

16.3: Fundamental Thm for Line Integrals.

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The Fundamental Theorem for Line Integrals

Thm: Let C be a smooth curve given by the vector fct $\vec{r}(t)$, $a \leq t \leq b$. Let f be a differentiable fct of 2 or 3 variables whose gradient ∇f is cont. on C . Then

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

Pt: If your integrand is a gradient field, then you can evaluate the integral w/ the end pts ... irrespective of path ... no parametrization needed.

□ proof. $\int_C \nabla f \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_a^b \nabla f(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) dt$

by analogy...

$$\underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} f(x(t))}_{\#1} = \underbrace{f'(x(t))}_{\#2} \underbrace{x'(t)}_{\#3} = \frac{df}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left[\underbrace{\int \nabla f(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) dt}_{\#2} \right]_a^b \\ &= \left[\underbrace{\int \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \frac{dz}{dt} \right) dt}_{\#3} \right]_a^b \\ &= \left[\underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} f(\vec{r}(t))}_{\#1} \right]_a^b \\ &= \left[f(\vec{r}(t)) \right]_a^b \\ &= f(\vec{r}(b)) - f(\vec{r}(a)) \end{aligned}$$

ex1: Find the work done by a force field $\vec{F} = \langle 2y^{3/2}, 3x\sqrt{y} \rangle$ along the curve $y = x^2$ on $1 \leq x \leq 2$.

Solution: Let's assume that $\exists f$ st.

$\vec{\nabla} f = \vec{F}$. If we can verify the assumption, by finding f , then we can use the theorem.

If $\vec{F} = \nabla f$, then

$$f_x(x,y) = 2y^{3/2}$$

$$f_y(x,y) = 3x\sqrt{y}$$

!

$$f(x,y) = 2xy^{3/2} + k \text{ (let } k=0)$$

$$w = \int_c \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = f(2,4) - f(1,1)$$

In 16.1 we learned \vec{F} is a conservative vector field if $\exists f$ s.t. $\vec{F} = \nabla f$. f is called the potential fct for \vec{F} .

conservation of energy (via it in physics)

How much work to move a particle along $r(t)$, $a \leq t \leq b$ (call the endpoints A-B) thru the force field \vec{F} .

Newton's 2nd law of motion. $\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$.

In a force field along C : $\vec{F}(\vec{r}(t)) = m \cdot \vec{r}''(t)$

$$W = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$= \int_a^b \vec{F}(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) dt$$

$$= \int_a^b m \vec{r}''(t) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) dt$$

$$= m \int_a^b \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} (\vec{r}'(t) \cdot \vec{r}'(t)) dt$$

note: $\frac{d}{dt} (\vec{r}'(t) \cdot \vec{r}'(t))$

$$= 2 \vec{r}''(t) \cdot \vec{r}'(t)$$

$$= \frac{m}{2} \int_a^b \frac{d}{dt} |\vec{r}'(t)|^2 dt$$

$$= \frac{m}{2} \left[|\vec{r}'(t)|^2 \right]_a^b$$

$$= \frac{m}{2} (|\vec{r}'(b)|^2 - |\vec{r}'(a)|^2)$$

$$\vec{r}' = \vec{v}$$

$$= \frac{m}{2} (|\vec{v}(b)|^2 - |\vec{v}(a)|^2)$$

↑
velocity at points B & A

recall from physics: KE: $k = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$

$$\Rightarrow W = k(B) - k(A) \quad (\text{Now to bring in PE})$$

suppose \vec{F} is conservative: $\vec{F} = \nabla f$, for some f .

In physics, we define PE: $P = -f$ (why).

$$\Rightarrow \nabla P = -\nabla f \quad (\text{this makes sense})$$

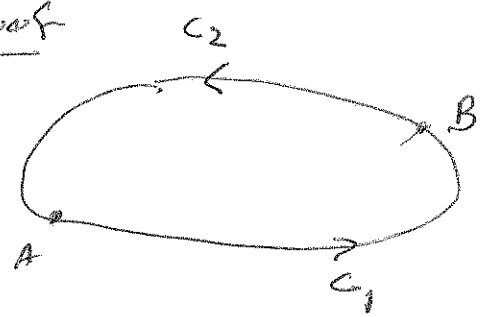
~~rectly: \vec{F} is a conservative vector field $\iff \exists f$ s.t. $\vec{F} = \nabla f$. f is called the potential for \vec{F} .~~

Dfn: $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ is independent of path
 if $\int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ for any two paths C_1 & C_2 in the domain D of \vec{F} .

Dfn: closed path (curve)

Thm: $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ is independent of path in D iff $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$ for every closed path C in D .

□ proof



main pt: structure of an "iff" proof.

