

Curl, Divergence and Stoke's Theorem

(1)

Let $F: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$, $F(x, y, z) = (P(x, y, z), Q(x, y, z), R(x, y, z))$.

Such fns are called vector fields.

Defⁿ: The curl of F is a vector field denoted by $\text{curl } F$ and defined by

$$\text{curl } F = (R_y - Q_z, P_z - R_x, Q_x - P_y)$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ P & Q & R \end{vmatrix} = \nabla \times f.$$

$$\nabla = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} i + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} j + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} k$$

(gradient field)

Defⁿ: The divergence of F is a scalar valued fn denoted by $\text{div } F$ and is defined by

$$\text{div } F = P_x + Q_y + R_z = \nabla \cdot F.$$

Defⁿ: Let $S = \sigma(u, v)$ be a parametric surface defined on a parameter domain T . We say that S is smooth if σ_u and σ_v are cont. on T and $\sigma_u \times \sigma_v \neq 0$ on T . A level surface S defined by $f(x, y, z) = c$ is said to be smooth if ∇f is cont. and never zero on S .

Defⁿ: A smooth surface is said to be orientable if there exists a cont. unit ^{normal} vector fn. defined at each pt. of the surface. eg: spheres, planes, etc.

Non-orientable: Möbius strip.

Orientation on the boundary w/ a normal: Let

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$S = \sigma(u, v)$ be a parametric orientable surface defined on the parameter domain T . Consider the unit normal

$$n = \frac{\sigma_u \times \sigma_v}{\|\sigma_u \times \sigma_v\|}$$

of T and $C = \sigma(\Gamma)$. If we assume Γ is oriented in the counterclockwise dirⁿ then we get an orientation for C inherited from Γ through the mapping σ . This orientation for C is considered to be the orientation w/ n.

Recall, $\iint_D (N_x - M_y) dx dy = \oint_C M dx + N dy$, where D is a plane enclosed by a simple closed curve C .

Consider $F: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$, $F(x, y) = (M(x, y), N(x, y))$.

$\text{curl } F = \nabla \times F = (N_x - M_y)k$. So, Green's theorem is

$$\iint_D (\text{curl } F) \cdot k dx dy = \oint_C F \cdot dR.$$

We now extend this.

Stokes' Theorem: Let S be a piecewise smooth orientable surface and C be its boundary, which is a piecewise closed curve. Let $F(x, y, z) = (P(x, y, z), Q(x, y, z), R(x, y, z))$ be a vector field s.t. P, Q and R are cont. and have cont. first partial derivatives in an open set containing S . If n is a unit normal to S , then we have

$$\iint_S (\text{curl } F) \cdot n d\sigma = \oint_C F \cdot dR,$$

where the line integral is taken around C in the dirⁿ of the orientation of C w/ n .

• The value of the line int. depends only on C , so the shape of S is immaterial. (3)

• If S is a plane region then Stoke's theorem becomes Green's theorem.

• For a closed oriented surface such as a sphere, there is no boundary, so, $\iint_S (\text{curl } F) \cdot n \, d\sigma = 0$.

• We can extend this to a smooth surface which has more than one simple closed curve forming the boundary of the surface.

Q: Let S be the part of the cylinder $z = 1 - x^2$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$, $-2 \leq y \leq 2$. Let C be the boundary curve of S . Let $F(x, y, z) = (y, y, z)$. Find the unit outer normal to S , $\text{curl } F$ and evaluate $\oint_C F \cdot dR$, where C is oriented clockwise as viewed from above the surface.

Solⁿ: The surface is, $z = 1 - x^2$. We consider this as the graph of $f(x, y) = 1 - x^2$, or a parametric surface $r(x, y) = (x, y, f(x, y))$.

$$\text{A unit normal is } \frac{r_x \times r_y}{\|r_x \times r_y\|} = \frac{-f_x - f_y + k}{\sqrt{1 + f_x^2 + f_y^2}} = \frac{2x + k}{\sqrt{1 + 4x^2}}$$

$$\text{curl } f = -k; \quad \text{curl } f \cdot n = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1 + 4x^2}}$$

By Stokes's Theorem we have,

$$\oint_C F \cdot dR = \iint_S \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1 + 4x^2}} \, d\sigma = \iint_R \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1 + 4x^2}} \sqrt{1 + f_x^2 + f_y^2} \, dx \, dy //$$

Let D be a plane region enclosed by a simple smooth $\textcircled{4}$ curve C . Let $F(x, y) = (M(x, y), N(x, y))$ s.t. M and N satisfy the conditions of Green's Theorem.

If the curve C is defined by $R(t) = (x(t), y(t))$, then the vector $n = \left(\frac{dy}{ds}, \frac{dx}{ds}\right)$ is a unit normal to the curve C because, $T = \left(\frac{dx}{ds}, \frac{dy}{ds}\right)$ is a unit tangent to the curve C . By Green's theorem we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_C (F \cdot n) ds &= \oint_C M dy - N dx = \iint_D (M_x - (-N_y)) dx dy \\ &= \iint_D (M_x + N_y) dx dy. \end{aligned}$$

This gives us, $\oint_C (F \cdot n) ds = \iint_D \text{div} F dx dy$.

Divergence Theorem: Let D be a solid in \mathbb{R}^3 bdd. by a piecewise smooth orientable surface S . Let $F(x, y, z)$ be $(P(x, y, z), Q(x, y, z), R(x, y, z))$ be a vector field s.t. P, Q and R are cont. and have cont. first partial derivatives in an open set containing D . Suppose n is the unit outward normal to S . Then we have,

$$\iiint_D \text{div} F \cdot dV = \iint_S F \cdot n d\sigma.$$

Q. Evaluate the surface integral $\iint_S F \cdot n d\sigma$ where

$F(x, y, z) = (x+y, z^2, x^2)$ and S is the surface of the hemisphere $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$, with $z > 0$ and n is the outward normal to S .

Soln: The surface is not closed. (5)

$$D := x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 1, z \geq 0,$$

$$\iiint_D \operatorname{div} F \, dV = \iint_S F \cdot n \, d\sigma + \iint_{S_1} F \cdot n_1 \, d\sigma,$$

where $S_1 := x^2 + y^2 < 1, z = 0$ is the base of the hemisphere
 n_1 is the outward unit normal to $S_1 = -k$.

$\operatorname{div} F = 1$, so the vol^m of ~~the~~ integral in the above eqⁿ
is the vol^m of the hemisphere = $2\pi/3$.

$$\text{So, } 2\pi/3 = \iint_S F \cdot n \, d\sigma + \iint_{S_1} F \cdot (-k) \, d\sigma$$

$$\Rightarrow \iint_S F \cdot n \, d\sigma = 2\pi/3 - \iint_{S_1} F \cdot (-k) \, d\sigma = 2\pi/3 + \iint_{S_1} x^2 \, d\sigma.$$

Let $S_1 = (r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta)$, $0 \leq r < 1, 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$.

$$\iint_{S_1} x^2 \, d\sigma = \int_0^1 \int_0^{2\pi} r^2 \cos^2 \theta \, r \, d\theta \, dr = \int_0^1 r^3 \pi \, dr = \pi/4.$$

$$\text{So, } \iint_S F \cdot n \, d\sigma = 2\pi/3 + \pi/4 = 11\pi/12. \quad \parallel$$
