

## NABLA IDENTITIES

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{grad} \\ \text{div} \\ \text{curl} \end{array} \right\} (a+b) = \begin{array}{l} \text{grad}(a) + \text{grad}(b) \\ \text{div}(a) + \text{div}(b) \\ \text{curl}(a) + \text{curl}(b) \end{array}$$

likewise  $\begin{array}{l} \text{grad}(cf) = c \cdot \text{grad}(f) \\ \text{div}(cF) = c \cdot \text{div}(F) \end{array}$

Product rules:

$$\nabla(f \cdot g) = \nabla f \cdot g + f \cdot \nabla g \quad (\text{gradient})$$

$$\text{div}(fF) = \nabla \cdot (fF) = \nabla f \cdot F + f \nabla \cdot F = \text{grad } f \cdot F + f \cdot \text{div } F \quad (*)$$

Scalar field    Vector field

$$\text{curl}(f \cdot F) = \nabla \times (fF) = \nabla f \times F + f(\nabla \times F) = \text{curl } f \times F + f \text{curl } F$$

Proof of (\*) :  $\text{div}(fF) = \nabla \cdot (fF) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} fF_1 + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} fF_2 + \dots + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} fF_n =$

$$= \left( f \cdot \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_1} + F_1 \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \right) + \dots + \left( f \cdot \frac{\partial F_n}{\partial x_n} + F_n \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \right)$$

$$= f \cdot \left( \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_1} + \dots + \frac{\partial F_n}{\partial x_n} \right) + \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \right) \cdot (F_1, \dots, F_n)$$

$$= f \cdot \nabla \cdot F + \nabla f \cdot F$$


EXAMPLE 3.10  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  with continuous 2nd partial derivatives:

①  $\text{curl grad } f = 0$  ;  $\text{curl}(fF) = f \cdot \text{curl } F + \text{grad } f \times F$  ;  $\text{div}(fF) = f \text{div } F + (\text{grad } f) \cdot F$   
 $\nabla \times (fF) = f(\nabla \times F) + \nabla f \times F$      $\nabla \cdot (fF) = f(\nabla \cdot F) + \nabla f \cdot F$

Sol. ①

$\text{curl grad } f = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ f_x & f_y & f_z \end{vmatrix} = (f_{zy} - f_{yz}, f_{xz} - f_{zx}, f_{yx} - f_{xy}) =$   
 $= (0, 0, 0) = \underline{0}.$

*↳ vector product between  $\nabla$  &  $\nabla f$ .*

*Clairaut's thm* 

### EXAMPLE 3.11

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{r} &= (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \\ r &= |\underline{r}| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \\ \underline{c} &\in \mathbb{R}^3 \text{ vector}\end{aligned}$$

$$(i) \operatorname{div} (r^n (\underline{c} \times \underline{r}))$$

$$(ii) \operatorname{curl} (r^n (\underline{c} \times \underline{r}))$$

vector  $\perp$  to  
 $\underline{c} \propto \underline{r}$   
 $\downarrow$

$$(i) \operatorname{div} (r^n (\underline{c} \times \underline{r})) = \underbrace{\nabla r^n}_{(a)} \cdot \underbrace{(\underline{c} \times \underline{r})}_{(b)} + r^n \cdot \underbrace{(\nabla \cdot (\underline{c} \times \underline{r}))}_{(c)} = n \cdot r^{n-2} \cdot \underbrace{\underline{r} \cdot (\underline{c} \times \underline{r})}_{=0} + 0 = 0 + 0 = 0$$

$$(a) \nabla r^n \text{ was computed on Ex 3.2: } \underbrace{f(\underline{r}) = f(x, y, z) = \phi(r)}_{\text{setting Ex. 3.2.}} \leadsto \nabla \phi(r) = \frac{\phi'(r)}{r} (x, y, z).$$

$$\text{In our setting } \phi(r) = r^n \leadsto \nabla r^n = \frac{n \cdot r^{n-1}}{r} \cdot \underline{r} = n \cdot r^{n-2} \underline{r}$$

$$(b) \underline{c} \times \underline{r} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ x & y & z \end{vmatrix} = (c_2 z - y c_3, x c_3 - c_1 z, c_1 y - x c_2)$$

$$(c) \nabla \cdot (\underline{c} \times \underline{r}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (c_2 z - y c_3) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x c_3 - c_1 z) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (c_1 y - x c_2) = 0.$$

$$(ii) \quad \text{curl}(r^n (\underline{c} \times \underline{r})) = \underbrace{\nabla r^n}_{n \cdot r^{n-2} \underline{r}} \times (\underline{c} \times \underline{r}) + r^n \underbrace{\nabla \times (\underline{c} \times \underline{r})}_{\text{vector triple product}} \quad \textcircled{=}$$

$$\nabla \times (\underline{c} \times \underline{r}) = (\underline{c} \cdot \underline{r}) \underline{r} - (\underline{r} \cdot \underline{r}) \underline{c} = (\underline{r} \cdot \underline{r}) \underline{r} - r^2 \underline{c}$$

$$\star \nabla r^n \times (\underline{c} \times \underline{r}) = n \cdot r^{n-2} \underline{r} \times (\underline{c} \times \underline{r}) = n \cdot r^{n-2} ((\underline{r} \cdot \underline{r}) \underline{r} - (\underline{r} \cdot \underline{c}) \underline{r})$$

$$\star \text{curl}(\underline{c} \times \underline{r}) = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ c_2 z - c_3 y & c_3 x - c_1 z & c_1 y - c_2 x \end{vmatrix} = (c_1 + c_1, c_2 + c_2, c_3 + c_3) = 2 \underline{c}$$

$$\textcircled{=} n \cdot r^{n-2} (r^2 \underline{c} - (\underline{r} \cdot \underline{c}) \underline{r}) + r^n 2 \underline{c}$$

$$= n r^n \underline{c} - n \cdot r^{n-2} (\underline{r} \cdot \underline{c}) \underline{r} + r^n 2 \underline{c} = (n+2) r^n \underline{c} - n \cdot r^{n-2} (\underline{r} \cdot \underline{c}) \underline{r}$$