

• Smooth Curve :

A curve is said to be a smooth curve if it is given by

$$\vec{r}(t) = x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j} + z(t)\hat{k}, \quad a \leq t \leq b$$

where t is arclength of curve and \vec{r} is continuous and has continuous first order derivative which is differentiable from zero vector for all t .

• Piecewise smooth curve :

Curve is piecewise smooth if it consists of finite number of smooth curves.

• Line Integral :

Any integral which is to be evaluated along a curve is called a line integral.

For vector function $\vec{F}(\vec{r})$ along a curve C ,

it is given by

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_a^b \vec{F}(\vec{r}(t)) \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} dt$$

If $\vec{r}(t) = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$ and $\vec{F} = (F_1, F_2, F_3)$

then

$$\int_C d\vec{r} = dx\hat{i} + dy\hat{j} + dz\hat{k}$$

$$\text{So, } \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_C (F_1 dx + F_2 dy + F_3 dz)$$

• If C is closed curve then line integral is denoted by \oint_C .

* Remarks :

$$1) \int F(x, y, z) ds = \int_a^b F(x(t), y(t), z(t)) dt \quad \text{• } a \leq t \leq b$$

$$2) \int_C F(x, y, z) ds = \int_a^b F(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \frac{ds}{dt} dt$$

where $\frac{ds}{dt} = |v(t)| = \text{arc length of curve}$

$$= \left| \frac{dr}{dt} \right| \quad (\because ds = \int_a^b |v(t)| dt)$$

$$3) \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_a^b \vec{F} \left(\frac{dr}{dt} \right) dt = \int_a^b (F_1 \frac{dx}{dt} + F_2 \frac{dy}{dt} + F_3 \frac{dz}{dt}) dt$$

Steps for evaluating line integral :

Step:1 Let $\vec{r}(t) = x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j} + z(t)\hat{k}$
then $d\vec{r} = dx\hat{i} + dy\hat{j} + dz\hat{k}$

Step:2 Find $\vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$

Step:3 From the equation of curve find dx, dy, dz

Step:4 Evaluate $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$

Step:1 Find a smooth parametrization of
 $\vec{r}(t) = x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j} + z(t)\hat{k}$, $a \leq t \leq b$

Step:2 Evaluate the integral as

$$\int_C F(x, y, z) ds = \int_a^b F(x(t), y(t), z(t)) |v(t)| dt$$

Note: If F has the constant value 1 then the integral of F over C gives the length of C .

* Application of line integral

- 1) Work done : If \vec{F} is force acting on a particle moving along the arc AB of curve C, then line integral $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ represents the work done in displacing particle from point A to B.

$\vec{F} = M\hat{i} + N\hat{j} + P\hat{k}$ is force over a smooth curve $\vec{r}(t)$ from $t=a$ to $t=b$ then

$$W = \int_a^b \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds \quad \text{where } \vec{T} \text{ is unit tangent vector}$$

Different ways to write work done:

$$W = \int_a^b \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds$$

$$= \int_a^b \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} \quad \left(\because \vec{T} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{ds} \right)$$

$$= \int_a^b \vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} dt$$

$$= \int_a^b (M, N, P) \left(\frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt}, \frac{dz}{dt} \right) dt$$

$$= \int_a^b \left(M \frac{dx}{dt} + N \frac{dy}{dt} + P \frac{dz}{dt} \right) dt$$

$$= \int_a^b (M dx + N dy + P dz)$$

Steps For evaluating a work done along smooth curve $\vec{r}(t)$, $a \leq t \leq b$.

- 1) Evaluate \vec{F} on the curve as a f^n of t .
- 2) Find $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$ and $\vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt}$.
- 3) $\int_a^b \left(\vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \right) dt$ along $t=a$ to $t=b$.

II) Flow and Circulation

Consider smooth curve $\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$ in the domain of continuous velocity field $\vec{F}(\vec{r}) = (F_1, F_2, F_3)$. Then flow along a curve from $t=a$ to $t=b$ is

$$\text{Flow} = \int \vec{F}(\vec{r}) \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$= \int_a^b \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds$$

$$= \int_a^b \left(\vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \right) dt$$

$$= \int_a^b (F_1 dx + F_2 dy + F_3 dz)$$

The integral in this case is called flow integral.

Circulation : If the flow integral along the closed curve is called circulation around the curve.

If circulation is zero then \vec{F} is irrotational.