

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

MATH2000

Curl and Stokes' theorem (solutions)

(1)

$$\begin{aligned}\text{curl} \mathbf{F} = \nabla \times \mathbf{F} &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ y^2 z^3 & x^4 z^5 & x^6 y^7 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \mathbf{i}(7x^6 y^6 - 5x^4 z^4) - \mathbf{j}(6x^5 y^7 - 3y^2 z^2) + \mathbf{k}(4x^3 z^5 - 2yz^3).\end{aligned}$$

(2) The velocity obtained previously was $\mathbf{v} = \frac{\gamma y}{2\pi(x^2 + y^2)}\mathbf{i} - \frac{\gamma x}{2\pi(x^2 + y^2)}\mathbf{j}$.

To show irrotation:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \times \mathbf{v} &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(-\frac{\gamma x}{2\pi(x^2 + y^2)} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\gamma y}{2\pi(x^2 + y^2)} \right) \right) \mathbf{k} \\ &= \frac{-\gamma}{2\pi} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{y}{x^2 + y^2} \right) \mathbf{k} \\ &= \frac{-\gamma}{2\pi} \left(\frac{(x^2 + y^2) - 2x^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} + \frac{(x^2 + y^2) - 2y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \right) \mathbf{k} \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

The fluid is irrotational point-wise (i.e. at each point) rather than as a whole. If you place a tiny paddle wheel in the fluid at any point it would not spin.

(3)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{F} &= \nabla \times \mathbf{A} \\ \Rightarrow \mathbf{F} &= \left(\frac{\partial A_2}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_3}{\partial y} \right) \mathbf{i} + \left(\frac{\partial A_3}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_1}{\partial z} \right) \mathbf{j} + \left(\frac{\partial A_1}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_2}{\partial x} \right) \mathbf{k} \\ \Rightarrow \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} &= \left(\frac{\partial^2 A_2}{\partial z \partial x} - \frac{\partial^2 A_3}{\partial y \partial x} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial^2 A_3}{\partial x \partial y} - \frac{\partial^2 A_1}{\partial z \partial y} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial^2 A_1}{\partial y \partial z} - \frac{\partial^2 A_2}{\partial x \partial z} \right) \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Since $\frac{\partial^2 g(x, y, z)}{\partial z \partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 g(x, y, z)}{\partial x \partial z}$ etc for well behaved functions g (prove it!)

(4) A vector field \mathbf{v} is said to be irrotational if $\text{curl } \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$. Suppose \mathbf{v} is a conservative vector field. For some function $f(x, y, z)$,

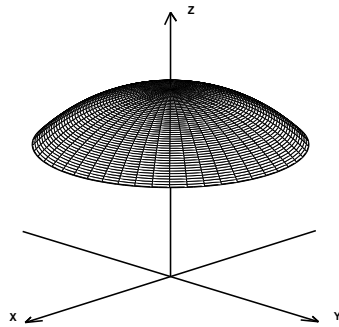
$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \mathbf{j} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \mathbf{k}.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{curl } \mathbf{v} &= \text{curl} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \mathbf{j} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \mathbf{k} \right) \\
 &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \end{vmatrix} \\
 &= \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial z} - \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z \partial y} \right) \mathbf{i} - \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial z} - \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z \partial x} \right) \mathbf{j} \\
 &\quad + \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} - \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} \right) \mathbf{k}
 \end{aligned}$$

which, assuming all the second derivatives are continuous, equals $\mathbf{0}$. Hence \mathbf{v} is irrotational.

(5) Sketch the region!



