

# Vector Calculus

## VI: Integrals Over Paths and Surfaces

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### Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>The Path Integral</b>	<b>49</b>
1.1	Definition of Path Integral . . . . .	49
1.2	The Path Integral for Planar Curves . . . . .	49
<b>2</b>	<b>Line Integrals</b>	<b>50</b>
2.1	Definition of the Line Integral . . . . .	50
2.2	Reparametrizations . . . . .	50
2.3	Line Integrals of Gradient Fields . . . . .	51
2.4	Line Integrals Over Geometric Curves . . . . .	52
2.5	The $d\mathbf{r}$ Notation for Line Integrals . . . . .	53
<b>3</b>	<b>Parametrized Surfaces</b>	<b>53</b>
3.1	Graphs Are Too Restrictive . . . . .	53
3.2	Parametrized Surfaces as Mappings . . . . .	53
3.3	Tangent Vectors to Parametrized Surfaces . . . . .	54
3.4	Regular Surfaces . . . . .	54
3.5	Tangent Plane to a Parametrized Surface . . . . .	54
<b>4</b>	<b>Area of a Surface</b>	<b>55</b>
4.1	Definition of Surface Area . . . . .	55
4.2	Surface Area of a Graph . . . . .	55
4.3	Surfaces of Revolution . . . . .	56
4.4	Integrals of Scalar Functions Over Surfaces . . . . .	56
4.5	Surface Integrals Over Graphs . . . . .	57
4.6	Integrals Over Graphs . . . . .	57
<b>5</b>	<b>Surface Integrals of Vector Fields</b>	<b>58</b>
5.1	Definition of the Surface Integral . . . . .	58
5.2	Orientation . . . . .	58
5.3	Orientation and the Vector Surface Element of a Sphere . . . . .	59
5.4	Independence of Parametrization . . . . .	59
5.5	Relation with Scalar Integrals . . . . .	59
5.6	Surface Integrals Over Graphs . . . . .	60
<b>6</b>	<b>Summary: Formulas for Surface Integrals</b>	<b>60</b>

# 1 The Path Integral

## 1.1 Definition of Path Integral

Suppose we have a scalar function  $f : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , such that  $f$  sends points in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  to real numbers. It would be useful to define the integral of such a function  $f$  along a path  $\mathbf{c} : I = [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , where  $\mathbf{c}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$ .

The path integral, or the integral of  $f(x, y, z)$  along the path  $\mathbf{c}$ , is defined when  $\mathbf{c} : I = [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is of class  $C^1$  and when the composite function  $t \mapsto f(x(t), y(t), z(t))$  is continuous on  $I$ . We define this path integral as

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} f \, ds = \int_a^b f(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \|\mathbf{c}'(t)\| dt. \quad (1)$$

Sometimes  $\int_{\mathbf{c}} f \, ds$  is denoted as

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} f(x, y, z) \, ds \quad (2)$$

or

$$\int_a^b f(\mathbf{c}(t)) \|\mathbf{c}'(t)\| dt. \quad (3)$$

If  $\mathbf{c}(t)$  is only piecewise  $C^1$  or  $f(\mathbf{c}(t))$  is piecewise continuous, we define  $\int_{\mathbf{c}} f \, ds$  by breaking  $[a, b]$  into pieces over which  $f(\mathbf{c}(t)) \|\mathbf{c}'(t)\|$  is continuous, and summing the integral over the pieces.

## 1.2 The Path Integral for Planar Curves

When the path  $\mathbf{c}$  describes a plane curve. Suppose that all points  $\mathbf{c}(t)$  lie in the  $xy$  plane and  $f$  is a real-valued function of two variables. The path integral of  $f$  along  $\mathbf{c}$  is

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} f(x, y) \, ds = \int_a^b f(x(t), y(t)) \sqrt{x'(t)^2 + y'(t)^2} dt. \quad (4)$$

When  $f(x, y) \geq 0$ , this integral can be geometrically interpreted as the “area of a fence”.

