

Solutions to the Homework Problems

1. Calculate the work done when a force $\vec{F} = 3xy\hat{i} - y^2\hat{j}$ moves a particle in the xy -plane from $(0, 0)$ to $(1, 2)$ along the parabola $y = 2x^2$.

Solution: Let, $x = t, y = 2t^2$

that is $dx = dt, dy = 4t dt$

For the point $(0, 0)$,

$$0 = t, 0 = 2t^2$$

That means we get $t = 0$

Again for the point $(1, 2)$,

$$1 = t, 2 = 2t^2$$

That means we get $t = 1$

Now we get

$$\vec{F} = 6t^3\hat{i} - 4t^4\hat{j}$$

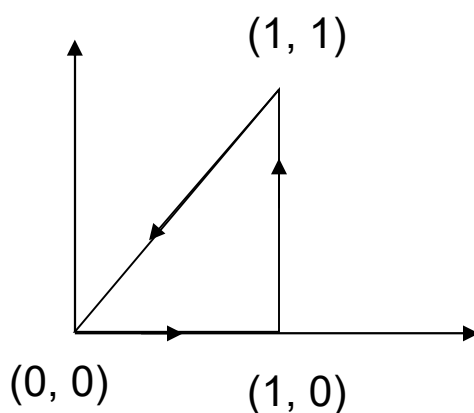
$$\text{and } d\vec{r} = dx\hat{i} + dy\hat{j} + dz\hat{k} = dt\hat{i} + 4t dt\hat{j}$$

$$\text{Now, } \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_0^1 (6t^3 - 16t^5) dt = -\frac{7}{6}$$

So, the work done is $\frac{7}{6}$.

2. Evaluate $\oint_C (y^2 dx + x^2 dy)$ where C is the triangle with vertices $(1, 0)$, $(1, 1)$, $(0, 0)$.

Solution:



Along the straight line from $(0,0)$ to $(1,0)$ we get,

$$\langle (0,0) + (1,0)t \rangle = \langle (t, 0) \rangle \text{ where } 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

So that, $x = t, y = 0$ that is $dx = dt, dy = 0$

So we get

$$\oint_C (y^2 dx + x^2 dy) = 0$$

Along the straight line from $(1,0)$ to $(1,1)$ we get,

$$\langle (1,0) + (0,1)t \rangle = \langle (1, t) \rangle \text{ where } 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

So that, $x = 1, y = t$ that is $dx = 0, dy = dt$

So we get

$$\oint_C (y^2 dx + x^2 dy) = \int_0^1 dt = 1$$

Along the straight line from (1,1) to (0,0) we get,

$$\langle (1,1) + (-1,-1)t \rangle = \langle (1-t, 1-t) \rangle$$

where $0 \leq t \leq 1$

So that, $x = 1 - t, y = 1 - t$ that is $dx = -dt$,
 $dy = -dt$

So we get

$$\begin{aligned}\oint_C (y^2 dx + x^2 dy) &= \int_0^1 \{-(1-t)^2 - (1-t)^2\} dt \\ &= -\frac{2}{3}\end{aligned}$$

Adding,

$$\oint_C (y^2 dx + x^2 dy) = 0 + 1 - \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

3. Find the work done in moving a particle once around a circle C in the xy plane, if the circle has center at the origin and radius 3 and if the force field is given by $\vec{F} = (2x - y + z)\hat{i} + (x + y - z^2)\hat{j} + (3x - 2y + 4z)\hat{k}$

Solution: Here, $x = 3 \cos t, y = 3 \sin t$ and $z = 0$
where $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$

that is $dx = -3 \sin t \, dt, dy = 3 \cos t \, dt$ and $dz = 0$

So we get

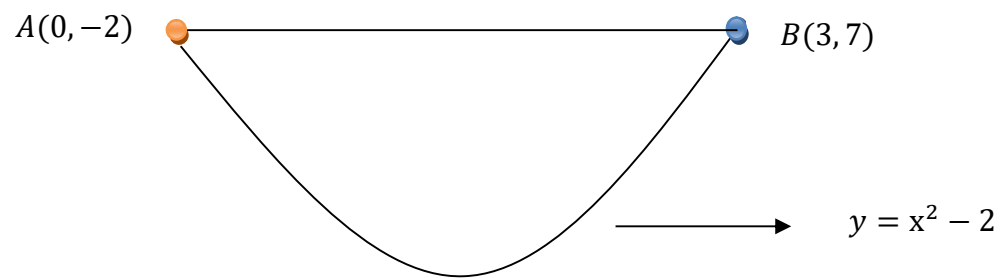
$$\begin{aligned}\vec{F} &= (6 \cos t - 3 \sin t)\hat{i} + (3 \cos t + 3 \sin t)\hat{j} \\ &\quad + (9 \cos t - 6 \sin t)\hat{k}\end{aligned}$$

and $d\vec{r} = dx\hat{i} + dy\hat{j} + dz\hat{k} = -3 \sin t \, dt\hat{i} + 3 \cos t \, dt\hat{j}$

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_0^{2\pi} (9 - 9 \sin t \cos t) \, dt$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \left(9 - \frac{9}{2} \sin 2t \right) dt = 18\pi$$

4. Find all possible work done for a moving particle from A to B where the force field is given by $\vec{F} = -x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$.



Solution:

Along the straight line from A to B we get,

$$\langle (0, -2) + (3, 9)t \rangle = \langle (3t, -2 + 9t) \rangle,$$

where $0 \leq t \leq 1$

Here,

$$x = 3t, \quad y = -2 + 9t$$

$$\text{and } dx = 3 \, dt, \quad dy = 9 \, dt$$

$$\text{So, } \vec{F} = -3t \hat{i} + (-2 + 9t)\hat{j}$$

$$d\vec{r} = 3 \, dt \hat{i} + 9 \, dt \hat{j}$$

Now, we can write

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{t=0}^{t=1} (-18 + 72t) dt = 18$$

Along the curve from A to B we get,

$$x = t, \quad y = t^2 - 2$$

$$\text{and } dx = dt, \quad dy = 2t \, dt$$

For the point $(0, -2)$,

$$0 = t, \quad -2 = t^2 - 2$$

That means we get $t = 0$

Again, for the point $(3, 7)$,

$$3 = t, \quad 7 = t^2 - 2$$

That means we get $t = 3$

$$\text{Now, } \vec{F} = -t \hat{i} + (t^2 - 2)\hat{j}$$

$$d\vec{r} = dt \hat{i} + 2t dt \hat{j}$$

So, we can write

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{t=0}^{t=3} (2t^3 - 5t)dt = 18$$