The boundary curve of the surface is found by taking $x^2 + y^2 = 4$ on the sphere surface so $4 + z^2 = 8$ or $z = \pm 2$. Since $z > 0$ we have $z = 2$, so the curve is the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 4$ with $z = 2$. The vector equation of the curve is

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = 2 \cos t \mathbf{i} + 2 \sin t \mathbf{j} + 2 \mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{r}'(t) = -2 \sin t \mathbf{i} + 2 \cos t \mathbf{j} + 0 \mathbf{k}.$$

By Stokes' Theorem $\iint_S (\nabla \times \mathbf{F}) \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS = \oint \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} (2 \cos t \times 2 \mathbf{i} + 2 \sin t \times 2 \mathbf{j} + 2 \cos^2 t \sin^2 t \mathbf{k}) \cdot (-2 \sin t \mathbf{i} + 2 \cos t \mathbf{j} + 0 \mathbf{k}) dt$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} -8 \cos t \sin t + 8 \cos t \sin t dt = 0.$$

(6) By Stokes' Theorem, $\oint \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt = \iint_S \nabla \times \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS$. Since $z = 2$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{curl} \mathbf{F} &= \nabla \times ((xz + y)\mathbf{i} + (xz^3 + zy)\mathbf{j} + (xyz)\mathbf{k}) \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ xz + y & xz^3 + zy & xyz \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (xz - 3xz^2 - y)\mathbf{i} - (yz - x)\mathbf{j} + (z^3 - 1)\mathbf{k} \\ &= (-10x - y)\mathbf{i} - (2y - x)\mathbf{j} + (7)\mathbf{k} \text{ when restricting to } z = 2. \end{aligned}$$

Note that there are many surfaces with C as the boundary, it is clear that the surface defined by the flat disc with $r = 2$ is the simplest. The appropriately directed unit normal to the disc is \mathbf{k} (by the right hand rule) so the RHS becomes

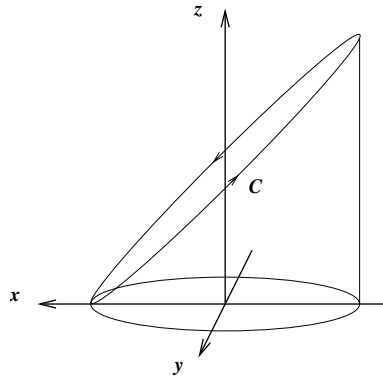
$$\iint_S ((-10x - y)\mathbf{i} - (2y - x)\mathbf{j} + (7)\mathbf{k}) \cdot \mathbf{k} dS = \iint_S 7 dS = 7 \iint_S dS = 7\pi 2^2 = 28\pi$$

since the region S is a disc of radius 2, and $\iint_S dS = \text{Area}$.

(7) The work done by \mathbf{F} around C is

$$\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \iint_S \text{curl} \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS,$$

where \mathbf{n} is the unit normal vector such that the orientation of C is positive, by Stokes' theorem.



In this case,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{curl} \mathbf{F} &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ 4z & -2y & 2y \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \mathbf{i}(2) - \mathbf{j}(-4) + \mathbf{k}(0) \\ &= 2\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}. \end{aligned}$$

Take the surface S to be in the plane $z = x + 1$ bounded by C : $x^2 + y^2 = 1$. In other words,

$$\mathbf{r}(x, y) = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + (x + 1)\mathbf{k}$$

traces out the surface as x and y vary, provided $x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$. This surface is represented more simply by cylindrical coordinates. Setting $x = r \cos \theta$, $y = r \sin \theta$, we have the parametrisation

$$\mathbf{r}(r, \theta) = r \cos \theta \mathbf{i} + r \sin \theta \mathbf{j} + (r \cos \theta + 1)\mathbf{k}$$

over the region

$$D = \{(r, \theta) \mid 0 \leq r \leq 1, 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi\}.$$

Hence,

$$\iint_S \text{curl} \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS = \iint_D \text{curl} \mathbf{F} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_r \times \mathbf{r}_\theta) \, dr \, d\theta$$

provided \mathbf{n} and $\mathbf{r}_r \times \mathbf{r}_\theta$ have the same direction.

