ at $(2, -2, 3)$ and to $x^3 + y^3 + 3xyz = 3$ at $(1, 2, -1)$
32	95	Find the constants a and b such that the surfaces $ax^2 - 2byz = (a+4)x$ will be orthogonal to the surface $4x^2 y + z^3 = 4$ at $(1, -1, 2)$ .
33	96	Find the constants a, b if the angle between the surfaces $x^2 + axz + byz = 2$ & $x^2 z + xy + y + 1 = z$ at $(0, 1, 2)$ is $\cos^{-1}(1/\sqrt{3})$ .
34	97	Find the constants a, b such that the surfaces $5x^2 - 2yz - 9x = 0$ & $ax^2 y + bz^3 = 4$ cut orthogonally at $(1, -1, 2)$
35	98	If the directional derivative of $\phi = ax^2 + by + 2z$ at $(1, 1, 1)$ is maximum in the direction of $i + j + k$ , find a & b.
36	99	Find the constants a and b such that the surface $ax^2 - bxy + xz = 10$ is orthogonal to the surface $x^2 + y^2 = 4 + xz$ at $(1, 2, 1)$
37	100	Find the directional derivative of $\phi = \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2}$ at $(0, 1, 1)$ in the direction of normal to the surface $x^2 + y^2 - z^2 x = 1$ at $(1, 1, 1)$
38	101	Find the constants a and b such that the directional derivative of $\phi = ax^2 + by^2 + cz^2$ at $(1, 1, 2)$ has the maximum magnitude 4 in the direction parallel to x-axis.
<b>DIFFERENTIAL OPERATORS</b>		
39	102	If $\vec{a}$ is a constant vector such that $ \vec{a}  = a$ then prove that $\nabla \cdot \{(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{r})\vec{a}\} = a^2$
40	103	If $\vec{a}$ is a constant vector and $\vec{r} = xi + yj + zk$ , prove that i) $\text{div}(\vec{a} \times \vec{r}) = 0$ ii) $\text{div}(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{r})\vec{a} = a^2$ iii) $\text{div}(\vec{a} \times \vec{r} \times \vec{a}) = 2a^2$ iv) $\text{curl}(\vec{a} \times \vec{r}) = 2\vec{a}$ <a href="https://web.szli.ai/share?share_token=b12142e5-8f52-4483-ad69-c36c169fdbdd">https://web.szli.ai/share?share_token=b12142e5-8f52-4483-ad69-c36c169fdbdd</a>
41	104	If $\phi = x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz$ , find (i) $\vec{r} \cdot \nabla \phi$ , (ii) $\nabla \cdot \vec{F}$ , $\nabla \times \vec{F}$ where $\vec{F} = \nabla \phi$ 
42	105	Prove that $\nabla \left( \frac{1}{r} \right) = -\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}$ . <a href="https://web.szli.ai/share?share_token=7e8e885a-2b7e-43d6-b301-6ca6fbc27623">https://web.szli.ai/share?share_token=7e8e885a-2b7e-43d6-b301-6ca6fbc27623</a>
43	106	Prove that $\nabla f(r) = \frac{f'(r)}{r} \vec{r}$ and hence, find $f$ if $\nabla f = 2r^4 \vec{r}$ .
44	107	Show that $\nabla \left[ \frac{(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{r})}{r^n} \right] = \frac{\vec{a}}{r^n} - \frac{n(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{r})\vec{r}}{r^{n+2}}$

