

17.2 (part 2) Line Integrals of Vector Fields

the line integral of a path C through a scalar field f

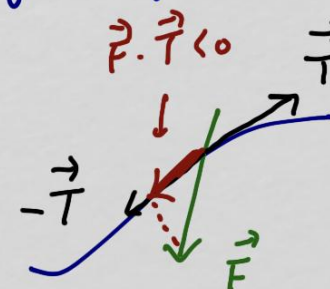
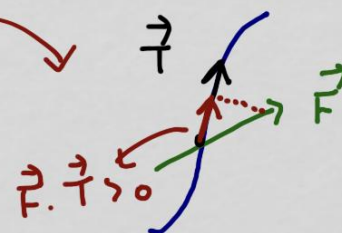
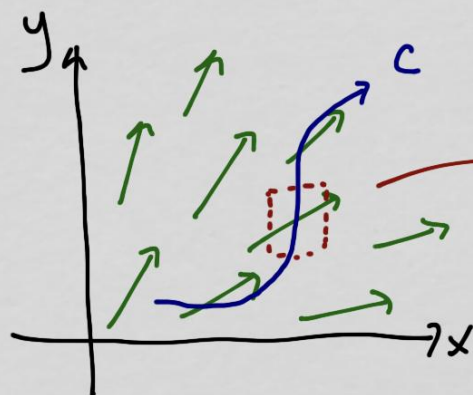
$$\text{is } \int_C f \, ds$$

the line integral of a path C through a vector field $\vec{F}$

$$\text{is defined as } \int_C \underbrace{\vec{F} \cdot \vec{T}}_{\text{projection of } \vec{F} \text{ onto } \vec{T}} \, ds \quad \vec{T} : \text{unit tangent vector on } C$$

projection of $\vec{F}$ onto $\vec{T}$

in other words, $\vec{F} \cdot \vec{T}$ gives us the component of $\vec{F}$ along or against the direction of motion



$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds$ accumulates $\vec{F} \cdot \vec{T}$ along the entire path

if C is parametrized as $\vec{r}(t)$ $a \leq t \leq b$

then $\vec{T} = \frac{\vec{r}'}{|\vec{r}'|}$ and $ds = |\vec{r}'| dt$

so $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot \frac{\vec{r}'}{|\vec{r}'|} |\vec{r}'| dt = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{r}' dt$ alternative form of $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds$

$\vec{r}' dt$ can be written as $\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} dt = d\vec{r}$

therefore, another form is $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$

common application is work: accumulation of the component of force along or against the direction of motion.

How to calculate $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{r}' dt = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$?

whatever form is used, the first step is to parametrize C

then find $\vec{T}$ or $\vec{r}'$ or $d\vec{r}$ and use one of the forms above after rewriting $\vec{F}$ in terms of the parameter.

example $\vec{F} = \langle xy, y-x \rangle$

C : line segment from $(0, 1)$ to $(2, 4)$

parametrize C : $\vec{r}(t) = \langle 0, 1 \rangle + t \langle 2, 3 \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$

$$= \langle 2t, 3t+1 \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

just like with scalar line integral, the choice of parametrization does NOT affect the integral.

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds$$

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle 2t, 3t+1 \rangle$$

$$0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$\vec{r}' = \langle 2, 3 \rangle$$

$$\vec{F} = \langle xy, y-x \rangle$$

$$|\vec{r}'| = \sqrt{13}$$

$$= \int_0^1 \langle \underbrace{2t}_{x} \cdot \underbrace{(3t+1)}_{y}, \underbrace{3t+1}_{y} - \underbrace{2t}_{x} \rangle \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\langle 2, 3 \rangle}{\sqrt{13}}}_{\vec{T}} \underbrace{\sqrt{13} dt}_{ds}$$

$$= \int_0^1 \underbrace{\langle 6t^2 + 2t, t+1 \rangle}_{\vec{F}} \cdot \underbrace{\langle 2, 3 \rangle}_{\vec{r}'}} dt$$

automatically becomes $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \underbrace{\vec{r}'}_{d\vec{r}} dt$

