

# **VECTOR CALCULUS**

A project report submitted in partial fulfilment for the  
award of **Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.)**

6<sup>th</sup> Semester end examination

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Submitted by

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## CERTIFICATE

This is to certified that the project entitled “**VECTOR CALCULUS**” submitted by **ANNEPU DILEEP** for the award of Bachelor of Science (B.S.C.), Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, during the year 2021-22 is genuine record of the work done by him my supervision.

Place: Visakhapatnam

Date:



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## DECLARATION

I, hereby declare that project entitled “**VECTOR CALCULUS**” is an original work done by me and submitted to the Department of mathematics and Statistics, Mrs. AVN College, Visakhapatnam, for the fulfillment of the 6<sup>th</sup> Semester end examination. I also declare, that this or part of it has not been submitted to any other college for the award of degree.

**Place: Visakhapatnam**

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## 17. Vector Calculus with Applications

### 17.1 INTRODUCTION

In vector calculus, we deal with two types of functions: Scalar Functions (or Scalar Field) and Vector Functions (or Vector Field).

#### Scalar Point Function

A scalar function  $F(x, y, z)$  defined over some region  $R$  of space is a function which associates, to each point  $P(x, y, z)$  in  $R$ , a scalar value  $F(P) = F(x, y, z)$ . And the set of all scalars  $F(P)$  for all values of  $P$  in  $R$  is called the scalar field over  $R$ .

Precisely, we can say that scalar function defines a scalar field in a region or on a space or a curve. Examples are the temperature field in a body, pressure field in the air in earth's atmosphere.

Moreover, if the position vector of the point  $P$  is  $\vec{r}$ , then we may also write the scalar field as  $F(P) = F(\vec{r})$ . This notation emphasizes the fact that the scalar value  $F(\vec{r})$  is associated with the position vector  $\vec{r}$  in the region  $R$ .

**E.g. 1)** The distance  $F(P)$  of any point  $P(x, y, z)$  from a fixed point  $P'(x', y', z')$  in the space is a scalar function whose domain of definition is the whole space and is given by  $F(P) = \sqrt{(x - x')^2 + (y - y')^2 + (z - z')^2}$ . Also  $F(P)$  defines a scalar field in space.

**E.g. 2)** The function  $F(x, y, z) = xy^2 + yz + x^2$  for the point  $(x, y, z)$  inside the unit sphere  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$  is a scalar function and also defines a scalar field throughout the sphere.

**Note:** In the physical problems, the scalar function  $F$  depends on time variable  $t$  in addition to the point  $P$  and then we write it as  $F(P, t) = F(\vec{r}, t) = F(x, y, z, t)$ . The example of such a time dependent scalar function is the temperature distribution throughout a block of metal heated in such a way that its temperature varies with time.

#### Vector Point Function

A vector function  $\vec{F}(x, y, z)$  defined over some region  $R$  of space is a function which associates, to each point  $P(x, y, z)$  in  $R$ , a vector value  $\vec{F}(P) = \vec{F}(x, y, z)$  and the set of all vectors  $\vec{F}(P)$  for all points  $P$  in  $R$  is called the vector field over  $R$ .

Moreover, if the position vector of the point  $P$  is  $\vec{r}$ , then we may write the vector field as  $\vec{F}(P) = \vec{F}(\vec{r})$ . This notation emphasizes the fact that the vector value  $\vec{F}(\vec{r})$  is associated with the position vector  $\vec{r}$  in the region  $R$ . Also the general form (component form) of the vector function is  $\vec{F}(\vec{r}) = F_1(\vec{r})\hat{i} + F_2(\vec{r})\hat{j} + F_3(\vec{r})\hat{k}$ , where the components  $F_1(\vec{r})$ ,  $F_2(\vec{r})$  and  $F_3(\vec{r})$  are the scalar functions.

**E.g. 1)** The function  $\vec{F}(x, y, z) = 2xy\hat{i} + \sin x\hat{j} + 3z^2\hat{k}$  for point  $P(x, y, z)$  inside an ellipsoid  $\frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{16} + \frac{z^2}{4} = 1$  is a vector function and defines a vector field throughout the ellipsoid.

