

Quiz I solution

1. Using the definition of the gradient, prove that $\frac{dV}{dl} = (\nabla V) \cdot \hat{l}$, \hat{l} denote the unit vector of \vec{l}

Sol)

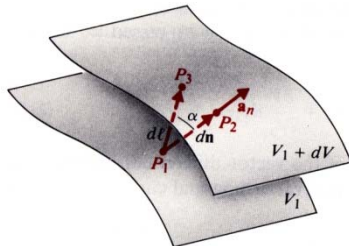


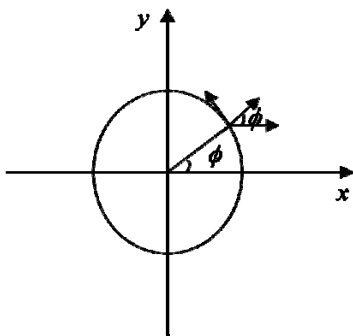
FIGURE 2-24
Concerning gradient of a scalar.

$$\text{grad} V = \nabla V \triangleq a_n \frac{dV}{dn} = \hat{n} \frac{dV}{dn}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dl} = \frac{dV}{dn} \frac{dn}{dl} = \frac{dV}{dn} \cos \alpha = \frac{dV}{dn} \hat{n} \cdot \hat{l} = (\nabla V) \cdot \hat{l}$$

2. Prove that $\frac{\partial \hat{r}}{\partial \phi} = \hat{\phi}$, $\frac{\partial \hat{\phi}}{\partial \phi} = -\hat{r}$

Sol)



$$\hat{r} = \hat{x} \cos \phi + \hat{y} \sin \phi, \quad \hat{\phi} = -\hat{x} \sin \phi + \hat{y} \cos \phi$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{r}}{\partial \phi} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} (\hat{x} \cos \phi + \hat{y} \sin \phi) = \hat{x} (-\sin \phi) + \hat{y} \cos \phi = -\hat{x} \sin \phi + \hat{y} \cos \phi = \hat{\phi}$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\phi}}{\partial \phi} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} (-\hat{x} \sin \phi + \hat{y} \cos \phi) = -\hat{x} \cos \phi + \hat{y} (-\sin \phi) = -(\hat{x} \cos \phi + \hat{y} \sin \phi) = -\hat{r}$$

3. Show that $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dz'}{(r^2 + z'^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{2}{r^2}$

Sol)

$$z' = r \tan \theta \rightarrow dz' = r \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$\int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \frac{r \sec^2 \theta}{(r^2 + r^2 \tan^2 \theta)^{3/2}} d\theta = \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \frac{r \sec^2 \theta}{r^3 (1 + \tan^2 \theta)^{3/2}} d\theta = \frac{1}{r^2} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \frac{1}{\sec \theta} d\theta = \frac{1}{r^2} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{r^2} \sin \theta \Big|_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} = \frac{2}{r^2}$$

4. Show that $\nabla\left(\frac{1}{R}\right) = -\frac{\hat{R}}{R^2}$ where $R = \sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}$

Sol)

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla\left(\frac{1}{R}\right) &= \hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(\frac{1}{R}\right) + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\left(\frac{1}{R}\right) + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\left(\frac{1}{R}\right) \\ &= \hat{x} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2 \right]^{3/2} \cdot 2(x-x') \right) \\ &\quad + \hat{y} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2 \right]^{3/2} \cdot 2(y-y') \right) \\ &\quad + \hat{z} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2 \right]^{3/2} \cdot 2(z-z') \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{R^3} (\hat{x}(x-x') + \hat{y}(y-y') + \hat{z}(z-z')) \\ &= -\frac{1}{R^2} \frac{\hat{x}(x-x') + \hat{y}(y-y') + \hat{z}(z-z')}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} = -\frac{\hat{R}}{R^2} \end{aligned}$$