

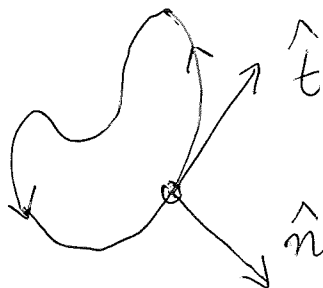


Let  $C$  be a simple closed curve on the plane running in anticlockwise way. Its (unit) tangent is

$$\hat{t} = \frac{(x'(t), y'(t))}{\sqrt{x'^2(t) + y'^2(t)}}$$

and outer (unit) normal is

$$\hat{n} = \frac{(y'(t), -x'(t))}{\sqrt{x'^2(t) + y'^2(t)}}$$



The flux of  $\vec{F}$  across  $C$  is

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \hat{n} \, ds$$

A formula =

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \hat{n} \, ds = \int_C M \, dy - N \, dx$$

$$\text{Pf: } \int_C \vec{F} \cdot \hat{n} \, ds = \int_a^b \vec{F}(\vec{c}(t)) \cdot \frac{y'(t)\hat{i} - x'(t)\hat{j}}{\sqrt{x'^2 + y'^2}} \sqrt{x'^2 + y'^2} \, dt$$

$$= \int_a^b M(\vec{c}(t)) \cdot y'(t) - N(\vec{c}(t)) \cdot x'(t) \, dt$$

$$= \int_a^b M \, dy - N \, dx$$

eg. Find the flux of  $\vec{F} = (x-y)\hat{i} + x\hat{j}$  across the unit circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ . 13

Use the standard parametrization  $x(t)\hat{i} + y(t)\hat{j} = \cos t\hat{i} + \sin t\hat{j}$ ,

$t \in [0, 2\pi]$

$$r'(t) = -\sin t\hat{i} + \cos t\hat{j}, \quad x'(t) = -\sin t, \quad y'(t) = \cos t$$

$\begin{matrix} \nearrow x, y \nearrow \\ \downarrow \cos t \quad \sin t \downarrow \end{matrix}$

$$\text{flux} = \int_C Mdy - Ndx$$

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

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 t dt$$

$$= \pi \#$$

X

X

X

## Vector fields

An open region is simply a region removing its boundary points. More generally, an open region is defined to be a set  $R$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^3$  satisfying

(a) if  $\vec{P} \in R$ , then all points near  $\vec{P}$  also belong to  $R$ .  
(to exclude boundary pts)

(b) For any  $\vec{P}, \vec{Q} \in R$ , there is a smooth curve in  $R$  connecting  $\vec{P}$  and  $\vec{Q}$ .

Vector fields are very general objects.

We study special ones.

A vector field  $\vec{F}$  in an open region is conservative

if  $\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$  for every closed path in the region.

A path is a piecewise closed curve.

A vector field  $\vec{F}$  is independent of path if

$$\int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r},$$

whenever  $C_1, C_2$  run from the same  $\vec{P}$  to  $\vec{Q}$ .

A vector field  $\vec{F}$  is a gradient v.f. if it is the gradient of some function, i.e.  $\vec{F} = \nabla\Phi$ , or

$$\frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial x} = M, \quad \frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial y} = N, \quad \frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial z} = P \quad (n=3)$$

$$\frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial x} = M, \quad \frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial y} = N \quad (n=2).$$

The function  $\Phi$  is called a potential for  $\vec{F}$ . It is unique up to the addition of a constant.

Main theorem A smooth v.f.  $\vec{F}$  is conservative iff it is independent of path iff it is gradient. Moreover, the potential  $\Phi$  satisfies

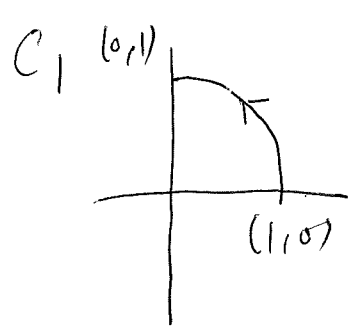
$$\Phi(\vec{Q}) - \Phi(\vec{P}) = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}, \quad \text{where } C \text{ is}$$

a path from  $\vec{P}$  to  $\vec{Q}$ .