## 2 Line Integrals

### 2.1 Definition of the Line Integral

Let  $\mathbf{F}$  be a vector field on  $\mathbb{R}^3$  that is continuous on the  $C^1$  path  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ . We define  $\int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$ , the line integral of  $\mathbf{F}$  along  $\mathbf{c}$ , by the formula

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{c}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'(t) dt. \quad (5)$$

That is, we integrate the dot product of  $\mathbf{F}$  with  $\mathbf{c}'$  over interval  $[a, b]$ . For paths  $\mathbf{c}$  that satisfy  $\mathbf{c}'(t) \neq \mathbf{0}$ , there is another useful formula for the line integral. Namely, if  $\mathbf{T}(t) = \mathbf{c}'(t)/\|\mathbf{c}'(t)\|$  denotes the unit tangent vector, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} &= \int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{c}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'(t) dt \\ &= \int_a^b \left[ \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{c}(t)) \cdot \frac{\mathbf{c}'(t)}{\|\mathbf{c}'(t)\|} \right] \|\mathbf{c}'(t)\| dt \\ &= \int_a^b [\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{c}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{T}(t)] \|\mathbf{c}'(t)\| dt. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Either Equations (5) or (6) can be used, depending on whichever is easier.

Another common way of writing line integrals is

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} F_1 dx + F_2 dy + F_3 dz = \int_a^b \left( F_1 \frac{dx}{dt} + F_2 \frac{dy}{dt} + F_3 \frac{dz}{dt} \right) dt = \int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}. \quad (7)$$

### 2.2 Reparametrizations

The line integral  $\int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$  depends not only on the field  $\mathbf{F}$  but also on the path  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ . In general, if  $\mathbf{c}_1$  and  $\mathbf{c}_2$  are two different paths in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $\int_{\mathbf{c}_1} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} \neq \int_{\mathbf{c}_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$ . On the other hand, it is true that  $\int_{\mathbf{c}_1} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \pm \int_{\mathbf{c}_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$  for every vector field  $\mathbf{F}$  if  $\mathbf{c}_1$  is what we call a reparametrization of  $\mathbf{c}_2$ . This means that  $\mathbf{c}_1$  and  $\mathbf{c}_2$  are different descriptions of the same geometric curve.

Let  $h : I \rightarrow I_1$  be a  $C^1$  real-valued function that is a one-to-one map of an interval  $I = [a, b]$  onto another interval  $I_1 = [a_1, b_1]$ . Let  $\mathbf{c} : I_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be a piecewise  $C^1$  path. Then we call the composition

$$\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{c} \circ h : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (8)$$

A reparametrization of  $\mathbf{c}$ . This means that  $\mathbf{p}(t) = \mathbf{c}(h(t))$ , and so  $h$  changes the variable.

It is implicit in the definition that  $h$  must carry the endpoints, where either  $h(a) = a_1$  and  $h(b) = b_1$ , or  $h(a) = b_1$  and  $h(b) = a_1$ . We thus distinguish between two types of parametrizations. If  $\mathbf{c} \circ h$  is a reparametrization of  $\mathbf{c}$ , then either

$$(\mathbf{c} \circ h)(a) = \mathbf{c}(a_1) \text{ and } (\mathbf{c} \circ h)(b) = \mathbf{c}(b_1) \quad (9)$$

or

$$(\mathbf{c} \circ h)(a) = \mathbf{c}(b_1) \text{ and } (\mathbf{c} \circ h)(b) = \mathbf{c}(a_1) \quad (10)$$

In the first case, the reparametrization is orientation-preserving. In the second case, the reparametrization is orientation-reversing.

Let  $\mathbf{F}$  be a vector field continuous on the  $C^1$  path  $\mathbf{c} : [a_1, b_1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , and let  $\mathbf{p} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be a reparametrization of  $\mathbf{c}$ . If  $\mathbf{p}$  is orientation-preserving, then

$$\int_{\mathbf{p}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}, \quad (11)$$

and if  $\mathbf{p}$  is orientation-reversing, then

$$\int_{\mathbf{p}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = - \int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}. \quad (12)$$

While the line integral is an oriented integral, the path integral does not have this property. Thus, if we let  $\mathbf{c}$  be piecewise  $C^1$ , let  $f$  be a continuous (real-valued) function on the image  $\mathbf{c}$ , and let  $\mathbf{p}$  be any reparametrization of  $\mathbf{c}$ , then

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} f(x, y, z) \, ds = \int_{\mathbf{p}} f(x, y, z) \, ds. \quad (13)$$