**E.g. 2)** The force field given by  $\vec{F}(x, y, z) = x\hat{i} + 2y\hat{j} + z^2\hat{k}$  is a vector field.

**Note:** Like the time dependent scalar field, time dependent vector field also exists. Such a field depends on time variable  $t$  in addition to the point in the region  $R$  and may be expressed as  $\vec{F}(\vec{r}, t) = F_1(\vec{r}, t)\mathbf{i} + F_2(\vec{r}, t)\mathbf{j} + F_3(\vec{r}, t)\mathbf{k}$ , where  $F_1$ ,  $F_2$  and  $F_3$  are scalar functions. An example of time dependent vector field is the fluid velocity vector in the unsteady flow of water around a bridge support column, because this velocity depends on the position vector  $\vec{r}$  in the water and the time variable  $t$  and is given as  $\vec{V}(\vec{r}, t)$ .

### Vector Function of Single Variable

A vector function  $\vec{F}$  of single variable  $t$  is a function which assigns a vector value  $\vec{F}(t)$  to each scalar value  $t$  in interval  $a \leq t \leq b$ . In the component form, it may be written as  $\vec{F}(t) = F_1(t)\mathbf{i} + F_2(t)\mathbf{j} + F_3(t)\mathbf{k}$  where  $F_1$ ,  $F_2$  and  $F_3$  are called components and are scalar functions of the same single variable  $t$ .

For example, the functions given by  $\vec{F}(t) = t\mathbf{i} + \sin(t-2)\mathbf{j} + \cos 3t\mathbf{k}$  and  $\vec{G}(t) = t^2\mathbf{i} + e^t\mathbf{j} + \log t\mathbf{k}$  are vector functions of a single variable  $t$ .

### Limit of a Vector Function of Single Variable

A vector function  $\vec{F}(t) = F_1(t)\mathbf{i} + F_2(t)\mathbf{j} + F_3(t)\mathbf{k}$  of single variable  $t$  is said to have a limit  $\vec{L} = L_1\mathbf{i} + L_2\mathbf{j} + L_3\mathbf{k}$  as  $t \rightarrow t_0$ , if  $\vec{F}(t)$  is defined in the neighborhood of  $t_0$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} |\vec{F}(t) - \vec{L}| = 0$  or  $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} |F_1(t) - L_1| = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} |F_2(t) - L_2| = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} |F_3(t) - L_3| = 0$ , then we write it as  $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{F}(t) = \vec{L}$ .

### Continuity of a Vector Function of Single Variable

A vector function  $\vec{F}(t) = F_1(t)\mathbf{i} + F_2(t)\mathbf{j} + F_3(t)\mathbf{k}$  of a single variable  $t$  is said to be continuous at  $t = t_0$ , if it is defined in some neighborhood of  $t_0$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \vec{F}(t) = \vec{F}(t_0)$ .

Moreover,  $\vec{F}(t)$  is said to be continuous at  $t = t_0$  if and only if its three components  $F_1$ ,  $F_2$  and  $F_3$  are continuous as  $t = t_0$ .

## DIFFERENTIAL VECTOR CALCULUS

### 17.2 DIFFERENTIATION OF VECTORES

#### Differentiability of a Vector Function of Single Variable

A vector function  $\vec{F}(t) = F_1(t)\mathbf{i} + F_2(t)\mathbf{j} + F_3(t)\mathbf{k}$  of a single variable  $t$  defined over the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  is said to be differentiable at  $t = t_0$  if the following limit exists.

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} \frac{\vec{F}(t) - \vec{F}(t_0)}{t - t_0} = \vec{F}'(t_0)$$

And  $\vec{F}'(t_0)$  is called the derivative of  $\vec{F}(t)$  at  $t = t_0$ .

Also  $\vec{F}(t)$  is said to be differentiable over the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$ , if it is differentiable at each of the points of the interval. In component form,  $\vec{F}(t)$  is said to be differentiable at  $t = t_0$  if and only if its three components are differentiable at  $t = t_0$ . In general, the derivative of  $\vec{F}(t)$  is given by

$\vec{F}'(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\vec{F}(t+\Delta t) - \vec{F}(t)}{\Delta t}$ , provided the limit exists and in terms of components

$$\vec{F}'(t) = F_1'(t)\hat{i} + F_2'(t)\hat{j} + F_3'(t)\hat{k} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = \frac{dF_1}{dt}\hat{i} + \frac{dF_2}{dt}\hat{j} + \frac{dF_3}{dt}\hat{k}.$$

In the similar manner,  $\frac{d^2\vec{F}}{dt^2} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} \right)$ ,  $\frac{d^3\vec{F}}{dt^3} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{d^2\vec{F}}{dt^2} \right) = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \left( \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} \right)$ .

