

Monday, 4 March 2019

Last time: Let  $C_1 = \{x^2 + y^2 = 1, y \geq 0\}$ ; let  $C_2 = \{x^2 + y^2 = 1, y \leq 0\}$   
Orient both from  $(-1, 0)$  to  $(0, 1)$  and let  $\vec{F}(x, y) = \langle -y, x \rangle$ .

2 Use  $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} \, ds$  to find  $\int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} - \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ .

### §16.3. CONSERVATIVE VECTOR FIELDS.

Let  $\vec{F}$  be a vector field on  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Def  $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$  is **path independent** if  $\int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$  whenever

$C_1$  and  $C_2$  have the same initial points and endpoints.

Examples (on slide)

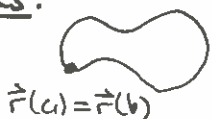
- [Last time]. the fundamental theorem of line integrals implies that a conservative vector field is independent of path.
- $\vec{F} = \langle -y, x \rangle$  is not independent of path.

Let  $C$  be a curve parametrized by  $\vec{r}(t)$ ,  $a \leq t \leq b$ .

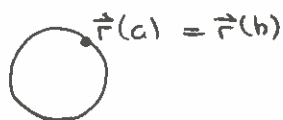
We say that  $C$  is **closed** if it begins and ends at the same point

i.e. if  $\vec{r}(a) = \vec{r}(b)$ .

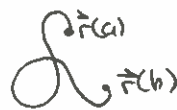
Examples:



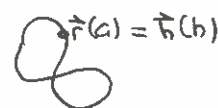
closed



closed



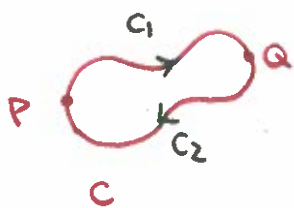
not closed



closed.

Fact 1: If  $\vec{F}$  is independent of path and  $C$  is a closed curve in  $D$ ,  $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$ .

Why?



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

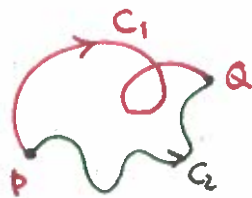
$C_1, -C_2$  are paths from  $P$  to  $Q$ .

Fact 2: Suppose  $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$  for all closed curves  $C$  in  $D$ .

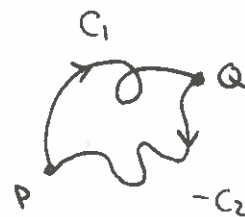
Ex 1.2

then  $\vec{F}$  is independent of path.

Why?



define  $C$



$$0 = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} - \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

Theorem:  $\int \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$  is independent of path

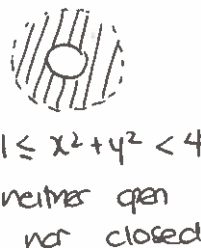
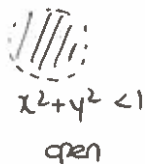
$$\Leftrightarrow \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0 \text{ for all closed curves } C$$

is wind-speed velocity a conservative vector field?

Recall:  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is **closed** if it contains all of its boundary points.

Definition  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is **open** if it doesn't contain any of its boundary points.

Examples



contains all  
boundary points

contains no  
boundary  
points

contains some  
boundary points

there aren't  
any boundary  
points.

Equivalently: For any  $P \in D$ , there is a small disk around  $P$  contained in  $D$ .

In practice: Defined by  $<, >$  or  $\neq$   
(not  $\leq, \geq$  or  $=$ ).

Definition: We say  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is **connected** if any two points in  $D$  can be joined by a path in  $D$ .



connected



Not connected.

In practice - it's only one piece.


Theorem: If  $D$  is open and connected, then

20.3

$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$  is path independent  $\Leftrightarrow \vec{F}$  is conservative.

(See slides for sketch of proof.)

Note that  $\nabla f$  has the same path integrals as  $\vec{F}$ :  
(evidence to believe  $\nabla f = \vec{F}$ ).


$$\begin{aligned} \int_C \nabla f \cdot d\vec{r} &= f(Q) - f(P) && \text{(FTLI)} \\ &= f(Q) && (f(P) = 0 \text{ by definition}) \\ &= \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} && \text{(by definition of } f\text{).} \end{aligned}$$

In practice, given  $\vec{F} = \langle P, Q \rangle$  conservative, we can explicitly write down a formula for  $f$  as follows.

Want  $\nabla f = \vec{F} = \langle P, Q \rangle$ .

Example:  $\vec{F} = \langle \sin y, x \cos y + 2y \rangle$

Step 1:  $f_x(x, y) = P$ .

$\hookrightarrow$  integrate w.r.t.  $x$  to find a function  $h(x, y)$  with  $h_x(x, y) = P$ .

$$f_x(x, y) = \sin y$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x, y) = \underbrace{x \sin y}_{h(x, y)} + c(y). \quad (*)$$

Step 2:  $f_x(x, y) - h(x, y) = c(y)$   
depends only on  $c(y)$ .

$$\underbrace{f_y(x, y)}_Q - h_y(x, y) = c'(y)$$

So we can integrate w.r.t.  $y$  to find  $c(y)$ .

$$\bullet f_y(x, y) = x \cos y + 2y = Q$$

$$\bullet f_y(x, y) = x \cos y + c'(y) \quad (*)$$

$$\Rightarrow c'(y) = 2y$$

$$\Rightarrow c(y) = y^2 + \underbrace{k}_{\text{some constant}}$$

Step 3:  $f(x, y) = h(x, y) + c(y)$

$$\bullet f(x, y) = \cancel{x \cos y} + x \sin y + y^2 + k$$

(can take  $k = 0$ )

$$f(x, y) = x \sin y + y^2$$

