

§ 17.7 Stokes' Theorem (Part 1)

Recall: Circulation is the integral of a vector field along a closed curve that gives how much the field pushes the object along the curve:

$$\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

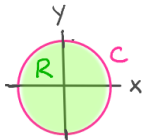
$$\text{If } \vec{F} = \langle f, g \rangle, \quad \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \oint_C \langle f, g \rangle \cdot \langle dx, dy \rangle \\ = \oint_C f dx + g dy.$$

$$\text{If } \vec{F} = \langle f, g, h \rangle, \quad \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \oint_C \langle f, g, h \rangle \cdot \langle dx, dy, dz \rangle \\ = \oint_C f dx + g dy + h dz.$$

We later learned when $\vec{F} = \langle f, g \rangle$, we can use Green's Theorem to compute circulation:

$$\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \iint_R (g_x - f_y) dA$$

where C is the boundary curve of region R



and $g_x - f_y$ is the two dimensional curl of \vec{F} .

Even later, we defined the curl of a three dimensional vector field as $\text{curl } \vec{F} = \nabla \times \vec{F}$.

(Note: We can treat $\vec{F}(x,y) = \langle f, g \rangle$ as $\langle f(x,y), g(x,y), 0 \rangle$)

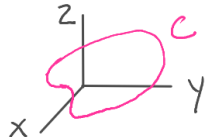
$$\text{Then } \text{curl } \vec{F} = \nabla \times \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ f & g & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \langle 0, 0, g_x - f_y \rangle,$$

so the only non zero component of $\nabla \times \vec{F}$ is $g_x - f_y$ which is the two dimensional curl.)

Now that we can find the curl of a vector field $\vec{F}(x,y,z) = \langle f, g, h \rangle$, we want an analog of Green's Theorem.

However, when $\vec{F}(x,y) = \langle f, g \rangle$, we are computing $\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ for closed curves C in the xy-plane, so C bounds a region R in the xy-plane.

If $\vec{F}(x,y,z) = \langle f, g, h \rangle$, then $\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ can be computed over a closed curve in space:



C no longer bounds a region in a plane. Instead, it can bound a surface.
 (The region R in the xy -plane is a flat surface.)

Thm Stokes' Theorem

Let S be an oriented surface in \mathbb{R}^3 with closed boundary curve C whose orientation is consistent with the orientation of S (use the right hand rule).

If $\vec{F} = \langle f, g, h \rangle$, then

$$\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \iint_S (\nabla \times \vec{F}) \cdot \vec{n} \, dS = \iint_S \text{curl } \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S}$$

where \vec{n} is the unit normal vector to S determined by the orientation of S .

Recall: Right-Hand Rule

When you curl the fingers of your right hand in the positive direction around C , your right thumb points in the (general) direction of the vectors normal to S .

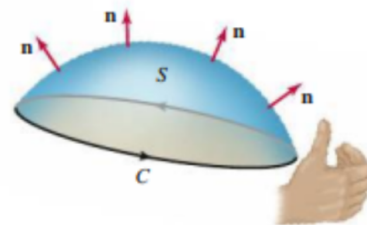


Figure 17.60

► The right-hand rule tells you which of two normal vectors at a point of S to use. Remember that the direction of normal vectors changes continuously on an oriented surface.

Now, we can compare Stokes' Theorem and Green's Theorem:

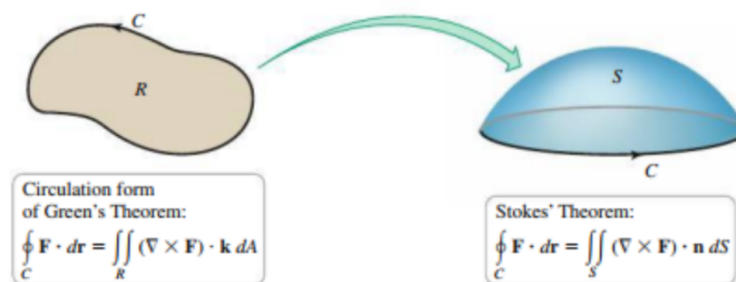


Figure 17.59

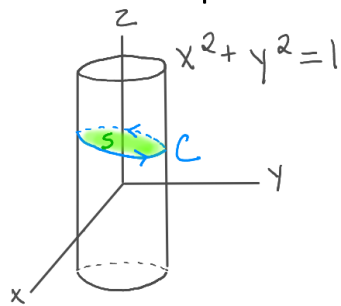
Meaning: Under proper conditions, the accumulated rotation of the vector field over the surface S (given by the normal component of the curl) equals the net circulation on the boundary of S .

Remember from §17.3 that the circulation of a conservative vector field on a closed curve is 0.

