

Here are some practice problems in vector calculus and curvilinear coordinates.

- Find equations for the tangent plane and normal line to the surface  $z = x^2 + y^2$  at the point  $(2, -1, 5)$ .
- Find the unit outward normal to the surface  $(x - 1)^2 + y^2 + (z + 2)^2 = 9$  at the point  $(3, 1, -4)$ .
- Find the divergence and curl of  $\hat{\mathbf{r}}/r^2$ .
- Prove:
  - $\nabla \cdot (\phi \mathbf{A}) = (\nabla \phi) \cdot \mathbf{A} + \phi(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A})$ .
  - $\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{A}$ .
- Show that  $\mathbf{F} = (2xy + z^3)\mathbf{i} + x^2\mathbf{j} + 3xz^2\mathbf{k}$  is a conservative force field. Find the scalar potential. Find the work done in moving an object in this field from  $(1, -2, 1)$  to  $(3, 1, 4)$ .
- Given  $\phi = 2xyz^2$  and a curve  $C(t) = (t^2, 2t, t^3)$  from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 1$ . Find  $\int_C \phi d\mathbf{r}$ .
- Evaluate  $\int_S \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$  where  $\mathbf{A} = 18z\mathbf{i} - 12\mathbf{j} + 3y\mathbf{k}$  and  $S$  is that part of the plane  $2x + 3y + 6z = 12$  which is located in the first octant.
- Prove Green's theorem in a plane. (See any textbook)
- For a given  $R > 0$ , define  $r_a = (x^2 + y^2 + (z - R/2)^2)^{1/2}$  and  $r_b = (x^2 + y^2 + (z + R/2)^2)^{1/2}$ . The prolate ellipsoidal coordinates are defined as

$$\begin{aligned}\xi &= \frac{1}{R}(r_a + r_b) \\ \eta &= \frac{1}{R}(r_a - r_b) \\ \phi &= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)\end{aligned}$$

Find inverse transformations, basis vectors  $e_\xi, e_\eta, e_\phi$ , scale factors  $h_\xi, h_\eta, h_\phi$ , differential vector  $d\mathbf{r}$ , length element  $ds^2$  and volume element  $dv$ .

- Let

$$\delta_n(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < -\frac{1}{2n} \\ n & -\frac{1}{2n} < x < \frac{1}{2n} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2n} < x \end{cases}$$

Show that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \delta_n(x) dx = f(0)$$

assuming that the function  $f$  is continuous at  $x = 0$ .