

16.5 Curl and Divergence.

Curl.

Definition.

$\vec{F} = \langle P, Q, R \rangle$ then

$$\text{curl } \vec{F} = \langle R_y - Q_z, P_z - R_x, \underline{Q_x - P_y} \rangle$$

In 2D: $\vec{F} = \langle P(x, y), Q(x, y), 0 \rangle$

$$\text{curl } \vec{F} = \langle 0, 0, \underline{Q_x - P_y} \rangle$$

$$2D\text{-curl } \vec{F} = Q_x - P_y.$$

$$\boxed{\text{curl } \vec{F} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F}}$$

Cross product formula.

$$\vec{\nabla} = \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right\rangle$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ P & Q & R \end{vmatrix} = \text{curl } \vec{F}$$

EXAMPLE 1 If $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = xz \mathbf{i} + xyz \mathbf{j} - y^2 \mathbf{k}$, find $\text{curl } \mathbf{F}$.

$$\text{curl } \vec{F} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ xz & xyz & -y^2 \end{vmatrix} = (-2y - xy) \vec{i} - (0 - x) \vec{j} + (yz - 0) \vec{k}$$

$$= -y(2+x) \vec{i} + x \vec{j} + yz \vec{k}.$$

3 Theorem If f is a function of three variables that has continuous second-order partial derivatives, then

$$\text{curl}(\vec{\nabla} f) = \vec{0}$$

Conservative $\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} f = \vec{F}$.

EXAMPLE 2 Show that the vector field $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = xz \mathbf{i} + xyz \mathbf{j} - y^2 \mathbf{k}$ is not conservative.

By contradiction, suppose \vec{F} is conservative.

then, $\vec{F} = \vec{\nabla} f$ (from sect. 16.3).

$$\Rightarrow \text{curl } \vec{F} = \text{curl } \vec{\nabla} f = \vec{0} \quad (\text{by Thm. 3})$$

But, in example 1, we saw that $\text{curl } \vec{F} \neq \vec{0}$. So, this is a contradiction, and \vec{F} is not conservative.

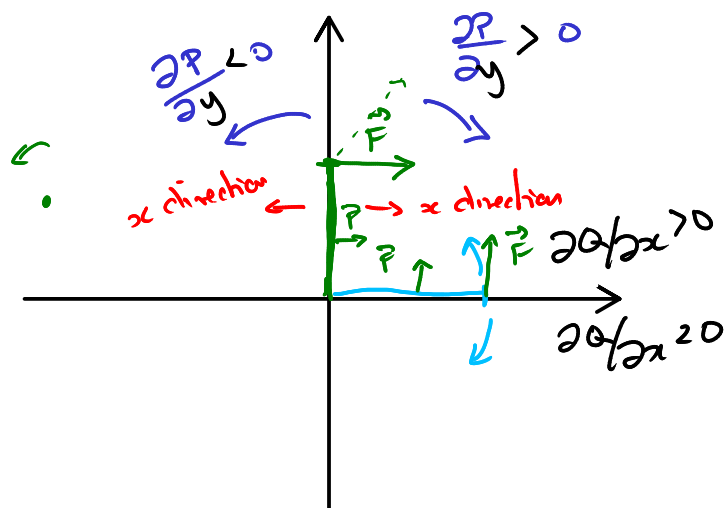
Proof.

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} f) = \vec{0}$$

$$\vec{a}_i \times \vec{c}_i^a = 0$$

$$\vec{F} = \langle P, Q \rangle$$

$$\vec{F} = \langle -y, x \rangle$$



$$\frac{df}{dx} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = c$$

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} > 0 \rightarrow \text{clock-wise rotation}$$

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} < 0 \rightarrow \text{clockwise rotation}$$

4 Theorem If \mathbf{F} is a vector field defined on all of \mathbb{R}^3 whose component functions have continuous partial derivatives and $\text{curl } \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0}$, then \mathbf{F} is a conservative vector field.

EXAMPLE 3

(a) Show that

$$\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = y^2 z^3 \mathbf{i} + 2xyz^3 \mathbf{j} + 3xy^2 z^2 \mathbf{k}$$

is a conservative vector field.

(b) Find a function f such that $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$.

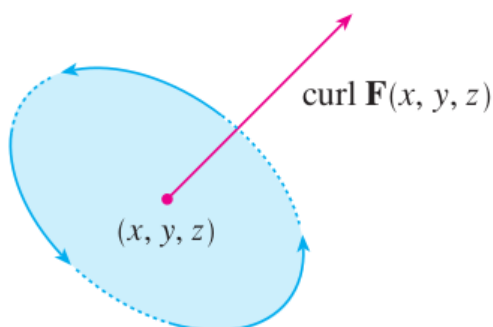
$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) } \text{curl } \vec{F} &= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ y^2 z^3 & 2xyz^3 & 3xy^2 z^2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6xyz^2 - 6xyz^2, \\ -(3y^2 z^2 - 3y^2 z^2), \\ 2yz^3 - 2yz^3 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle = \vec{0}. \end{aligned}$$

So, \vec{F} is conservative.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(b) } f_x &= y^2 z^3 && \rightarrow xy^2 z^3 \\ f_y &= 2xyz^3 && \rightarrow xy^2 z^3 \\ f_z &= 3xy^2 z^2 && \rightarrow xy^2 z^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So, } f(x, y, z) = xy^2 z^3 + C.$$

Physical interpretation.



