

Homework 0

For practice. Do not hand in. Stars indicate more challenging problems.

- 1 Find a vector \mathbf{x} for which $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{u}) + \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{v}$ where \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are given vectors.
- 2 Find the locations of the minima of the function $f(x, y) = 2x^2 + y^2 - 3y + 2$ in the plane. Now do the same in the circle of unit radius centered at the origin.
- 3 Calculate
 - $\nabla^2 r^{-n}$
 - $\nabla(\boldsymbol{\Omega} \cdot \mathbf{x})$ where $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$ is a constant vector
 - ∇f , where f is the scalar function $f \equiv A_{ij}x_i x_j + B_j x_j + C$. What happens if A is a symmetric matrix?
- 4 Compute the surface integral $-\int_S p \, dS$ where the integrand is given by $p(z) = p_0 + N^2 z^2 / 2g$, where S is a closed surface enclosing a volume V . [Hint: think about the location of center of mass of the volume.]

- 5* If the vector field $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$ is irrotational, show that for a closed volume

$$\int_V |\mathbf{u}|^2 \, dV = \int_S \phi \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n} \, dS.$$

What is ϕ in this expression? [Optional: what happens if V is unbounded?]

- 6* Calculate the integral

$$\int_V x_i x_j x_k \, dV$$

over a sphere of radius a . [Hint: think about isotropic third-rank tensors.]

- 7 Find the principal axes of the tensor field $t_{ij} = x_i x_j - \delta_{ij} r$ at the point $(2, 1, -1)$.