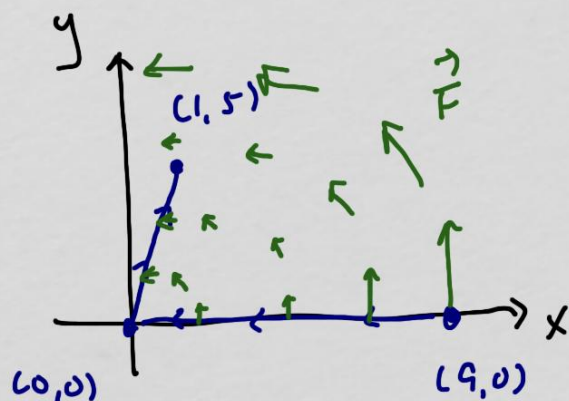
$$= \int_0^1 (12t^2 + 7t + 3) dt = \dots = \boxed{\frac{25}{2}}$$

this would be the work done
if $\vec{F}$ is a force vector field
in moving an object along C

example $\vec{F} = \langle -y, x \rangle$

C : line segment from $(9, 0)$ to $(0, 0)$ then

line segment from $(0, 0)$ to $(1, 5)$



parametrize C

C_1 : from $(9, 0)$ to $(0, 0)$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r}_1(t) &= \langle 9, 0 \rangle + t \langle -9, 0 \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1 \\ &= \langle 9 - 9t, 0 \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1\end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{r}_1' = \langle -9, 0 \rangle$$

C_2 : from $(0, 0)$ to $(1, 5)$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r}_2(t) &= \langle 0, 0 \rangle + t \langle 1, 5 \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1 \\ &= \langle t, 5t \rangle\end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{r}_2' = \langle 1, 5 \rangle$$

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{r}' dt$$

$$= \underbrace{\int_0^1 \underbrace{\langle 0, 9-9t \rangle}_{\vec{F} \text{ using } x, y \text{ of } \vec{r}_1} \cdot \underbrace{\langle -9, 0 \rangle}_{\vec{r}_1'} dt}_{C_1} + \underbrace{\int_0^1 \underbrace{\langle -5t, t \rangle}_{\vec{F} \text{ using } x, y \text{ of } \vec{r}_2} \cdot \underbrace{\langle 1, 5 \rangle}_{\vec{r}_2'} dt}_{C_2}$$

$$= \int_0^1 0 dt + \int_0^1 (-5t + 5t) dt = \boxed{0}$$

this is 0 because $\vec{F} \cdot \vec{r}'$ is zero everywhere on C

(vectors are always orthogonal to C , so no component is along/against motion)

if C is a closed path (same starting and ending locations)

then $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds$ is also called the circulation of $\vec{F}$ on C

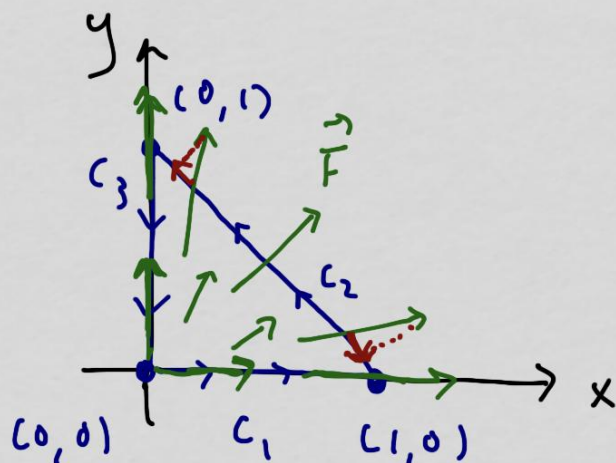
example $\vec{F} = \langle x, y \rangle$

C : line segment from $(0,0)$ to $(1,0)$

then line segment from $(1,0)$ to $(0,1)$

then line segment from $(0,1)$ to $(0,0)$

same starting and
ending locations



note whenever $\vec{F} \cdot \vec{T}$ we accumulate on

C_1 , ($\vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} > 0$) will get cancelled out

by accumulating $\vec{F} \cdot \vec{T}$ on C_3 ($\vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} < 0$)

on C_2 , the accumulation of $\vec{F} \cdot \vec{T}$

on first half (with $\vec{F} \cdot \vec{T}$ against motion) gets cancelled out on the second half

the net accumulation on

C_2 is zero because half of

the path sees $\vec{F}$ with the motion and the half against

note this happens when the vector field is symmetric with respect to a line through the origin of the path

verify.

$$C_1: \vec{r}_1 = \langle t, 0 \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$C_2: \vec{r}_2 = \langle 1-t, t \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$C_3: \vec{r}_3 = \langle 0, 1-t \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} \, ds = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{r}' \, ds$$

$$= \int_0^1 \underbrace{\langle t, 0 \rangle}_{\substack{\vec{F} \text{ w/} \\ x, y \text{ from } \vec{r}_1}} \cdot \underbrace{\langle 1, 0 \rangle}_{\vec{r}_1'} \, dt + \int_0^1 \underbrace{\langle 1-t, t \rangle}_{\substack{\vec{F} \text{ w/ } x, y \\ \text{from } \vec{r}_2}} \cdot \underbrace{\langle -1, 1 \rangle}_{\vec{r}_2'} \, dt + \int_0^1 \langle 0, 1-t \rangle \cdot \langle 0, -1 \rangle \, dt$$

