

## Multivariable Calculus

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Review: In Chapter 11, we discuss vector-valued functions of a single (scalar) variable, e.g.  $\underline{r}(t) = x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j} + z(t)\hat{k}$ .  
 (we input a scalar quantity, and obtain a curve in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  plane)  
 In Chapter 12, we discuss functions of several variables (real), e.g.  $z = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ . Suppose we denote  $\underline{r} = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle$ , then  $z = f(\underline{r})$  (i.e. scalar valued functions of a vector variable  $\underline{r}$ )  
 ↑ position vector.  
 i.e. we obtain a scalar field.

Reference: Adam and Essex Chapter 15.1, 15.2, 15.3, 15.4  
 Larson and Edwards Chapter 15.1 - 15.2

Vector fields

We will study two types of vector-valued functions: functions that assign a vector to ① a point in the plane, or ② a point in the space. Such functions are called "vector fields". They can be used to represent "force fields" and "velocity fields".

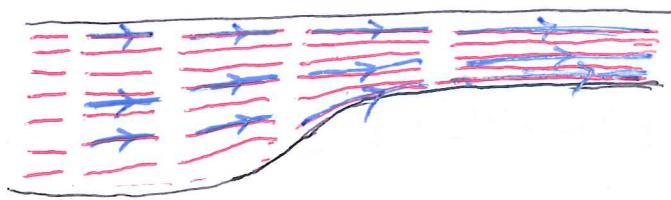
Definition ① A vector field over a plane region R is a function  $\underline{F}$  that assigns a vector  $\underline{F}(\underline{r}) = F(x, y)$  to each point in  $R$ .  
 ② A vector field over a solid region Q in space is a function  $\underline{F}$  that assigns a vector  $\underline{F}(\underline{r}) = F(x, y, z)$  to each point in  $Q$ .

For ①, suppose  $M$  and  $N$  are two real-valued functions of two variables  $x$  and  $y$ , defined on a planar region  $R$ , the corresponding vector field can be  $\underline{F}(x, y) = M(x, y)\hat{i} + N(x, y)\hat{j}$ , where  $\underline{r} = \langle x, y \rangle \rightarrow$  position vector

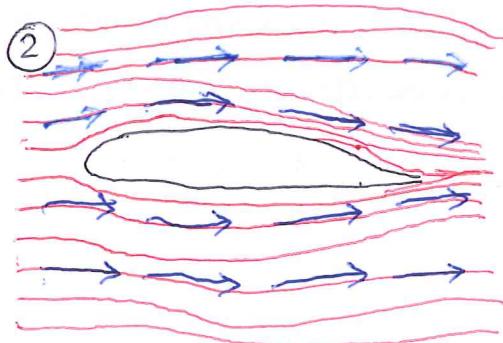
For ②, suppose  $M, N$  and  $P$  are three real-valued functions of three variables  $x, y$  and  $z$ , defined in a solid region  $R$  in 3-space, the corresponding vector field can be  $\underline{F}(x, y, z) = M(x, y, z)\hat{i} + N(x, y, z)\hat{j} + P(x, y, z)\hat{k}$ , where  $\underline{r} = \langle x, y, z \rangle \rightarrow$  position vector.

NOTE: The vector field is continuous if the component functions  $M, N$  and  $P$  are continuous, it is differentiable if each of the component functions is differentiable.

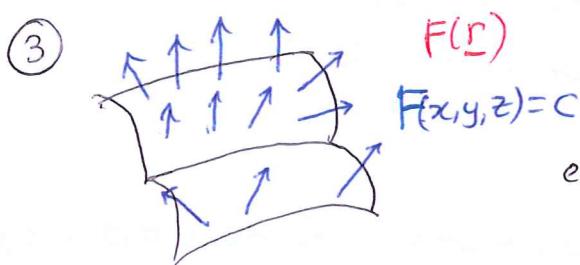
Examples: ① Streamlines in a contracting channel.



Water speeds up as the channel becomes narrower  
i.e. velocity vectors increase in length.



② Airflow past an inclined airfoil  
e.g. velocity vectors of a flow around an airfoil in a wind tunnel.

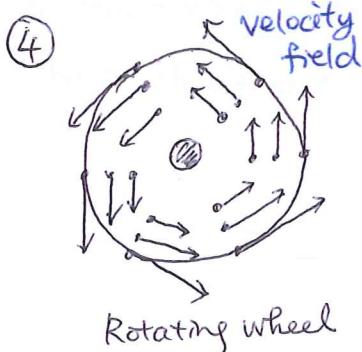


The field of gradient vectors  $\nabla f$  on a surface  $F(x,y,z) = C$ .

e.g. If  $f(x,y,z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2$   
then the level surface  $F(x,y,z) = F(r)$   
 $= f(x,y,z) - x^2 - y^2 - z^2$

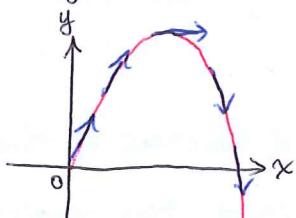
$$\begin{aligned}\nabla F &= \left\langle \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - 2x, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} - 2y, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} - 2z \right\rangle \\ &= \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - 2x \right) \hat{i} + \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} - 2y \right) \hat{j} + \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} - 2z \right) \hat{k}\end{aligned}$$

③ a vector field in space.