### 2.3 Line Integrals of Gradient Fields

Recall that a vector field  $\mathbf{F}$  is a gradient vector field if  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$  for some real-valued function  $f$ . Thus,

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{\delta f}{\delta x} \mathbf{i} + \frac{\delta f}{\delta y} \mathbf{j} + \frac{\delta f}{\delta z} \mathbf{k}. \quad (14)$$

Suppose  $g$  and  $G$  are real-valued continuous functions defined on a closed interval  $[a, b]$ , that is  $G$  is differentiable on  $(a, b)$  and that  $G' = g$ . Then by the fundamental theorem of calculus,

$$\int_a^b g(x)dx = G(b) - G(a). \quad (15)$$

Thus, the value of the integral of  $g$  depends on the value of  $G$  at the endpoints of the interval  $[a, b]$ . Because  $\nabla f$  represents the derivative of  $f$ , we can ask whether  $\int_{\mathbf{c}} \nabla f \cdot d\mathbf{s}$  is completely determined by the value of  $f$  at the endpoints  $\mathbf{c}(a)$  and  $\mathbf{c}(b)$ .

Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is of class  $C^1$  and that  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is a piecewise  $C^1$  path. Then

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} \nabla f \cdot d\mathbf{s} = f(\mathbf{c}(b)) - f(\mathbf{c}(a)). \quad (16)$$

## 2.4 Line Integrals Over Geometric Curves

We define a simple curve  $C$  to be the image of a piecewise  $C^1$  map  $\mathbf{c} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  that is one-to-one on an interval  $I$ ;  $\mathbf{c}$  is called a parametrization of  $C$ . Thus, a simple curve does not intersect itself. If  $I = [a, b]$ , we call  $\mathbf{c}(a)$  and  $\mathbf{c}(b)$  endpoints of the curve. Each simple curve  $C$  has two orientation or directions associated with it. If  $P$  and  $Q$  are the endpoints of the curve, then we can consider  $C$  as directed from  $P$  to  $Q$  or from  $Q$  to  $P$ . The simple curve  $C$  together with a sense of direction is called an oriented simple curve or directed simple curve.

By a simple closed curve we mean the image of a piecewise  $C^1$  map  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  that is one-to-one  $[a, b)$  and satisfies  $\mathbf{c}(a) = \mathbf{c}(b)$ . If  $\mathbf{c}$  satisfies the condition  $\mathbf{c}(a) = \mathbf{c}(b)$ , but is not necessarily one-to-one on  $[a, b)$ , we call its image a closed curve. Simple closed curves have two orientations.

For line integrals and path integrals over oriented simple curves and simple closed curves  $C$ ,

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} \quad \text{and} \quad \int_C f \, ds = \int_{\mathbf{c}} f \, ds \quad (17)$$

These integrals do not depend on the choice of  $\mathbf{c}$  as long as  $\mathbf{c}$  is one-to-one. Although a curve must be parameterized to make integration along it tractable, it is not necessary to include the parametrization in our notation for the integral.

## 2.5 The $d\mathbf{r}$ Notation for Line Integrals

Sometimes we write a line integral using the notation

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}. \quad (18)$$

This is because we think of a  $C^1$  path  $\mathbf{c}$  in terms of a moving position vector based at the origin and ending at the point  $\mathbf{c}(t)$  at time  $t$ . Position vectors are often denoted by  $\mathbf{r} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}$ , so the curve is described using the notation  $\mathbf{r}(t) = x(t)\mathbf{i} + y(t)\mathbf{j} + z(t)\mathbf{k}$  in place of  $\mathbf{c}(t)$ . By definition, the line integral is given by

$$\int_a^b \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} dt. \quad (19)$$

We can cancel out the  $dt$ 's and replace the limits of integration with the geometric curve  $C$ , arriving at the notation  $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$ .

## 3 Parametrized Surfaces

### 3.1 Graphs Are Too Restrictive

One kind of surface is the graph of a function  $f(x, y)$ . However, many surfaces arise as level surfaces of functions. Suppose our surface  $S$  is a set of points  $(x, y, z)$ , where  $x - z + z^3 = 0$ . Here  $S$  is not the graph of some function  $z = f(x, y)$ , because this means that for each  $(x_0, y_0) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , there must be one  $z_0$  with  $(x_0, y_0, z_0) \in S$ . By extending the definition of a graph to three variables, we can think of planes as being "pushed", "twisted", or "rolled" around.