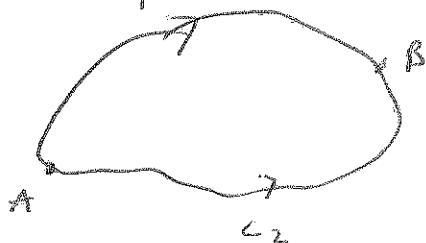
suppose C is any closed path in D & $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ is independent of path.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\Rightarrow) \quad \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} &= \int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} + \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} \\
 &= \int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} - \int_{-C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Suppose C is a closed path in D
 and $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$

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$$(\Leftrightarrow) \quad 0 = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} + \int_{-C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$



$$= \int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} - \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$\Rightarrow \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ is independent of path, \square

Thm: Suppose \vec{F} is a vector field that is cont. on an open connected region D .

If $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ is independent of path in D , then

\vec{F} is a conservative vector field on D , that is, there exists a f s.t. $\vec{\nabla} f = \vec{F}$

see proof for notes... open, connected, FTOG 1.

Q: How do we determine if a field is conservative?

Thm: If $\vec{F}(x,y) = P(x,y)\vec{i} + Q(x,y)\vec{j}$ is a conservative vector field where P & Q have cont. first-order partials on a domain D , then throughout D we have

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \quad (\text{by Clairaut's Thm}).$$

4 THEOREM Suppose \mathbf{F} is a vector field that is continuous on an open connected region D . If $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$ is independent of path in D , then \mathbf{F} is a conservative vector field on D ; that is, there exists a function f such that $\nabla f = \mathbf{F}$.

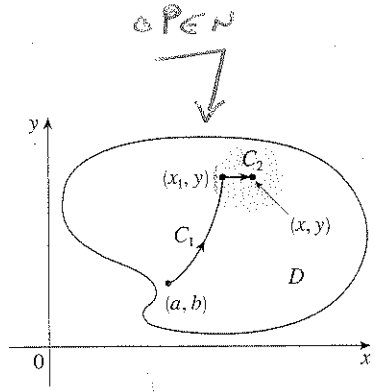


FIGURE 4

PROOF Let $A(a, b)$ be a fixed point in D . We construct the desired potential function f by defining

$$f(x, y) = \int_{(a,b)}^{(x,y)} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

for any point (x, y) in D . Since $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$ is independent of path, it does not matter which path C from (a, b) to (x, y) is used to evaluate $f(x, y)$. Since D is open, there exists a disk contained in D with center (x, y) . Choose any point (x_1, y) in the disk with $x_1 < x$ and let C consist of any path C_1 from (a, b) to (x_1, y) followed by the horizontal line segment C_2 from (x_1, y) to (x, y) . (See Figure 4.) Then

$$f(x, y) = \int_{C_1} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} + \int_{C_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_{(a,b)}^{(x_1,y)} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} + \int_{C_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

Notice that the first of these integrals does not depend on x , so

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x, y) = 0 + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_{C_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

If we write $\mathbf{F} = P\mathbf{i} + Q\mathbf{j}$, then

$$\int_{C_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_{C_2} P dx + Q dy$$

On C_2 , y is constant, so $dy = 0$. Using t as the parameter, where $x_1 \leq t \leq x$, we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_{C_2} P dx + Q dy = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_{x_1}^x P(t, y) dt = P(x, y)$$

by Part 1 of the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus (see Section 5.3). A similar argument, using a vertical line segment (see Figure 5), shows that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \int_{C_2} P dx + Q dy = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \int_y^y Q(x, t) dt = Q(x, y)$$

Thus

$$\mathbf{F} = P\mathbf{i} + Q\mathbf{j} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \mathbf{j} = \nabla f$$

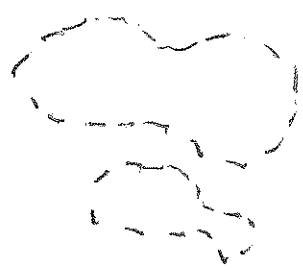
which says that \mathbf{F} is conservative. □

note: comment
on disks of
connected & independence
of path.

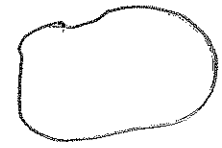
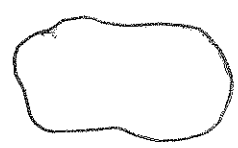
OPEN (every pt in D can be surrounded by an open disk (centered @ the pt) entirely in D)

YES

NO



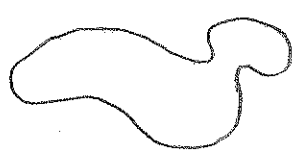
CONNECTED (any 2 pts ^{in D} can be connected by a path in D)



simple curves (no intersections)



simply connected regions (all simple closed curves in D contain only pts in D)



Do we have an answer to the preceding question ... No, we still don't know how to determine if a field is conservative.

The following definition refers to a simply-connected region (see graphs)

Thm: Let $\vec{F} = P(x,y)\vec{i} + Q(x,y)\vec{j}$ be a vector field on an open simply-connected region D . Suppose that P & Q have continuous 1st order partial derivatives and $\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}$ throughout D (Clairaut's Thm). Then \vec{F} is conservative.

The proof is sketched out in 16.4.

Key: If \vec{F} is conservative, $w = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ can be calculated w/ the Fundamental Thm for Line Integrals.