④ Velocity field determined by a wheel rotating on an axle. The farther a point is from the axle, the greater its velocity.

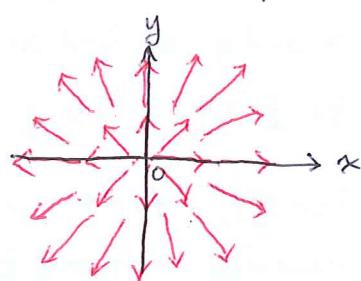
⑤ Projectile motion.



velocity vectors  $v(t)$  of a projectile's motion make a velocity field along the trajectory.

⑥ Radial field

$F = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$  of position vectors of points in the plane.



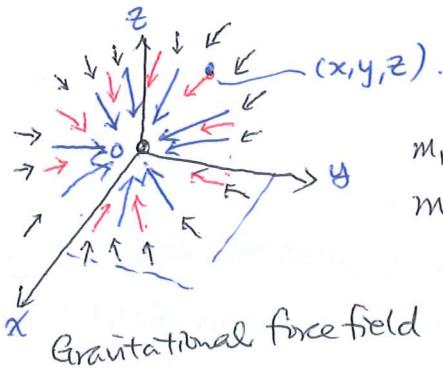
(Remarks: An arrow is drawn with its tail, not the head)

⑦ Gravitational field  $\underline{F}(x, y, z)$  due to some object is the force of attraction that the object exerts on a unit mass situated at position  $(x, y, z)$ .

P.3

e.g.  $\underline{F}(x, y, z) = \underline{F}(\underline{r}) = \frac{-Gm_1 m_2}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \hat{\underline{u}}$ .  $G$ : gravitational constant  
 $\hat{\underline{u}}$ : unit vector in the direction from  $(0, 0, 0)$  to  $(x, y, z)$

(the force of attraction exerted on a particle of mass  $m_1$  located at  $(x, y, z)$  by a particle of mass  $m_2$  located at  $(0, 0, 0)$ ).



$m_1$ : located at  $(x, y, z)$   
 $m_2$ : located at  $(0, 0, 0)$

- $\underline{F}(x, y, z)$  points towards origin
- magnitude of  $\underline{F}(x, y, z)$  is the same at all points equidistant from the origin.

### Central force field

Suppose the position vector is  $\underline{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$ ,

then  $\underline{F}(\underline{r}) = \frac{-Gm_1 m_2}{\|\underline{r}\|^2} \left( \frac{\underline{r}}{\|\underline{r}\|} \right) = \frac{-Gm_1 m_2}{\|\underline{r}\|^2} \hat{\underline{u}}$

Inverse square field

$$\underline{F}(\underline{r}) = \frac{k}{\|\underline{r}\|^2} \hat{\underline{u}} \quad (k \in \mathbb{R}, \hat{\underline{u}} = \frac{\underline{r}}{\|\underline{r}\|})$$

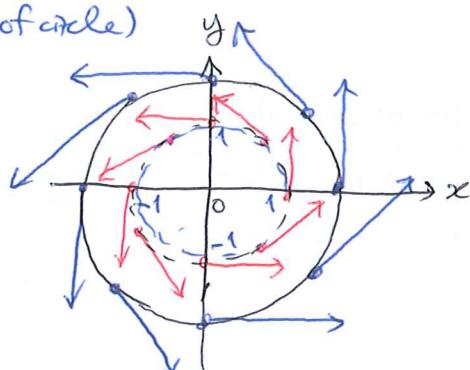
unit vector in the direction of  $\underline{r}$ )

⑧ Sketch some vectors of the vector field  $\underline{F}(x, y) = -y\hat{i} + x\hat{j}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

Idea: To find level curves in scalar fields,  
i.e. vectors of equal magnitude lie on circles.

$$\|\underline{F}\| = c \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = c^2 \quad (\text{Equation of circle})$$

e.g.	Point	Vector
	$(1, 0)$	$\underline{F}(1, 0) = \hat{j}$
	$(0, 1)$	$\underline{F}(0, 1) = -\hat{i}$
	$(-1, 0)$	$\underline{F}(-1, 0) = -\hat{j}$
	$(0, -1)$	$\underline{F}(0, -1) = \hat{i}$



Confirmation: Take the dot product of the position vector  $\underline{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$  with the vector  $\underline{F}(x, y) = -y\hat{i} + x\hat{j}$ .

$$\underline{r} \cdot \underline{F}(x, y) = -xy + xy = 0$$

$\therefore \underline{F}(x, y) \perp$  position vector  $\underline{r} = \langle x, y \rangle$ , i.e. tangent to a circle with centre at  $(0, 0)$  and radius  $\|\underline{r}\| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ .

