

Sep 29, 2023

Last time:

Fundamental theorem of Line Integrals:

If there exists a function  $\phi$  s.t.  $\vec{F} = \nabla \phi$ , with  $C$  a curve that starts at  $\vec{a}$  and ends at  $\vec{b}$ , then:

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = \phi(\vec{b}) - \phi(\vec{a})$$

Immediate: If  $C$  is a simple, closed curve and  $\vec{F} = \nabla \phi$  (called conservative fields), then

$$\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = 0 \quad (\text{since } \vec{a} = \vec{b} \text{ here})$$

Also, in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , if  $\vec{F} = \nabla \phi$ , then  $\frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y}$

In  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , if  $\vec{F} = (F_1, F_2, F_3) = \underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \right)}_{\nabla \phi}$ , then

$$\frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \quad / \quad \frac{\partial F_3}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial z} \quad / \quad \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial F_3}{\partial y}$$

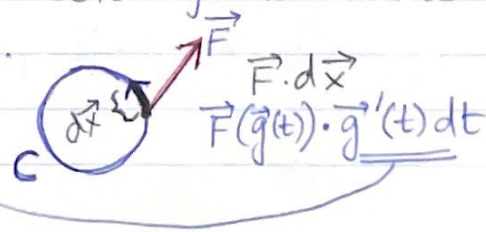
Now, for general fields  $\vec{F}$ ,

$\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x}$  can be interpreted as the

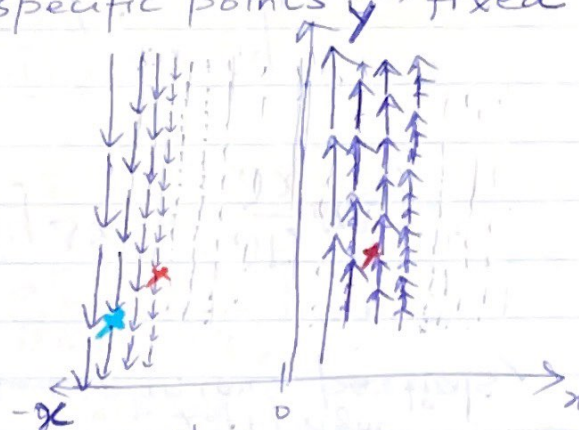
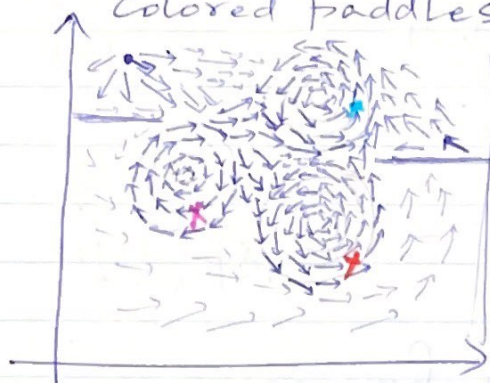
circulation of  $\vec{F}$  around  $C$ , because this is a measurement of how much the vector field tends to circulate around the curve.

(Think it as

Infinitesimal Contribution of  $\vec{F}$  along the tangents to the curve)



Suppose that ~~the~~ vector field looks as below with colored paddles at specific points  $y$  fixed



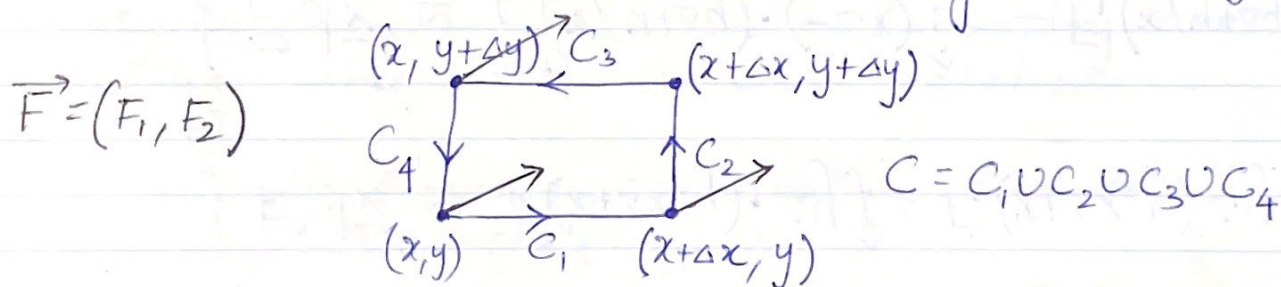
Imagine this as small paddles rotating because of the vector field

