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Tutorial 12: Line Integrals and Green's Theorem

Prepared by: Hong Vin | Website: https://kix1001.hongvin.xyz

Question 1

If $A = (3x^2 + 6y)\hat{i} - 14yz\hat{j} + 20xz^2\hat{k}$, evaluate $\int_C A \cdot dr$ from $(0,0,0)$ to $(1,1,1)$ along the following paths C:

a. $x = t, y = t^2, z = t^3$

b. The straight line from $(0,0,0)$ to $(1,0,0)$ then to $(1,1,0)$, and then to $(1,1,1)$.

c. The straight line joining $(0,0,0)$ and $(1,1,1)$.

Solution

a.

$$\begin{aligned} r(t) &= x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j} + z(t)\hat{k} \\ &= t\hat{i} + t^2\hat{j} + t^3\hat{k} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A(r(t)) &= (3t^2 + 6t^2)\hat{i} - 14(t^2)(t^3)\hat{j} + 20(t)(t^3)^2\hat{k} \\ &= 9t^2\hat{i} - 14t^5\hat{j} + 20t^7\hat{k} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \hat{i} + 2t\hat{j} + 3t^2\hat{k}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_C F \cdot dr &= \int_0^1 F(r(t)) \cdot \frac{dr}{dt} \cdot dt \\ &= \int_0^1 (9t^2\hat{i} - 14t^5\hat{j} + 20t^7\hat{k})(\hat{i} + 2t\hat{j} + 3t^2\hat{k})dt \\ &= \int_0^1 9t^2 - 28t^6 + 60t^9 dt \\ &= 3t^3 - 4t^7 + 6t^10\Big|_0^1 \\ &= 3 - 4 + 6 \\ &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

b. From $(0,0,0)$ to $(1,0,0)$,

$$r = (0,0,0) + t(1,0,0) = t\hat{i} + 0\hat{j} + 0\hat{k} \Rightarrow x = t, y = 0, z = 0$$

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = 1\hat{i}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 F(r(t)) \cdot \frac{dr}{dt} \cdot dt &= \int_0^1 (3t^2\hat{i}) \cdot (\hat{i}) dt \\ &= t^3\Big|_0^1 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

From $(1,0,0)$ to $(1,1,0)$,

$$r = (1,0,0) + t(0,1,0) = \hat{i} + t\hat{j} + 0\hat{k} \Rightarrow x = 1, y = t, z = 0$$

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = 1\hat{j}$$

$$F(r,t) = (3(1) + 6t)\hat{i} - 14(t)(0)\hat{j} + 20(1)(0)\hat{k} = (3 + 6t)\hat{i}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 F(r(t)) \cdot \frac{dr}{dt} \cdot dt &= \int_0^1 (3 + 6t\hat{i}) \cdot (\hat{j})dt \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

From $(1,1,0)$ to $(1,1,1)$,

$$r = (1,1,0) + t(0,0,1) = \hat{i} + \hat{j} + t\hat{k} \Rightarrow x = 1, y = 1, z = t$$

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = 1\hat{k}$$

$$\begin{aligned}F(r,t) &= (3(1) + 6(1))\hat{i} - 14(1)(t)\hat{j} + 20(1)(t)^2\hat{k} \\ &= 9\hat{i} - 14t\hat{j} + 20t^2\hat{k}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 F(r(t)) \cdot \frac{dr}{dt} \cdot dt &= \int_0^1 (9\hat{i} - 14t\hat{j} + 20t^2\hat{k}) \cdot (\hat{k})dt \\ &= \int_0^1 20t^2 dt \\ &= \frac{20}{3}t^3\Big|_0^1 = \frac{20}{3}\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$ Total Line Integral $= 1 + 0 + \frac{20}{3} = \underline{\underline{\frac{23}{3}}}$

c.

$$r = t\hat{i} + t\hat{j} + t\hat{k} \Rightarrow x = t, y = t, z = t$$

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}$$

$$\begin{aligned}&\int_0^1 \left[(3t^2 + 6t)\hat{i} - 14(t)(t)\hat{j} + 20(t)(t)^2\hat{k}\right] \cdot \left[\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}\right] \\ &= \int_0^1 (3t^2 + 6t - 14t^2 + 20t^3)dt \\ &= \int_0^1 (6t - 11t^2 + 20t^3)dt \\ &= 3t^2 - \frac{11}{3}t^3 + 5t^4\Big|_0^1 \\ &= \frac{13}{3}\end{aligned}$$

Question 2

Find the work done in moving a particle in a force field given by $F = 3xy\hat{i} - 5z\hat{j} + 10x\hat{k}$ along the curve $x = t^2 + 1, y = 2t^2, z = t^3$ from $t = 1$ to $t = 2$.