$$\|\underline{F}(x, y)\| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = \|\underline{r}\| \quad (\text{magnitude of vector } \underline{F}(x, y) = \text{radius of circle}).$$

Each arrow is tangent to a circle with centre at origin

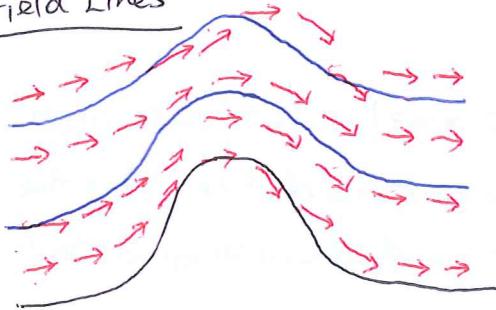
⑨ Velocity field of a solid rotating about the  $z$ -axis with angular velocity

P.4

$$\underline{\Omega} = \Omega \hat{k} \text{ is } \underline{v}(x, y, z) = \underline{\Omega} \times \underline{r} = -\Omega y \hat{i} + \Omega x \hat{j}.$$

$\downarrow$  plane vector field

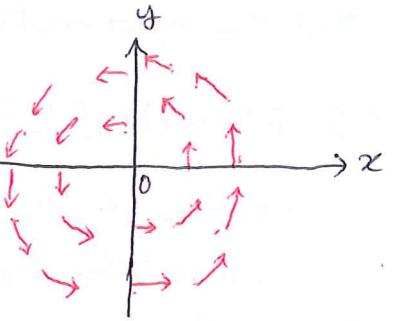
Field Lines



Velocity field and streamlines of wind blowing over a hill

$\downarrow$   
field lines  
vector field.

All previous graphical representations of vector fields suggest a pattern of motion through space or in the plane.



velocity field of a rigid body rotating about the  $z$ -axis.

- The path will be a curve to which the field is tangent at every point. Such curves are called field lines, or trajectories for the given vector field.

The field lines of  $\underline{F}$  only depend on the direction of the field, but NOT depend on the magnitude of  $\underline{F}$ .

Suppose the field line through some point has parametric equation  $\underline{r} = \underline{r}(t)$ , then its tangent vector  $\frac{d\underline{r}}{dt}$  is parallel to  $\underline{F}(\underline{r}(t))$  for all  $t$ , i.e.  $\frac{d\underline{r}}{dt} = \lambda(t) \underline{F}(\underline{r}(t))$ .

Let  $\underline{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$ ,  $\underline{F} = \langle F_1, F_2, F_3 \rangle$ , then

$$\frac{dx}{F_1(x, y, z)} = \frac{dy}{F_2(x, y, z)} = \frac{dz}{F_3(x, y, z)}$$

Differential equation for the field lines

e.g. Re-visit of Example ⑨

Find the field lines of the velocity field  $\underline{v} = \Omega(-y \hat{i} + x \hat{j})$ , assume  $\Omega, y, x \neq 0$ .

$$\text{soln } \frac{dx}{-\Omega y} = \frac{dy}{\Omega x} \Leftrightarrow \frac{dx}{-y} = \frac{dy}{x}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x dx = -y dy$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{x^2}{2} = -\frac{y^2}{2} + C$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x^2 + y^2 = C_0$$

field lines are circles centered at the origin in the  $xy$ -plane

Regard  $\underline{v}$  as a vector field in 3-space, the field lines are horizontal circles centered on the  $z$ -axis:

$$x^2 + y^2 = C_0, z = C_1$$

example Find the field lines of the velocity field  $\underline{F}(x, y, z) = xz\hat{i} + yz\hat{j} + x\hat{k}$ , P.5

$$\text{soln: } \frac{dx}{xz} = \frac{dy}{yz} = \frac{dz}{x}$$

$$\text{Consider } \frac{dx}{x} = \frac{dy}{y} \Leftrightarrow y = C_1 x \text{ (why?)}$$

$$\text{and } \frac{dx}{z} = dz \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{z^2}{2} + C_2$$

Hence the field lines have parametric equations

$$\begin{cases} x = \frac{t^2}{2} + C_2 \\ y = C_1 \left( \frac{t^2}{2} + C_2 \right) = C_1 \frac{t^2}{2} + C_3 \\ z = t \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{parabola} \\ \text{parabola} \end{matrix}$$

$t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

From previous plots, it seems that the vectors appear to be normal to the level curve from which they emanate. Then, we have a natural question: whether or not the vector field  $\underline{F}(x, y)$  or  $\underline{F}(x, y, z)$  is the gradient of some differentiable function  $f$ ?

Ans: not always possible.

### Conservative vector field

Def. A vector field  $\underline{F}$  is conservative when there exists a differentiable function  $f$  such that  $\underline{F} = \nabla f$ . We call  $f$  as the "potential function" of  $\underline{F}$ .

Remarks: Potentials are not determined uniquely like anti-derivatives (can have constants).

