

## Solutions to Homework Problems on Page 77

1. :

- (a)  $\mathbf{v} = \langle x, y \rangle$ .  $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = 1 + 1 = 2$ . To get a representative graph of this vector field execute the following commands in *Mathematica*:

```
<<Graphics`PlotField`

v = {x, y};
PlotVectorField[v, {x, -2, 2}, {y, -2, 2}]
```

The output is shown in Figure 1.

- (b)  $\mathbf{v} = \langle x, -y \rangle$ .  $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = 1 - 1 = 0$ . See Figure 2.

$$(c) \mathbf{v} = \left\langle \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}, -\frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} \right\rangle. \text{ Then } \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( -\frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} \right) \\ = \frac{y^2-x^2}{\sqrt{(x^2+y^2)^3}}.$$

To determine this divergence in *Mathematica* execute

```
<<Calculus`VectorAnalysis`

SetCoordinates[Cartesian[x, y, z]];
v = {x/Sqrt[x^2+y^2], -y/Sqrt[x^2+y^2], 0};
Simplify[Div[v]]
```

See Figure 3.

- (d)  $\mathbf{v} = \langle \sin y, \cos x \rangle$ . Then,  $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial \sin y}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \cos x}{\partial y} = 0$ . See Figure 4.

- (e)  $\mathbf{v} = \langle \ln \sqrt{x^2+y^2}, y \rangle$ . Then,  $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = 1 + \frac{x}{x^2+y^2}$ . See Figure 5.

2. Let  $f$  be any function of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ . By definition

$$\Delta f = \nabla \cdot (\nabla f).$$

But  $\nabla f = \langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \rangle$ . Hence,

$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla f) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2}.$$

3. (a) Let  $f = 3x^2 - 4y^2$ . Then  $\Delta f = -2$ . (Try `Laplacian[3 x^2 - 4 y^2]` in *Mathematica*.)

- (b) Let  $f = \frac{y}{x}$ . Then  $\Delta f = \frac{2y}{x^2}$ .

- (c) Let  $f = \sin \frac{1}{x^2+y^2}$ . Then  $\Delta f = \frac{4}{(x^2+y^2)^3} \left( (x^2+y^2) \cos \frac{1}{x^2+y^2} - \sin \frac{1}{x^2+y^2} \right)$ .

- (d) Let  $f = \ln(x^2 + y^2)$ . Then,  $\Delta f = 0$ .

- (e) Let  $f = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}$ . Then,  $\Delta f = \frac{4}{(x^2+y^2)^2}$ .

(f) Let  $f = \arctan \frac{y}{x}$ . Then,  $\Delta f = 0$ . (Try `Simplify[Laplacian[ArcTan[y/x]]]` in *Mathematica*.)

5. (a)  $\operatorname{div}(\rho \mathbf{v}) = \rho \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \rho$ .

**Proof:** L.H.S. =  $\operatorname{div}(\rho b f v) = \operatorname{div}(\langle \rho v_1, \rho v_2, \rho v_3 \rangle) = \frac{\partial(\rho v_1)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(\rho v_2)}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial(\rho v_3)}{\partial z}$ . We now use the product rule of differentiation to get

$$\text{L.H.S.} = \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} v_1 + \rho \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x} \right) + \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} v_2 + \rho \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial y} \right) + \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial z} v_3 + \rho \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial z} \right),$$

which can be regrouped as

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_2}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_3}{\partial z} \right) + \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} v_1 + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} v_2 + \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial z} v_3 \right).$$

The above expression is equivalent to the R.H.S.

