

Homework 2: Vector calculus

1. R.T.P. that

$$(i) \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{r}f(r)) = 3f(r) + r\frac{df}{dr}.$$

$$(ii) \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{r}r^{n-1}) = (n+2)r^{n-1}.$$

$$(iii) \mathbf{A} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) = \nabla_B(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) - (\mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{B}.$$

$$(iv) \nabla \times (f\mathbf{V}) = f\nabla \times \mathbf{V} + \nabla f \times \mathbf{V}.$$

$$(v) \nabla \times (\mathbf{r}f(r)) = 0.$$

2. (a) Show that

$$\mathbf{E} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t},$$

where \mathbf{E} is the electric field and \mathbf{A} the magnetic vector potential, is irrotational and, therefore,

$$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla\phi - \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t}.$$

(b) Show that the Lorentz force on a point charge

$$\mathbf{F} = q(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$$

can be rewritten as

$$\mathbf{F} = q \left[-\nabla\phi - \frac{d\mathbf{A}}{dt} + \nabla(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{v}) \right].$$

3. Write $\nabla\psi$, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{V}$, and $\nabla^2\mathbf{V}$ in cylindrical polar coordinates.