$\underline{F}$  is conservative in a domain  $D$  if and only if  $\underline{F} = \nabla f$  at every point of  $D$ ; the potential  $f$  cannot have any singular points in  $D$ .

e.g. ① Every inverse square field is conservative.

$$\text{let } \underline{F}(x, y, z) = \frac{k}{\|\underline{r}\|^2} \hat{\underline{u}} \text{ and } f(x, y, z) = \frac{-k}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2+z^2}}, \text{ where } \hat{\underline{u}} = \frac{\underline{r}}{\|\underline{r}\|}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Consider } \nabla f &= \frac{kx}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \hat{i} + \frac{ky}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \hat{j} + \frac{kz}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \hat{k} \\ &= \frac{k}{x^2+y^2+z^2} \left( \frac{x\hat{i}+y\hat{j}+z\hat{k}}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2+z^2}} \right) = \frac{k}{\|\underline{r}\|^2} \frac{\underline{r}}{\|\underline{r}\|} = \frac{k}{\|\underline{r}\|^2} \hat{\underline{u}} = \underline{F} \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore \underline{F}$  is conservative.

② Show that the velocity field  $\underline{v} = -\Omega y\hat{i} + \Omega x\hat{j}$  of rigid body rotation about the  $z$ -axis is not always conservative.

We try to seek for a potential function  $f(x, y)$  for the vector field  $\underline{v}(x, y)$ .

$$\text{i.e. } \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = -\Omega y \text{ and } \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \Omega x \rightarrow f(x, y) = \Omega xy + C_2(x)$$

$$f(x, y) = -\Omega xy + C_1(y)$$

$$\therefore -\Omega xy + C_1(y) = \Omega xy + C_2(x)$$

$$2\Omega xy = C_1(y) - C_2(x) \text{ for all } (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

This is not possible for any choice of the single-variable functions  $C_1$  &  $C_2$  unless  $\Omega = 0$ .

The following theorem gives a necessary and sufficient condition for a vector field in the plane to be conservative. P.6

Theorem Let  $M$  and  $N$  be functions with continuous first partial derivatives on an open disk  $R$ . The vector field  $\underline{F}(x, y) = M\hat{i} + N\hat{j}$  is conservative if and only if

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial M}{\partial y}.$$

Proof: let us prove the necessary condition at this moment.

Suppose there exists a potential function  $f$  such that  $\underline{F}(x, y) = \nabla f(x, y) = M\hat{i} + N\hat{j}$

Then  $f_x(x, y) = M$  and  $f_y(x, y) = N \Rightarrow f_{xy}(x, y) = \frac{\partial M}{\partial y}$  and  $f_{yx}(x, y) = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}$

Since  $f_{xy} = f_{yx}$  (by Clairaut's Theorem), then  $\frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} \forall (x, y) \in R$ .

Example ① Find a potential function for  $\underline{F}(x, y) = 2xy\hat{i} + (x^2 - y)\hat{j}$ .

Sol'n From the theorem,  $\underline{F}$  is conservative because  $F_1(x, y) = 2xy$  and  $F_2(x, y) = x^2 - y$

$$\frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} = 2x \text{ and } \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x}(x^2 - y) = 2x$$

If  $f$  is a function whose gradient is equal to  $\underline{F}(x, y)$ , then

$$\nabla f(x, y) = \underbrace{2xy\hat{i}}_{f_x(x, y)} + \underbrace{(x^2 - y)\hat{j}}_{f_y(x, y)}$$

Consider  $f(x, y) = \int f_x(x, y) dx = \int 2xy dx = x^2y + g(y)$ .

$$f_y(x, y) = x^2 + g'(y) \Rightarrow \text{i.e. } g'(y) = -y \\ \Rightarrow g(y) = -\frac{y^2}{2} + C.$$

$\therefore f(x, y) = x^2y - \frac{y^2}{2} + C$  gives potential functions of  $\underline{F}(x, y)$ .

e.g.  $f(x, y) = x^2y - \frac{y^2}{2} + 2020$  is a potential function.

## Curl and Divergence

① Curl of a vector field  $\underline{F}$  is a vector field that gives us at each point, an indication of how the field swirls in the vicinity of that point.

curl of  $\underline{F}(x, y, z) = M\hat{i} + N\hat{j} + P\hat{k}$  is  $\nabla \times \underline{F}(x, y, z)$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ M & N & P \end{vmatrix}.$$

$$= \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial N}{\partial z} \right) \hat{i} - \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial M}{\partial z} \right) \hat{j} + \left( \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} \right) \hat{k}$$

• If  $\text{curl } \underline{F} = 0$ , then  $\underline{F}$  is "irrotational"

### Theorem (Test for Conservative Vector Field in Space).

Suppose that  $M, N$  and  $P$  are functions with continuous first partial derivatives in an open domain  $Q$  in space. The vector field  $\underline{F}(x, y, z) = M\hat{i} + N\hat{j} + P\hat{k}$  is conservative if and only if  $\nabla \times \underline{F} = 0$ , i.e.  $\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial z}$ ,  $\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial M}{\partial z}$  and  $\frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial M}{\partial y}$ .