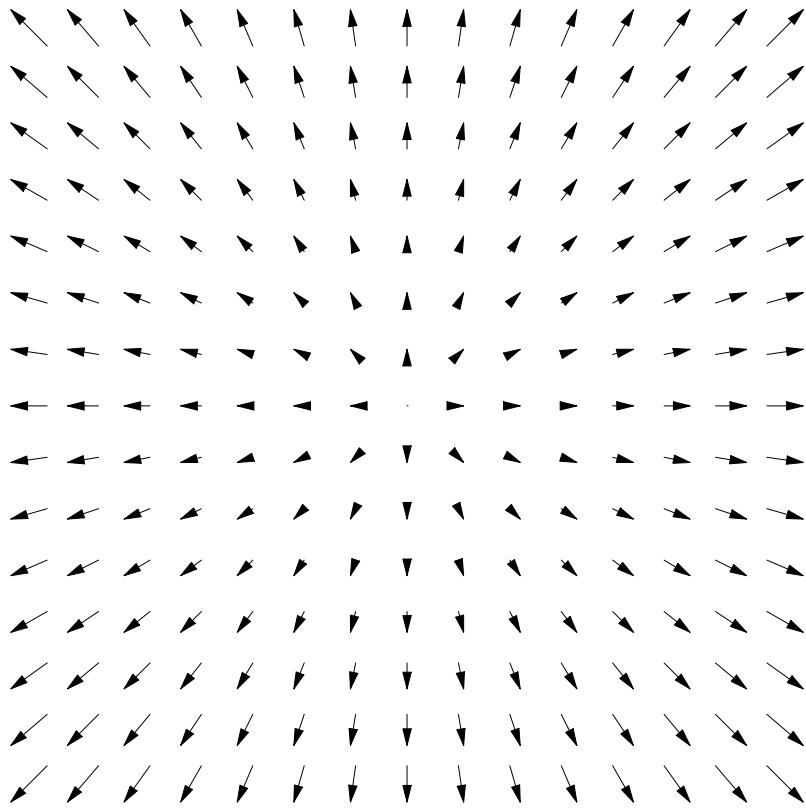


Figure 1: Vector field  $\mathbf{v} = \langle x, y \rangle$ .

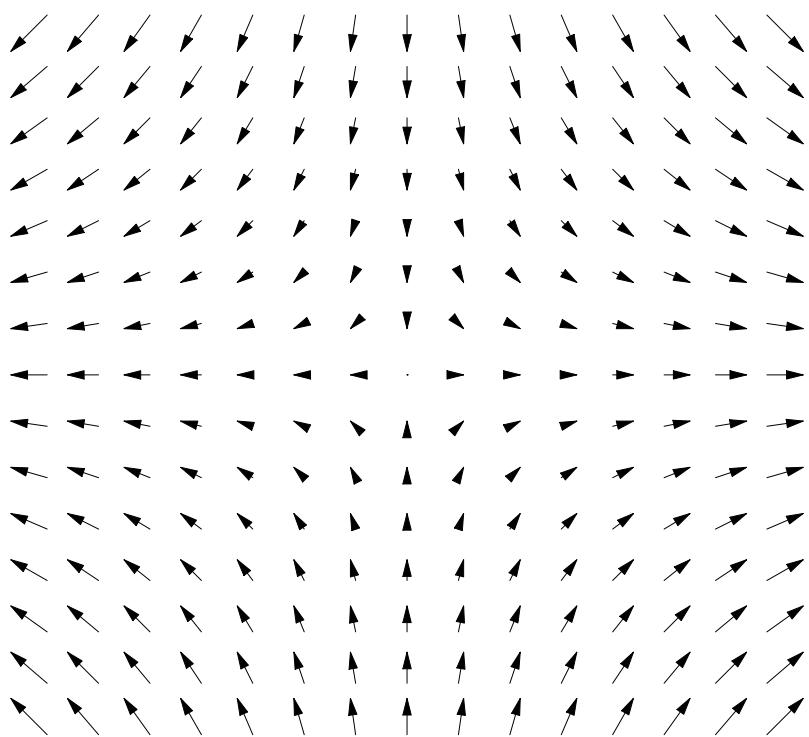


Figure 2: Vector field  $\mathbf{v} = \langle x, -y \rangle$ .

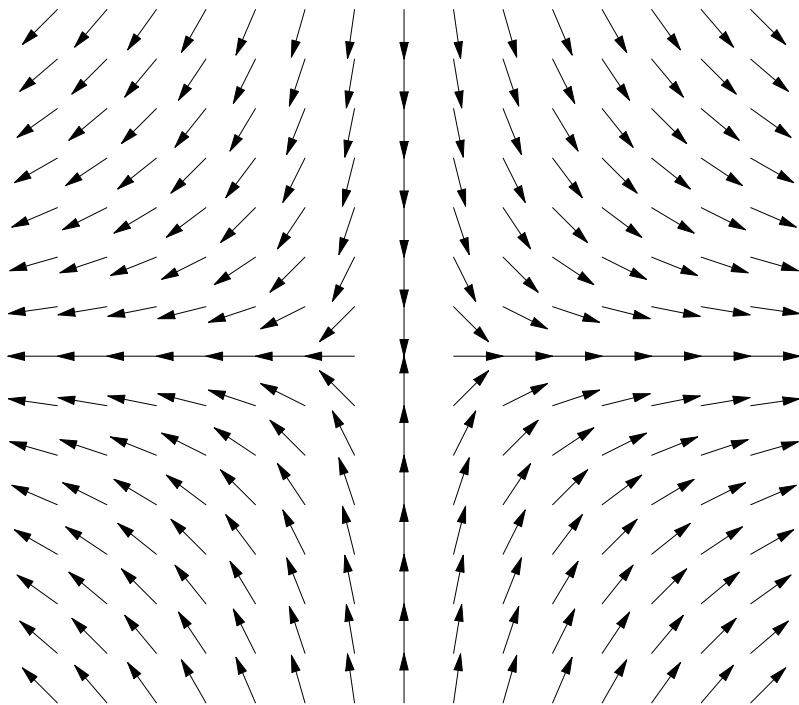


Figure 3: Vector field  $\mathbf{v} = \left\langle \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}, -\frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} \right\rangle$ .

