

Riemann; Complex Analysis

- HW1 -

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We cover the following topics in this note.

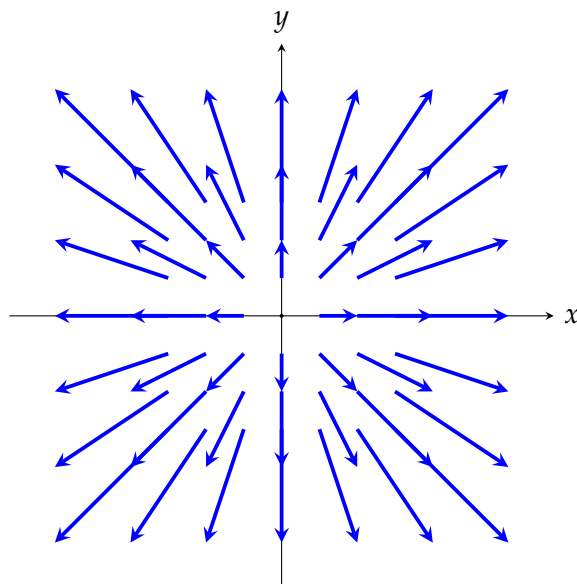
- Vector Fields
- Line Integrals for Vector Fields
- Surface Integrals for Vector Fields
- TBA

Scalar Function and Vector Fields

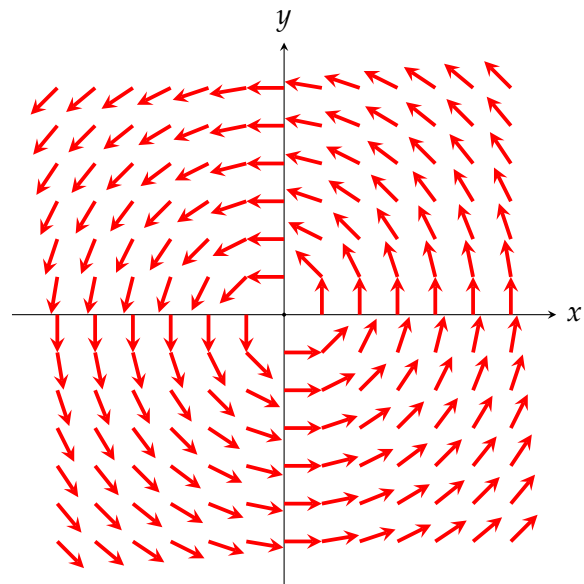
A **scalar function** on \mathbb{R}^n is a real-valued function of an n -tuple; that is,

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad \mathbf{x} \mapsto f(\mathbf{x}) = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n).$$

where $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $f(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}$.



The radial field $\mathbf{F} = \langle x, y \rangle = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j}$



The spin field $\mathbf{F} = (-y\mathbf{i} + x\mathbf{j})/(x^2 + y^2)^{1/2}$

A **vector field** on \mathbb{R}^n is a function

$$\mathbf{F} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \mathbf{x} \mapsto \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = (F_1(\mathbf{x}), F_2(\mathbf{x}), \dots, F_n(\mathbf{x})),$$

where each component $F_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is itself a scalar function.

Line Integral of Vector Fields

Definition (Line Integral of Scalar Function over Arc Length). Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a scalar function, and let C be a piecewise smooth curve in \mathbb{R}^n given by a smooth parameterization:

$$\gamma : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \quad t \mapsto \gamma(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t)).$$

Then the *arc length* of the curve C from $t = a$ to $t = b$ is defined by

$$L(\gamma) := \int_a^b \left\| \frac{d\gamma}{dt} \right\| dt, \quad \text{where } \left\| \frac{d\gamma}{dt} \right\| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx_1}{dt} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{dx_2}{dt} \right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{dx_n}{dt} \right)^2}.$$

The **line integral of the scalar function** f along the curve C with respect to arc length is defined by

$$\int_C f \, ds := \int_a^b f(\gamma(t)) \|\gamma'(t)\| \, dt.$$

Here, $ds = \|\gamma'(t)\| \, dt$ is the *infinitesimal arc length*.

