16.3: The fundamental Theorem for Line Integrals

16.4: Green's Theorem

DEFINITION 1. A vector field \mathbf{F} is called a conservative vector field if it is the gradient of some scalar function f s.t $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$. In this situation f is called a **potential function** for \mathbf{F} .

Recall Part 2 of the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus:

$$\int_a^b F'(x) \, \mathrm{d}x = F(b) - F(a),$$

where F' is continuous on [a, b].

• The fundamental Theorem for Line Integrals: Let C be a smooth curve given by $\mathbf{r}(t)$, $a \le t \le b$. Let f be a differentiable function of two or three variables and ∇f is continuous on C. Then

$$\int_C \nabla f \cdot d\mathbf{r} = f(\mathbf{r}(b)) - f(\mathbf{r}(a)).$$

REMARK 2. If C is a closed curve then

COROLLARY 3. If F is a conservative vector field and C is a curve with initial point A and terminal point B then:

EXAMPLE 4. Find the work done by the gravitational field

$$\mathbf{F}(x,y,z) = -\frac{GmM}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \langle x, y, z \rangle$$

in moving a particle with mass m from the point (1,2,2) to the point (3,4,12) along a piecewise-smooth curve C.

Notations And Definitions:

DEFINITION 5. A piecewise-smooth curve is called a path.

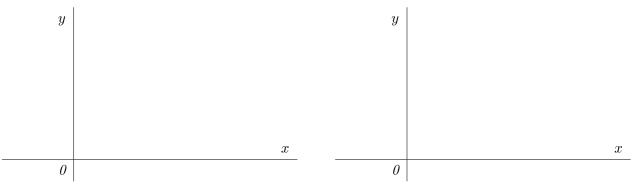
• Types of curves

$simple\ not\ closed$	not simple not closed	simple closed	not simple, closed

• Types of regions:

simply connected	not simply connected

• Convention: The positive orientation of a simple closed curve C refers to a single counterclockwise traversal of C. If C is given by $\mathbf{r} = x(t)\mathbf{i} + y(t)\mathbf{j}$, $a \le t \le b$, then the region D bounded by C is always on the left as the point $\mathbf{r}(t)$ traverses C.



• The positively oriented boundary curve of D is denoted by ∂D .

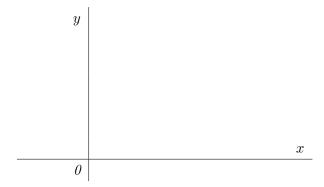
•GREEN's THEOREM: Let C be a positively oriented, piecewise-smooth, simple closed curve in the plane and let D be the region bounded by C. If P(x,y) and Q(x,y) have continuous partial derivatives on an open region that contains D, then

$$\oint_{\partial D} P \, \mathrm{d}x + Q \, \mathrm{d}y = \iint_{D} \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) \, \mathrm{d}A.$$

EXAMPLE 6. Evaluate:

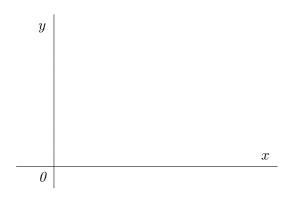
$$I = \oint_C e^x (1 - \cos y) \, \mathrm{d}x - e^x (1 - \sin y) \, \mathrm{d}y$$

where C is the boundary of the domain $D = \{(x, y) : 0 \le x \le \pi, 0 \le y \le \sin x\}$.



EXAMPLE 7. Let C be a triangular curve consisting of the line segments from (0,0) to (5,0), from (5,0) to (0,5), and from (0,5) to (0,0). Evaluate the following integral:

$$I_1 = \oint_C (x^2y + \frac{1}{2}y^2) dx + (xy + \frac{1}{3}x^3 + 3x) dy$$



SUMMARY: Let $\mathbf{F}(x,y) = P(x,y)\mathbf{i} + Q(x,y)\mathbf{j}$ be a vector field on an open simply connected domain D. Suppose that P and Q have continuous partial derivatives through D. Then the facts below are equivalent.

The field **F** is conservative on
$$D$$
 \iff There exists f s.t. $\nabla f = \mathbf{F}$

The field
$$\mathbf{F}$$
 is $\int_{A\widetilde{B}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$ is independent of path in D

The field **F** is
$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}$$
 throughout D

The field **F** is $\mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = 0$ for every closed curve C in D

EXAMPLE 8. Determine whether or not the vector field is conservative:

(a)
$$\mathbf{F}(x,y) = \langle x^2 + y^2, 2xy \rangle$$
.

(b)
$$\mathbf{F}(x,y) = \langle x^2 + 3y^2 + 2, 3x + ye^y \rangle$$

EXAMPLE 9. Given $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = \sin y \mathbf{i} + (x \cos y + \sin y) \mathbf{j}$.

(a) Show that **F** is conservative.

(b) Find a function f s.t. $\nabla f = \mathbf{F}$

(c) Find the work done by the force field **F** in moving a particle from the point (3,0) to the point $(0,\pi/2)$.

(d) Evaluate $\oint_C \mathbf{F} d\mathbf{r}$ where C is an arbitrary path in \mathbb{R}^2 .

EXAMPLE 10. Given

$$\mathbf{F} = \langle 2xy^3 + z^2, 3x^2y^2 + 2yz, y^2 + 2xz \rangle.$$

Find a function f s.t. $\nabla f = \mathbf{F}$