

Vector Identity 12

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{x} = 3$$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{x} &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 \delta_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{j=1}^3 \delta_j x_j \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 (\delta_i \cdot \delta_j) \frac{\partial x_j}{\partial x_i} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 \delta_{ij} \frac{\partial x_j}{\partial x_i} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial x_i} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^3 \delta_{ii} \\ &= \delta_{11} + \delta_{22} + \delta_{33} \\ &= 1 + 1 + 1 \\ &= 3\end{aligned}$$