Excellent — this is a key question for understanding how **vector calculus** connects with **differential forms** and notation. Let's walk through how to **rigorously deduce**:

$$\int_C F_1 \, dx + F_2 \, dy \quad \text{from} \quad \int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

for a vector field $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = (F_1(x, y), F_2(x, y))$.

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Step 1: Parametrize the Curve

Let $\gamma : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be a smooth parameterization of the curve C , given by:

$$\gamma(t) = (x(t), y(t)), \quad t \in [a, b].$$

Then the **derivative of the curve** is:

$$\gamma'(t) = (x'(t), y'(t)),$$

and the **differential displacement** is:

$$d\mathbf{r} = \gamma'(t) \, dt = (dx, dy) = (x'(t) \, dt, y'(t) \, dt).$$

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Step 2: Write the Line Integral of \mathbf{F}

The **vector line integral** is defined as:

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\gamma(t)) \cdot \gamma'(t) dt = \int_a^b [F_1(x(t), y(t)) x'(t) + F_2(x(t), y(t)) y'(t)] dt.$$

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Step 3: Recognize the Total Differentials

From calculus, we know:

$$dx = x'(t) dt, \quad dy = y'(t) dt.$$

Substitute into the integral:

$$\int_a^b F_1(x(t), y(t)) dx + F_2(x(t), y(t)) dy.$$

So we have:

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_a^b F_1(x(t), y(t)) dx + F_2(x(t), y(t)) dy = \int_C F_1 dx + F_2 dy.$$

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Final Deduction

Thus:

$$\boxed{\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_C F_1 dx + F_2 dy}$$

where: - $\mathbf{F} = (F_1, F_2)$, - $d\mathbf{r} = (dx, dy)$, - The dot product $\mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = F_1 dx + F_2 dy$.

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Interpretation

- The vector line integral becomes an integral of a **1-form**:

$$\mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} \leftrightarrow F_1 dx + F_2 dy.$$

- The dot product turns into a sum of **components times differentials**.

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Would you like to go one step further and express this in terms of pullbacks or show how it generalizes to \mathbb{R}^3 ?

Let $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be an open set and $\mathbf{F} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ a continuous vector field. Suppose $C \subset U$ is a smooth curve parametrized by

$$\mathbf{r} : [a, b] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \quad t \mapsto \mathbf{r}(t),$$

with nonzero velocity $\mathbf{r}'(t)$. Then the *line integral* of \mathbf{F} along C is defined by

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt = \int_a^b \sum_{i=1}^n F_i(\mathbf{r}(t)) x'_i(t) dt,$$

where $\mathbf{r}(t) = (x_1(t), \dots, x_n(t))$ and $\mathbf{F} = (F_1, \dots, F_n)$.

This integral “accumulates” at each infinitesimal step dt the projection of \mathbf{F} onto the tangent vector $\mathbf{r}'(t)$, yielding a single real number that captures the *circulation* or *work* of \mathbf{F} along C .

Example. Take $n = 2$ and $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = \left(-\frac{y}{x^2+y^2}, \frac{x}{x^2+y^2} \right)$ on $U = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$. Let C be the unit circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$, counterclockwise. Parametrize $\mathbf{r}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t)$, $t \in [0, 2\pi]$. Then

$$\mathbf{r}'(t) = (-\sin t, \cos t), \quad \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) = (-\sin t, \cos t),$$

so

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_0^{2\pi} (-\sin t, \cos t) \cdot (-\sin t, \cos t) dt = \int_0^{2\pi} (\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t) dt = 2\pi.$$

Thus the total circulation (or “work”) of \mathbf{F} around the unit circle is 2π .

Problem #1 (Line Integral around Unit Circle). Let $C \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be the unit circle defined by

