

2) § 1.2.2 chapter 1 \rightarrow example gravitational field.

$$F(x, y, z) = - \frac{c}{r^3} (x, y, z)$$

with $c = gmM$ and $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$

this field derives from a potential.

The potential is $f(x, y, z) = \frac{c}{r} + \alpha$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$F = \text{grad} \left(\frac{c}{r} + \alpha \right) = \text{grad} \left(\frac{c}{r} \right)$$

2.3.2 Important results

• Theorem 1: let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be an open domain and

$$F: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$x \mapsto F(x) = (F_1(x), F_2(x), \dots, F_n(x))$$

a vector field s.t. $F \in C^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$

a) Necessary condition: If F derives from a potential on Ω , then

$$(*) \quad \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial x_j}(x) = \frac{\partial F_j}{\partial x_i}(x), \quad \forall i, j = 1, \dots, n \text{ and } \forall x \in \Omega$$

b) Sufficient condition: If (*) holds and if Ω is convex and/or simply connected then F derives from a potential on Ω .

Remarks:

- 1- The condition (*) is necessary but not sufficient.
- 2- The condition (*) is equivalent to $\text{curl } F = 0$ ($\text{rot } F = 0$). Indeed, $n=2$, $F = (F_1, F_2)$

$$\frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_2} = \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_1} \iff \text{curl } F = \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_2} = 0$$

But the same applies to $n=3$.

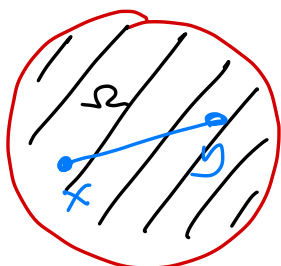
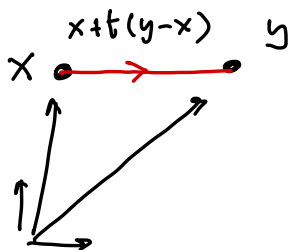
Recalls :

1) $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is convex if $\forall t \in [0, 1]$ and $\forall x, y \in \Omega$

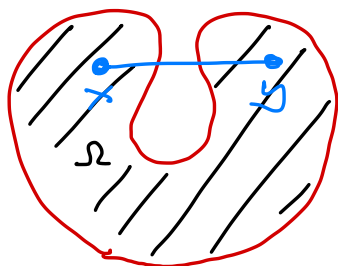
we have : $x + t(y-x) \in \Omega$

(i.e, the segment joining the points x and y is

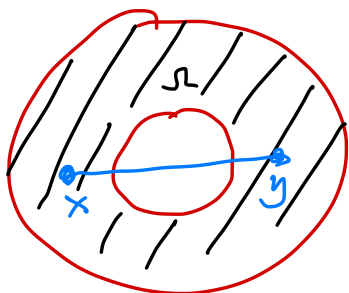
fully contained in Ω).



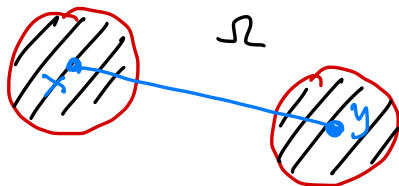
convex
simply connected



non-convex
simply connected



non-convex
non-simply connected



non-convex.
non-simply connected.

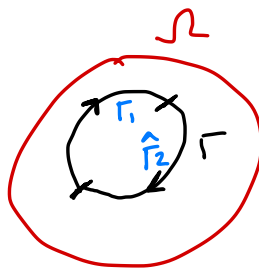
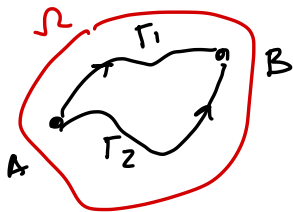
2) $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is simply connected if $\forall x, y \in \Omega$ there exists a family of curves Γ that joins x and y that is fully contained in Ω , and, being Γ_1 and Γ_2 two of those curves they can be deformed without leaving Ω .

a Theorem 2: let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be an open domain and let $F: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ a continuous vector field. ($F \in C^0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$). That the 3 statements below are equivalent:

1) F derives from a potential.

2) $\int_{\Gamma_1} F \cdot dl = \int_{\Gamma_2} F \cdot dl$ for all the (piecewise) regular simple curves Γ_1 and $\Gamma_2 \subset \Omega$ joining every pair of points $A, B \subset \Omega$

3) $\int_{\Gamma} F \cdot dl = 0$ if Γ (piecewise) regular simple and close curve.



$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Gamma} F \cdot dl &= \int_{\Gamma_1} F \cdot dl + \int_{\hat{\Gamma}_2} F \cdot dl \\ &= \int_{\Gamma_1} F \cdot dl - \int_{\Gamma_2} F \cdot dl \end{aligned}$$

• Summary of the use of Theorems 1 and 2 :

let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and $F: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $F \in C^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$

a) If $\text{curl } F \neq 0 \Rightarrow F$ does not derive from a potential

b) If $\text{curl } F = 0$ on Ω convex and/or simply connected
 $\Rightarrow F$ derives from a potential.

c) If $\text{curl } F = 0$ on Ω is not convex and is not simply connected
 \Rightarrow Theorem 1 does not provide any inform.

d) If we find at least one closed curve $\Gamma \subset \Omega$
such that $\int_{\Gamma} F \cdot dl \neq 0 \Rightarrow F$ does not derive from
a potential.

e) If we find one closed curve $\Gamma \subset \Omega$ s.t.