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45	108	Prove that $\nabla r^n = n r^{n-2} \bar{r}$
46	109	Prove that $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \bar{F}) = 0$ where $\bar{F}$ is a vector point function.
47	110	Prove that $\nabla \cdot \left\{ \nabla \cdot \frac{\bar{r}}{r} \right\} = -\frac{2}{r^3} \bar{r}$
48	111	Prove that $\nabla \cdot \left( r \nabla \frac{1}{r^3} \right) = \frac{3}{r^4}$
49	112	Prove that $\nabla \cdot \left( r \nabla \frac{1}{r^n} \right) = \frac{n(n-2)}{r^{n+1}}$
50	113	Prove that $\text{div grad } r^n = n(n+1) r^{n-2}$
51	114	Prove that $\nabla \times \left( \frac{\bar{a} \times \bar{r}}{r^n} \right) = \frac{(2-n)\bar{a}}{r^n} + \frac{n(\bar{a} \cdot \bar{r})\bar{r}}{r^{n+2}}$
52	115	Prove that $\nabla \log r = \frac{\bar{r}}{r^2}$ and hence, show that $\nabla \times (\bar{a} \times \nabla \log r) = 2 \frac{(\bar{a} \cdot \bar{r})\bar{r}}{r^4}$ , where $\bar{a}$ is a constant vector.
<b>DIVERGENCE AND CURL</b>		
53	116	$\text{div } \bar{F}$ and $\text{curl } \bar{F}$ where $\bar{F} = \frac{xi - yj}{x^2 + y^2}$ Find
54	117	If $\bar{A} = \nabla(xy + yz + zx)$ , find $\nabla \cdot \bar{A}$ and $\nabla \times \bar{A}$
55	118	If $\bar{F} = (\bar{a} \cdot \bar{r})\bar{r}$ where $\bar{a}$ is constant vector, find $\text{curl } \bar{F}$ and P.T. it is perpendicular to $\bar{a}$ .
56	119	Prove that $\bar{F} = \frac{\bar{r}}{r^3}$ is both irrotational and solenoidal.
57	120	A vector field $\bar{F}$ is given by $\bar{F} = (y \sin z - \sin x)i + (x \sin z + 2yz)j + (xy \cos z + y^2)k$ Prove that it is irrotational and hence, find its scalar potential.
58	121	A vector field is given by $\bar{F} = (x^2 + xy^2)i + (y^2 + x^2y)j$ . Show that $\bar{F}$ irrotational and find its scalar potential.
59	122	If $\nabla \phi = (y^2 - 2xyz^3)i + (3 + 2xy - x^2z^3)j + (6z^3 - 3x^2yz^2)k$ , find $\phi$ where $\phi(1, 0, 1) = 2$
60	123	Find the value of n for which the vector $r^n \bar{r}$ is solenoidal, where $\bar{r} = xi + yj + zk$
61	124	Prove that $\nabla \cdot \left\{ \frac{f(r)}{r} \bar{r} \right\} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} [r^2 f(r)]$ hence or otherwise prove that $\text{div}(r^n \bar{r}) = (n+3)r^n$
62	125	Show that $\bar{F} = (y^2 - z^2 + 3yz - 2x)i + (3xz + 2xy)j + (3xy - 2xz + 2z)k$ is both solenoidal & irrotational.
63	126	If $\bar{r}$ is the position vector of point $(x, y, z)$ and $r$ is the modulus of $\bar{r}$ , then prove that $r^n \bar{r}$ is an irrotational vector for any value of n but solenoidal only if $n = -3$ .



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D1	127,D 7	If $\vec{f} = (x + y + 1)\vec{i} + \vec{j} - (x + y)\vec{k}$ , prove that $\vec{f} \cdot \text{curl } \vec{f} = 0$
D2	128,D 8	Define irrotational field and hence check whether the vector field $\vec{F} = (x + 2y + 4z)\vec{i} + (2x - 3y - z)\vec{j} + (4x - y + 2z)\vec{k}$ is irrotational.
<b>DIFFERENTIAL OPERATORS</b>		
D3	D9	With usual notation, prove that $\nabla^2 \left[ \nabla \cdot \frac{\vec{r}}{r^2} \right] = \frac{2}{r^4}$
D4	D10	Show that $\nabla^4 r^2 \log r = \frac{6}{r^2}$
D5	D11	Prove that $\nabla^2 f(r) = \frac{d^2 f}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{df}{dr}$
D6	D12	Prove that $\nabla^2 (r^2 \log r) = 5 + 6 \log r$

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