

MATH Math 162A Review: Vector Calculus

1. Let A be a square matrix, and let

$$\sin A = A - \frac{A^3}{3!} + \frac{A^5}{5!} - \frac{A^7}{7!} + \cdots$$

Prove that

$$\frac{d^2 \sin(At)}{dt^2} + A^2 \sin(At) = 0$$

Solution: We can use the same method as in the video to prove the result directly, or we can use the following method.

$$e^{iAt} = \cos At + i \sin At$$

Since $\frac{d}{dt} e^{iAt} = iA e^{iAt}$

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} e^{iAt} = (iA)^2 e^{iAt} = -A^2 e^{iAt}$$

Thus

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} (\cos At + i \sin At) = -A^2 (\cos At + i \sin At)$$

Take the imaginary part, we get

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \sin At = -A^2 \sin At$$

2. Let $V = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$ be an $\mathbb{R}^3$ -valued function of x, y, z . The curl V is defined by

$$\operatorname{curl} V = \left(\left(\frac{\partial v_3}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial z} \right), \left(\frac{\partial v_1}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x} \right), \left(\frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial y} \right) \right)$$

The divergence $\operatorname{div} V$ is defined by

$$\operatorname{div} V = \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial z}$$

Prove that

$$\operatorname{div} \operatorname{curl} V = 0.$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div} \operatorname{curl} V &= \operatorname{div} \left(\frac{\partial v_3}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial z}, \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial y} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v_3}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial z} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial v_1}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial y} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial^2 v_3}{\partial x \partial y} - \frac{\partial^2 v_2}{\partial x \partial z} + \frac{\partial^2 v_1}{\partial y \partial z} - \frac{\partial^2 v_3}{\partial y \partial x} \\ &\quad + \frac{\partial^2 v_2}{\partial z \partial x} - \frac{\partial^2 v_1}{\partial z \partial y} = 0 \end{aligned}$$