

Solutions Quiz 18 Practice Problems  
Math 2580  
Spring 2016

Sean Fitzpatrick

March 24th, 2016

If you can answer the following problems, you should be well-prepared for Quiz 18:

1. Evaluate the integral of the given vector field along the given curve:

(a)  $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \langle x, y, z \rangle$ ,  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle \cos t, \sin t, t^2 \rangle$ ,  $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} &= \int_0^{2\pi} \mathbf{F}(\cos t, \sin t, t^2) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \langle \cos t, \sin t, t^2 \rangle \cdot \langle -\sin t, \cos t, 2t \rangle dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} 2t^3 dt = 8\pi^4.\end{aligned}$$

(b)  $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \langle yz, xz, xy \rangle$ ,  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle 3t, t^2, t^3 \rangle$ ,  $t \in [0, 1]$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} &= \int_0^1 \mathbf{F}(3t, t^2, t^3) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 \langle t^5, 3t^4, 3t^3 \rangle \cdot \langle 3, 2t, 3t^2 \rangle dt \\ &= \int_0^1 18t^5 dt = 3.\end{aligned}$$

(c)  $\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = (x^2 + x)\mathbf{i} + \frac{x - y}{x + y}\mathbf{j} + (z - z^3)\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{r}(t) = 3t\mathbf{i} + (t - 1)\mathbf{j} + t^2\mathbf{k}$ ,  $t \in [0, 1]$ .

This line integral is actually undefined: in the  $y$ -component of  $\mathbf{F}$ , notice that  $x + y = 3t + (t - 1) = 4t - 1$  is in the denominator, and  $4t - 1 = 0$  for  $t = \frac{1}{4} \in [0, 1]$ .

2. Evaluate the integral of the given function (scalar field) along the given curve:

(a)  $f(x, y, z) = xy^3$ ,  $x = 4 \sin t$ ,  $y = 4 \cos t$ ,  $z = 3t$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq \pi/2$ .

We have  $\mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle 4 \cos t, -4 \sin t, 3 \rangle$ , so  $\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\| = \sqrt{16 \cos^2 t + 16 \sin^2 t + 9} = 5$ , and

$$f(\mathbf{r}(t)) = f(4 \sin t, 4 \cos t, 3t) = 4 \sin t (4 \cos t)^3 = 256 \sin t \cos^3 t,$$

so

$$\int_C f \, ds = \int_0^{2\pi} f(\mathbf{r}(t)) \|\mathbf{r}'(t)\| \, dt = \int_0^{2\pi} (256 \sin t \cos^3 t)(5) \, dt = 0.$$

(b)  $f(x, y, z) = xe^{yz}$ , along the line segment from  $(0, 0, 0)$  to  $(1, 2, 3)$ .

First, we parameterize the line segment using  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle t, 2t, 3t \rangle$ , with  $t \in [0, 1]$ , so  $\|\mathbf{r}'(t)\| = \sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2} = \sqrt{14}$ . Thus

$$\int_C f \, ds = \int_0^1 f(t, 2t, 3t) \|\mathbf{r}'(t)\| \, dt = \int_0^1 te^{6t^2}(\sqrt{14}) \, dt = \frac{\sqrt{14}}{12}(e^6 - 1).$$

3. Determine if the given vector field is conservative. If it is, find a function  $f$  such that  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$ :

(a)  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = (6x + 5y)\mathbf{i} + (5x + 4y)\mathbf{j}$

For this and the remaining problems, we use the fact that if the domain of  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = P(x, y)\mathbf{i} + Q(x, y)\mathbf{j}$  is all of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , then a necessary and sufficient condition for  $\mathbf{F}$  to be conservative is  $P_y(x, y) = Q_x(x, y)$ . For this problem, we have  $P_y(x, y) = 5 = Q_x(x, y)$ , so  $\mathbf{F}$  must be conservative. If  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$  for some function  $f$ , then we must have  $f_x(x, y) = P(x, y) = 6x + 5y$ , so  $f(x, y) = 3x^2 + 5xy + g(y)$  for (possibly) some function  $g$  of  $y$  only. Now, on the one hand we have

$$f_y(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(3x^2 + 5xy + g(y)) = 5x + g'(y),$$

while on the other hand,  $f_y(x, y) = Q(x, y) = 5x + 4y$ . Comparing these two, we see that we must have  $g'(y) = 4y$ , so we can take  $g(y) = 2y^2$ , and thus

$$f(x, y) = 3x^2 + 5xy + 2y^2.$$

(We could also add a constant, but this is unnecessary: note that the question asked for *a* function, not *all* functions.)

(b)  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = (x^3 + 4xy)\mathbf{i} + (4xy - y^3)\mathbf{j}$

We have  $P_y(x, y) = 4x$  and  $Q_x(x, y) = 4y$ . Since  $P_y \neq Q_x$ , the vector field  $\mathbf{F}$  cannot be conservative.

(c)  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = e^y \mathbf{i} + xe^y \mathbf{j}$ .

We have  $P_y(x, y) = e^y = Q_x(x, y)$ , so  $\mathbf{F}$  is a conservative vector field. If  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$  for some function  $f$ , then we must have

$$f_x(x, y) = P(x, y) = e^y, \quad \text{so} \quad f(x, y) = xe^y + g(y)$$

for some function  $g(y)$  of  $y$  only. Then we have  $f_y(x, y) = xe^y + g'(y) = xe^y = Q(x, y)$ , which tells us that  $g'(y) = 0$ , so we can take  $g(y) = 0$  and  $f(x, y) = xe^y$ .

(d)  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = (ye^x + \sin y) \mathbf{i} + (e^x + x \cos y) \mathbf{j}$

We have  $P_y(x, y) = e^x + \cos y = Q_x(x, y)$ , so  $\mathbf{F}$  is conservative. If  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$  for some function  $f$ , then we must have

$$f_x(x, y) = e^x + \cos y, \quad \text{so} \quad f(x, y) = e^x + x \cos y + g(y)$$

for some function  $y$ , and comparing to  $Q(x, y) = e^x + x \cos y = f_y(x, y)$ , we see that we can take  $g(y) = 0$ , and  $f(x, y) = e^x + x \cos y$ .