### 3.2 Parametrized Surfaces as Mappings

Previously we dealt with mappings  $f : A \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ . Taking  $n = 2$  and  $m = 3$  correspondings to the case of a 2D surface in 3D space.

A parametrization of a surface is a function  $\Phi : D \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , where  $D$  is some domain in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . The surface  $S$  corresponding to the function  $\Phi$  is its image:  $S = \Phi(D)$ . We can write

$$\Phi(u, v) = (x(u, v), y(u, v), z(u, v)). \quad (20)$$

If  $\Phi$  is differentiable or is of class  $C^1$ , we call  $S$  differentiable or a  $C^1$  surface. Thus the  $\Phi$  function can be thought as a function taking a 2D plane and distorting it to generate a 3D surface.

### 3.3 Tangent Vectors to Parametrized Surfaces

Suppose that  $\Phi$  is a parametrized surface that is differentiable at  $(u_0, v_0) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . Fixing  $u$  at  $u_0$ , we get a map  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , given by  $t \mapsto \Phi(u_0, t) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , whose image is a curve on the surface. The vector tangent to this curve at the point  $\Phi(u_0, v_0)$ , which we denote by  $\mathbf{T}_v$ , is

$$\mathbf{T}_v = \frac{\delta \Phi}{\delta v} = \frac{\delta x}{\delta v}(u_0, v_0)\mathbf{i} + \frac{\delta y}{\delta v}(u_0, v_0)\mathbf{j} + \frac{\delta z}{\delta v}(u_0, v_0)\mathbf{k}. \quad (21)$$

Similarly, if we fix  $v$  and consider the curve  $t \mapsto \Phi(t, v_0)$ , we obtain the tangent vector to this curve at  $\Phi(u_0, v_0)$ , given by

$$\mathbf{T}_u = \frac{\delta \Phi}{\delta u} = \frac{\delta x}{\delta u}(u_0, v_0)\mathbf{i} + \frac{\delta y}{\delta u}(u_0, v_0)\mathbf{j} + \frac{\delta z}{\delta u}(u_0, v_0)\mathbf{k}. \quad (22)$$

### 3.4 Regular Surfaces

Because the vectors  $\mathbf{T}_u$  and  $\mathbf{T}_v$  are tangent to two curves on the surface at a given point, the vector  $\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v$  ought to be normal to the surface at the same point.

We say that the surface  $S$  is regular or smooth at  $\Phi(u_0, v_0)$ , provided that  $\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v \neq \mathbf{0}$  at  $(u_0, v_0)$ . This surface is called regular if it is regular at all points  $\Phi(u_0, v_0) \in S$ .

### 3.5 Tangent Plane to a Parametrized Surface

We can use the fact that  $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v$  is normal to the surface to define the tangent plane and compute it.

If a parametrized surface  $\Phi : D \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is regular at  $\Phi(u_0, v_0)$  - that is, if  $\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v \neq \mathbf{0}$  - we define the tangent plane of the surface at  $\Phi(u_0, v_0)$  to be the plane determined by the vectors  $\mathbf{T}_u$  and  $\mathbf{T}_v$ . Thus,  $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v$  is a normal vector, and an equation of the tangent plane at  $(x_0, y_0, z_0)$  is given by

$$(x - x_0, y - y_0, z - z_0) \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0, \quad (23)$$

Where  $n$  is evaluated at  $(u_0, v_0)$ ; that is, the tangent plane is the set of  $(x, y, z)$  satisfying the condition above. If  $\mathbf{n} = (n_1, n_2, n_3) = n_1\mathbf{i} + n_2\mathbf{j} + n_3\mathbf{k}$ , then the formula above becomes

$$n_1(x - x_0) + n_2(y - y_0) + n_3(z - z_0) = 0. \quad (24)$$

## 4 Area of a Surface

### 4.1 Definition of Surface Area

We define a parametrized surface  $S$  to be the image of a function  $\Phi : D \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , written as  $\Phi(u, v) = (x(u, v), y(u, v), z(u, v))$ . The map  $\Phi$  was called the parametrization of  $S$  and  $S$  was said to be regular at  $\Phi(u, v) \in S$  provided that  $\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v \neq \mathbf{0}$ .

