

# Challenge Problems in RED

**Textbook Sections:** 16.2, 16.3, 16.4

**Topics:** Line integrals, The Fundamental Theorem for Line Integrals, conservative vector field theorems, Green's Theorem

**Instructions:** Try each of the following problems, show the detail of your work.

Clearly mark your choices in multiple choice items. Justify your answers.

Cellphones, graphing calculators, computers and any other electronic devices are not to be used during the solving of these problems. Discussions and questions are strongly encouraged.

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## THE FUNDAMENTAL THEOREM FOR LINE INTEGRALS

1. Determine whether or not  $\mathbf{F}$  is a conservative vector field, where  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = (xy + y^2)\mathbf{i} + (x^2 + 2xy)\mathbf{j}$ . If it is, find a function  $f$  such that  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$ .
2. Determine whether or not  $\mathbf{F}$  is a conservative vector field, where  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = ye^x\mathbf{i} + (e^x + e^y)\mathbf{j}$ . If it is, find a function  $f$  such that  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$ .
3. (a) Find a function  $f$  such that  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$ , where  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = (1 + xy)e^{xy}\mathbf{i} + x^2e^{xy}\mathbf{j}$ .  
(b) Then evaluate  $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$  along the curve  $C$ , where  $C : \mathbf{r}(t) = \cos t\mathbf{i} + 2 \sin t\mathbf{j}$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq \pi/2$
4. Show that the line integral  $\int_C \sin y dx + (x \cos y - \sin y) dy$  is independent of the path, where  $C$  is any path from  $(2, 0)$  to  $(1, \pi)$ . Then, evaluate the integral.

### Green's Theorem:

5. Use Green's Theorem to evaluate the line integral

$$\int_C (y + e^{\sqrt[3]{x^5}}) dx + (2x + \cos(y^2)) dy$$

along the positively oriented curve  $C$  that is the boundary of the region enclosed by the parabolas  $y = x^2$  and  $x = y^2$ .

6. Use Green's Theorem to find the work done by the force  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = x(x + y)\mathbf{i} + xy^2\mathbf{j}$  in moving a particle from the origin along the x-axis to  $(1, 0)$ , then along the line segment to  $(0, 1)$ , and then back to the origin along the y-axis.

### The curl and the divergence of a vector field:

7. Find the curl and the divergence of the following vector fields.
  - (a)  $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = x^3yz^2\mathbf{j} + y^4z^3\mathbf{k}$
  - (b)  $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \ln(2y + 3z)\mathbf{i} + \ln(x + 3z)\mathbf{j} + \ln(x + 2y)\mathbf{k}$
8. Consider the following vector field  $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = (x^2 \ln(y + 1))\mathbf{i} + (y^2 z^3)\mathbf{j} + \left(\frac{z}{y}\right)\mathbf{k}$ .
  - (a) Show all calculations for finding the curl of  $\mathbf{F}$ .
  - (b) Show all calculations for finding the divergence of  $\mathbf{F}$ .

## Suggested Textbook Problems

Section 16.3	3-10, 13-24, 29, 30
Section 16.4	1-14, 17, 18, 21
Section 16.5	1-20, 25-34

## SOME USEFUL DEFINITIONS, THEOREMS AND NOTATION:

### The Fundamental Theorem for Line Integrals – Theorem 2 in Section 16.3

Let  $C$  be a smooth curve given by the vector function  $\mathbf{r}(t)$ , where  $a \leq t \leq b$ . Let  $f$  be a differentiable function of two or three variables whose gradient vector  $\nabla f$  is continuous on  $C$ . Then

$$\int_C \nabla f \cdot d\mathbf{r} = f(\mathbf{r}(b)) - f(\mathbf{r}(a)).$$

### Connections between Independence of path of line integrals, conservative vector fields and the partial derivatives of the components of $\mathbf{F}$

**Theorem 3.**  $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$  is independent of path in  $D$  if and only if  $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = 0$  for every closed path  $C$  in  $D$ .

**Theorem 4.** Suppose  $\mathbf{F}$  is a vector field that is continuous on an open connected region  $D$ . If  $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$  is independent of path in  $D$ , then  $\mathbf{F}$  is a conservative vector field on  $D$ ; that is, there exists a function  $f$  such that  $\nabla f = \mathbf{F}$ .

**Theorem 5.** If  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = P(x, y)\mathbf{i} + Q(x, y)\mathbf{j}$  is a conservative vector field, where  $P$  and  $Q$  have continuous first-order partial derivatives on a domain  $D$ , then throughout  $D$  we have

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}.$$

**Theorem 6.** Let  $\mathbf{F} = P\mathbf{i} + Q\mathbf{j}$  be a vector field on an open simply-connected region  $D$ . Suppose that  $P$  and  $Q$  have continuous first-order partial derivatives and

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \text{ throughout } D.$$

Then  $\mathbf{F}$  is conservative.

### Green's Theorem

Let  $C$  be a positively oriented, piecewise-smooth, simple closed curve in the plane and let  $D$  be the region bounded by  $C$ . If  $P$  and  $Q$  have continuous partial derivatives on an open region that contains  $D$ , then

$$\int_C P dx + Q dy = \iint_D \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dA$$

### Curl

If  $\mathbf{F} = P\mathbf{i} + Q\mathbf{j} + R\mathbf{k}$  is a vector field on  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and the partial derivatives of  $P, Q, R$  all exist, then the Curl of  $\mathbf{F}$  is the vector field on  $\mathbb{R}^3$  defined by

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{F} = \nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ P & Q & R \end{vmatrix} = (R_y - Q_z)\mathbf{i} + (P_z - R_x)\mathbf{j} + (Q_x - P_y)\mathbf{k}$$