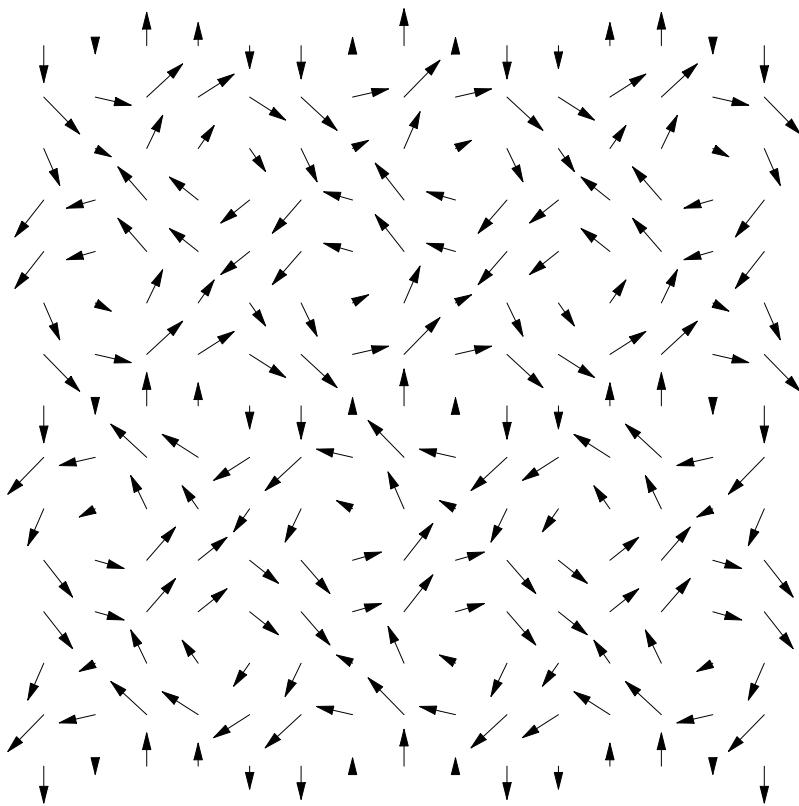


Figure 4: Vector field  $\mathbf{v} = \langle \sin y, \cos x \rangle$ .

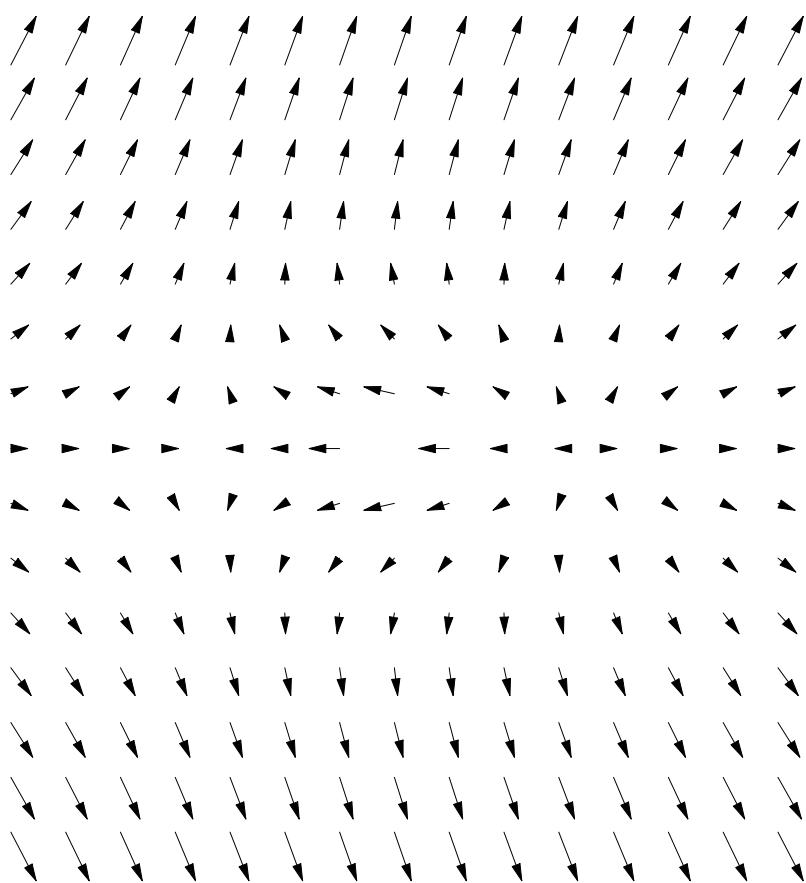


Figure 5: Vector field  $\mathbf{v} = \langle \ln\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, y \rangle$ .