In the rest of this chapter and the next one, we will consider only piecewise regular surfaces that are unions of images of parametrized surfaces  $\Phi_i : D_i \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  for which

1.  $D_i$  is an elementary region in the plane;
2.  $\Phi_i$  is of class  $C^1$  and one-to-one, except possibly on the boundary of  $D_i$ ; and
3.  $S_i$ , the image of  $\Phi_i$ , is regular, except possibly at a finite number of points.

We define the surface area  $A(S)$  of a parametrized surface by

$$A(S) = \iint_D \|\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v\| du dv, \quad (25)$$

Where  $\|\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v\|$  is the norm of  $\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v$ . If  $S$  is a union of surfaces  $S_i$ , its area is the sum of the areas of the  $S_i$ .

### 4.2 Surface Area of a Graph

A surface  $S$  given in the form  $z = g(x, y)$ , where  $(x, y) \in D$ , admits the parametrization

$$x = u \quad y = v \quad z = g(u, v) \quad (26)$$



For  $(u, v) \in D$ . When  $g$  is of class  $C^1$ , this parametrization is smooth and the formula for surface area reduces to

$$A(S) = \iint_D \left( \sqrt{\left(\frac{\delta g}{\delta x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta g}{\delta y}\right)^2 + 1} \right) dA, \quad (27)$$

After applying the formulas

$$\mathbf{T}_u = \mathbf{i} + \frac{\delta g}{\delta u} \mathbf{k}, \quad \mathbf{T}_v = \mathbf{i} + \frac{\delta g}{\delta v} \mathbf{k}, \quad (28)$$

and

$$\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v = -\frac{\delta g}{\delta u} \mathbf{i} - \frac{\delta g}{\delta v} \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k} = -\frac{\delta g}{\delta x} \mathbf{i} - \frac{\delta g}{\delta y} \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}. \quad (29)$$

### 4.3 Surfaces of Revolution

The lateral surface area generated by revolving the graph of a function  $y = f(x)$  about the  $x$  axis is given by

$$A = 2\pi \int_a^b (|f(x)| \sqrt{1 + [f'(x)]^2}) dx. \quad (30)$$

If the graph is revolved about the  $y$  axis, the surface area is

$$A = 2\pi \int_a^b (|x| \sqrt{1 + [f'(x)]^2}) dx. \quad (31)$$

### 4.4 Integrals of Scalar Functions Over Surfaces

The integral of a scalar function  $f$  over a surface  $S$  is analogous to considering the path integral as a generation of arc length.

Let us start with a surface  $S$  parametrized by a mapping  $\Phi : D \rightarrow S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ , where  $D$  is an elementary region, which we write as  $\Phi(u, v) = (x(u, v), y(u, v), z(u, v))$ .

If  $f(x, y, z)$  is a real-valued continuous function defined on a parametrized surface  $S$ , we define the integral of  $f$  over  $S$  to be

$$\iint_S f(x, y, z) dS = \iint_S f dS = \iint_D f(\Phi(u, v)) \|\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v\| du dv. \quad (32)$$

## 4.5 Surface Integrals Over Graphs

Suppose  $S$  is a graph of a  $C^1$  function  $z = g(x, y)$ . Recall that we can parametrize  $S$  by setting

$$x = u, \quad y = v, \quad z = g(u, v), \quad (33)$$

And that in this case

$$\|\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v\| = \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\delta g}{\delta u}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta g}{\delta v}\right)^2}, \quad (34)$$

So

$$\iint_S f(x, y, z) dS = \iint_D f(x, y, g(x, y)) \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\delta g}{\delta u}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta g}{\delta v}\right)^2} dx dy. \quad (35)$$

## 4.6 Integrals Over Graphs

We can also develop another formula for surface integrals when the surface can be represented as a graph. We let  $S$  be the graph of  $z = g(x, y)$  and consider the formula from the previous section. We claim that

$$\iint_S f(x, y, z) dS = \iint_D \frac{f(x, y, g(x, y))}{\cos \theta} dx dy, \quad (36)$$

