

Divergence of a vector:

Let \vec{F} be any continuously differentiable vector point-function, then

$$\text{div } \vec{F} = \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial z} \right)$$

$$\text{div } \vec{F} = \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot \vec{F}$$

where \vec{F} vector point-function

Notes $\text{div } \vec{F} = \nabla \cdot \vec{F}$

Hence it is scalar point-function.

Solenoidal vectors

A vector point-function \vec{F} is said to be solenoidal vector if $\text{div } \vec{F} = 0$ (or) $\nabla \cdot \vec{F} = 0$.

Notes 1. $\text{Grad } \phi = \nabla \phi \rightarrow$ is vector point-fun.

2. $\text{div } \vec{F} = \nabla \cdot \vec{F} \rightarrow$ is scalar point-fun.

3. $\text{Curl } \vec{F} = \nabla \times \vec{F} \rightarrow$ is vector point-fun.

Examples

2.

1. If $\vec{F} = x^2 \hat{i} + 2x^2yz \hat{j} - 3yz^2 \hat{k}$ find $\text{div } \vec{F}$ at $(1, -1, 1)$

Sol:

$$\text{div } \vec{F} = \nabla \cdot \vec{F}$$

$$= \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot (x^2 \hat{i} + 2x^2yz \hat{j} - 3yz^2 \hat{k})$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x^2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(2x^2yz) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(-3yz^2)$$

$$= x^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x) + 2x^2z \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(y) + (-3y) \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(z^2)$$

$$= x^2 + 2x^2z - 6yz$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{F} = x^2 + 2x^2z - 6yz$$

$$(\nabla \cdot \vec{F})_{\substack{\text{at } (1, -1, 1) \\ x \ y \ z}} = (-1)^2 + 2(1)^2(1) - 6(-1)(1)$$

$$= 1 + 2 + 6 = \underline{\underline{9}}$$

2. Find $\text{div } \vec{F}$ when $\vec{F} = \text{grad}(x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz)$

Sol:

$$\text{Here } \vec{F} = \text{grad}(\underbrace{x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz}_{\phi})$$

$$= \nabla \cdot \phi$$

$$\text{where } \phi = x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz$$

first find $\nabla\phi$ then find $\nabla\bar{f}$

3.

find $\nabla\phi$:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla\phi &= \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) (x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz) \\ &= \hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz) + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz) \\ &\quad + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz)\end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{f} = \hat{i} (3x^2 - 3yz) + \hat{j} (3y^2 - 3xz) + \hat{k} (3z^2 - 3xy)$$

now find $\nabla\bar{f}$

$$\nabla\bar{f} = \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \left\{ \hat{i} (3x^2 - 3yz) + \hat{j} (3y^2 - 3xz) + \hat{k} (3z^2 - 3xy) \right\}$$

multiply corresponding unit vectors

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (3x^2 - 3yz) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (3y^2 - 3xz) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (3z^2 - 3xy)$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (3x^2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (3y^2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (3z^2)$$

$$= 3(2x) + 3(2y) + 3(2z)$$

$$\nabla\bar{f} = 6x + 6y + 6z = \underline{\underline{6(x+y+z)}}.$$

3. If $\vec{F} = (x+3y)\hat{i} + (y-2z)\hat{j} + (x+pz)\hat{k}$ is solenoidal, find p .

Sol: we know that,

def. of solenoidal,

\vec{F} is said to be solenoidal if $\nabla \cdot \vec{F} = 0$.

\therefore The given \vec{F} is solenoidal then

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{F} = 0$$

$$\left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot \left[(x+3y)\hat{i} + (y-2z)\hat{j} + (x+pz)\hat{k} \right] = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x+3y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(y-2z) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(x+pz) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (1+0) + (1-0) + (0+p) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2+p=0$$

$$\boxed{p = -2}$$

4. Find $\text{div } \vec{f}$ where $\vec{f} = r^{\hat{n}} \cdot \vec{r}$. Find 'n' if it is solenoidal?

Sol:

Here we know $\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$

$$|\vec{r}| = r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{r^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

P. diff. w.r.t 'x', 'y' & 'z' respectively to eq. (1).

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} r^2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)$$

$$2r \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = 2x$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = \frac{x}{r}} \quad \text{--- (a)}$$

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$$

$$2r \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} = 2y$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial r}{\partial y} = \frac{y}{r}} \quad \text{--- (b)}$$

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$$

$$2r \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} = 2z$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial r}{\partial z} = \frac{z}{r}} \quad \text{--- (c)}$$

now find $\text{div } \vec{f}$:

$$\text{div } \vec{f} = \nabla \cdot \vec{f}$$

$$= \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot r^{\hat{n}} \cdot \vec{r}$$

$$= \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) (x^{\hat{n}} + y^{\hat{n}} + z^{\hat{n}}) \cdot r^{\hat{n}}$$

$$= \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) (r^{\hat{n}} x^{\hat{n}} + r^{\hat{n}} y^{\hat{n}} + r^{\hat{n}} z^{\hat{n}})$$

