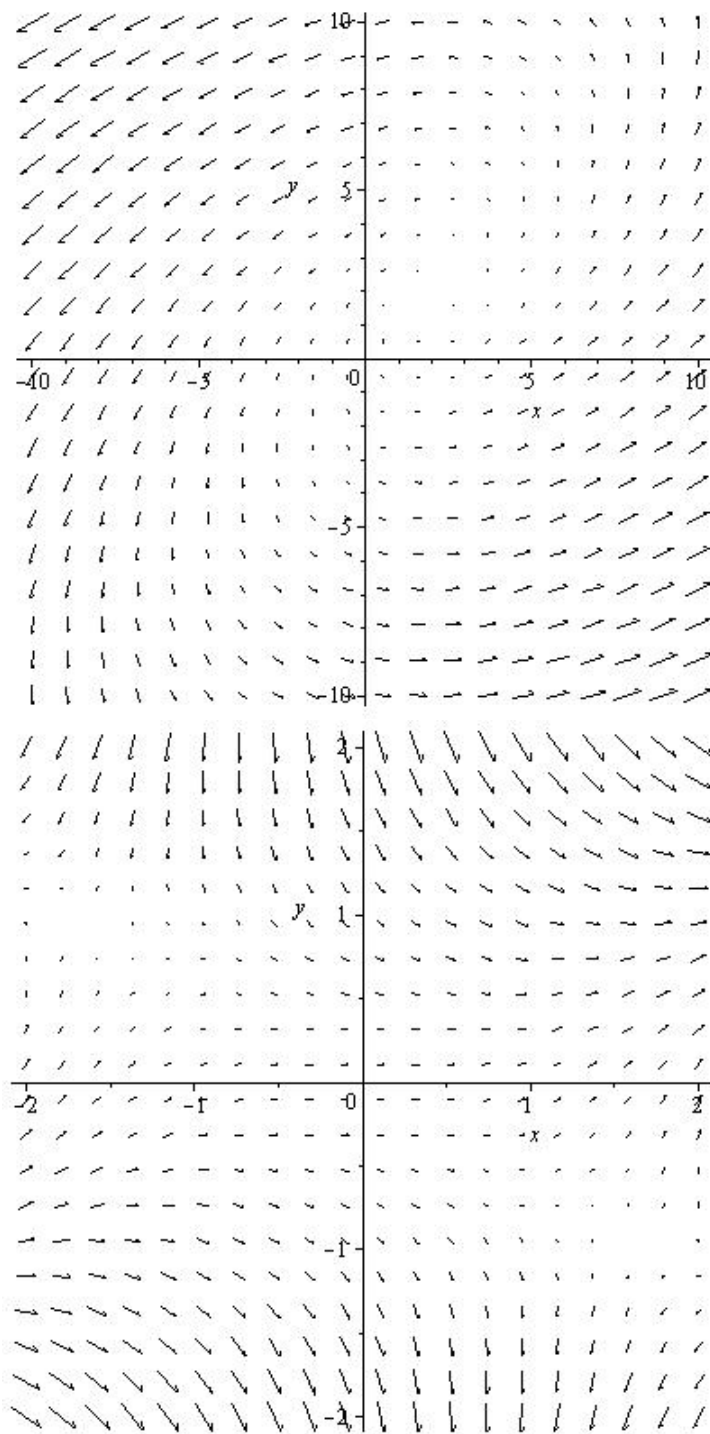


Is it conservative?

Below are two vector fields- One is conservative, one is not. Can you tell which is which?
(Hint: Try drawing some closed curves on each, and see if what you need is plausible)



The vector fields are coming from Examples 2 and 3 in the text. The first one is not conservative:

$$\langle x - y, x - 2 \rangle$$

The second is:

$$\langle 3 + 2xy, x^2 - 3y^2 \rangle$$