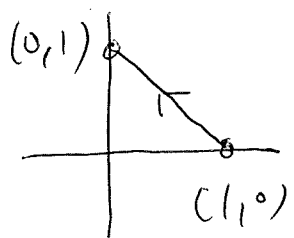
(proofs were present in class, see also Text. We omit it here.)

eg.  $\vec{F} = y^2 \hat{i} + 2(x-1)y \hat{j}$

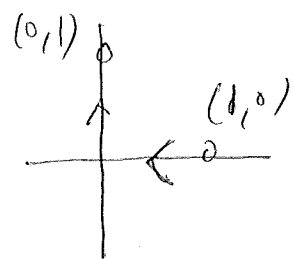
Consider three paths  $C_1, C_2, C_3$  from  $(1,0)$  to  $(0,1)$



$$\vec{C}_1(t) = \cos t \hat{i} + \sin t \hat{j}, t \in [0, \pi/2]$$



$$\begin{aligned} \vec{C}_2(t) &= (1,0) + t((0,1)-(1,0)) \\ &= (1-t, t), t \in [0,1] \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \vec{C}_3 &= \gamma_1 + \gamma_2, \\ \gamma_1(t) &= (1-t)\hat{i}, t \in [0,1] \\ \gamma_2(t) &= t\hat{j}, t \in [0,1]. \end{aligned}$$

you can verify  $\int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{C_3} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$

In fact,  $\vec{F}$  has a potential

$$\Phi(x,y) = (x-1)y^2.$$

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x} = y^2, \quad \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial y} = 2(x-1)y. \quad \text{yes.}$$

Next, consider how to determine a v.f. is gradient or not and find its potential if yes.

Component test

If  $\vec{F}$  is gradient, then  $\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}$  ( $n=2$ ), or

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial M}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial N}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} \quad (n=3)$$

Pf ( $n=3$ )  $\vec{F} = M\hat{i} + N\hat{j} + P\hat{k}$ . If gradient, then

$$M = \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x}, N = \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial y}, P = \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z} \quad \text{So}$$

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial y \partial x}, \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x \partial y} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial z \partial x}, \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x \partial z} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial M}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial z \partial y}, \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial y \partial z} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial N}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}$$

e.g. Find a potential for

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

(if any). Here  $M = -\frac{GMm}{r^3} x$ ,  $N = -\frac{GMm}{r^3} y$ ,  $P = -\frac{GMm}{r^3} z$ .

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = -GMm x \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{-3/2} = -GMm x \left(-\frac{3}{2}\right) (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{-5/2} (2y)$$

$$= 3GMm xy / r^5$$

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = -GMm y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{-3/2} = 3GMm yx / r^5 \quad \therefore \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}$$

Similar, the others are fine. In fact, by observation,

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$$\Phi = \frac{gMm}{r} = \frac{gMm}{(x^2+y^2+z^2)^{1/2}}$$

eg. Find a potential for

$$\vec{F} = y^2 \hat{i} + 2(x-1)y \hat{j}$$

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} y^2 = 2y, \quad \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} 2(x-1)y = 2y. \quad \text{Passes the test.}$$

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x} = y^2 \Rightarrow \Phi = xy^2 + g(y)$$

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial y} = 2xy + g'(y) = 2(x-1)y \quad (\text{should equal to}) \\ = 2xy - 2y$$

$$\therefore g'(y) = -2y$$

$$g(y) = -y^2 + C$$

$$\therefore \Phi = xy^2 - y^2 + C$$

eg. Find a potential for

$$\vec{F} = (e^x \cos y + yz) \hat{i} + (xz - e^x \sin y) \hat{j} + (xy + z) \hat{k}$$

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial xy} = -e^x \sin y + z, \quad \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = z - e^x \sin y, \quad \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial z} = y, \quad \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = y, \quad \therefore \frac{\partial M}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial z} = x, \quad \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = x, \quad \therefore \frac{\partial N}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}$$

$\vec{F}$  passes the Component Test.

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x} = M = e^x \cos y + yz$$

$$\therefore \Phi = e^x \cos y + yz x + g(y, z)$$

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial y} = -e^x \sin y + xz + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}$$

$$= xz - e^x \sin y \quad (\text{should equal to})$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} = 0, \text{ i.e. } g(y, z) = h(z).$$

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z} = xy + h'(z)$$

$$= xy + z \quad (\text{should equal to})$$

$$\therefore h'(z) = z, \quad h(z) = \frac{z^2}{2} + C.$$

Potential  $\psi$

$$\Phi = e^x \cos y + xy z + \frac{z^2}{2} + C \quad \#$$