

Green's Theorem

Idea: [Fundamental Theorem of Calculus](#)

Suppose $\vec{F}(x, y) = (P, Q)$

Let C be a positively oriented (see: [Orientation](#)), piecewise-smooth, simple closed curve surrounding region A . If P and Q have continuous partial derivatives on an open region that contains A , then

$$\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \oint_C Pdx + Qdy = \iint_A \left[\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right] dx dy$$

(see: [Vector line integral](#))

C can be also noted as ∂A

Integral of $\left[\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right]$ over a [Closed](#) 2D region (or surface) living in 2D space = function \vec{F} over a 1D boundary (or [Closed](#) curve)

$\left[\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right] \leftrightarrow \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} \leftrightarrow \vec{F} \text{ is } \text{Path-independent} \leftrightarrow \vec{F} \text{ is } \text{Conservative}$

Proof

for the case in which A is a [Simple region](#).

- Show $\int_C P(x, y) dx = - \iint_D \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} dA$ by expressing D as a type I region
- Similarly, show $\int_C Q dy = \iint_D \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} dA$ by expressing D as a type II region

But we can extend it to the case where A is a finite union of simple regions.

It can also be extended to apply to regions with holes (not simply-connected), with properly-defined [Orientation](#) of boundaries.

[Curl](#) Representation

Suppose $\vec{F} = (P(x, y), Q(x, y), 0)$


Then $\nabla \times \vec{F} = (0, 0, (\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}))$, so

$$\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \iint_A (\nabla \times \vec{F}) \cdot \vec{k} dA$$


where $\vec{k} = 0\vec{i} + 0\vec{j} + 1\vec{k}$

[Stoke's Theorem](#) Representation

Using the equations above, the right hand side could be interpreted as the [Flux](#) of the [Curl](#) of the [Vector field](#) over a 2D region (surface), since \vec{k} is the unit normal vector of the 2D plane (surface)

 Quote ▾

George Green worked fulltime in his father's bakery from the age of nine and taught himself mathematics from library books. In 1828 he published privately *An Essay on the Application of Mathematical Analysis to the Theories of Electricity and Magnetism*, but only 100 copies were printed and most of those went to his friends.

 How did he have friends?