You can use Stokes' Theorem to compute line integrals $\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ for problems where one or more terms of $\int_C f dx + g dy + h dz$ cannot be integrated (ex: $\int_0^1 e^{t^2} dt$). It can also be used to compute the surface integral of the curl of a vector field: $\iint_S \text{curl } \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S}$.

However, we cannot use Stokes' Theorem to compute $\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S}$ unless we know $\vec{F} = \text{curl } \vec{G}$ for some vector field \vec{G} .

Ex.1 Evaluate $\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ where $\vec{F}(x,y,z) = \langle -y^2, x, z^2 \rangle$ and C is the curve of intersection of the plane $y+z=2$ with the cylinder $x^2+y^2=1$.



The curve C is the closed boundary curve of surface S .

We can write a parametric description of C where x and y line on the circle in the xy -plane $x^2+y^2=1$ and z is given by the plane $z=2-y$.

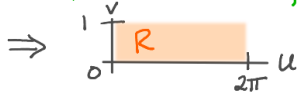
$$\text{Then } \vec{r}(t) = \langle \underbrace{\cos t}_{x^2+y^2=1}, \underbrace{\sin t}_{z=2-y}, 2-\sin t \rangle, 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$

Without Stokes' Theorem, we can compute as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} &= \oint_C \langle -y^2, x, z^2 \rangle \cdot \vec{r}'(t) dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \langle -\sin^2 t, \cos t, (2-\sin t)^2 \rangle \cdot \langle -\sin t, \cos t, -\cos t \rangle dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} (\sin^3 t + \cos^2 t - \cos t (2-\sin t)^2) dt \\ &\quad \downarrow \\ &\quad \text{Trig Identities + u-sub} \\ &\quad \downarrow \\ &= \pi \end{aligned}$$

To use Stokes', we need to parameterize the surface S . We can think about cylindrical coordinates: $x = r \cos \theta$, $y = r \sin \theta$, and $z = z$, but $z = 2 - y = 2 - r \sin \theta$ in cylindrical coordinates. To avoid confusion, use $v = r$ and $u = \theta$ (or $v = \theta$ and $u = r$)

$$\vec{r}(u,v) = \langle v \cos u, v \sin u, 2 - v \sin u \rangle, \quad 0 \leq u \leq 2\pi, \quad 0 \leq v \leq 1$$



We also need $\text{curl } \vec{F} = \nabla \times \vec{F}$. We need to compute $\nabla \times \vec{F}$ in terms of (x, y, z) because $\nabla = \langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \rangle$. We cannot easily compute $\nabla \times \vec{F}$ with $\vec{F}(\vec{r}(u,v))$.

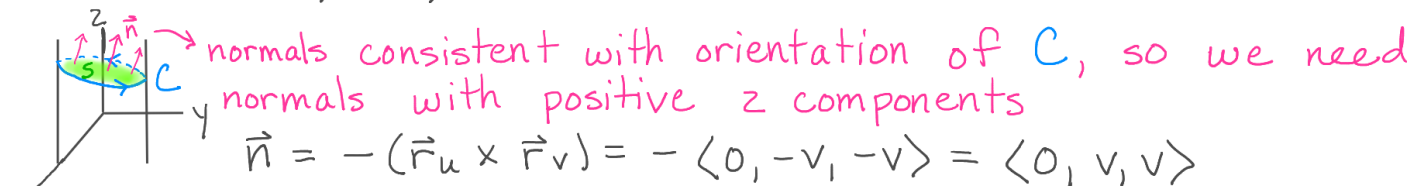
$$\begin{aligned} \text{curl } \vec{F} &= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ -y^2 & x & z^2 \end{vmatrix} = \langle 0-0, -(0-0), 1-(-2y) \rangle \\ &= \langle 0, 0, 1+2y \rangle \\ &= \langle 0, 0, 1+2v \sin u \rangle \text{ (on } S) \end{aligned}$$

We also need to find the normal vector to S consistent with the positive (counterclockwise) orientation of C :

$$\vec{r}_u = \langle -v \sin u, v \cos u, -v \cos u \rangle$$

$$\vec{r}_v = \langle \cos u, \sin u, -\sin u \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v &= \langle -v \cos u \sin u + v \cos u \sin u, -(v \sin^2 u + v \cos^2 u), -v \sin^2 u - v \cos^2 u \rangle \\ &= \langle 0, -v, -v \rangle \end{aligned}$$



$$\text{Using Stokes': } \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \iint_S \text{curl } \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S} \quad (= \iint_S (\nabla \times \vec{F}) \cdot \vec{n} \, dS)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \iint_R \langle 0, 0, 1+2v \sin u \rangle \cdot \langle 0, v, v \rangle \, dA \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^{2\pi} (v + 2v^2 \sin u) \, du \, dv \end{aligned}$$