Example Determine whether  $\underline{F}(x, y, z) = (xy - \sin z)\hat{i} + (\frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{e^y}{z})\hat{j} + (\frac{e^y}{z^2} - x \cos z)\hat{k}$  is conservative in  $D = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid z \neq 0\}$ .

Find a potential if it is.

soln. Note that  $\underline{F}$  is not defined when  $z = 0$ . Consider  $M(x, y, z) = xy - \sin z$

$$N(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{e^y}{z}$$

$$P(x, y, z) = \frac{e^y}{z^2} - x \cos z$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{e^y}{z^2} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial z}, \quad \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = -\cos z = \frac{\partial M}{\partial z} \text{ and } \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = x = \frac{\partial M}{\partial y}.$$

i.e.  $\underline{F}$  is conservative in domains that do not intersect the  $xy$ -plane.

Consider  $\begin{cases} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = xy - \sin z & \text{---(1)} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{e^y}{z} & \text{---(2)} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = \frac{e^y}{z^2} - x \cos z & \text{---(3)} \end{cases}$

$$\text{From (1), } f(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2}x^2y - x \sin z + C_1(y, z).$$

Diff.  $f$  w.r.t.  $y$ , we have

$$f_y(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + C_{1y}(y, z)$$

$$\text{Comparing with (2), } C_{1y}(y, z) = -\frac{e^y}{z}$$

$$C_1(y, z) = -\frac{e^y}{z} + C_2(z).$$

$$\therefore f(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2}x^2y - x \sin z - \frac{e^y}{z} + C_2(z)$$

Diff.  $f$  w.r.t.  $z$ , we have

$$f_z(x, y, z) = -x \cos z + \frac{e^y}{z^2} + C_2'(z)$$

$$\text{By comparing with (3), } C_2'(z) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow C_2(z) = C$$

$$\therefore \text{Potential: } f(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2}x^2y - x \sin z - \frac{e^y}{z} + C$$

( $C$  may have diff. values in two regions  $z > 0$  and  $z < 0$  whose union constitutes  $D$ ).

$$\text{div } \underline{F}(x, y) = \nabla \cdot \underline{F}(x, y) = \frac{\partial M}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial N}{\partial y}$$

(in plane)

$$\text{Let } \underline{F}(x, y, z) = M\hat{i} + N\hat{j} + P\hat{k},$$

$$\text{then } \text{div } \underline{F}(x, y, z) = \frac{\partial M}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial N}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial P}{\partial z}$$

$$= \nabla \cdot \underline{F}(x, y, z)$$

(in space).

If  $\text{div } \underline{F} = 0$ , then  $\underline{F}$  is "divergence free".

$$\text{Example: } \underline{F}(r) = y\hat{i} - x\hat{j}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \underline{F} = 0 \rightarrow \text{Amount flowing into } \underline{F}$$

$$\nabla \times \underline{F} = -2\hat{k} = \text{amount flowing out of } \underline{F}$$

NOTE: For vector fields that represent velocities of moving particles, divergence measures the rate of particle flow per unit volume at a point. p.8

In hydrodynamics (study of fluid motion), a divergence free velocity field is called "an incompressible field".

In electricity and magnetism, a divergence free vector field is called "a solenoidal field".

Hint: Let  $\underline{F}(x,y,z) = M\hat{i} + N\hat{j} + P\hat{k}$ , M, N, P have continuous 2nd partial derivatives

Try to show: ①  $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \underline{E}) = 0$  (div of curl of a vector field = 0)

②  $\nabla \times (\nabla f) = 0$  (curl of gradient of a scalar field = 0)

Def. Laplacian Operator  $\nabla^2 = \nabla \cdot \nabla = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right)$   
(scalar differential operator)

### Line Integrals

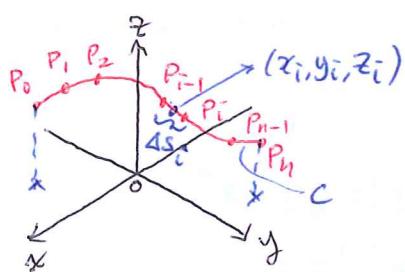
Recall:  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  : total amount of a quantity distributed along the  $x$ -axis between  $a$  and  $b$  in terms of line density,  $f(x)$  at point  $x$ .

$\iint_R f(x,y) dA$  and  $\iiint_D f(x,y,z) dV$  : total amounts of quantities distributed over regions  $R$  in the plane and  $D$  in space in terms of areal or volume densities of these quantities.

It may happen that a quantity is distributed with specified line density along a curve in the plane or in 3-space, for which the integration is conducted over a piecewise smooth curve  $C$ .

Consider the mass of a wire of finite length, given by a curve  $C$  in space.

The density (mass per unit length) of the wire at  $(x, y, z)$  is given by  $f(x, y, z)$ .



Partition the curve  $C$  by  $P_0, P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n$ .