### Rules for Differentiation of Vector Functions

If  $\vec{F}(t)$ ,  $\vec{G}(t)$  &  $\vec{H}(t)$  are the vector functions and  $f(t)$  is a scalar function of single variable  $t$  defined over the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$ , then

- $\frac{d\vec{C}}{dt} = \vec{0}$ , where  $\vec{C}$  is a constant vector.
- $\frac{d(C\vec{F}(t))}{dt} = C \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt}$ , where  $C$  is a constant.
- $\frac{d(\vec{F}(t) \pm \vec{G}(t))}{dt} = \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} \pm \frac{d\vec{G}}{dt}$
- $\frac{d(f(t)\vec{F}(t))}{dt} = f(t) \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} + \frac{df}{dt} \vec{F}(t)$
- $\frac{d(\vec{F}(t) \cdot \vec{G}(t))}{dt} = \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} \cdot \vec{G}(t) + \vec{F}(t) \cdot \frac{d\vec{G}}{dt}$
- $\frac{d(\vec{F}(t) \times \vec{G}(t))}{dt} = \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} \times \vec{G}(t) + \vec{F}(t) \times \frac{d\vec{G}}{dt}$
- $\frac{d}{dt} [\vec{F}(t), \vec{G}(t), \vec{H}(t)] = \left[ \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt}, \vec{G}(t), \vec{H}(t) \right] + \left[ \vec{F}(t), \frac{d\vec{G}}{dt}, \vec{H}(t) \right] + \left[ \vec{F}(t), \vec{G}(t), \frac{d\vec{H}}{dt} \right]$
- $\frac{d}{dt} [\vec{F}(t) \times (\vec{G}(t) \times \vec{H}(t))] = \left[ \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} \times (\vec{G}(t) \times \vec{H}(t)) \right] + \left[ \vec{F}(t) \times \left( \frac{d\vec{G}}{dt} \times \vec{H}(t) \right) \right] + \left[ \vec{F}(t) \times \left( \vec{G}(t) \times \frac{d\vec{H}}{dt} \right) \right]$
- If  $\vec{F}(t)$  is differentiable function of  $t$  and  $t = t(s)$  is differentiable function then  $\frac{d\vec{F}}{ds} = \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds}$ .

#### Observations:

(i) If  $\vec{F}(t)$  has a constant magnitude, then  $\vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = 0$ . For  $\vec{F}(t) \cdot \vec{F}(t) = [\vec{F}(t)]^2 = \text{constant}$ ,

$$\text{implying } \vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = 0 \text{ or } \vec{F} \perp \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt}.$$

(ii) If  $\vec{F}(t)$  has a constant (fixed) direction, then  $\vec{F} \times \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = \vec{0}$ .

Let  $\vec{F}(t) = f(t)\vec{G}(t)$ , where  $\vec{G}(t)$  is a unit vector in the direction of  $\vec{F}(t)$ .

$$\therefore \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = \frac{d(f(t)\vec{G}(t))}{dt} = f(t) \frac{d\vec{G}}{dt} + \frac{df}{dt} \vec{G}(t) = \frac{df}{dt} \vec{G}(t) \quad \left( \text{since, } \vec{G} \text{ is a constant, so } \frac{d\vec{G}}{dt} = \vec{0} \right)$$

$$\text{and } \vec{F} \times \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = f(t)\vec{G}(t) \times \frac{df}{dt} \vec{G}(t) = f(t) \frac{df}{dt} (\vec{G}(t) \times \vec{G}(t)) = \vec{0} \quad \left( \text{since, } \vec{G} \times \vec{G} = \vec{0} \right)$$

**Theorem 1: Derivative of a constant vector is a zero vector. A vector is said to be constant if both its magnitude and direction are constant (fixed).**

**Proof:** Let  $\vec{r} = \vec{c}$  be a constant vector, then  $\vec{r} + \delta\vec{r} = \vec{c}$ .

On subtraction,  $\delta\vec{r} = \vec{0}$ . Which further implies that  $\frac{\delta\vec{r}}{\delta t} = \vec{0}$ .