Where  $\theta$  is the angle the normal to the surface makes with the unit vector  $\mathbf{k}$  at the point  $(x, y, g(x, y))$ . Describing the surface by the equation  $\phi(x, y, z) = z - g(x, y) = 0$ , a normal vector  $\mathbf{N}$  is  $\nabla \phi$ ; that is,

$$\mathbf{N} = -\frac{\delta g}{\delta x} \mathbf{i} - \frac{\delta g}{\delta y} \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}. \quad (37)$$

Thus,

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{k}}{\|\mathbf{N}\|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\delta g/\delta x)^2 + (\delta g/\delta y)^2 + 1}}. \quad (38)$$

Note that  $\cos\theta = \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{k}$ , where  $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{N}/\|\mathbf{N}\|$  is the unit normal. Thus, we can write

$$d\mathbf{S} = \frac{dx \, dy}{\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{k}}. \quad (39)$$

## 5 Surface Integrals of Vector Fields

### 5.1 Definition of the Surface Integral

Let  $\mathbf{F}$  be a vector field defined on  $S$ , the image of a parametrized surface  $\Phi$ . The surface integral of  $\mathbf{F}$  over  $\Phi$  is denoted by

$$\iint_{\Phi} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_D \mathbf{F} \cdot (\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v) \, du \, dv. \quad (40)$$

### 5.2 Orientation

An oriented surface is a two-sided surface with one side specified as the outside or positive side; the other side is the inside or negative side. At each point  $(x, y, z) \in S$  there are two unit normal vectors  $\mathbf{n}_1$  and  $\mathbf{n}_2$ , where  $\mathbf{n}_1 = -\mathbf{n}_2$ . To specify the side of a surface  $S$ , at each point we choose a unit normal vector  $\mathbf{n}$  that points away from the positive side of  $S$  at that point.

Let  $\Phi : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be a parametrization of an oriented surface  $S$  and suppose  $S$  is regular at  $\Phi(u_0, v_0)$ ,  $(u_0, v_0) \in D$ ; thus, the vector  $(\mathbf{T}_{u_0} \times \mathbf{T}_{v_0})/\|\mathbf{T}_{u_0} \times \mathbf{T}_{v_0}\|$  is defined. If  $\mathbf{n}(\Phi(u_0, v_0))$  denotes the unit normal to  $S$  at  $\Phi(u_0, v_0)$ , it follows that

$$(\mathbf{T}_{u_0} \times \mathbf{T}_{v_0})/\|\mathbf{T}_{u_0} \times \mathbf{T}_{v_0}\| = \pm \mathbf{n}(\Phi(u_0, v_0)). \quad (41)$$

The parametrization  $\Phi$  is orientation-preserving when using the  $+$  sign. In other words,  $\Phi$  is orientation-preserving if the vector  $\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v$  points to the outside of the surface, and orientation-reversing if the vector  $\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v$  points to the inside of the surface.

### 5.3 Orientation and the Vector Surface Element of a Sphere

Consider the sphere of radius  $R$ , where  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = R^2$ . It is standard practice to orient the sphere with the outward unit normal. In terms of the position vector  $\mathbf{r} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}$ , the outward unit normal is given by

$$\mathbf{n} = \frac{\mathbf{r}}{R}. \quad (42)$$

The surface-area element is then given by

$$d\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{T}_\phi \times \mathbf{T}_\theta) d\phi d\theta = \mathbf{r} R \sin\phi d\phi d\theta = \mathbf{n} R^2 \sin\phi d\phi d\theta. \quad (43)$$

### 5.4 Independence of Parametrization

The integral over an oriented surface is independent of the parametrization. Let  $S$  be an oriented surface and let  $\Phi_1$  and  $\Phi_2$  be two regular orientation-preserving parametrizations, with  $\mathbf{F}$  a continuous vector field defined on  $S$ . Then

$$\iint_{\Phi_1} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_{\Phi_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S}. \quad (44)$$

If  $\Phi_1$  is orientation-preserving and  $\Phi_2$  is orientation-reversing, then

$$\iint_{\Phi_1} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = - \iint_{\Phi_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S}. \quad (45)$$

If  $f$  is a real-valued continuous function defined on  $S$ , and if  $\Phi_1$  and  $\Phi_2$  are parametrization of  $S$ , then

$$\iint_{\Phi_1} f dS = \iint_{\Phi_2} f dS. \quad (46)$$

### 5.5 Relation with Scalar Integrals

$\iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$ , the surface integral of  $\mathbf{F}$  over  $S$ , is equal to the integral of the normal component of  $\mathbf{F}$  over the surface. In short,

$$\iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS. \quad (47)$$

This observation can often save computational effort.