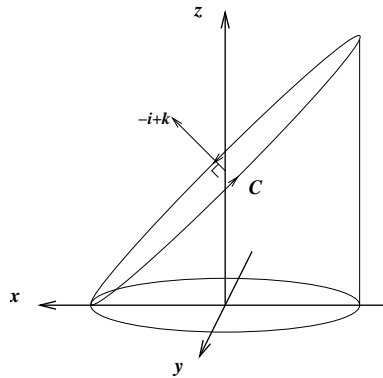
The tangent vectors are

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}_r &= \cos \theta \mathbf{i} + \sin \theta \mathbf{j} + \cos \theta \mathbf{k} \\ \mathbf{r}_\theta &= -r \sin \theta \mathbf{i} + r \cos \theta \mathbf{j} - r \sin \theta \mathbf{k}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}_r \times \mathbf{r}_\theta &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \cos \theta & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \\ -r \sin \theta & r \cos \theta & -r \sin \theta \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \mathbf{i}(-r \sin^2 \theta - r \cos^2 \theta) - \mathbf{j}(0) + \mathbf{k}(r \cos^2 \theta + r \sin^2 \theta) \\ &= -r\mathbf{i} + r\mathbf{k}, \end{aligned}$$

and the direction is okay (remember the “right hand rule”).



We have

$$\Rightarrow \text{curl} \mathbf{F} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_r \times \mathbf{r}_\theta) = (2\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}) \cdot (-r\mathbf{i} + r\mathbf{k}) = -2r.$$

The work done is then

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int_0^1 \int_0^{2\pi} -2r \, d\theta \, dr \quad (\text{Stokes' theorem}) \\
 &= \left(\int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \right) \left(- \int_0^1 2r \, dr \right) \\
 &= -2\pi \left[r^2 \right]_0^1 = -2\pi.
 \end{aligned}$$

(8)

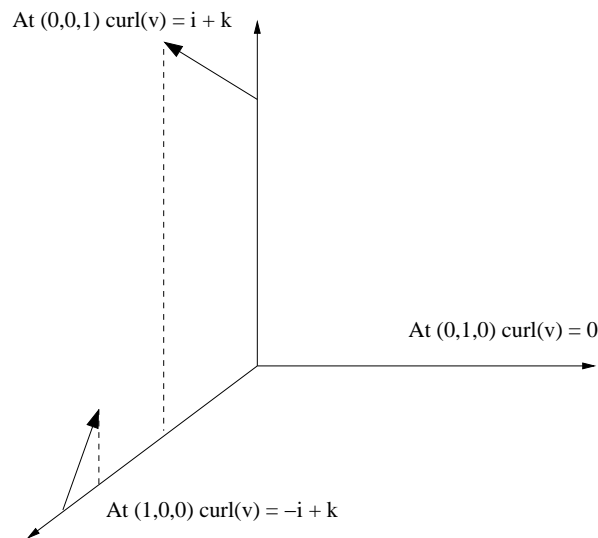
$$\vec{v} = xe^{-y}\vec{i} + xz\vec{j} + ze^y\vec{k}$$

(a)

$$\text{curl} \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ xe^{-y} & xz & ze^y \end{vmatrix} = (ze^y - x)\vec{i} - (0 - 0)\vec{j} + (z + xe^y)\vec{k}$$

$$\text{curl} \vec{v} = (ze^y - x)\vec{i} + (z + xe^y)\vec{k}$$

(b) At $(1, 0, 0)$, $\text{curl} \vec{v} = -\vec{i} + \vec{k}$ and $(\text{curl} \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{i} = -1$. Viewing from the origin, since the \vec{i} component of $\text{curl} \vec{v}$ is negative, the wheel rotates anticlockwise. At $(0, 1, 0)$, $\text{curl} \vec{v} = 0$ and $(\text{curl} \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{j} = 0$, so the wheel does not rotate. At $(0, 0, 1)$, $\text{curl} \vec{v} = \vec{i} + \vec{k}$ and $(\text{curl} \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{k} = 1$. Viewing from the origin, since the \vec{k} component of $\text{curl} \vec{v}$ is positive, the wheel rotates clockwise.



