

# Math 2580 Assignment #7

## University of Lethbridge, Spring 2016

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**Due date:** Thursday, April 7th, by 3 pm.

Please provide solutions to the problems below, using the following guidelines:

- Your submitted assignment should be a **good copy** – figure out the problems first, and then write down organized solutions to each problem.
- You should include a **cover page** with the following information: the course number and title, the assignment number, your name, and a list of any resources you used or people you worked with.
- Since you have plenty of time to work on the problems, assignment solutions will be held to a higher standard than on a test. Your explanations should be clear enough that any of your classmates can understand your solutions.
- Group work is permitted, but copying is not. If you're not sure what the difference is, feel free to ask. If you get help solving a problem, you should (a) make sure you completely understand the solution, and (b) re-write the solution for your good copy by yourself, in your own words.
- Assignments can be submitted in class, or in the designated drop box on the 5th floor of University Hall, across from the Math Department office.
- Late assignments will not be accepted without prior permission.

## Assigned problems

1. Verify Green's Theorem holds for the integral  $\int_C (2x^3 - y^3) dx + (x^3 + y^3) dy$ , where  $C$  is the unit circle.
2. A vector field  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = P(x, y)\mathbf{i} + Q(x, y)\mathbf{j}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  can be viewed as a special case of a vector field in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  that does not depend on  $z$ , with  $z$ -component equal to zero. With this identification,

(a) Show that  $(\nabla \times \mathbf{F}) \cdot \mathbf{k} = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}$ .

- (b) Use part (a) to show that Green's Theorem can be written in the vector form

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \iint_D (\nabla \times \mathbf{F}) \cdot \mathbf{k} dA,$$

where  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  is a region to which Green's Theorem applies, and  $C = \partial D$  is the positively-oriented boundary of  $D$ .

- (c) Show that Green's Theorem implies the *Divergence Theorem in the Plane*:

Let  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  be a region to which Green's Theorem applies, and let  $C = \partial D$  be its positively-oriented boundary. Let  $\mathbf{n}$  denote the outward-pointing unit normal vector to  $C$ : if  $\mathbf{r} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\mathbf{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$  defines a positively-oriented parameterization of  $C$ , then  $\mathbf{n}$  is given by

$$\mathbf{n} = \frac{y'(t)\mathbf{i} - x'(t)\mathbf{j}}{\sqrt{(x'(t))^2 + (y'(t))^2}}. \quad (\text{Verify this.})$$

If  $\mathbf{F} = P\mathbf{i} + Q\mathbf{j}$  is a  $C^1$  vector field on  $D$ , then

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} ds = \iint_D (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}) dA.$$

3. The **Laplacian** is a differential operator  $\Delta = \nabla^2$  that acts on functions  $f : D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , defined by

$$\Delta f = \nabla^2 f = \nabla \cdot (\nabla f) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2} + \cdots + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n^2}.$$

A  $C^2$  function  $f$  is called **harmonic** if  $\Delta f = 0$ . Harmonic functions are important in many areas of Engineering and Physics, such as heat transfer, electrodynamics, fluid flow, robotics<sup>1</sup>, etc.

- (a) Determine whether or not the functions  $f(x, y) = e^x \sin y$ ,  $g(x, y) = x^3 + y^3$ ,  $h(x, y) = x^3 - 3xy^2$  are harmonic.
- (b) Prove that for any harmonic function  $f$  defined on a region  $D$  for which Green's Theorem holds, we have

$$\int_{\partial D} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dx - \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dy = 0.$$

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<sup>1</sup>According to the internet.