## 5.6 Surface Integrals Over Graphs

Let us derive the surface-integral formulas for vector fields  $\mathbf{F}$  over surfaces  $S$  that are graphs of functions. Consider the surface  $S$  described by  $z = g(x, y)$ , where  $(x, y) \in D$ , where  $S$  is oriented with the upward-pointing unit normal:

$$\mathbf{n} = \frac{-\frac{\delta g}{\delta x}\mathbf{i} - \frac{\delta g}{\delta y}\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{\delta g}{\delta x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta g}{\delta y}\right)^2 + 1}} \quad (48)$$

We have previously seen that we can parametrize  $S$  by  $\Phi : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  given by  $\Phi(x, y) = (x, y, g(x, y))$ . In this case,  $\iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$  can be written in a simple form. We have

$$\mathbf{T}_x = \mathbf{i} + \frac{\delta g}{\delta x}\mathbf{k}, \quad \mathbf{T}_y = \mathbf{j} + \frac{\delta g}{\delta y}\mathbf{k}. \quad (49)$$

Thus,  $\mathbf{T}_x \times \mathbf{T}_y = -(\delta g/\delta x)\mathbf{i} - (\delta g)(\delta y)\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ . If  $\mathbf{F} = F_1\mathbf{i} + F_2\mathbf{j} + F_3\mathbf{k}$  is a continuous vector field, we get that the surface integral of a vector field over a graph  $S$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} &= \iint_D \mathbf{F} \cdot (\mathbf{T}_x \times \mathbf{T}_y) \, dx \, dy \\ &= \iint_D \left[ F_1 \left( -\frac{\delta g}{\delta x} \right) + F_2 \left( -\frac{\delta g}{\delta y} \right) + F_3 \right] \, dx \, dy \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

## 6 Summary: Formulas for Surface Integrals

**Parametrized Surface:**  $\Phi(u, v)$

1. Integral of a scalar function  $f$ :

$$\iint_S f \, dS = \iint_D f(\Phi(u, v)) \|\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v\| \, du \, dv \quad (51)$$

2. Scalar surface element:

$$dS = \|\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v\| \, du \, dv \quad (52)$$

3. Integral of a vector field  $\mathbf{F}$ :

$$\iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_D \mathbf{F} \cdot (\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v) du dv \quad (53)$$

4. Vector surface element:

$$d\mathbf{S} = (\mathbf{T}_u \times \mathbf{T}_v) du dv = \mathbf{n} dS \quad (54)$$

**Graph:**  $z = g(x, y)$

1. Integral of a scalar function  $f$ :

$$\iint_S f dS = \iint_D \frac{f(x, y, g(x, y))}{\cos\theta} dx dy \quad (55)$$

2. Scalar surface element:

$$dS = \frac{dx dy}{\cos\theta} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\delta g}{\delta x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta g}{\delta y}\right)^2 + 1} dx dy \quad (56)$$

Where  $\cos\theta = \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{k}$ , and  $\mathbf{n}$  is a unit normal vector to the surface.

3. Integral of a vector field  $\mathbf{F}$ :

$$\iint_S \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \iint_D \left( -F_1 \frac{\delta g}{\delta x} - F_2 \frac{\delta g}{\delta y} + F_3 \right) dx dy \quad (57)$$

4. Vector surface element:

$$d\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{n} \cdot dS = \left( -\frac{\delta g}{\delta x} \mathbf{i} - \frac{\delta g}{\delta y} \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k} \right) dx dy \quad (58)$$

**Sphere:**  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = R^2$

1. Scalar surface element:

$$dS = R^2 \sin\phi d\phi d\theta \quad (59)$$

2. Vector surface element:

$$d\mathbf{S} = (x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}) R \sin\phi d\phi d\theta = \mathbf{r} R \sin\phi d\phi d\theta = \mathbf{n}^2 \sin\phi d\phi d\theta \quad (60)$$