

21 Compute the divergence, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}$, of the following vector fields:

- (a) $\mathbf{A}(x, y, z) = yz\mathbf{e}_1 + xz\mathbf{e}_2 + xy\mathbf{e}_3$,
- (b) $\mathbf{A}(x, y, z) = (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)(3\mathbf{e}_1 + 4\mathbf{e}_2 + 5\mathbf{e}_3)$,
- (c) $\mathbf{A}(x, y, z) = (x + y)\mathbf{e}_1 + (y + z)\mathbf{e}_2 + (z + x)\mathbf{e}_3$.

22 Compute the curl, $\nabla \times \mathbf{A}$, of each of the vector fields, \mathbf{A} , in the previous question.

23 If $f(r)$ is a differentiable function of $r = |\mathbf{x}|$, for $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $r \neq 0$, show that

- (a) $\text{grad } f(r) = f'(r) \mathbf{x} / r$,
- (b) $\text{curl } [f(r)\mathbf{x}] = 0$, where now we let $n = 3$.

24 Let \mathbf{x} be the position vector in three dimensions, with $r = |\mathbf{x}|$, and let \mathbf{a} be a constant vector. Show that

- (a) $\text{div } \mathbf{x} = 3$,
- (b) $\text{curl } \mathbf{x} = 0$,
- (c) $\text{grad } r = \mathbf{x} / r$,
- (d) $\text{div } (r^n \mathbf{x}) = (n + 3) r^n$,
- (e) $\text{grad } (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{a}$,
- (f) $\text{div } (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{x}) = 0$,
- (g) $\text{curl } (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{x}) = 2 \mathbf{a}$,
- (h) $\text{curl } (r^2 \mathbf{a}) = 2 (\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{a})$,
- (i) $\nabla^2(1/r) = 0$, if $r \neq 0$,
- (j) $\nabla^2(\log r) = 1/r^2$, if $r \neq 0$,
- (k) $\text{div } [(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x})\mathbf{x}] = 4 \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}$,
- (l) $\text{div } [\mathbf{x} \times (\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{a})] = 2 \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}$,
- (m) $\text{curl } (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{x} / r^3) = 3 (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x})\mathbf{x} / r^5 - \mathbf{a} / r^3$,
- (n) Exam question June 2002 (Section A): calculate the curl of $(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}) \mathbf{x}$.

25 If \mathbf{x} is the position vector, $\mathbf{x} = x\mathbf{e}_1 + y\mathbf{e}_2 + z\mathbf{e}_3$, \mathbf{a} is a constant vector, $\mathbf{F} = (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}) \mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{G} = r^2 \mathbf{a}$, (with $r = |\mathbf{x}|$), show that

- (a) $\text{div } \mathbf{F} = 2 \text{div } \mathbf{G} = 4 \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}$,
- (b) $\text{curl } \mathbf{G} = -2 \text{curl } \mathbf{F} = 2 \mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{a}$,
- (c) $\text{div curl } \mathbf{F} = \text{div curl } \mathbf{G} = 0$,
- (d) $\text{curl curl } \mathbf{G} = -2 \text{curl curl } \mathbf{F} = -4 \mathbf{a}$.

26 Exam question June 2001 (Section A):

- (a) Give a representation of the vector function $\mathbf{A}(x, y) = y\mathbf{e}_1$ as a collection of arrows in the region of the (x, y) -plane bounded by $(x_1, y_1) = (-2, 2)$, $(x_2, y_2) = (2, 2)$, $(x_3, y_3) = (2, -2)$, $(x_4, y_4) = (-2, -2)$.

- (b) Calculate the curl of the vector field $\mathbf{A}(x, y) = (-y\mathbf{e}_1 + x\mathbf{e}_2)/(x^2 + y^2)$ defined everywhere in the (x, y) -plane except at the origin. (You can consider \mathbf{A} to be embedded in three dimensions, independent of z and with zero z component.)
- (c) Give the unit vector normal to the surface of equation $ax + by = cz$, where a, b, c , are three real constants.
- (d) (Slightly modified from exam) Let \mathbf{x} be the position vector in 3-dimensions and \mathbf{a} be a constant vector. Use the result $\mathbf{x} \times (\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{x}(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{a}) - \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x})$ to show that $\text{div} [\mathbf{x} \times (\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{a})] = 2\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x}$.