Implying,  $\lim_{\delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta \vec{r}}{\delta t} = \vec{0}$  i.e.  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \vec{0}$ .

**Theorem 2:** The necessary and sufficient condition for the vector function  $\vec{F}$  of a single variable  $t$  to have constant magnitude is  $\vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = 0$ .

**Proof:**

Necessary condition: Suppose  $\vec{F}$  has constant magnitude, so  $\vec{F}(t) \cdot \vec{F}(t) = [\vec{F}(t)]^2 = \text{constant}$ .

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} (\vec{F} \cdot \vec{F}) = 0 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} + \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} \cdot \vec{F} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = 0 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = 0.$$

Sufficient condition: Suppose  $\vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = 0 \Rightarrow 2\vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} + \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} \cdot \vec{F} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} (\vec{F} \cdot \vec{F}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{F} \cdot \vec{F} = \text{constant} \Rightarrow |\vec{F}|^2 = \text{constant}$$

Therefore  $\vec{F}$  has a constant magnitude.

**Theorem 3:** The necessary and sufficient condition for the vector function  $\vec{F}$  of a single variable  $t$  to have a constant direction is  $\vec{F} \times \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = \vec{0}$ .

**Proof:** Suppose that  $\vec{f}$  is a unit vector in the direction of  $\vec{F}$  and  $F = |\vec{F}|$ , then  $\vec{F} = F\vec{f}$  i.e.

$$\vec{F} = F\vec{f} \quad \dots (1)$$

And  $\frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = F \frac{d\vec{f}}{dt} + \frac{dF}{dt} \vec{f} \quad \dots (2)$

Thus  $\vec{F} \times \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = F\vec{f} \times (F \frac{d\vec{f}}{dt} + \frac{dF}{dt} \vec{f}) \quad (\text{using (1) and (2)})$

$$= F^2 \vec{f} \times \frac{d\vec{f}}{dt} + F \frac{dF}{dt} (\vec{f} \times \vec{f})$$

$$= F^2 \vec{f} \times \frac{d\vec{f}}{dt} \quad (\text{since } \vec{f} \times \vec{f} = \vec{0}) \quad \dots (3)$$

Necessary condition: Suppose  $\vec{F}$  has a constant direction, then  $\vec{f}$  has a constant direction and constant magnitude. So  $\frac{d\vec{f}}{dt} = \vec{0}$ . Thus from (3),  $\vec{F} \times \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = \vec{0}$ .

Sufficient condition: Suppose that  $\vec{F} \times \frac{d\vec{F}}{dt} = \vec{0}$ .

Then by (3),  $F^2 \vec{f} \times \frac{d\vec{f}}{dt} = \vec{0}$  i.e.  $\vec{f} \times \frac{d\vec{f}}{dt} = \vec{0} \quad \dots (4)$

Since  $\vec{f}$  has a constant magnitude, so, by theorem 2,  $\vec{f} \cdot \frac{d\vec{f}}{dt} = 0 \quad \dots (5)$

From (4) and (5),  $\frac{d\vec{f}}{dt} = \vec{0}$ .

Which implies  $\vec{f}$  is a constant vector i.e.  $\vec{f}$  has a constant direction. Hence  $\vec{F}$  has a constant direction.

**Example 1:** Show that if  $\vec{r} = \vec{a} \sin \omega t + \vec{b} \cos \omega t$  where  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$  and  $\omega$  are constants, then



$$\frac{d^2 \vec{r}}{dt^2} = -\omega^2 \vec{r} \text{ and } \vec{r} \times \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = -\omega(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}).$$

**Solution:** Given  $\vec{r} = \vec{a} \sin \omega t + \vec{b} \cos \omega t$

Differentiating w. r. to t,  $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \vec{a}\omega \cos \omega t - \vec{b}\omega \sin \omega t$

Again differentiating w. r. to t,  $\frac{d^2 \vec{r}}{dt^2} = -\vec{a}\omega^2 \sin \omega t - \vec{b}\omega^2 \cos \omega t$   
 $= -\omega^2(\vec{a} \sin \omega t + \vec{b} \cos \omega t) = -\omega^2 \vec{r}$