- direction represents an axis of rotation.
- length represents how fast the particles are rotating around the axis.

Divergence.

Definition.

$\vec{F} = \langle P, Q, R \rangle$ then

$$\operatorname{div} \vec{F} = P_x + Q_y + R_z$$

In 2D.

$$\operatorname{div} \vec{F} = P_x + Q_y.$$

Dot product formula.

$$\vec{\nabla} = \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right\rangle$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div} \vec{F} &= \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right\rangle \cdot \vec{F} \\ &= \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{F}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}$$

EXAMPLE 4 If $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = xz\mathbf{i} + xyz\mathbf{j} - y^2\mathbf{k}$, find $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{F}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div} \vec{F} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(xz) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(xyz) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(-y^2) \\ &= z + xz \end{aligned}$$

11 Theorem If $\mathbf{F} = P\mathbf{i} + Q\mathbf{j} + R\mathbf{k}$ is a vector field on \mathbb{R}^3 and P, Q , and R have continuous second-order partial derivatives, then

$$\operatorname{div} \operatorname{curl} \vec{F} = 0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F}) = 0.$$



EXAMPLE 5 Show that the vector field $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = xz\mathbf{i} + xyz\mathbf{j} - y^2\mathbf{k}$ can't be written as the curl of another vector field, that is, $\mathbf{F} \neq \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{G}$.

By contradiction, suppose that it is possible: there is a \vec{G} st.

$$\vec{F} = \operatorname{curl} \vec{G}.$$

By Thm. 11, $\operatorname{div} \vec{F} = \operatorname{div} \operatorname{curl} \vec{G} = 0$.

By, by example 4, $\operatorname{div} \vec{F} \neq 0$, $\neq (-x)$. So $\vec{F} \neq \operatorname{curl} \vec{G}$, $\forall \vec{G}$.

Incompressible Flow.

\vec{F} velocity of a fluid.
 $\operatorname{div} \vec{F}$ measures the net rate of change of the mass of the fluid flowing at a giving point.

• $\operatorname{div} \vec{F} > 0 \rightarrow (x, y, z)$ source

• $\operatorname{div} \vec{F} < 0 \rightarrow (x, y, z)$ sink

• $\operatorname{div} \vec{F} = 0 \rightarrow (x, y, z)$ is incompressible

Laplace's Equation.

$f(x, y, z)$, then

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} f) = \operatorname{div} \vec{\nabla} f = f_{xx} + f_{yy} + f_{zz}.$$

Laplace's eq.
when = 0.

Notation (Laplacian)

$$\vec{\nabla}^2 f = \Delta f = f_{xx} + f_{yy} + f_{zz}.$$

Vector Forms of Green's Theorem.

I. First Formula with curl.

$$\vec{F} = \langle P, Q, 0 \rangle$$

$$\text{curl } \vec{F} = \langle 0, 0, Q_x - P_y \rangle$$

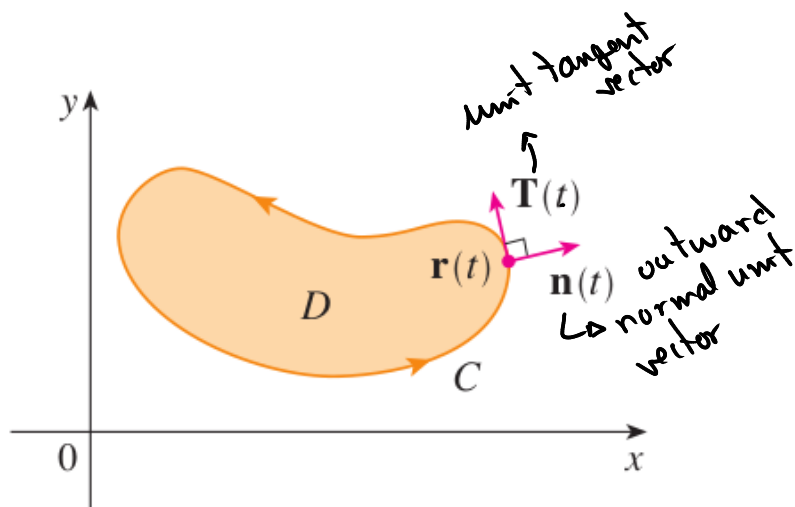
$$\langle 0, 0, Q_x - P_y \rangle \cdot \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$$

$$\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \iint_D (\text{curl } \mathbf{F}) \cdot \mathbf{k} \, dA$$

vector form of Green's thm.

$$\iint_D \underbrace{Q_x - P_y}_{\substack{\text{3rd component of} \\ \text{the 2D-curl}}} \, dA$$

II. Second formula with divergence.



$$\vec{T}(t) = \frac{\langle x'(t), y'(t) \rangle}{|\vec{r}'(t)|}$$

$$\vec{n}(t) = \frac{\langle y'(t), -x'(t) \rangle}{|\vec{r}'(t)|}$$

Use these vectors for the ds
↓

$$\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, ds = \iint_D \text{div } \mathbf{F}(x, y) \, dA$$

Stokes' theorem.

Maxwell's Equations. \vec{E} : electric field \vec{B} : magnetic field

$$\text{div } \vec{E} = 0$$

$$\text{div } \vec{B} = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} \text{curl } \vec{E} = - \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \\ \text{curl } \vec{B} = \mu_0 \left(\vec{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right) \end{cases}$$