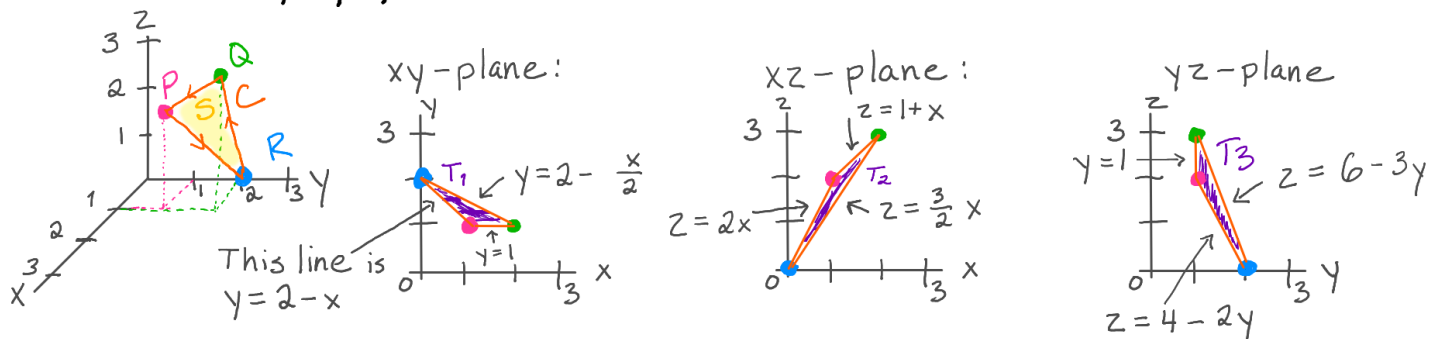
$$= \int_0^1 [uv - 2v^2 \cos u]_{u=0}^{u=2\pi} \, dv$$

$$= \int_0^1 (2\pi v - \cancel{2v^2} - (0 - \cancel{2v^2})) \, dv$$

$$= \pi v^2 \Big|_0^1 = \boxed{\pi} \blacksquare$$

If parameterized with (θ, r) instead of (u, v) , we would have (θ, r) over the same R , so we would not use $dA = r \, dr \, d\theta$. As we did with (u, v) , we would use $dA = dr \, d\theta$ or $dA = d\theta \, dr$.

Ex.2 Find $\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ when $\vec{F} = \langle z^2, y^2, xy \rangle$ and C is the counter-clockwise triangle with vertices $P(1,1,2)$, $Q(2,1,3)$, and $R(0,2,0)$.



S is part of the plane containing the non collinear points. The normal to the plane can be found using $\overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR}$: $\vec{n} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = \langle 0-1, -(-2+1), 1-0 \rangle = \langle -1, 1, 1 \rangle$

An equation of the plane is $-1(x-0) + 1(y-2) + 1(z-0) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow -x + y + z = 2$

We can write S in 3 ways:

- ① The part of $z = 2 + x - y$ over the region T_1
- ② The part of $y = 2 + x - z$ over the region T_2
- ③ The part of $x = y + z - 2$ over the region T_3

Using ①: $\vec{r}(x,y) = \langle x, y, 2 + x - y \rangle$ with $2 - y \leq x \leq 4 - 2y$, $1 \leq y \leq 2$.

We know that $\langle -1, 1, 1 \rangle$ is normal to the plane and is consistent with the orientation of C .

To use Stokes', we need to compute

$$\text{curl } \vec{F} = \nabla \times \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ z^2 & y^2 & xy \end{vmatrix} = \langle x-0, -(y-2z), (0-0) \rangle = \langle x, 2z-y, 0 \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} &= \iint_S \text{curl } \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S} \\ &= \iint_R \langle x, 2z-y, 0 \rangle \cdot \langle -1, 1, 1 \rangle dA \\ &= \int_1^2 \int_{2-y}^{4-2y} (-x + 2z - y) dx dy \\ &\quad \quad \quad \downarrow \\ &\quad \quad \quad = 2 + x - y \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \int_1^2 \int_{2-y}^{4-2y} (4+x-3y) \, dx \, dy \\
&= \int_1^2 \left[4x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 3xy \right]_{x=2-y}^{x=4-2y} \, dy \\
&= \int_1^2 \left(16 - 8y + \frac{1}{2}(4-2y)^2 - 3y(4-2y) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \left(8 - 4y + \frac{1}{2}(2-y)^2 - 3y(2-y) \right) \right) \, dy \\
&= \int_1^2 \left(8 - 10y + 3y^2 + \frac{1}{2}(4-2y)^2 - \frac{1}{2}(2-y)^2 \right) \, dy \\
&= \left[8y - 5y^2 + y^3 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{-1}{2}(4-2y)^3 - \frac{1}{6} \cdot (-1)(2-y)^3 \right]_1^2 \\
&= \left[16 - 20 + 8 - \frac{1}{12}(0) + \frac{1}{6}(0) - \left(8 - 5 + 1 - \frac{8}{12} + \frac{1}{6} \right) \right] \\
&= \frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{6} = \frac{3}{6} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}
\end{aligned}$$