6.

$$= \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot (x r^{\hat{n}} \hat{i} + y r^{\hat{n}} \hat{j} + z r^{\hat{n}} \hat{k})$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x \cdot r^{\hat{n}}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (y \cdot r^{\hat{n}}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (z \cdot r^{\hat{n}})$$

$$= \left\{ x \cdot n \cdot r^{\hat{n}-1} \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} + r^{\hat{n}} \cdot 1 \right\} + \left\{ y \cdot n \cdot r^{\hat{n}-1} \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} + r^{\hat{n}} \cdot 1 \right\} + \left\{ z \cdot n \cdot r^{\hat{n}-1} \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} + r^{\hat{n}} \cdot 1 \right\}$$

(\because the Eqn of (a), (b), (c) we get)

$$= x \cdot n \cdot r^{\hat{n}-1} \frac{x}{r} + y \cdot n \cdot r^{\hat{n}-1} \frac{y}{r} + z \cdot n \cdot r^{\hat{n}-1} \frac{z}{r} + 3r^{\hat{n}}$$

$$= n \cdot r^{\hat{n}-2} \cdot x^2 + n \cdot r^{\hat{n}-2} \cdot y^2 + n \cdot r^{\hat{n}-2} \cdot z^2 + 3r^{\hat{n}}$$

$$= n \cdot r^{\hat{n}-2} [x^2 + y^2 + z^2] + 3r^{\hat{n}}$$

$$= n \cdot r^{\hat{n}-2} \cdot r^2 + 3r^{\hat{n}}$$

$$\boxed{\nabla \cdot \vec{f} = n \cdot r^{\hat{n}} + 3r^{\hat{n}}}$$

from the given \vec{f} is solenoidal \Rightarrow

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{f} = 0$$

$$n \cdot r^{\hat{n}} + 3r^{\hat{n}} = 0$$

$$r^{\hat{n}} [n + 3] = 0 \Rightarrow n + 3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{n = -3}$$

5. Evaluate $\nabla\left(\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}\right)$ where $\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$
 & $|\vec{r}| = r$.

Sol: $\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$

$$|\vec{r}| = r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{r^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

P. diffn w.r.t 'x', 'y' & 'z' respectively,

$$2r \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = 2x \quad ; \quad 2r \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} = 2y \quad ; \quad 2r \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} = 2z$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial r}{\partial x} = \frac{x}{r}}$$

--- (a)

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial r}{\partial y} = \frac{y}{r}}$$

--- (b)

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial r}{\partial z} = \frac{z}{r}}$$

--- (c)

now to find $\nabla\left(\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}\right)$:

$$\nabla(\vec{r}, r^{-3}) = \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right) (x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}) \cdot r^{-3}$$

$$= \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right) (x r^{-3} \hat{i} + y r^{-3} \hat{j} + z r^{-3} \hat{k})$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x r^{-3}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (y r^{-3}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (z r^{-3})$$

$$= \left\{ x \cdot (-3) r^{-4} \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} + r^{-3} \cdot 1 \right\} + \left\{ y \cdot (-3) r^{-4} \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} + r^{-3} \right\} + \left\{ z \cdot (-3) r^{-4} \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} + r^{-3} \right\}$$

8.

Put Eqn (a), (b) & (c) in the above

$$= -3 \cdot x \cdot r^{-4} \cdot \frac{x}{r} + (-3) \cdot y \cdot r^{-4} \cdot \frac{y}{r} + (-3) \cdot z \cdot r^{-4} \cdot \frac{z}{r} + 3r^{-3}$$

$$= \frac{-3r^{-4}}{r} [x^2 + y^2 + z^2] + 3r^{-3}$$

$$= -3r^{-5} \cdot r^2 + 3r^{-3}$$

$$= -3r^{-3} + 3r^{-3}$$

$$= 0.$$

$$\therefore \nabla \left(\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} \right) = 0$$

Hence $\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}$ is solenoidal.

6. Let $\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$ then find $\text{div } \vec{r}$.

Sol:

$$\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$$

now To find $\text{div } \vec{r}$:

$$\text{div } \vec{r} = \nabla \cdot \vec{r} = \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot (x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k})$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(z)$$

$$= 1 + 1 + 1$$

$$= 3.$$

H.W:1. Show that i) $3y^4z^2\hat{i} + 2^3xz^2\hat{j} - 3x^2y^2\hat{k}$ Ans

ii) $(x+3y)\hat{i} + (y-2z)\hat{j} + (x-2z)\hat{k}$

is solenoidal.

2. If $\vec{F} = y(ax^2+z)\hat{i} + x(y^2-2z)\hat{j} + 2xy(z-xy)\hat{k}$ Ans is solenoidal then find a.