

MATH 311

Topics in Applied Mathematics I

Lecture 36:

Gauss' theorem.

Stokes' theorem.

Surface integrals

Let $\mathbf{X} : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be a smooth parametrized surface, where $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ is a bounded region. Then for any continuous function $f : \mathbf{X}(D) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the **scalar integral** of f over the surface \mathbf{X} is

$$\iint_{\mathbf{X}} f \, dS = \iint_D f(\mathbf{X}(s, t)) \left\| \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial s} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial t} \right\| \, ds \, dt.$$

For any continuous vector field $\mathbf{F} : \mathbf{X}(D) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$, the **vector integral** of \mathbf{F} along \mathbf{X} is

$$\iint_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_D \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{X}(s, t)) \cdot \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial s} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial t} \right) \, ds \, dt.$$

Equivalently,
$$\iint_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_D \begin{vmatrix} F_1 & F_2 & F_3 \\ \frac{\partial X_1}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial X_2}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial X_3}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial X_1}{\partial t} & \frac{\partial X_2}{\partial t} & \frac{\partial X_3}{\partial t} \end{vmatrix} \, ds \, dt.$$

Surface integrals and reparametrization

Given two smooth parametrized surfaces $\mathbf{X} : D_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ and $\mathbf{Y} : D_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$, we say that \mathbf{Y} is a **smooth reparametrization** of \mathbf{X} if there exists an invertible function $\mathbf{H} : D_2 \rightarrow D_1$ such that $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X} \circ \mathbf{H}$ and both \mathbf{H} and \mathbf{H}^{-1} are smooth.

Theorem 1 Any scalar surface integral is invariant under smooth reparametrizations.

Any smooth parametrization of a surface defines an **orientation** on it (continuous, unit normal vector field \mathbf{n}).

Theorem 2 Any vector surface integral is invariant under smooth orientation-preserving reparametrizations and changes its sign under orientation-reversing reparametrizations.

As a consequence, we can define the integral of a function over a non-parametrized smooth surface and the integral of a vector field along a non-parametrized, oriented smooth surface.

Gauss's Theorem

Theorem Let $D \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be a closed, bounded region with piecewise smooth boundary ∂D (not necessarily connected) oriented by **outward** unit normals to D . Then for any smooth vector field \mathbf{F} on D ,

$$\oiint_{\partial D} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iiint_D \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} \, dV.$$

Corollary If a smooth vector field $\mathbf{F} : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ has no divergence, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = 0$, then $\oiint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0$ for any closed, piecewise smooth surface C that bounds a subregion of D .

Gauss' Theorem

Proof in the case $D = [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ and $\mathbf{F} = (0, 0, P)$:

$$\int_0^1 \frac{\partial P}{\partial z}(x, y, \zeta) d\zeta = P(x, y, 1) - P(x, y, 0)$$

for any $x, y \in [0, 1]$ due to the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Integrating this equality over the unit square $Q = [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$, we obtain

$$\iiint_D \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} dV = \iint_Q P(x, y, 1) dx dy - \iint_Q P(x, y, 0) dx dy.$$

The first integral in the right-hand side equals the integral of the field \mathbf{F} along the top face $Q \times \{1\}$ of the cube D (oriented by the upward unit normals). The second integral equals the integral of \mathbf{F} along the bottom face $Q \times \{0\}$ (oriented likewise). Note that integrals of \mathbf{F} along the other faces of D are 0 (since \mathbf{F} is parallel to those faces). It follows that the entire right-hand side equals the integral of \mathbf{F} along ∂D .

Problem. Let C denote the closed cylinder with bottom given by $z = 0$, top given by $z = 4$, and lateral surface given by $x^2 + y^2 = 9$. We orient ∂C with outward normals. Find the integral of a vector field $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = x\mathbf{e}_1 + y\mathbf{e}_2 + z\mathbf{e}_3$ along ∂C .

First let us evaluate the integral directly.

The top of the cylinder is parametrized by $\mathbf{X}_{\text{top}} : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$,
 $\mathbf{X}_{\text{top}}(x, y) = (x, y, 4)$, where

$$D = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 \leq 9\}.$$

The bottom is parametrized by $\mathbf{X}_{\text{bot}} : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$,
 $\mathbf{X}_{\text{bot}}(x, y) = (x, y, 0)$.

The lateral surface is parametrized by
 $\mathbf{X}_{\text{lat}} : [0, 2\pi] \times [0, 4] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$, $\mathbf{X}_{\text{lat}}(\phi, z) = (3 \cos \phi, 3 \sin \phi, z)$.