Not using Stokes', $C = \overrightarrow{PQ} \rightarrow \overrightarrow{QR} \rightarrow \overrightarrow{RP}$ which are line segments that we can parameterize as follows:

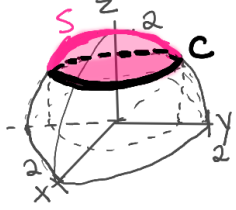
$$\overrightarrow{PQ}: \vec{r}_1(t) = (1-t)\langle 1, 1, 2 \rangle + t\langle 2, 1, 3 \rangle = \langle t+1, 1, t+2 \rangle, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$\overrightarrow{QR}: \vec{r}_2(t) = (1-t)\langle 2, 1, 3 \rangle + t\langle 0, 2, 0 \rangle = \langle 2-2t, t+1, 3-3t \rangle, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$\overrightarrow{RP}: \vec{r}_3(t) = (1-t)\langle 0, 2, 0 \rangle + t\langle 1, 1, 2 \rangle = \langle t, 2-t, 2t \rangle, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} &= \int_{\overrightarrow{PQ}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}_1 + \int_{\overrightarrow{QR}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}_2 + \int_{\overrightarrow{RP}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}_3 \\
&= \int_0^1 \langle (t+2)^2, 1^2, (t+1)(1) \rangle \cdot \langle 1, 0, 1 \rangle \, dt \\
&\quad + \int_0^1 \langle (3-3t)^2, (t+1)^2, (2-2t)(t+1) \rangle \cdot \langle -2, 1, -3 \rangle \, dt \\
&\quad + \int_0^1 \langle (2t)^2, (2-t)^2, t(2-t) \rangle \cdot \langle 1, -1, 2 \rangle \, dt \\
&= \int_0^1 \left((t+2)^2 + (t+1) - 2(3-3t)^2 + (t+1)^2 - 3(2-2t)(t+1) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + 4t^2 - (2-t)^2 + 2t(2-t) \right) \, dt \\
&= \int_0^1 (-9t^2 + 51t - 22) \, dt \\
&= -3t^3 + \frac{51}{2}t^2 - 22t \Big|_0^1 \\
&= -3 + \frac{51}{2} - 22 \\
&= \frac{-6 + 51 - 44}{2} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \blacksquare
\end{aligned}$$

Ex.3 Use Stokes' Theorem to evaluate $\iint_S \text{curl } \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S}$, where $\vec{F} = \langle yz, xz, xy \rangle$ and S is the part of the sphere $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 4$ that lies inside the cylinder $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ and above the xy -plane



C is the curve $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ in the plane $z = \sqrt{3}$, so $\vec{r}(t) = \langle \cos t, \sin t, \sqrt{3} \rangle$, $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$

By Stokes' Theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_S \text{curl } \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S} &= \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \langle \sqrt{3} \sin t, \sqrt{3} \cos t, \cos t \sin t \rangle \cdot \langle -\sin t, \cos t, 0 \rangle dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} (-\sqrt{3} \sin^2 t + \sqrt{3} \cos^2 t + 0) dt \\ &= \sqrt{3} \int_0^{2\pi} (\cos^2 t - \sin^2 t) dt \\ &= \sqrt{3} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos(2t) dt \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin(2t) \Big|_0^{2\pi} \\ &= \boxed{0} \end{aligned}$$

Without Stokes', we parameterize S with

$$\vec{r}(u, v) = \langle 2 \sin v \cos u, 2 \sin v \sin u, 2 \cos v \rangle \text{ for } 0 \leq u \leq 2\pi, 0 \leq v \leq \frac{\pi}{6}$$

To find the bounds on v , recall spherical coordinates:

$$z = 2 \cos v$$

$$\sqrt{3} = 2 \cos v$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} = \cos v \Rightarrow v = \frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$\text{curl } \vec{F} = \nabla \times \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ yz & xz & xy \end{vmatrix} = \langle x - x, -(y - y), z - z \rangle = \vec{0}$$

$$\iint_S \text{curl } \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S} = \iint_R 0 \, dA = \boxed{0}$$

OR: Notice that \vec{F} is conservative with $\vec{F} = \nabla \varphi$ for $\varphi(x, y, z) = xyz$. Since C is a closed curve, $\iint_S \text{curl } \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{S} = \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$. ■