Length of the  $i$ th subarc =  $\Delta S_i$

$$\text{Total Mass of wire} \approx \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i, y_i, z_i) \Delta S_i$$

Let  $\|\Delta\| =$  length of the longest subarc, and let  $\|\Delta\| \rightarrow 0$ , limit of this sum approaches the mass of the wire. (line integral of  $f$  along curve  $C$ )

$$\int_C f(x, y) ds = \lim_{\|\Delta\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i, y_i) \Delta S_i \quad (\text{plane})$$

$$\int_C f(x, y, z) ds = \lim_{\|\Delta\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i, y_i, z_i) \Delta S_i \quad (\text{space})$$

provided that limit exists.

To evaluate a line integral over a plane curve  $C$  given by  $\underline{r}(t) = x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j}$ , P.9

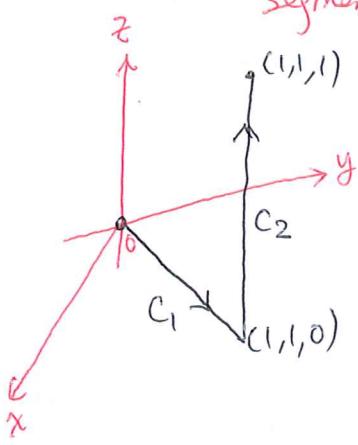
$$ds = \|\underline{r}'(t)\| dt = \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt$$

Hence, we have the following theorem

(a) Let  $z = f(x, y)$  be continuous in a region containing a smooth curve  $C$ . If the plane curve  $C$  is traced out by a vector function  $\underline{r}(t) = x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j}$ , where  $a \leq t \leq b$ , then  $\int_C f(x, y) ds = \int_a^b f(x(t), y(t)) \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2} dt$ .

(b) Let  $w = f(x, y, z)$  be continuous in a region containing a smooth curve  $C$ . If the space curve  $C$  is traced out by a vector function  $\underline{r}(t) = x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j} + z(t)\hat{k}$ , where  $a \leq t \leq b$ , then  $\int_C f(x, y, z) ds = \int_a^b f(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dz}{dt}\right)^2} dt$ .

Examples ① Consider the following path from origin to  $(1, 1, 1)$ , the union of the segments  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ . Integrate  $f(x, y, z) = x - 3y^2 + z$  over  $C_1 \cup C_2$ . (from Thomas Calculus)



Sol<sup>n</sup> We choose the simplest parametrizations for  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ .

$$C_1: \underline{r}_1(t) = \langle t, t, 0 \rangle, \text{ where } 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$\left\| \frac{d\underline{r}_1}{dt} \right\| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{dt}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dt}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{d}{dt}0\right)^2} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$C_2: \underline{r}_2(t) = \langle 1, 1, t \rangle, \text{ where } 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$\left\| \frac{d\underline{r}_2}{dt} \right\| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{d}{dt}1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{d}{dt}1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{d}{dt}t\right)^2} = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \int_C f(x, y, z) ds &= \int_{C_1} f(x, y, z) ds + \int_{C_2} f(x, y, z) ds = \int_0^1 f(t, t, 0) \cdot \sqrt{2} dt \\ &\quad + \int_0^1 f(1, 1, t) \cdot 1 dt \\ &= \int_0^1 (t - 3t^2) \sqrt{2} dt + \int_0^1 (t - 2) dt \\ &= \sqrt{2} \left[ \frac{t^2}{2} - t^3 \right]_0^1 + \left[ \frac{t^2}{2} - 2t \right]_0^1 = \frac{-\sqrt{2}}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

② Find the centroid of the circular helix given by  $\underline{r}(t) = a \cos t \hat{i} + a \sin t \hat{j} + bt \hat{k}$ , where  $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ ,  $a, b$  are constants.

Sol<sup>n</sup> Consider  $ds = \sqrt{(-a \sin t)^2 + (a \cos t)^2 + b^2} dt = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} dt$ .

$$\text{Length of circular helix } L = \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} dt = 2\pi \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\text{Moment about } z=0 \text{ is } M_{z=0} = \int_C z ds = \int_0^{2\pi} bt \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} dt = 2\pi^2 b \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow z\text{-component of its centroid} = \frac{M_{z=0}}{L} = b\pi.$$

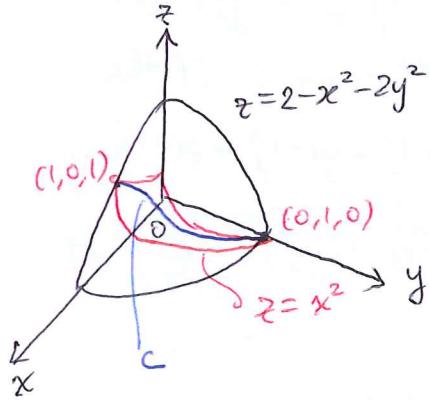
$$\text{Moment about } x=0 \text{ and } y=0 \text{ are } M_{x=0} = \int_C x ds = a \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos t dt = 0 \text{ and.}$$

$$M_{y=0} = \int_C y \, ds = a\sqrt{a^2+b^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \sin t \, dt = 0$$

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$\therefore$  The centroid is  $\underline{(0, 0, b\pi)}$

- ③ (Adams and Essex §15.3) Find the mass of a wire lying along the first octant part of the curve of intersection of  $z = 2 - x^2 - 2y^2$  and  $z = x^2$  between  $(0, 1, 0)$  and  $(1, 0, 1)$ , given that the density of the wire at position  $(x, y, z)$  is  $\delta(x, y, z) = xy$ .



