

Stokes' Theorem

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1 Stokes' Theorem.

For surface S in R^3 space is an oriented surface in x, y, z coordinate with boundary ∂S . Let R be a bounded, open region in s, t , plane with smooth boundary ∂R . Suppose that F is a continuously differentiable vector field. \vec{r} is a smooth parametrization that maps R to S , and ∂R to ∂S . Then

$$\iint_S \text{curl } \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S} = \iint_S (\nabla \times \vec{F}) \cdot \vec{n} dS = \int_{\partial S} \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds = \int_{\partial S} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

2 Proof.

Let

$$\vec{r}(s, t) = \begin{bmatrix} x(s, t) \\ y(s, t) \\ z(s, t) \end{bmatrix} : R \rightarrow S.$$

Then.

$$d\vec{r}|_{\partial R} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial z}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} ds \\ dt \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} ds + \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} dt \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} ds + \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} dt \\ \frac{\partial z}{\partial s} ds + \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} dt \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial z}{\partial s} \end{bmatrix} ds + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix} dt = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial s} ds + \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial t} dt$$

Hence.

$$\int_{\partial S} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{\partial S} \left(\vec{F} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial s} ds + \vec{F} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial t} dt \right)$$

We define a 2-dimensional vector field $G = (G_1, G_2)$ on the s, t , plane by

$$G_1 = \vec{F} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial s} \text{ and } G_2 = \vec{F} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial t}$$

Therefore, we put G into the original line integral

$$\int_{\partial S} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{\partial R} (G_1 ds + G_2 dt) = \int_R \left(\frac{\partial G_2}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial G_1}{\partial t} \right) ds dt ,$$

$$\int_{\partial S} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{\partial R} (G_1 ds + G_2 dt)$$

On the other hand.

$$\iint_S \text{curl } \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S} = \iint_R \text{curl } \vec{F} |_{\vec{r}} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial s} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial t} ds dt$$

We expand it, get

$$\begin{aligned} \text{curl } \vec{F} |_{\vec{r}} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial s} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial t} &= \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial F_3}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial z} & \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_3}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial t} \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \frac{\partial \vec{F}}{\partial s} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial \vec{F}}{\partial t} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial G_2}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial G_1}{\partial t} \end{aligned}$$

Hence.

$$\int_R \text{curl } F |_{\vec{r}} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial s} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial t} ds dt = \int_R \left(\frac{\partial G_2}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial G_1}{\partial t} \right) ds dt$$

For the line integral part, we have

$$\int_{\partial S} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{\partial R} (G_1 ds + G_2 dt)$$

Use Green's Theorem, we know

$$\int_{\partial R} (G_1 ds + G_2 dt) = \int_R \left(\frac{\partial G_2}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial G_1}{\partial t} \right) ds dt ,$$

So, we can conclude that

$$\int_{\partial S} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_R \left(\frac{\partial G_2}{\partial s} - \frac{\partial G_1}{\partial t} \right) ds dt = \int_R \text{curl } F |_{\vec{r}} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial s} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial t} ds dt = \iint_S \text{curl } F \cdot d\vec{S}$$

Thus, we finished our proof of Stokes' Theorem.

References

- [1] Fichtengoltz, G. M. (1959). Course on the Differential and Integral.