$$C : x^2 + y^2 = 1,$$

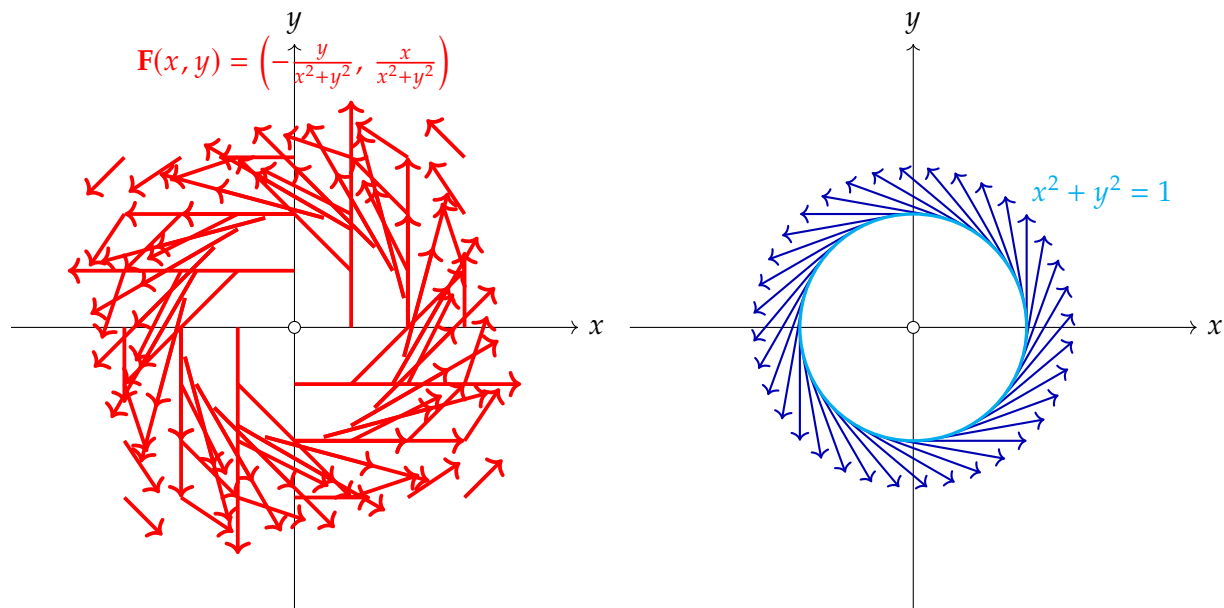
traversed in the *counterclockwise direction*. Let the vector field $\mathbf{F} : \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be defined by

$$\mathbf{F}(x, y) = \left(\frac{-y}{x^2 + y^2}, \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} \right).$$

Evaluate the *line integral* of \mathbf{F} along C :

$$\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}.$$

Sol.



Consider the vector field:

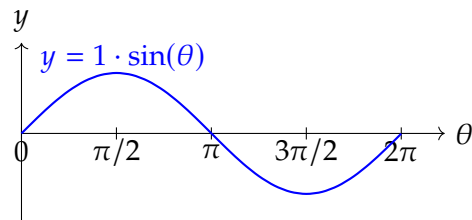
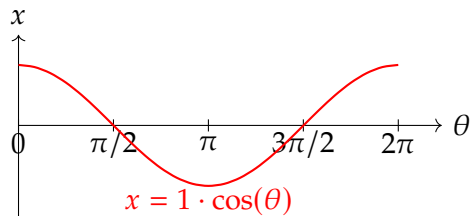
$$F(x, y) = \left(\frac{-y}{x^2 + y^2}, \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} \right),$$

and the curve C is the unit circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$, traversed counterclockwise.

Step 1. (Parametrization) Define a function

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma &: [0, 2\pi] \longrightarrow \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = 1\} \\ \theta &\longmapsto \gamma(\theta) = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta) \end{aligned}$$

Here, $\frac{d\gamma}{d\theta} = (-\sin \theta, \cos \theta)$.



Step 2. (Evaluate $F(\gamma(\theta))$ and the dot product) We have

$$F(\gamma(\theta)) = F(\cos \theta, \sin \theta) \stackrel{\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1}{=} \left(\frac{-\sin \theta}{1}, \frac{\cos \theta}{1} \right) = (-\sin \theta, \cos \theta).$$

and

$$F(\gamma(\theta)) \cdot \frac{d\gamma}{d\theta} = (-\sin \theta)(-\sin \theta) + (\cos \theta)(\cos \theta) = \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1.$$

Step 3. (Integral)

$$\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_0^{2\pi} \mathbf{F}(\gamma(\theta)) \cdot \frac{d\gamma}{d\theta} d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} 1 d\theta = 2\pi.$$

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