Solution

$$r(t) = x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j} + z(t)\hat{k} = (t^2 + 1)\hat{i} + 2t^2\hat{j} + t^3\hat{k}$$

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = 2t\hat{i} + 4t\hat{j} + 3t^2\hat{k}$$

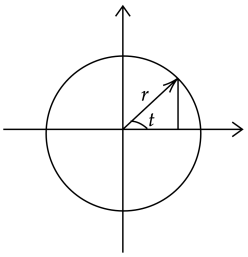
$$F(r(t)) = 3(t^2 + 1)(2t^2)\hat{i} - 5(t^3)\hat{j} + 10(t^2 + 1)\hat{k}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_C F \cdot dr &= \int_1^2 (6t^4 + 6t^2)\hat{i} - 5t^3\hat{j} + (10t^2 + 10)\hat{k} \cdot (2t\hat{i} + 4t\hat{j} + 3t^2\hat{k})dt \\
&= \int_1^2 (12t^5 + 12t^3 - 20t^4 + 30t^4 + 30t^2)dt \\
&= 2t^6 + 3t^4 - 4t^5 + 6t^5 + 10t^3\Big|_1^2 \\
&= 2t^6 + 2t^5 + 3t^4 + 10t^3\Big|_1^2 \\
&= (128 + 64 + 48 + 80) - (2 + 2 + 3 + 10) \\
&= 320 - 17 = 303
\end{aligned}$$

Question 3

Determine the work done in moving a particle once around a circle C in the xy-plane, if the circle has center at the origin and radius of 3 and if those field is given by $F = (2x - y + z)\hat{i} + (x + y - z^2)\hat{j} + (3x - 2y + 4z)\hat{k}$.

Solution



$$r = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} = 3\cos t\hat{i} + 3\sin t\hat{j}$$

In the plane $z = 0$,

$$\mathbf{F} = (2x - y)\hat{i} + (x + y)\hat{j} + (3x - 2y)\hat{k}$$

$$dr = dx\hat{i} + dy\hat{j}$$

The work done is,

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} &= \int_C \left[(2x - y)\hat{i} + (x + y)\hat{j} + (3x - 2y)\hat{k}\right] \cdot [dx\hat{i} + dy\hat{j}] \\
&= \int_C (2x - y)dx + (x + y)dy
\end{aligned}$$

Parametric equation of the circle: $x = 3\cos t$, $y = 3\sin t$, where t varies from 0 to 2π. $\Rightarrow dx = -3\sin t dt, dy = 3\cos t dt$

The line integral,

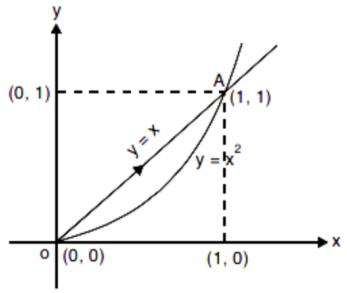
$$\begin{aligned}
&\int_{t=0}^{2\pi} [2(3\cos t - 3\sin t)(-3\sin t)dt] + [3\cos t + 3\sin t][3\cos t dt] \\
&= \int_0^{2\pi} -18\sin t\cos t + 9\sin^2 t + 9\cos^2 t + 9\sin t\cos t dt \\
&= \int_0^{2\pi} (9 - 9\sin t\cos t)dt \\
&= 9t - \frac{9}{2}\sin^2 t\Big|_0^{2\pi} \\
&= 18\pi
\end{aligned}$$

Note: We choose counterclockwise direction, which is known as positive direction. If traversing from counter-clockwise (negative) direction, the value of integral would be -18π.

Question 4

Find the line integral for $\oint_C \left(xy + y^2\right) dx + x^2 dy$ where C is the closed curve of the region bounded by $y = x$ and $y = x^2$ in the positive direction in traversing C. $y = x$ and $y = x^2$ intersect at $(0, 0)$ and $(1, 1)$.

