

231 Tutorial Sheet 7¹²

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Useful facts:

- To evaluate the line integral for a parameterized curve:

$$\int_c \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} dt \quad (1)$$

where t_1 and t_2 are the parameter values corresponding to the beginning and end of the curve.

- A vector field \mathbf{F} is **conservative** if $\mathbf{F} = \text{grad } \phi$ for some scalar field ϕ . ϕ is often called a **potential** for \mathbf{F} .
- A vector field is path-independent if its line integral between any two points is independent of the path.
- An irrotational field on a simply connected domain is conservative.
- To find a potential by integration: let $\partial_x \phi = F_1$ and integrate to find ϕ determined up to an arbitrary function of y and z , substitute back into $\partial_y \phi = F_2$ to determine it up to an arbitrary function of z and then determine this, up to an arbitrary constant, by substituting into $\partial_z \phi = F_3$
- To evaluate the line integral for a parameterized curve:

$$\int_c \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} dt \quad (2)$$

where t_1 and t_2 are the parameter values corresponding to the beginning and end of the curve.

- To evaluate the surface integral for a parameterized surface:

$$\int \int_S \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{A} = \int \int_S \mathbf{F} \cdot \left(\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{du} \times \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dv} \right) du dv \quad (3)$$

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²Including material from Chris Ford, to whom many thanks.

Questions

1. Which of the following vector fields are conservative?

(a) $\mathbf{F} = -yz \sin x \mathbf{i} + z \cos x \mathbf{j} + y \cos x \mathbf{k}$.

(b) $\mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{2}y \mathbf{i} - \frac{1}{2}x \mathbf{j}$.

(c) $\mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{r})$ where \mathbf{B} is a constant vector.

2. Find a potential for

$$\mathbf{F} = (e^{yz} + zye^{xy})\mathbf{i} + (xze^{yz} + xze^{xy})\mathbf{j} + (xye^{yz} + e^{xy})\mathbf{k} \quad (4)$$

3. Compute the flux of the vector field $\mathbf{F} = (x + x^2)\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j}$ out of the cylinder defined by $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ and $0 \leq z \leq 1$.

4. Find the flux of $\mathbf{F} = z^3\mathbf{k}$ upwards through the part of the sphere $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = a^2$ above the $z = 0$ plane.