

Chapter 14. **Vector calculus.**  
Section 14.7 **Surface integrals.**

Suppose  $f$  is a function of three variables whose domain include a surface  $S$ . We divide  $S$  into patches  $S_{ij}$  with area  $\Delta S_{ij}$ . We evaluate  $f$  at a point  $P_{ij}^*$  in each patch, multiply by the area  $\Delta S_{ij}$ , and form the sum

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n f(P_{ij}^*) \Delta S_{ij}$$

We define the **surface integral of  $f$  over the surface  $S$**  as

$$\iint_S f(x, y, z) dS = \lim_{\|P\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n f(P_{ij}^*) \Delta S_{ij}$$

If the surface  $S$  is given by an equation  $z = g(x, y)$ ,  $(x, y) \in D$ , then

$$\iint_S f(x, y, z) dS = \iint_D f(x, y, g(x, y)) \sqrt{\left[\frac{\partial g}{\partial x}\right]^2 + \left[\frac{\partial g}{\partial y}\right]^2 + 1} dA$$

If the surface  $S$  is given by vector function  $\vec{r}(u, v) = x(u, v)\vec{i} + y(u, v)\vec{j} + z(u, v)\vec{k}$ ,  $(u, v) \in D$ , then

$$\iint_S f(x, y, z) dS = \iint_D f(\vec{r}(u, v)) |\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v| dA$$

where

$$\vec{r}_u = \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial u} \vec{k} \quad \vec{r}_v = \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial v} \vec{k}$$

**Example 1.**

1. Evaluate  $\iint_S y dS$ , where  $S$  is the part of the plane  $3x + 2y + z = 6$  that lies in the first octant.

2. Evaluate  $\iint_S \sqrt{1+x^2+y^2} dS$ , if  $S$  is given by vector equation  $\vec{r}(u, v) = u \cos v \vec{i} + u \sin v \vec{j} + v \vec{k}$ ,  $0 \leq u \leq 1, 0 \leq v \leq \pi$ .

3. Evaluate  $\iint_S xy \, dS$ , if  $S$  is a boundary of the region enclosed by the cylinder  $x^2 + z^2 = 1$  and the planes  $y = 0$  and  $x + y = 2$ .

If a thin sheet has the shape of a surface  $S$  and the density at the point  $(x, y, z)$  is  $\rho(x, y, z)$ , then the total **mass** of the sheet is

$$m = \iint_S \rho(x, y, z) dS$$

and the **center of mass** is  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$ , where

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{m} \iint_S x\rho(x, y, z) dS \quad \bar{y} = \frac{1}{m} \iint_S y\rho(x, y, z) dS \quad \bar{z} = \frac{1}{m} \iint_S z\rho(x, y, z) dS$$

### Oriented surfaces.

Let us consider a surface  $S$  that has a tangent plane at every point  $(x, y, z)$  on  $S$  (except at any boundary point).

There are two unit normal vectors  $\vec{n}_1$  and  $\vec{n}_2 = -\vec{n}_1$  at  $(x, y, z)$ . If it is possible to choose a unit normal vector  $\vec{n}$  at every such point  $(x, y, z)$  so that  $\vec{n}$  varies continuously over  $S$ , then  $S$  is called an **oriented surface** and the given choice of  $\vec{n}$  provides  $S$  with an **orientation**. There are two possible orientations for any orientable surface.

For a surface  $z = g(x, y)$  the orientation is given by the unit normal vector

$$\vec{n} = \frac{-\frac{\partial g}{\partial x} \vec{i} - \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} \vec{j} + \vec{k}}{\sqrt{\left[\frac{\partial g}{\partial x}\right]^2 + \left[\frac{\partial g}{\partial y}\right]^2 + 1}}$$

Since the  $\vec{k}$ -component is positive, this gives the *upward* orientation of the surface.

If  $S$  is a smooth orientable surface given in parametric form by a vector function  $\vec{r}(u, v)$ , then its orientation is given by a unit normal vector

$$\vec{n} = \frac{\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v}{|\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v|}$$

For a **closed surface**, the positive orientation is the one for which the normal vectors point *outward* from  $S$ , the inward-pointing normals give the negative orientation.

### Surface integrals of vector fields.

**Definition.** If  $\vec{F}$  is a continuous vector-field defined on an oriented surface  $S$  with normal vector  $\vec{n}$ , then the **surface integral of  $F$  over  $S$**  is

$$\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S} = \iint_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} dS$$

This integral is also called the **flux** of  $\vec{F}$  across  $S$ .

If  $\vec{F} = \langle P(x, y, z), Q(x, y, z), R(x, y, z) \rangle$  and the surface  $S$  is given by an equation  $z = g(x, y)$ ,  $(x, y) \in D$ , then

$$\vec{n} = \frac{-\frac{\partial g}{\partial x}\vec{i} - \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}\vec{j} + \vec{k}}{\sqrt{\left[\frac{\partial g}{\partial x}\right]^2 + \left[\frac{\partial g}{\partial y}\right]^2 + 1}}$$

and

$$\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot dS = \iint_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} dS = \iint_D (P\vec{i} + Q\vec{j} + R\vec{k}) \cdot \frac{-\frac{\partial g}{\partial x}\vec{i} - \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}\vec{j} + \vec{k}}{\sqrt{\left[\frac{\partial g}{\partial x}\right]^2 + \left[\frac{\partial g}{\partial y}\right]^2 + 1}} \sqrt{\left[\frac{\partial g}{\partial x}\right]^2 + \left[\frac{\partial g}{\partial y}\right]^2 + 1} dA$$

or

$$\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot dS = \iint_D \left( -P \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} - Q \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} + R \right) dA$$

If the surface  $S$  is given by vector function  $\vec{r}(u, v) = x(u, v)\vec{i} + y(u, v)\vec{j} + z(u, v)\vec{k}$ ,  $(u, v) \in D$ , then

$$\vec{n} = \frac{\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v}{|\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v|}$$

and

$$\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot dS = \iint_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} dS = \iint_D \vec{F} \cdot \frac{\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v}{|\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v|} |\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v| dA$$

or

$$\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S} = \iint_D \vec{F} \cdot (\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v) dA$$

**Example 2.** Find the flux of the vector field  $\vec{F} = x^2y\vec{i} - 3xy^2\vec{j} + 4y^3\vec{k}$  across the surface  $S$ , if  $S$  is the part of the elliptic paraboloid  $z = x^2 + y^2 - 9$  that lies below the rectangle  $0 \leq x \leq 2$ ,  $0 \leq y \leq 1$  and has downward orientation.

**Example 3.** A fluid has density 1500 and velocity field

$$\vec{v} = -y\vec{i} + x\vec{j} + 2z\vec{k}$$

Find the rate of flow outward through the sphere  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 25$ .