Solution



Along $y = x^2$, where $dy = 2xdx$ the line integral equals

$$\int_0^1 \left((x)(x^2) + (x^2)^2\right) dx + (x^2)(2x)dx = \int_0^1 (3x^3 + x^4)dx = \frac{19}{20}$$

Along $y = x$ from $(1, 1)$ to $(0, 0)$, the line integral equals

$$\int_0^1 \left((x)(x) + (x)^2\right) dx + x^2 dx = \int_0^1 3x^2 dx = 1$$

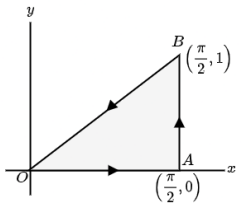
L.H.S = The required line integral $= \frac{19}{20} - 1 = -\frac{1}{20}$

$$\begin{aligned}
\iint_R \left(\frac{\partial N}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial M}{\partial y}\right) dxdy &= \iint_R \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x^2) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(xy + y^2)\right] dxdy \\
&= \iint_R (x - 2y)dxdy \\
&= \int_{x=0}^1 \int_{y=x^2}^x (x - 2y)dydx \\
&= \int_0^1 \left[\int_{x^2}^x (x - 2y)dy\right] dx \\
&= \int_0^1 (xy - y^2)\Big|_{x^2}^x dx \\
&= \int_0^1 \left[(x^2 - x^2) - (x^3 - x^4)\right] dx \\
&= \int_0^1 \left(x^4 - x^3\right) dx \\
&= \frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^4}{4}\Big|_0^1 \\
&= \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{4} = -\frac{1}{20}
\end{aligned}$$

L.H.S = R.H.S $= -\frac{1}{20}$.

Question 5

Evaluate $\oint_C (y - \sin x)dx + \cos x dy$ where C is the triangle of the adjoining figure by using Green's theorem in the plane.



Solution

$M = y - \sin x$, $N = \cos x$, $\dfrac{\partial N}{\partial x} = -\sin x$, $\dfrac{\partial M}{\partial y} = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned}
\oint_C M dx + N dy &= \iint_R \left(\frac{\partial N}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial M}{\partial y}\right) dxdy \\
&= \iint_R (-\sin x - 1) dydx \\
&= \int_{x=0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \left[\int_{y=0}^{\frac{2x}{\pi}} (-\sin x - 1) dy\right] dx \\
&= \int_{x=0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} (-y \sin x - y)|_0^{\frac{2x}{\pi}}\, dx \\
&= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \left(-\frac{2x}{\pi}\sin x - \frac{2x}{\pi}\right) dx \\
&= -\frac{2}{\pi}(-x\cos x + \sin x) - \frac{x^2}{\pi}\Big|_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \\
&= -\frac{2}{\pi} - \frac{\pi}{4}
\end{aligned}$$

Note: Although there exist lines parallel to the coordinate axes (coincident with the coordinate axes in this case) which meet C in an infinite number of points, Green's theorem in the plane still holds. In general the theorem is valid when C is composed of a finite number of straight line segments.

Question 6

Calculate $\oint_C -x^2 y dx + xy^2 dy$ where C is the circle of radius 2 centered on the origin.

Solution

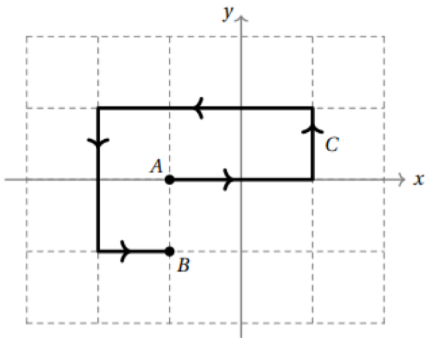
$$\oint_C M dx + N dy = \iint_R N_x - M_y dA$$

We let $M = -x^2 y$ and $N = xy^2$ to get

$$\begin{aligned}
\oint_C -x^2 y dx + xy^2 dy &= \iint_R y^2 - (-x^2) dA \\
&= \iint_R x^2 + y^2 dA \\
&= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^2 r^2 r dr d\theta \\
&= \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{r^4}{4}\Big|_0^2 d\theta \\
&= \int_0^{2\pi} 4 d\theta \\
&= 4\theta|_0^{2\pi} = 8\pi
\end{aligned}$$

Question 7

ompute the line integral of $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = \langle x^3, 4x \rangle$ along the path C shown below against a grid of unit-sized squares. Use Green's theorem to relate this to a line integral over the vertical path joining B to A.