We have $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{top}}}{\partial x} = (1, 0, 0)$, $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{top}}}{\partial y} = (0, 1, 0)$. Hence

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{top}}}{\partial x} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{top}}}{\partial y} = \mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2 = \mathbf{e}_3.$$

Since $\mathbf{x}_{\text{bot}} = \mathbf{x}_{\text{top}} - (0, 0, 4)$, we also have $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{bot}}}{\partial x} = \mathbf{e}_1$,

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{bot}}}{\partial y} = \mathbf{e}_2, \text{ and } \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{bot}}}{\partial x} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{bot}}}{\partial y} = \mathbf{e}_3.$$

Further, $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{lat}}}{\partial \phi} = (-3 \sin \phi, 3 \cos \phi, 0)$ and $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{lat}}}{\partial z} = (0, 0, 1)$.

Therefore

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{lat}}}{\partial \phi} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{\text{lat}}}{\partial z} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{e}_1 & \mathbf{e}_2 & \mathbf{e}_3 \\ -3 \sin \phi & 3 \cos \phi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (3 \cos \phi, 3 \sin \phi, 0).$$

We observe that \mathbf{x}_{top} and \mathbf{x}_{lat} agree with the orientation of the surface C while \mathbf{x}_{bot} does not. It follows that

$$\iint_{\partial C} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_{\mathbf{x}_{\text{top}}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} - \iint_{\mathbf{x}_{\text{bot}}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} + \iint_{\mathbf{x}_{\text{lat}}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S}.$$

Integrating the vector field $\mathbf{F} = x\mathbf{e}_1 + y\mathbf{e}_2 + z\mathbf{e}_3$ along each part of the boundary of C , we obtain:

$$\iint_{\mathbf{x}_{\text{top}}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_D (x, y, 4) \cdot (0, 0, 1) dx dy = \iint_D 4 dx dy = 36\pi,$$

$$\iint_{\mathbf{x}_{\text{bot}}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_D (x, y, 0) \cdot (0, 0, 1) dx dy = \iint_D 0 dx dy = 0,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_{\mathbf{x}_{\text{lat}}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} &= \\ &= \iint_{[0,2\pi] \times [0,4]} (3 \cos \phi, 3 \sin \phi, z) \cdot (3 \cos \phi, 3 \sin \phi, 0) d\phi dz \\ &= \iint_{[0,2\pi] \times [0,4]} 9 d\phi dz = 72\pi. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus } \oiint_{\partial C} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 36\pi - 0 + 72\pi = 108\pi.$$

Problem. Let C denote the closed cylinder with bottom given by $z = 0$, top given by $z = 4$, and lateral surface given by $x^2 + y^2 = 9$. We orient ∂C with outward normals. Find the integral of a vector field $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = x\mathbf{e}_1 + y\mathbf{e}_2 + z\mathbf{e}_3$ along ∂C .

Now let us use Gauss' Theorem:

$$\begin{aligned}\iint_{\partial C} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} &= \iiint_C \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} \, dV \\ &= \iiint_C \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(z) \right) dx \, dy \, dz \\ &= \iiint_C 3 \, dx \, dy \, dz = 108\pi.\end{aligned}$$

Stokes's Theorem

Suppose S is an oriented surface in \mathbb{R}^3 bounded by an oriented curve ∂S . We say that ∂S is **oriented consistently with S** if, as one traverses ∂S , the surface S is on the left when looking down from the tip of \mathbf{n} , the unit normal vector indicating the orientation of S .

Theorem Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be a bounded, piecewise smooth oriented surface with piecewise smooth boundary ∂S oriented consistently with S . Then for any smooth vector field \mathbf{F} on S ,

$$\iint_S \operatorname{curl}(\mathbf{F}) \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \oint_{\partial S} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}.$$

Corollary If the surface S is closed (i.e., has no boundary), then for any smooth vector field \mathbf{F} on S ,

$$\iint_S \operatorname{curl}(\mathbf{F}) \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0.$$

Example

Suppose that a bounded, piecewise smooth surface $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ is contained in the xy -coordinate plane, that is, $S = D \times \{0\}$ for a domain $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$. We orient S by the upward unit normal vector $\mathbf{n} = (0, 0, 1)$ and orient the boundary $\partial S = \partial D \times \{0\}$ consistently with S . Further, suppose that \mathbf{F} is a horizontal vector field, $\mathbf{F} = (M, N, 0)$. By Stokes' Theorem,

$$\iint_S \operatorname{curl}(\mathbf{F}) \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \oint_{\partial S} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}.$$

Recall that $\iint_S \operatorname{curl}(\mathbf{F}) \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_S \operatorname{curl}(\mathbf{F}) \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS$. We obtain

$$\operatorname{curl}(\mathbf{F}) \cdot \mathbf{n} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ M & N & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial M}{\partial y}.$$

It follows that this particular case of Stokes' Theorem is equivalent to Green's Theorem.