

1.4.11 In rectangular coordinates, verify that $\nabla \bullet \nabla \times \mathbf{A} = 0$ where $\mathbf{A} = x^2 y^2 z^2 [\mathbf{u}_x + \mathbf{u}_y + \mathbf{u}_z]$ by carrying out the detailed differentiations.

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla \bullet \nabla \times \mathbf{A} &= \nabla \bullet \left[\left(\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial z} \right) \mathbf{u}_x + \left(\frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} \right) \mathbf{u}_y + \left(\frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} \right) \mathbf{u}_z \right] \\
&= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial z} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} \right) \\
&= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x^2 y^2 z^2) - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (x^2 y^2 z^2) \right) \\
&\quad + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z} (x^2 y^2 z^2) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2 y^2 z^2) \right) \\
&\quad + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2 y^2 z^2) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x^2 y^2 z^2) \right) \\
&= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (2x^2 y z^2 - 2x^2 y^2 z) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (2x^2 y^2 z - 2x y^2 z^2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (2x y^2 z^2 - 2x^2 y z^2) \\
&= 4x y z^2 - 4x y^2 z + 4x^2 y z - 4x y z^2 + 4x y^2 z - 4x^2 y z \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$