Denote  $C$  as the first octant part of the curve of intersection.

The curve  $C$  lies on the cylinder  $z = x^2$ , where  $x \in [0, 1]$ .

$$\Rightarrow \text{let } x = t, z = t^2.$$

$$\therefore 2y^2 = 2 - x^2 - z = 2 - t^2 - t^2 \Rightarrow y^2 = 1 - t^2$$

$$y = \sqrt{1-t^2} \quad (\because C \text{ lies in the first octant}).$$

$$\therefore x(t) = t, y(t) = \sqrt{1-t^2}, z(t) = t^2, \text{ where } t \in [0, 1]$$

$$\therefore ds = \sqrt{1 + \frac{t^2}{1-t^2} + 4t^2} dt = \frac{\sqrt{1+4t^2-4t^4}}{\sqrt{1-t^2}} dt$$

$$\text{Hence, mass of wire} = \int_C xy \, ds = \int_0^1 t \sqrt{1-t^2} \frac{\sqrt{1+4t^2-4t^4}}{\sqrt{1-t^2}} dt$$

$$= \int_0^1 t \sqrt{1+4t^2-4t^4} dt$$

$$\text{We let } u = t^2, du = 2t \, dt = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1+4u-4u^2} \, du$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \sqrt{2-(2u-1)^2} \, du$$

$$\text{Let } v = 2u-1, dv = 2du = \frac{1}{4} \int_{-1}^1 \sqrt{2-v^2} \, dv = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \sqrt{2-v^2} \, dv \quad (\text{even})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{\pi+2}{8}$$

(check!)

sub  $v = \sqrt{2} \sin w$

### Line integrals of vector fields

Recall that work done by a constant force of magnitude  $f$  in moving an object from  $a$  to  $b$  along the  $x$ -axis  $= W = f(b-a)$

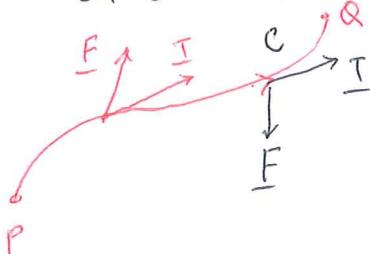
If  $f$  is variable, then  $W = \int_a^b f(x) dx$

Now, imagine we have a force field  $\underline{F}(x, y, z) = F(r) = M(x, y, z)\hat{i} + N(x, y, z)\hat{j} + P(x, y, z)\hat{k}$ , the work done by this force field in moving an object along a smooth curve  $C$  given by  $r(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$ , where  $t \in [a, b]$  is defined as follows:

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$$\int_C \underline{F}(x, y, z) \cdot \underline{T}(x, y, z) ds, \text{ where } \underline{T}(x, y, z) = \frac{\underline{r}'(t)}{\|\underline{r}'(t)\|} \text{ is the unit tangent vector}$$

to the curve  $C$ .



$$W = \int_C \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r} = \int_a^b \underline{F} \cdot \underline{r}'(t) dt \quad (\text{scalar}).$$

This line integral changes sign if the orientation of  $C$  is reversed, and is independent of parametrization of  $C$ .

We have 6 possible ways to represent the work done integrals.

$$\textcircled{1} \int_C \underline{F}(x, y, z) \cdot \underline{T}(x, y, z) ds \quad \textcircled{2} \int_a^b \underline{F}(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \cdot \frac{\underline{r}'(t)}{\|\underline{r}'(t)\|} dt$$

$$\textcircled{3} \int_a^b \underline{F}(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \cdot \underline{r}'(t) dt \quad \textcircled{4} \int_C \underline{F}(x, y, z) \cdot d\underline{r}$$

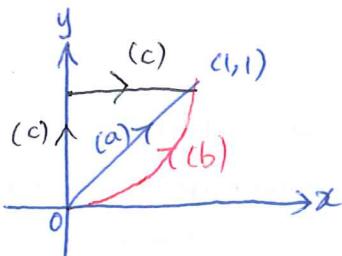
$$\textcircled{5} \int_a^b [M(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \frac{dx}{dt} + N(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \frac{dy}{dt} + P(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \frac{dz}{dt}] dt$$

$$\textcircled{6} \int_C M dx + N dy + P dz$$

Remarks: If  $C$  is a closed curve,  
 $\oint_C \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r}$  denotes the circulation of  $\underline{F}$  around the closed curve  $C$ .

Examples (1) Let  $\underline{F}(x, y) = y^2 \hat{i} + 2xy \hat{j}$ .