$\times$  CW  
 $\times$  CCW  
 $\times$  CCW
 } local rotations  
 CW - clockwise  
 CCW - counter-clockwise

slow  
 $\times$  CCW  
 $\times$  Fast CCW  
 $\times$  CW

Now, let's come up with a quantity that measure this spinning at a point  $(x, y)$

Consider an infinitesimal rectangle at  $(x, y)$



We shall calculate the circulation of  $\vec{F}$  around  $C$

$$\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = \oint_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} + \oint_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} + \oint_{C_3} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} + \oint_{C_4} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x}$$



Since we are considering an infinitesimal  $\Delta x$  and  $\Delta y$ ,

$$\oint_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} \approx \vec{F}(x, y) \cdot \Delta x \hat{i} = F_1(x, y) \Delta x$$

$$\oint_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} \approx \vec{F}(x + \Delta x, y) \cdot \Delta y \hat{j} = F_2(x + \Delta x, y) \Delta y$$

$$\oint_{C_3} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} \approx \vec{F}(x, y + \Delta y) \cdot (-\Delta x) \hat{i} = -F_1(x, y + \Delta y) \Delta x$$

(Assuming  $F$  is continuous,  $F$  has almost same value on the top)

$$\oint_{C_4} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} \approx \vec{F}(x, y) \cdot (-\Delta y) \hat{j} = -F_2(x, y) \Delta y$$

So  $\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} \approx \underbrace{-(F_1(x, y) + F_1(x, y + \Delta y))}_{\text{Top + bottom}} \Delta x$   
 $\quad \quad \quad + \underbrace{(F_2(x + \Delta x, y) - F_2(x, y))}_{\text{Left + right}} \Delta y$

Assuming  $F$  has continuous partials,

$$\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} \approx -\frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \Delta y \Delta x + \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} \Delta x \Delta y$$

$$\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} \approx \left( \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \right) \underbrace{\Delta x \Delta y}_{\text{Area of } C}$$

Circulation density  
around a small  
rectangle  $C$

Now, if we consider the limit:

$$\lim_{\substack{\text{area of} \\ \text{rectangle } C \rightarrow 0}} \frac{\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x}}{\text{area of } C}$$

$$= \lim_{\substack{\Delta x \rightarrow 0 \\ \Delta y \rightarrow 0}} \frac{\left( \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \right) \Delta x \Delta y}{\Delta x \Delta y}$$

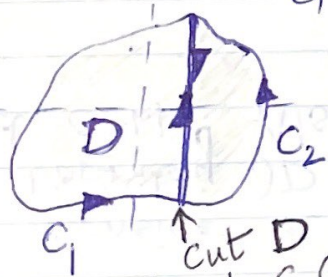
$$= \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y}$$

So  $\frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y}$  at  $(x, y)$  is called the circulation density (circulation per unit area). Also, known as vorticity at  $(x, y)$ . (from vortex)

• Sign Convention: Circulation/vorticity are positive when there is CCW rotation.

So if  $\vec{F}$  were conservative, then the vorticity at each  $(x, y)$  is 0.

Remark:



Given a region  $D$  and  $\vec{F} = (F_1, F_2)$

For  $\partial D = C_1 \cup C_2$ ,

$$\oint_{\partial D} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = \oint_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} + \oint_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x}$$

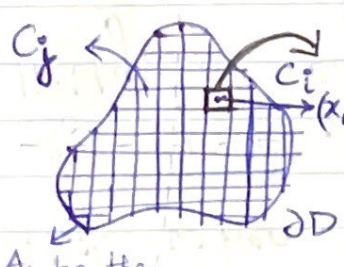
because the line integral cancels on the cut



Let's consider a region  $D$  in the plane with boundary  $\partial D$ , which is a smooth, simple curve oriented CCW. Also assume  $\vec{F} = (F_1, F_2)$  is  $C^1$  on  $D \cup \partial D$

(Continuous partials of order 1)

From previous calculations,



$$\oint_{C_i} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} \approx \left( \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \right)_{(x_i, y_i)} \Delta x \Delta y$$

$A_k$  be the curves that share the portion of  $\partial D$

also,

$$\oint_{\partial D} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = \sum_{\text{Small rectangles } C_i} \oint_{C_i} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} + \sum_k \oint_{A_k} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x}$$

$$\sum_k \oint_{A_k} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \Delta x \Delta y \rightarrow 0$$

If we make the partition more and more refined, as a limiting process, we get

$$\oint_{\partial D} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = \iint_D \left( \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \right)_{(x,y)} \boxed{\frac{dx dy}{dA}}$$

This is Green's Theorem

(Another "integral of a derivative" theorem)

Immediately, this implies that if  $\frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} = 0$ ,

then the line integral around the closed curve is zero. (Aligns with consequences of conservative fields (properties))

Applications of Green's Theorem: Example 1: Finding Area of a region.

