



Math 20A lecture 19

Div and curl

T.J. Barnet-Lamb

`tbl@brandeis.edu`

Brandeis University

Announcements

- ⑥ Homework nine due today.
- ⑥ Homework ten will be posted soon, due 1 week from today.
- ⑥ Office hours are 3–4.30pm today
- ⑥ See the website for all sorts of course-related fun
<http://people.brandeis.edu/~tbl/math20a/>
- ⑥ It is *your responsibility* to log into LATTE and check that the grades are entered correctly. So far, HW 1–6 should be posted.

Previously on math 20a

- ⑥ We looked at vector fields in two dimensions, and tried to practice visualizing them.
- ⑥ We looked at several kinds of line integrals. The two most important ones were *vector line integrals* and *flux integrals*.
- ⑥ Vector line integrals measure how much the vector field is ‘helping us’ (or if negative, hindering us) as we try to move *along* a path
- ⑥ Flux integrals measure how much ‘vector stuff’ is going *through* a boundary.

Example: computing a 2D divergence

Compute the divergence of the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle \cos x, \sin x + y \rangle$$

Example: computing a 2D divergence

Compute the divergence of the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle \cos x, \sin x + y \rangle$$

We just use the rule

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} &= \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_y}{\partial y} \\ &= -\sin x + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Example: computing a 2D divergence

Compute $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}$ for the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle \cos x, y \sin x \rangle$$

Example: computing a 2D divergence

Compute $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}$ for the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle \cos x, y \sin x \rangle$$

We just use the rule

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} &= \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_y}{\partial y} \\ &= -\sin x + \sin x = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Example: computing a 2D curl

Compute the curl of the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle \cos x, \sin x + y \rangle$$

Example: computing a 2D curl

Compute the curl of the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle \cos x, \sin x + y \rangle$$

We just use the rule

$$\begin{aligned} \text{curl } \mathbf{F} &= \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_x}{\partial y} \\ &= \cos x + 0 \end{aligned}$$

Example: computing a 2D curl

Compute $(\nabla \cdot R\mathbf{F})$ for the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle x^2 + y, y^2 + x \rangle$$

Example: computing a 2D curl

Compute $(\nabla \cdot R\mathbf{F})$ for the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle x^2 + y, y^2 + x \rangle$$

We just use the rule

$$\begin{aligned} \text{curl } \mathbf{F} &= \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_x}{\partial y} \\ &= 1 + (-1) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Example: computing a 3D divergence

Compute the divergence of the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle z \cos x, \sin x + y, xyz \rangle$$

Example: computing a 3D divergence

Compute the divergence of the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle z \cos x, \sin x + y, xyz \rangle$$

We just use the rule

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} &= \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_z}{\partial z} \\ &= -z \sin x + 1 + xy \end{aligned}$$

Example: computing a 3D curl

Compute the curl of the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle z \cos x, \sin x + y, xyz \rangle$$

Example: computing a 3D curl

Compute the curl of the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle z \cos x, \sin x + y, xyz \rangle$$

We just use the rule

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{F} &= \nabla \times \mathbf{F} \\ &= \left\langle \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial z}, \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y} \right\rangle \\ &= \langle yz - 0, \cos x - xy, \cos x - 0 \rangle\end{aligned}$$