

## Answer on Question #52628 - Math - Vector Calculus

1) Verify that the vector fields are conservative by comparing cross derivatives, then potential functions for the, by taking anti-derivatives

A)  $f = (z, 1, x)$

B)  $f = (y^2, 2xy + e^z, ye^z)$

C)  $f = (\cos z, 2y, -x \sin z)$

### Solution

Curl is given by

$$\nabla \times f = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ f_x & f_y & f_z \end{vmatrix} = \left[ \frac{\partial f_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial f_y}{\partial z} \right] \vec{i} + \left[ \frac{\partial f_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial f_z}{\partial x} \right] \vec{j} + \left[ \frac{\partial f_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial f_x}{\partial y} \right] \vec{k}$$

A) Since

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times f &= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ z & 1 & x \end{vmatrix} = \left[ \frac{\partial x}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial 1}{\partial z} \right] \vec{i} + \left[ \frac{\partial z}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial x}{\partial x} \right] \vec{j} + \left[ \frac{\partial 1}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \right] \vec{k} = \\ &= [0 - 0] \vec{i} + [1 - 1] \vec{j} + [0 - 0] \vec{k} = \vec{0}, \end{aligned}$$

the vector field  $f$  is conservative. It's easy to verify ( $f = \nabla V$ ) that its potential function is given by

$V = xz + y + C$  (where  $C$  is an arbitrary real constant), because

$$\nabla V = \left( \frac{\partial(xz+y+C)}{\partial x}; \frac{\partial(xz+y+C)}{\partial y}; \frac{\partial(xz+y+C)}{\partial z} \right) = (z, 1, x).$$

To find function  $V$ , solve the following system

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = f_x, \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = f_y, \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = f_z; \text{ that is,}$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = z, \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = 1, \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = x;$$

For  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = z$  integrate both sides with respect to  $x$  and obtain  $V = zx + g(y, z)$ . Taking the partial derivative of the both sides with respect to  $y$  obtain

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (zx + g(y, z)) = \frac{\partial g(y, z)}{\partial y}.$$

On the other hand, taking into account the system,  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = 1$ .

Equating right-hand sides of two formulas gives  $\frac{\partial g(y,z)}{\partial y} = 1$ .

Integrating both sides with respect to  $y$  obtain  $g(y, z) = y + C(z)$ , hence

$$V = zx + g(y, z) = zx + y + C(z).$$

Taking the partial derivative of the both sides with respect to  $z$  obtain

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(zx + y + C(z)) = x + C'(z).$$

On the other hand, taking into account the system,  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = x$ .

Equating right-hand sides of two formulas gives  $x + C'(z) = x$ , hence  $C'(z) = 0$ , integrating with respect to  $z$  gives  $C(z) = C$ , where  $C$  is an arbitrary real constant.

Thus,  $V = zx + g(y, z) = zx + y + C(z) = zx + y + C$ .

**B)** Since

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \times f &= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ y^2 & 2xy + e^z & ye^z \end{vmatrix} = \\ &= \left[ \frac{\partial(ye^z)}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial(2xy + e^z)}{\partial z} \right] \vec{i} + \left[ \frac{\partial(y^2)}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial(ye^z)}{\partial x} \right] \vec{j} \\ &\quad + \left[ \frac{\partial(2xy + e^z)}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(y^2)}{\partial y} \right] \vec{k} \\ &= [e^z - e^z] \vec{i} + [0 - 0] \vec{j} + [2y - 2y] \vec{k} = \vec{0}\end{aligned}$$

the vector field  $f$  is conservative. It's easy to verify ( $f = \nabla V$ ) that its potential function is given by

$$V = xy^2 + ye^z + C \text{ (where } C \text{ is an arbitrary real constant),}$$

because

$$\nabla V = \left( \frac{\partial(xy^2 + ye^z + C)}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial(xy^2 + ye^z + C)}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial(xy^2 + ye^z + C)}{\partial z} \right) = (y^2, e^z, ye^z).$$

To find function  $V$ , solve the following system

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = f_x, \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = f_y, \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = f_z; \text{ that is,}$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = y^2, \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = 2xy + e^z, \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = ye^z;$$

For  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = y^2$  integrate both sides with respect to  $x$  and obtain  $V = xy^2 + g(y, z)$ . Taking the partial derivative of the both sides with respect to  $y$  obtain

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (xy^2 + g(y, z)) = 2xy + \frac{\partial g(y, z)}{\partial y}.$$

On the other hand, taking into account the system,  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = 2xy + e^z$ .