(9) (a)

$$\vec{F} = \left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 - 3xz^2\right)\vec{i} + x^2y\vec{j} + z^3\vec{k}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{F} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 - 3xz^2\right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x^2y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (z^3)$$

$$= -x^2 - 3z^2 + x^2 + 3z^2 = 0$$

(b)

$$\vec{G} = \vec{G}_0 + \nabla f(x, y, z) = \vec{i} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) + \vec{j} \left(xz^3 + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) + \vec{k} \left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3y + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right)$$

$$\text{curl} \vec{G} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} & xz^3 + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} & -\frac{1}{3}x^3y + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \vec{i} \left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 - 3xz^2 + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial z} - \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} \right) - \vec{j} \left(-x^2y + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial z} - \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z \partial x} \right)$$

$$+ \vec{k} \left(z^3 + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} - \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y \partial x} \right)$$

$$= \left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 - 3xz^2\right)\vec{i} + x^2y\vec{j} + z^3\vec{k} = \vec{F}$$

(c)

$$\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} dS = \iint_S (\text{curl} \vec{G}) \cdot \vec{n} dS = \oint \vec{G} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$\oint_C \vec{G} \cdot d\vec{r} = \oint_C \vec{G}_0 \cdot d\vec{r} + \oint_C \nabla f \cdot d\vec{r}$$

From the fundamental theorem of line integrals

$$\oint_C \nabla f \cdot d\vec{r} = 0 \text{ giving } \oint_C \vec{G} \cdot d\vec{r} = \oint_C \vec{G}_0 \cdot d\vec{r}$$

The curve C is a circle in the plane $z=1$, radius 1, centre on the z axis. Choosing a parameterization $\vec{r}(t) = \cos(t)\vec{i} - \sin(t)\vec{j} + \vec{k}$ with $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ (note the direction of C !).

$$\vec{G}_0(\vec{r}(t)) = \cos(t)\vec{j} + \frac{1}{3}\cos^3(t)\sin(t)\vec{k}$$

$$\frac{d\vec{r}(t)}{dt} = -\sin(t)\vec{i} - \cos(t)\vec{j}$$

$$\vec{G}_0(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}(t)}{dt} = -\cos^2(t) = -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\cos(2t)$$

$$\oint_C \vec{G}_0 \cdot d\vec{r} = -\int_0^{2\pi} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\cos(2t) \right) dt = -\left[\frac{1}{2}t \right]_0^{2\pi} = -\pi$$

NOTE :

Evaluating the flux integral $\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} dS$ could be difficult. You would need a parameterisation

$$\vec{r}(r, \theta) = \frac{r \cos(\theta)}{\sqrt{2}}\vec{i} + \frac{r \sin(\theta)}{\sqrt{2}}\vec{j} + \frac{r}{\sqrt{2}}\vec{k}$$

with $0 \leq r \leq \sqrt{2}$, $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ for the surface of the cone, then use

$$\vec{r}_\theta \times \vec{r}_r = \frac{1}{2}r \cos(\theta)\vec{i} + \frac{1}{2}r \sin(\theta)\vec{j} - \frac{1}{2}r\vec{k}.$$

Then we have

$$\vec{F}(\vec{r}(r, \theta)) \cdot (\vec{r}_\theta \times \vec{r}_r) = -\alpha^5 r^4 \cos^2(\theta) \left(\frac{\cos^2(\theta)}{3} + 3 \right) + \alpha^5 r^4 \cos^2(\theta) \sin^2(\theta) - \alpha^5 r^4$$

where $\alpha = \frac{1}{2^{\frac{3}{2}}}$. You would then verify that

$$\int_0^{\sqrt{2}} \int_0^{2\pi} \left(-\alpha^5 r^4 \cos^2(\theta) \left(\frac{\cos^2(\theta)}{3} + 3 \right) + \alpha^5 r^4 \cos^2(\theta) \sin^2(\theta) - \alpha^5 r^4 \right) d\theta dr = -\pi.$$