same idea as $\vec{r}_3$

$$= \int_0^1 t \, dt + \int_0^1 (2t-1) \, dt + \int_0^1 (t-1) \, dt = \frac{1}{2} + (1-1) + \frac{1}{2} - 1 = \boxed{0}$$

another form of $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds$

let $\vec{F} = \langle f, g \rangle$ and C parametrized by $\vec{r} = \langle x, y \rangle$ $a \leq t \leq b$

$$\text{then } \vec{T} = \frac{\vec{r}'}{|\vec{r}'|} = \frac{\langle x', y' \rangle}{\sqrt{(x')^2 + (y')^2}}$$

$$ds = |\vec{r}'| dt = \sqrt{(x')^2 + (y')^2} dt$$

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds \text{ becomes } \int_C \langle f, g \rangle \cdot \frac{\langle x', y' \rangle}{\sqrt{(x')^2 + (y')^2}} \sqrt{(x')^2 + (y')^2} dt$$

$$= \int_C f x' dt + g y' dt = \boxed{\int_C f dx + g dy}$$

$\downarrow$ $\frac{dx}{dt}$ $\downarrow$ $\frac{dy}{dt}$

Components of $\vec{F}$

we can choose to evaluate that form by converting it back to $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds$
or stay with it using the parametrization we choose to use.

example

$$\int_C xy dx + (x+y) dy$$

$$C: (0,0) \text{ to } (1,1) \text{ along } y = x^2$$

one way to evaluate: convert back to $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds$

$$\int_C xy dx + (x+y) dy = \int_C \langle xy, x+y \rangle \cdot \langle dx, dy \rangle$$

$$= \int_C \langle xy, x+y \rangle \cdot \underbrace{\left\langle \frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt} \right\rangle}_{\vec{r}'}} dt$$

$$C: \vec{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2 \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$\vec{r}' = \langle 1, 2t \rangle$$

$$\int_C \langle xy, x+y \rangle \cdot \left\langle \frac{dx}{dt}, \frac{dy}{dt} \right\rangle dt$$

$$r = \langle t, t^2 \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$\begin{matrix} & \nearrow & \\ x & & y \end{matrix}$

$$= \int_0^1 \langle t^3, t+t^2 \rangle \cdot \langle 1, 2t \rangle dt = \int_0^1 (3t^3 + 2t^2) dt = \boxed{\frac{17}{12}}$$

another way, stay with $\int_C xy dx + (x+y) dy$

$$C: \vec{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2 \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$\begin{matrix} & \nearrow & \\ x & & y \end{matrix}$

$$x = t, \text{ then } \frac{dx}{dt} = 1 \text{ then } dx = dt$$

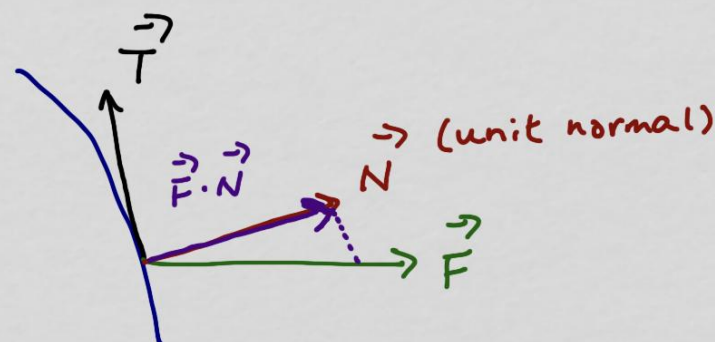
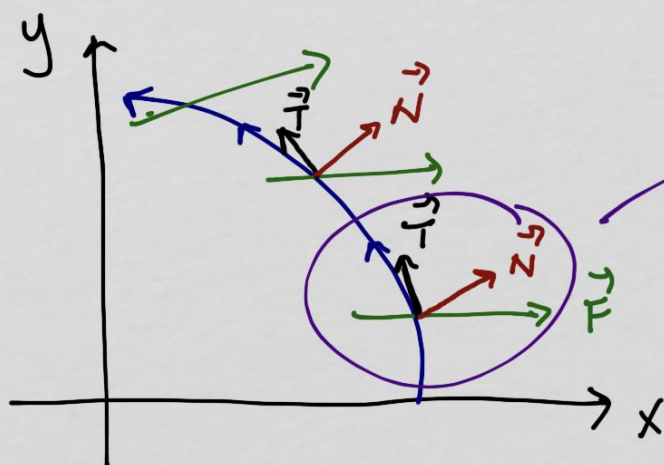
$$y = t^2, \text{ then } \frac{dy}{dt} = 2t \text{ then } dy = 2t dt$$

$$\int_0^1 \underbrace{t^3}_{xy} dt + \underbrace{(t+t^2)}_{x+y} \underbrace{(2t)}_{dy} dt = \int_0^1 (t^3 + 2t^2 + 2t^3) dt = \boxed{\frac{17}{12}}$$

same

If we use the normal vector instead of the tangent vector in

$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{T} ds$, then we end with the flux integral