Evaluate  $\int_C \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r}$  from  $(0, 0)$  to  $(1, 1)$  along (a) the straight line  $y=x$



(b) the curve  $y=x^2$

(c) the piecewise smooth path that consists of the line segments from  $(0, 0)$  to  $(0, 1)$ , then from  $(0, 1)$  to  $(1, 1)$ .

(a) Parametrize the straight path (a) as  $\underline{r}(t) = t\hat{i} + t\hat{j}$  ( $0 \leq t \leq 1$ )

$$\therefore \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r} = (t^2 \hat{i} + 2t^2 \hat{j}) \cdot (\hat{i} + \hat{j}) dt = 3t^2 dt$$

$$\int_C \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r} = \int_0^1 3t^2 dt = t^3 \Big|_0^1 = 1$$

(b) parametrize the parabola as  $\underline{r}(t) = t\hat{i} + t^2\hat{j}$ , where  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ .

$$\therefore \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r} = (t^4 \hat{i} + 2t^3 \hat{j}) \cdot (\hat{i} + 2t\hat{j}) dt = 5t^4 dt$$

$$\int_C \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r} = \int_0^1 5t^4 dt = t^5 \Big|_0^1 = 1$$

(c) For the vertical segment, use  $y$  as the parameter ( $x=0, dx=0$ )

For the horizontal segment, use  $x$  as the parameter ( $y=1, dy=0$ )

$$\int_C \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r} = \int_C y^2 dx + 2xy dy = \int_0^1 0 dy + \int_0^1 1 dx = 1$$

same value along all 3 paths

( $\because \underline{F}(x, y)$  is conservative)  
 on a simply connected domain

② Find  $\int_C \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r}$ , where  $\underline{F}(x, y) = e^{x-1} \hat{i} + xy \hat{j}$ , and  $C$  is given by

(a)  $\underline{r}(t) = t^2 \hat{i} + t^3 \hat{j}$ , where  $0 \leq t \leq 1$

(b)  $\underline{r}(t) = t \hat{i} + t^2 \hat{j}$ , where  $0 \leq t \leq 1$

Soln (a)  $\int_C \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r} = \int_0^1 (e^{t^2-1} \hat{i} + t^3 \hat{j}) \cdot (2t \hat{i} + 3t^2 \hat{j}) dt$

$$= \int_0^1 (2te^{t^2-1} + 3t^5) dt$$

$$= \left[ e^{t^2-1} + \frac{3}{8}t^8 \right]_0^1 = \frac{11}{8} - \frac{1}{e}$$

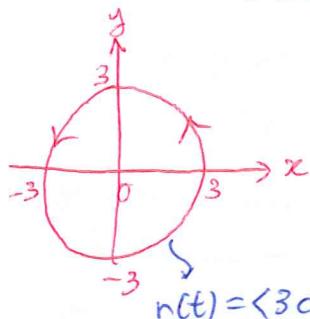
(b)  $\int_C \underline{F} \cdot d\underline{r} = \int_0^1 (e^{t-1} \hat{i} + t^2 \hat{j}) \cdot (\hat{i} + \hat{j}) dt = \int_0^1 (e^{t-1} + t^2) dt$

$$= \left[ e^{t-1} + \frac{1}{3}t^3 \right]_0^1 = \frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{e}$$

The line integral depends on the path from  $(0, 0)$  to  $(1, 1)$  along which the integral is evaluated. ( $\because$  The vector field is NOT conservative)

③ Let  $C$  be the circle of radius 3 given by  $\underline{r}(t) = 3 \cos t \hat{i} + 3 \sin t \hat{j}$ , where  $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ .

Evaluate  $\int_C y^3 dx + (x^3 + 3xy^2) dy$ .



$$x(t) = 3 \cos t, y(t) = 3 \sin t$$

$$dx = -3 \sin t dt, dy = 3 \cos t dt$$

We use the formula

$$\int_C M dx + N dy, \text{ where } M(x, y) = y^3$$

$$\text{and } N(x, y) = x^3 + 3xy^2$$

$$= \int_C (27 \sin^3 t)(-3 \sin t) dt + (27 \cos^3 t + 81 \cos t \sin^2 t)(3 \cos t) dt$$

$$= 81 \int_0^{2\pi} (\cos^4 t - \sin^4 t + 3 \sin^2 t \cos^2 t) dt$$

$$= 81 \int_0^{2\pi} (\cos^2 t - \sin^2 t + \frac{3}{4} \sin^2 2t) dt$$

$$= 81 \int_0^{2\pi} [\cos 2t + \frac{3}{4}(\frac{1 - \cos 4t}{2})] dt$$

$$= 81 \left[ \frac{\sin 2t}{2} + \frac{3}{8}t - \frac{3}{32} \sin 4t \right]_0^{2\pi} = \frac{243}{4} \pi.$$

Remarks: The orientation of  $C$  affects the value of the line integral.

Denote  $-C$  as the curve with opposite orientation as  $C$ , then

$$\int_{-C} M dx + N dy = - \int_C M dx + N dy.$$