Solution

Let L be the line segment going from B to A. Then, we can now apply Green's theorem to combination of C and L. Let D be the region bounded by these two paths. Then, by Green's theorem, since we are oriented correctly,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\partial D} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} &= \iint_D \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} dA \\ &= \iint_D \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(4x) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(x^3) dA \\ &= \iint_D 4 dA \\ &= 4 \cdot \text{Area}(D) \\ &= 16\end{aligned}$$

because the area of the region is made of exactly 4 unit squares. The boundary of D is C and L:

$$\int_{\partial D} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} + \int_L \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = 16$$

The line integral along L is easier: parametrizing L by $\mathbf{r}(t) = (-1, t)$ for $-1 \leq t \leq 0$, we get

$$\int_L \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_{-1}^{0} (-1, -4) \cdot (0, 1) dt = \int_{-1}^{0} -4 dt = -4$$

Putting it together,

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = 16 - \int_L \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = 16 - (-4) = 20$$

Question 8

A particle starts at $(-2,0)$ and moves along the x-axis to $(2,0)$. Then it moves along the upper part of the circle $x^2+y^2=4$ and back to $(-2,0)$. Compute the work done on this particle by the force field $\boldsymbol{F}(x,y)=\langle x, x^3+3xy^2\rangle$.

Solution Let $\mathbf{F}(x,y)=P(x,y)\mathbf{i}+Q(x,y)\mathbf{j}$ with $P(x,y)=x$ and $Q(x,y)=x^3+3xy^2$.
The path is the boundary of the upper half disk $D=\{x^2+y^2\le 4,\ y\ge 0\}$, traversed counter-clockwise (the region lies to the left of the direction of travel), so Green's theorem applies:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_C P\,dx+Q\,dy &= \iint_D \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}-\frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\right)dx\,dy\\ &= \iint_D \left(3x^2+3y^2-0\right)dx\,dy\\ &= 3\iint_D (x^2+y^2)\,dA\end{aligned}$$

Switching to polar coordinates over the upper half disk ($0\le r\le 2$, $0\le\theta\le\pi$),

$$\begin{aligned}W &= 3\int_0^{\pi}\int_0^2 r^2\cdot r\,dr\,d\theta = 3\int_0^{\pi}\left[\frac{r^4}{4}\right]_0^2 d\theta = 3\int_0^{\pi} 4\,d\theta = 12\pi\\ &\approx 37.70\end{aligned}$$

Question 9

Let $\mathbf{F}(x,y)=\langle \sin x, \cos y\rangle$ and let C be the curve that is the top half of the circle $x^2+y^2=1$, traversed counterclockwise from $(1,0)$ to $(-1,0)$, and the line segment from $(-1,0)$ to $(-2,3)$. Evaluate the line integral $\int \mathbf{F}\cdot\mathbf{T}ds=\int_C \sin x dx+\cos y dy$

Solution
We consider the integrals over the semicircle, denoted by C_1, and the line segment, denoted by C_2, seperately. We then have,

$$\int_C \sin x dx+\cos y dy = \int_{C_1}\sin x dx+\cos y dy+\int_{C_2}\sin x dx+\cos y dy$$

For the semicircle, we use the parametric equations

$$x=\cos t,\quad y=\sin t,\quad 0\le t\le\pi$$

This yields

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{C_1}\sin x\,dx+\cos y\,dy &= \int_0^{\pi}\sin(\cos t)(-\sin t)\,dt+\int_0^{\pi}\cos(\sin t)(\cos t)\,dt\\ &= -\cos(\cos t)|_0^{\pi}+\sin(\sin t)|_0^{\pi}\\ &= (-\cos(-1)+\cos(1))+(\sin(0)-\sin(0))\\ &= (-\cos(1)+\cos(1))+0\\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

For the line segment, we use the parametric equations

$$x=-1-t,\quad y=3t,\quad 0\le t\le 1$$

This yields

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{C_2} \sin x dx + \cos y dy &= \int_0^1 \sin(-1-t)(-1)dt + \cos(3t)(3)dt \\ &= -\cos(-1-t)|_0^1 + \sin(3t)|_0^1 \\ &= -\cos(-2) + \cos(-1) + \sin(3) - \sin(0) \\ &= -\cos(2) + \cos(1) + \sin(3)\end{aligned}$$

We conclude

$$\int_C \sin x dx + \cos y dy = \cos(1) - \cos(2) + \sin(3)$$

In evaluating these integrals, we have taken advantage of the rule,

$$\int_a^b f'(g(t))g'(t)dt = f(g(b)) - f(g(a))$$

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