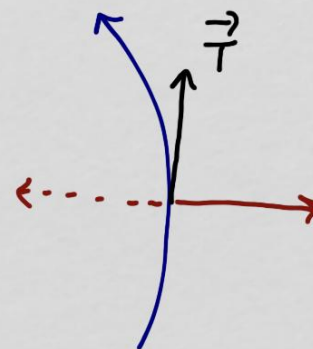


the flux integral $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{N} ds$ accumulates the component normal to the path (the component that does not contribute to work)

if $\vec{F}$ is the flow of fluid, then $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{N} ds$ gives us the amount of fluid that flows through a barrier in the shape of C

note there are two normal vectors: one to the right of $\vec{T}$ and one to the left

unless told otherwise, we choose the ^{unit} normal vector to the RIGHT of $\vec{T}$



both red vectors are normal to path

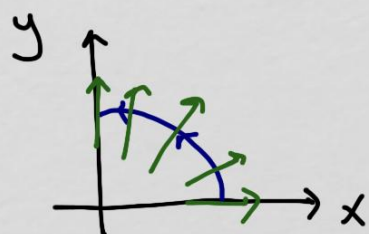
$\vec{T}$ cannot change length, so $\vec{T}'$ is always a result of the turning on the path C and $\vec{T}'$ is always normal to $\vec{T}$

then $\frac{\vec{T}'}{|\vec{T}'|}$ is a unit vector normal to $\vec{T}$

$\vec{N} : \frac{\vec{T}'}{|\vec{T}'|}$ or $-\frac{\vec{T}'}{|\vec{T}'|}$ whichever is to the right of $\vec{T}$

example $\vec{F} = \langle x, y \rangle$

$C: (1, 0) \text{ to } (0, 1) \text{ along } x^2 + y^2 = 1$



$$C: \vec{r}(t) = \langle \cos t, \sin t \rangle \quad 0 \leq t \leq \pi/2$$

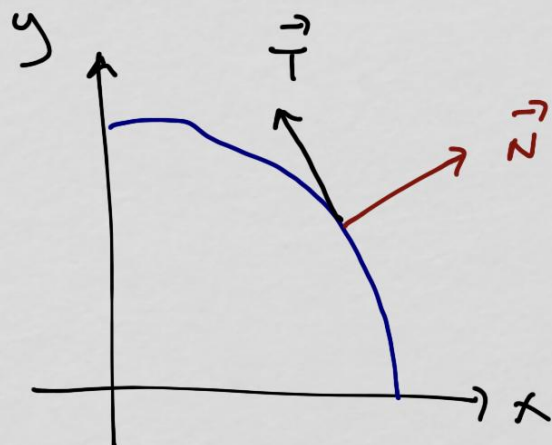
$$\vec{r}' = \langle -\sin t, \cos t \rangle \quad |\vec{r}'| = 1$$

$$\vec{T} = \frac{\vec{r}'}{|\vec{r}'|} = \langle -\sin t, \cos t \rangle$$

$$\vec{T}' = \langle -\cos t, -\sin t \rangle \quad |\vec{T}'| = 1$$

so, we choose $\frac{\vec{T}'}{|\vec{T}'|} = \langle -\cos t, -\sin t \rangle$ or $-\frac{\vec{T}'}{|\vec{T}'|} = \langle \cos t, \sin t \rangle$

whichever is to the right of $\vec{T}$



note if $\vec{N}$ is to the right of $\vec{T}$
 then both components of $\vec{N}$ must
 be nonnegative for $0 \leq t \leq \pi/2$

so, we choose $\vec{N} = \langle \cos t, \sin t \rangle$

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot \vec{N} \, ds = \int_0^{\pi/2} \underbrace{\langle \cos t, \sin t \rangle}_{\substack{\vec{F} = \langle x, y \rangle \\ \text{using } x, y \\ \text{of } \vec{r}}} \cdot \underbrace{\langle \cos t, \sin t \rangle}_{\vec{N}} \, \underbrace{dt}_{\substack{ds = |\vec{r}'| \, dt \\ = (1) \, dt}}$$

$$= \int_0^{\pi/2} \underbrace{(\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t)}_1 \, dt = \boxed{\frac{\pi}{2}}$$