

MA 261 QUIZ 9

NOVEMBER 6, 2018

If you do not know how to do any one of these problems, circle “(E) I don’t know” as your answer choice. You will receive **two points** for doing that. **Each problem** is worth **five points**. You get **two points** for writing your **full name** and **three points** for writing your **section number**.

Problem 9.1. Find a function f (if possible) such that $\nabla f = \mathbf{F}$, where $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \langle yz, xz, xy + 6z \rangle$

- (A) $3z^2 + xyz$
- (B) $3xyz^2$
- (C) xyz
- (D) DNE
- (E) I don’t know

Solution. The “if possible” was misleading as you did not know about curl yet. At any rate, checking against the given answer choices, we easily see that $\nabla(3z^2 + xyz) = \langle yz, xz, xy + 6z \rangle$. Therefore, the correct answer choice was (A). \diamond

Problem 9.2. Find a function f such that $\nabla f(x, y, z) = \mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \langle yz, xz, xy \rangle$ and use it to compute the line integral $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$, where $C = \{x = t^3, y = 1 + t^2, z = (1 + t)^2, 0 \leq t \leq 1\}$.

- (A) 4
- (B) 5
- (C) 7
- (D) 8
- (E) I don’t know

Solution. Although you did not know about curl, it is not necessary to check whether the given vector field \mathbf{F} is conservative since you are told to find an f whose gradient is the given \mathbf{F} ; in such a situation you should assume the given vector field is conservative.

It is not too difficult to see that $f(x, y, z) = xyz$ is a function whose gradient matches \mathbf{F} . Therefore, by the Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals, after finding the endpoints of C (which are $(0, 1, 1)$ and $(1, 2, 4)$), we get

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = f(1, 2, 4) - f(0, 1, 1) = 8 - 0 = 8.$$

Therefore, the correct answer choice was (D). \diamond

Problem 9.3. Evaluate the line integral $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$, where $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \langle y, -x, xy \rangle$ and C is parameterized by $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \sin t, \cos t, t \rangle$ with $0 \leq t \leq \pi$

- (A) $\pi/2$
- (B) $-\pi/2$
- (C) π
- (D) $-\pi$
- (E) I don't know

Solution. In this case the field \mathbf{F} is nonconservative (i.e., $\nabla \times \mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \langle x, y, 0 \rangle$), but the line integral can be done explicitly, as follows. Let $x = \sin t$, $y = \cos t$, and $z = t$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} &= \int_0^\pi \langle \cos t, -\sin t, \sin t \cos t \rangle \cdot \langle \cos t, -\sin t, 1 \rangle dt \\ &= \int_0^\pi 1 + \sin t \cos t dt \\ &= \pi + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\pi \sin(2t) dt \\ &= \pi + \frac{1}{4} \cos(2t) \Big|_{t=0}^{t=\pi} \\ &= \pi + \frac{1}{4}(1 - 1) \\ &= \pi. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the correct answer was (C).

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