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0.1 Line integral of vector fields

We may wish to integrate along a curve in a vector field.

We previously showed that we can write a curve as a function on the real line:

$$r : [a, b] \rightarrow C$$

The integral is therefore the sum of the function at all points, with some weighting.

We write this:

$$\int_C f(r)ds = \lim_{\Delta s \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=0}^n f(r(t_i))\Delta s_i$$

In a vector field we use

$$\int_C f(r)ds = \int_a^b f(r(t)).r'(t)dt$$