$\int_{\Gamma} F \cdot dl = 0 \not\Rightarrow F$ derives from a potential.

2.3.2 Examples:

• Example 1: study if F derives from a potential.

If so, find the potential.

$$a) F: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$(x, y) \mapsto F(x, y) = (4x^3y^2, 2x^4y + y)$$

$\Omega = \mathbb{R}^2$ is convex and simply connected

$$\begin{aligned} \text{curl } F &\stackrel{?}{=} 0, \quad \text{curl } F = \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (2x^4y + y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (4x^3y^2) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

F derives from a potential

We want to find $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $\text{grad } f = F$

$$\text{grad } f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = (F_1, F_2)$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 4x^3y^2 \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 2x^4y + y \quad (2)$$

$$(1) \rightarrow \int \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx \rightarrow f(x, y) = \int 4x^3 y^2 dx + \alpha(y)$$

$$f(x, y) = x^4 y^2 + \alpha(y)$$

$$(2) \rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \cancel{2x^4 y} + \alpha'(y) = F_2 = \cancel{2x^4 y} + y$$

$$\alpha'(y) = y \rightarrow \alpha(y) = \frac{1}{2} y^2 + \beta ; \beta \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$f(x, y) = x^4 y^2 + \frac{1}{2} y^2 + \beta$$

$$b) F: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$(x, y, z) \mapsto F = (y e^x \sin z, 1 + e^x \sin z, y e^x \cos z + z)$$

$\Omega = \mathbb{R}^3$ is convex and simply connected

$$\text{curl } F \stackrel{?}{=} 0 \rightarrow \text{yes, curl } F = 0$$

F derives from a potential

We want to find $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $\text{grad } f = F$.

$$\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right) = (F_1, F_2, F_3)$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = F_1 = ye^x \sin z \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = F_2 = 1 + e^x \sin z \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = F_3 = ye^x \cos z + z \quad (3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \rightarrow f(x, y, z) &= \int ye^x \sin z dx + \alpha(y, z) \\ &= ye^x \sin z + \alpha(y, z) \end{aligned}$$

$$(2) \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (ye^x \sin z + \alpha(y, z)) = F_2 = 1 + e^x \sin z$$

$$\cancel{e^x \sin z} + \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial y}(y, z) = 1 + \cancel{e^x \sin z}$$

$$\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial y}(y, z) = 1 \rightarrow \alpha(y, z) = y + \beta(z)$$

$$(3) \Rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (ye^x \sin z + y + \beta(z)) = F_3 = ye^x \cos z + z$$

$$\cancel{ye^x \cos z} + 0 + \beta'(z) = \cancel{ye^x \cos z} + z$$

$$\beta'(z) = z \rightarrow \beta(z) = \frac{1}{2} z^2 + C, \quad C \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\alpha(y, z) = y + \frac{1}{2} z^2 + C$$

$$f(x,y) = y e^x \sin z + y + \frac{1}{2} z^2 + c$$

$$c) F: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$(x,y,z) \mapsto F = (3x^2, 2xz - y, z)$$

• Example 2: let be a vector field

$$F: \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

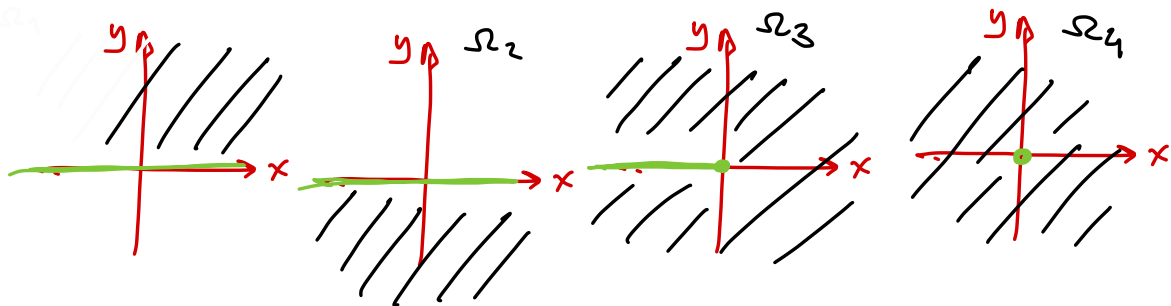
$$(x,y) \mapsto F(x,y) = \left(\frac{-y}{x^2+y^2}, \frac{x}{x^2+y^2} \right)$$

and consider the following sets:

$$\Omega_1 = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : y > 0\} ; \Omega_2 = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : y < 0\}$$

$$\Omega_3 = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x \leq 0 \text{ and } y = 0\}$$

$$\Omega_4 = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\} = \text{dom}(F)$$



$$\Omega_1 \subset \Omega_3 \subset \Omega_4, \quad \Omega_2 \subset \Omega_3 \subset \Omega_4$$

$$\text{curl } F = 0 \quad \forall (x, y) \in \Omega_4 = \text{dom}(F)$$