Also  $\vec{r} \times \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = (\vec{a} \sin \omega t + \vec{b} \cos \omega t) \times (\vec{a}\omega \cos \omega t - \vec{b}\omega \sin \omega t)$   
 $= (\vec{a} \times \vec{a})\omega \sin \omega t \cos \omega t + (\vec{b} \times \vec{a})\omega \cos^2 \omega t - (\vec{a} \times \vec{b})\omega \sin^2 \omega t - (\vec{b} \times \vec{b})\omega \sin \omega t \cos \omega t$   
 $= -(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})\omega(\cos^2 \omega t + \sin^2 \omega t) \quad (\text{since } \vec{a} \times \vec{a} = \vec{b} \times \vec{b} = \vec{0})$   
 $= -(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})\omega = -\omega(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}).$

**Example 2:** If  $\vec{a} = x^2 y z \hat{i} - 2xz^3 \hat{j} + xz^2 \hat{k}$  and  $\vec{b} = 2z \hat{i} + y \hat{j} - x^2 \hat{k}$ , find  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} (\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$  at (1, 0, -2).

**Solution:** Here  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = (x^2 y z \hat{i} - 2xz^3 \hat{j} + xz^2 \hat{k}) \times (2z \hat{i} + y \hat{j} - x^2 \hat{k})$   
 $= x^2 y^2 z \hat{k} + x^4 y z \hat{j} + 4xz^4 \hat{k} + 2x^3 z^3 \hat{i} + 2xz^3 \hat{j} - xyz^2 \hat{i}$   
 $(\because \hat{i} \times \hat{i} = \hat{j} \times \hat{j} = \hat{k} \times \hat{k} = \vec{0} \text{ and } \hat{i} \times \hat{j} = \hat{k}, \hat{j} \times \hat{i} = -\hat{k} \text{ etc.})$   
 $= (2x^3 z^3 - xyz^2) \hat{i} + (x^4 y z + 2xz^3) \hat{j} + (x^2 y^2 z + 4xz^4) \hat{k}$

Now  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} [(2x^3 z^3 - xyz^2) \hat{i} + (x^4 y z + 2xz^3) \hat{j} + (x^2 y^2 z + 4xz^4) \hat{k}]$   
 $= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [(2x^3 z^3 - xyz^2) \hat{i} + (x^4 y z + 2xz^3) \hat{j} + (x^2 y^2 z + 4xz^4) \hat{k}]$   
 $= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [-xz^2 \hat{i} + x^4 z \hat{j} + 2x^2 y z \hat{k}] = [-z^2 \hat{i} + 4x^3 z \hat{j} + 4xyz \hat{k}]$

At the point (1, 0, -2)  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) = -4\hat{i} - 8\hat{j}$

**Example 3:** If  $\vec{P} = 5t^2 \hat{i} + t^3 \hat{j} - t \hat{k}$  and  $\vec{Q} = 2 \sin t \hat{i} - \cos t \hat{j} + 5t \hat{k}$ , then find (a)  $\frac{d}{dt} (\vec{P} \cdot \vec{Q})$

(b)  $\frac{d}{dt} (\vec{P} \times \vec{Q})$ .

**Solution:** Consider  $\vec{P} = 5t^2 \hat{i} + t^3 \hat{j} - t \hat{k}$  and  $\vec{Q} = 2 \sin t \hat{i} - \cos t \hat{j} + 5t \hat{k}$

So  $\frac{d\vec{P}}{dt} = 10t \hat{i} + 3t^2 \hat{j} - \hat{k}$  and  $\frac{d\vec{Q}}{dt} = 2 \cos t \hat{i} + \sin t \hat{j} + 5 \hat{k}$

a)  $\frac{d}{dt} (\vec{P} \cdot \vec{Q}) = \frac{d\vec{P}}{dt} \cdot \vec{Q} + \vec{P} \cdot \frac{d\vec{Q}}{dt}$   
 $= (10t \hat{i} + 3t^2 \hat{j} - \hat{k}) \cdot (2 \sin t \hat{i} - \cos t \hat{j} + 5t \hat{k})$   
 $\quad + (5t^2 \hat{i} + t^3 \hat{j} - t \hat{k}) \cdot (2 \cos t \hat{i} + \sin t \hat{j} + 5 \hat{k})$   
 $= 20t \sin t - 3t^2 \cos t - 5t + 10t^2 \cos t + t^3 \sin t - 5t$   
 $= t^3 \sin t + 7t^2 \cos t + 20t \sin t - 10t$