

Section 16.3 Homework

1-25 odd, 29-35 odd

1 Since the gradient of f is continuous, we know that the work line integral of the gradient is just the difference in z values: $50 - 10 = 40$.

3-9

Determine whether or not F is a conservative vector field. If it is, find a function f such that $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$.

3

$$\mathbf{F}(x, y) = \langle xy + y^2, (x^2 + 2xy) \rangle$$

Solution: From our notes, if the mixed second partials of the potential function candidate are equal (basically if the partials of the component functions of \mathbf{F} are equal), then the vector field is conservative, and we can go about finding the potential function. Let $P(x, y) = xy + y^2$ and $Q(x, y) = x^2 + 2xy$. We have that

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} &= x + 2y \\ \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} &= 2x + 2y\end{aligned}$$

The partials are not equal and thus \mathbf{F} is not a conservative vector field.

5

$$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle y^2 e^{xy}, (1 + xy)e^{xy} \rangle$$

Solution: Same as above, take partials of component functions of the vector field

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} &= 2ye^{xy} + y^2 xe^{xy} \\ \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} &= ye^{xy} + ye^{xy} + xy^2 e^{xy}\end{aligned}$$

These partials are equal on their natural domains which is all of \mathbb{R}^2 , a simply connected open region. Therefore a potential function exists. To find this function, we will start by integrating $P(x, y)$ against x :

$$f(x, y) = \int P(x, y) dx = \int (y^2 e^{xy}) dx = ye^{xy} + g(y)$$

Take the derivative of f with respect to y and compare to $Q(x, y)$:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} &= Q(x, y) \\ e^{xy} + xy e^{xy} + g'(y) &= e^{xy} + xy e^{xy} \\ g'(y) &= 0 \rightarrow g(y) = 0 + C\end{aligned}$$

The general solution is $f(x, y) = ye^{xy} + C$.