

Vector Calculus Summary

Line integrals

- Over C of a scalar function (scalar field) f :

$$\int_C f(x, y) ds = \int_a^b f(x(t), y(t)) \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt = \int_a^b f(\mathbf{r}(t)) |\mathbf{r}'(t)| dt$$

Or

$$\int_C f(x, y, z) ds = \int_a^b f(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dz}{dt}\right)^2} dt = \int_a^b f(\mathbf{r}(t)) |\mathbf{r}'(t)| dt$$

- Over C of a vector field

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_C \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt = \int_C P dx + Q dy \quad \text{OR} \quad \int_C P dx + Q dy + R dz$$

$$\left(\text{These really mean } \int_C P dx + \int_C Q dy \quad \text{and} \quad \int_C P dx + \int_C Q dy + \int_C R dz \right)$$

Note: We generally parameterize these.

Fundamental Theorem for Line Integrals

$$\int_C \nabla f \cdot d\mathbf{r} = f(\mathbf{r}(b)) - f(\mathbf{r}(a)), \text{ where } \mathbf{r}(t), \quad a \leq t \leq b \text{ describes } C$$
$$= f(x_2, y_2) - f(x_1, y_1) \quad \text{or} \quad = f(x_2, y_2, z_2) - f(x_1, y_1, z_1)$$

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = 0 \text{ for all closed paths } C \Leftrightarrow \int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} \text{ is independent of path}$$
$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{F} \text{ is a conservative vector field}$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}$$

The last implication becomes if and only if and only if (\Leftrightarrow) if the partial derivatives are continuous throughout an open, simply connected region D , the domain of the vector field \mathbf{F} .

If \mathbf{F} is conservative, then $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$ for some potential function f , and we can use the Fundamental Theorem for Line Integrals. If \mathbf{F} is not conservative, we use the parameterized form given above $\left(\int_C \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt\right)$, which becomes

$$\iint_D \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\right) dA \text{ if } C \text{ is the boundary of the closed region } D, \text{ by Green's Theorem.}$$

(Note: Green's Theorem is stated below.)

To determine whether or not \mathbf{F} is conservative (that is, whether or not to use the Fundamental Theorem for Line Integrals), in \mathbb{R}^2 , check if

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}$$

In \mathbb{R}^3 , check if $\text{curl } \mathbf{F} = \nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0}$. If we find that \mathbf{F} is conservative, we find the potential function f by integrating:

$$f = \int P dx, \quad f = \int Q dy, \quad (\text{and in } \mathbb{R}^3), \quad f = \int R dz$$

Green's Theorem

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \oint_C P dx + Q dy = \int_{\partial D} P dx + Q dy = \iint_D \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\right) dA$$

Notes: $C = \partial D$ is the simple, positively oriented boundary curve of D . The symbol \oint_C is used to indicate positive orientation.

Area of a parametric surface

$$A(S) = \iint_D |\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v| dA, \text{ where } u \text{ and } v \text{ are parameters}$$

If x and y are the parameters, we have

$$A(S) = \iint_D \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}\right)^2} dA$$

Surface integrals

- Of a scalar field $f(x, y, z)$:

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

Note that $dS = |\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v| dA$.

- Of a vector field $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z)$:

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

Note: $d\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{n} dS = |\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v| dA$, where \mathbf{n} is a unit normal vector to the surface S and $|\mathbf{r}_u \times \mathbf{r}_v|$ is a normal vector to S .

If x and y are the parameters, we have

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

for upward orientation. The signs of the integrand change for downward orientation.

Stokes' Theorem

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \iint_S \text{curl } \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S},$$

where C is the positively oriented piecewise-smooth boundary curve of S , an oriented piecewise-smooth surface.

The Divergence Theorem

$$\iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iiint_E \text{div } \mathbf{F} dV,$$

where S is the boundary surface of E , a solid region whose surfaces are continuous, with outward orientation.