Recall that if  $\vec{F} = (F_1, F_2)$ , then

(Check Problem set 4 #2)

$$\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = \int_a^b \vec{F}(\vec{q}(t)) \cdot \vec{q}'(t) dt$$

where  $\vec{x} = \vec{q}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$  is a parametrization of the curve  $C$ ,  $a \leq t \leq b$ .

$$= \int_a^b F_1(x(t), y(t)) x'(t) dt + \int_a^b F_2(x(t), y(t)) y'(t) dt$$

$$= \oint_C F_1 dx + \oint_C F_2 dy$$

$$\left( \text{Understanding } \vec{F} = \underbrace{(F_1, 0)}_{\vec{F}_1} + \underbrace{(0, F_2)}_{\vec{F}_2} \right)$$

Then Green's theorem implies that,

$$\text{for } \vec{F} = (-y, x) \quad \vec{F}_1 = (-y, 0) \quad \vec{F}_2 = (0, x)$$

$$\oint_{\partial D} x dy = - \oint_{\partial D} y dx = \frac{1}{2} \oint_{\partial D} (x dy - y dx)$$

$$= \iint_D 1 dx dy = \text{Area}(D).$$



Example 2: Difficult line integrals, hmm?

Let  $D$  be the region in the first quadrant bounded by the parabola  $y = 2 - x^2 + 2x$ , and compute

$$\oint_{\partial D} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x}, \text{ where } \vec{F} = (\underbrace{xy + 3x^2e^{x^3}}_{F_1}, \underbrace{e^{x^3} + y^4}_{F_2})$$

$$\text{Note that } \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} = 3x^2e^{x^3} - (x + 3x^2e^{x^3}) = -x$$

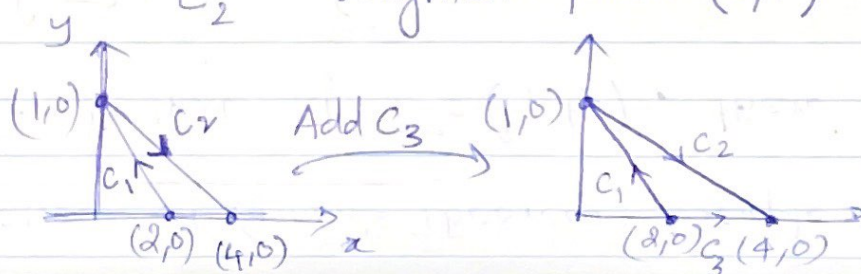
Thus,

$$\oint_{\partial D} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = - \iint_D x \, dA$$

This is relatively easy to compute!

Example 3: "Moving the curve".

Let  $C$  be the curve consisting of 2 line segments:  
 $C_1$  - segment from  $(2,0)$  to  $(0,1)$   
 $C_2$  - segment from  $(0,1)$  to  $(4,0)$



Compute  $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x}$  where  $\vec{F} = \left( \overbrace{y + \sin(e^{y^2})}^{F_1}, \overbrace{2xye^{y^2}\cos(e^{y^2})}^{F_2} \right)$

Too hard to compute the line integral!

look above

Now let  $C_3$  be the line segment from  $(2,0)$  to  $(4,0)$  and  $D$  be the region inside the triangle with vertices  $(2,0)$ ,  $(4,0)$  and  $(1,0)$  with  $\partial D$  traversed in CCW direction.

Pay attention to the orientation of  $C_1$  and  $C_3$

Then  $\partial D = C_3 \cup (-C_2) \cup (-C_1)$

$$\oint_{\partial D} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = \int_{C_3} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} - \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} - \int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x}$$

(Because Green's theorem considers CCW circulation along  $\partial D$ )

$$\text{Now, } \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} = 2ye^{y^2}\cos(e^{y^2}) - (1 + 2ye^{y^2}\cos(e^{y^2})) = -1$$

By Green's Theorem,  $\oint_{\partial D} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = \iint_D \left( \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \right) dx dy$



Example 2: Difficult line integrals, hmm?

$$\therefore \oint_D \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = \iint_D (-1) dx dy = -(\text{Area of triangle}) = -1 \quad (\text{check})$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} + \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x} = +1 + \int_{C_3} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x}$$