

# Multivariable Calculus - Problem Class 3

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## Question 1.2.3

Calculate  $(\mathbf{u} \circ \nabla)\mathbf{u}$  in cylindrical coordinates, where  $\mathbf{u} = u_r \hat{\mathbf{r}} + u_\theta \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + u_z \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ .

## My Solution 1.2.3

$$\begin{aligned} \text{N.B.} \quad \nabla &= \sum_{\alpha=1}^3 \frac{\mathbf{q}_\alpha}{h_\alpha} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_\alpha} \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{r}} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \hat{\mathbf{z}} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ \& \quad \hat{\mathbf{r}} &= (\cos \theta, \sin \theta, 0) \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} &= (-\sin \theta, \cos \theta, 0) \\ \hat{\mathbf{z}} &= (0, 0, 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{u} \circ \nabla)\mathbf{u} &= \left( u_r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{u_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + u_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) (u_r \hat{\mathbf{r}} + u_\theta \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + u_z \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \\ &\quad \text{Since } \hat{\mathbf{r}} \& \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \text{ depend on } \theta \\ &= \left( u_r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{u_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + u_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \hat{\mathbf{r}} + \left( u_r^2 \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{\partial r} + \frac{u_\theta u_r}{r} \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{\partial \theta} + u_z u_r \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{\partial z} \right) \\ &\quad + \left( u_r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{u_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + u_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \left( u_r u_\theta \frac{\partial \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}{\partial r} + \frac{u_\theta^2}{r} \frac{\partial \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}{\partial \theta} + u_z u_\theta \frac{\partial \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}}{\partial z} \right) \\ &\quad + \left( u_r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{u_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + u_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \hat{\mathbf{z}} \end{aligned}$$

## Question 1.3.1

Let  $f(r)$  be a smooth scalar-valued function of  $r = |\mathbf{r}|$ , and let  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  be a constant vector. Calculate

$$\nabla \times (\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{a} f(r))$$

## My Solution 1.3.1

$$\begin{aligned} [\nabla \times (\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{a} f(r))]_i &= \varepsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} [\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{a} f(r)]_k \\ &= \varepsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \varepsilon_{klm} x_l f(r) a_m \\ &= \varepsilon_{kij} \varepsilon_{klm} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (x_l f(r) a_m) \\ &= [\delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}] a_m \left( f(r) \frac{\partial x_l}{\partial x_j} + x_l \frac{\partial f(r)}{\partial x_j} \right) \\ &= [\delta_{il} a_j - a_i \delta_{jl}] \left( f(r) \delta_{jl} + x_l \frac{\partial r}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial f(r)}{\partial r} \right) \\ &= [\delta_{il} a_j - a_i \delta_{jl}] \left( f(r) \delta_{jl} + \frac{x_l x_j}{r} f'(r) \right) \\ &= \delta_{ij} a_j f(r) - 3 a_i f(r) + \frac{a_j x_i x_j}{r} f'(r) - \frac{a_i f'(r)}{r} x_j x_j \\ &= a_i f(r) - 3 a_i f(r) + \frac{f'(r)}{r} (\mathbf{a} \circ \mathbf{r}) x_i - r f'(r) a_i \\ \implies \nabla \times (\mathbf{a} f(r)) &= -2 f(r) \mathbf{a} - r f'(r) \mathbf{a} + \frac{f'(r)}{r} (\mathbf{a} \circ \mathbf{r}) \mathbf{x}_i \end{aligned}$$

N.B. -  $\delta_{ij} \times \delta_{ij} = 3$  &  $\sum_{j=1}^3 x_j^2 = r^2$

**Question 1.3.2**

Let  $\mathbf{u}$  be a vector field in  $C(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{R}^3)$ . Show that

$$\mathbf{u} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2} \nabla(\mathbf{u} \circ \mathbf{u}) - (\mathbf{u} \circ \nabla) \mathbf{u}$$

**My Solution 1.3.2**

$$\begin{aligned}
 [\mathbf{u} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{u})]_i &= \varepsilon_{ijk} u_j [\nabla \times \mathbf{u}]_k \\
 &= \varepsilon_{ijk} u_j \varepsilon_{klm} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_l} u_m \\
 &= \varepsilon_{kij} \varepsilon_{klm} u_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_l} u_m \\
 &= [\delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}] u_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_l} u_m \\
 &= u_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} u_j - u_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} u_i \\
 &= \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \frac{1}{2} u_j^2 \right) \right] - (\mathbf{u} \circ \nabla) u_i \\
 &= \left[ \frac{1}{2} \nabla(\mathbf{u} \circ \mathbf{u}) - (\mathbf{u} \circ \nabla) \mathbf{u} \right]_i
 \end{aligned}$$