

Divergence

Suppose $\vec{A} = A_1\hat{i} + A_2\hat{j} + A_3\hat{k}$

is defined at each (x, y, z) and differentiable at each (x, y, z)

Then the divergence of \vec{A} is denoted by $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}$ and is defined as

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = \left(\hat{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot (A_1\hat{i} + A_2\hat{j} + A_3\hat{k})$$

$$= \frac{\partial A_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_2}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_3}{\partial z}$$

It is also denoted as $\text{div } \vec{A}$.

So it is a ~~vector~~ scalar.

Properties: If \vec{A}, \vec{B} be two differentiable vector functions such that

$$\vec{A} = A_1\hat{i} + A_2\hat{j} + A_3\hat{k}, \quad \vec{B} = B_1\hat{i} + B_2\hat{j} + B_3\hat{k}$$

and ϕ is a differentiable scalar field.

$$1) \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{A} + \vec{B}) = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B}$$

$$2) \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\phi \vec{A}) = (\vec{\nabla} \phi) \cdot \vec{A} + \phi \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}$$

1) H.W.

~~$$1) \vec{\nabla} \cdot \phi$$~~

$$2) \vec{\nabla} \cdot [\phi (A_1 \hat{i} + A_2 \hat{j} + A_3 \hat{k})]$$

$$= \vec{\nabla} \cdot [(\phi A_1) \hat{i} + (\phi A_2) \hat{j} + (\phi A_3) \hat{k}]$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\phi A_1) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (\phi A_2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (\phi A_3)$$

$$= A_1 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + \phi \frac{\partial A_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} A_2 + \phi \frac{\partial A_2}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} A_3 + \phi \frac{\partial A_3}{\partial z}$$

$$= (A_1 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + A_2 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} + A_3 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z}) + \phi (\frac{\partial A_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_2}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_3}{\partial z})$$

~~$$= (A_1 \hat{i} + A_2 \hat{j} + A_3 \hat{k})$$~~

$$= (A_1 \hat{i} + A_2 \hat{j} + A_3 \hat{k}) (\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \hat{i} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \hat{j} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \hat{k}) + \phi (\frac{\partial A_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_2}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_3}{\partial z})$$

~~$$= \vec{A} \cdot \nabla \phi + \phi \cdot \nabla \cdot \vec{A}$$~~

$$= \vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \phi + \phi \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}$$

~~Def:~~ Def: If \vec{A} is vector such that

$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = 0$, then \vec{A} is called solenoidal.

Ex. W. Find the constant α such that
 $\vec{A} = (x + 3y)\hat{i} + (y - 2z)\hat{j} + (x + \alpha z)\hat{k}$
is solenoidal.

Ex. W.

If $\vec{A} = x^2y\hat{i} + zxy\hat{j} + zx\hat{k}$
then find $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A}$ at $(1, -1, 5)$