Equating right-hand sides of two formulas gives  $\frac{\partial g(y, z)}{\partial y} = e^z$ .

Integrating both sides with respect to  $y$  obtain  $g(y, z) = ye^z + C(z)$ , hence

$$V = xy^2 + g(y, z) = xy^2 + ye^z + C(z).$$

Taking the partial derivative of the both sides with respect to  $z$  obtain

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (xy^2 + ye^z + C(z)) = ye^z + C'(z).$$

On the other hand, taking into account the system,  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = ye^z$ .

Equating right-hand sides of two formulas gives  $ye^z + C'(z) = ye^z$ , hence  $C'(z) = 0$ , integrating with respect to  $z$  gives  $C(z) = C$ , where  $C$  is an arbitrary real constant.

Thus,  $V = xy^2 + g(y, z) = xy^2 + ye^z + C(z) = xy^2 + ye^z + C$

**c)** Since

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times f &= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ \cos z & 2y & -x \sin z \end{vmatrix} = \\ &= \left[ \frac{\partial(-x \sin z)}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial(2y)}{\partial z} \right] \vec{i} + \left[ \frac{\partial(\cos z)}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial(-x \sin z)}{\partial x} \right] \vec{j} \\ &\quad + \left[ \frac{\partial(2y)}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(\cos z)}{\partial y} \right] \vec{k} \\ &= [0 - 0] \vec{i} + [-\sin z - (-\sin z)] \vec{j} + [0 - 0] \vec{k} = \vec{0}, \end{aligned}$$

the vector field  $f$  is conservative. It's easy to verify ( $f = \nabla V$ ) that its potential function is given by

$V = y^2 + x \cos z + C$  (where  $C$  is an arbitrary real constant), because

$$\nabla V = \left( \frac{\partial(y^2 + x \cos z + C)}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial(y^2 + x \cos z + C)}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial(y^2 + x \cos z + C)}{\partial z} \right) = (\cos z, 2y, -x \sin z).$$

To find function  $V$ , solve the following system

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = f_x, \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = f_y, \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = f_z; \text{ that is,}$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = \cos z, \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = 2y, \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = -x \sin z;$$

For  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = \cos z$  integrate both sides with respect to  $x$  and obtain  $V = x \cos z + g(y, z)$ .

Taking the partial derivative of the both sides with respect to  $y$  obtain

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x \cos z + g(y, z)) = \frac{\partial g(y, z)}{\partial y}.$$

On the other hand, taking into account the system,  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = 2y$ .

Equating right-hand sides of two formulas gives  $\frac{\partial g(y, z)}{\partial y} = 2y$ .

Integrating both sides with respect to  $y$  obtain  $g(y, z) = y^2 + C(z)$ , hence

$$V = x \cos z + g(y, z) = x \cos z + y^2 + C(z).$$

Taking the partial derivative of the both sides with respect to  $z$  obtain

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (x \cos z + y^2 + C(z)) = -x \sin z + C'(z).$$

On the other hand, taking into account the system,  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = -x \sin z$ .

Equating right-hand sides of two formulas gives  $-x \sin z + C'(z) = -x \sin z$ , hence  $C'(z) = 0$ , integrating with respect to  $z$  gives  $C(z) = C$ , where  $C$  is an arbitrary real constant.

Thus,  $V = x \cos z + g(y, z) = x \cos z + y^2 + C(z) = x \cos z + y^2 + C$

**Answer:**

- A)  $xz + y + C$
- B)  $xy^2 + ye^z + C$
- C)  $x \cos z + y^2 + C$