

# Math 251:10-12 — Spring 1999

MW6 CHM-106

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## Seventh set of workshop problems — Line integrals Textbook Sections 14.1 – 14.3

1. Compute

$$\int_{\mathcal{P}_n} y \, dx + (3y^3 - x) \, dy + z \, dz$$

for each of the paths  $\mathcal{P}_n$  from  $(0, 0, 1)$  to  $(1, 1, 1)$  given by  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \langle t, t^n, 1 \rangle$  (for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ).

When combined with the *fundamental theorem for line integrals*, Theorem 2 of Section 14.3, what does this tell you about the vector field

$$\langle y, 3y^3 - x, z \rangle?$$

2. Find a function  $f(x, y)$  such that

$$\nabla f = \langle \cos x (e^{\sin x}) \sin(e^y), (e^{\sin x}) e^y \cos(e^y) \rangle,$$

and use the function  $f(x, y)$  to find

$$\int_{\mathcal{C}} \cos x (e^{\sin x}) \sin(e^y) \, dx + (e^{\sin x}) e^y \cos(e^y) \, dy,$$

where  $\mathcal{C}$  is the portion of the unit circle in the first quadrant from  $(0, 1)$  to  $(1, 0)$

3. Find

$$\int_{\mathcal{B}} (3x^2 + y) \, dx + (2xy - 3yz) \, dy + (2xz - yz^2 + 4z^2) \, dz,$$

where  $\mathcal{B}$  is the path from  $(0, 0, 0)$  to  $(1, 1, 1)$  given by going along a straight line  $\mathcal{B}_1$  from  $(0, 0, 0)$  to  $(1, 0, 0)$ , then along a straight line  $\mathcal{B}_2$  from  $(1, 0, 0)$  to  $(1, 1, 0)$ , and finally along a straight line  $\mathcal{B}_3$  from  $(1, 1, 0)$  to  $(1, 1, 1)$ . Include parametric equations for each of the segments  $\mathcal{B}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_2$ , and  $\mathcal{B}_3$ .

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4. Let  $\mathbf{F}(x, y)$  be the vector field

$$\mathbf{F}(x, y) = \left\langle -\frac{y}{x^2 + y^2}, \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} \right\rangle.$$

Show that  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla\theta$ , where  $\theta(x, y) = \arctan(y/x)$  is the usual polar angle. Use this to evaluate

$$\int_{\mathcal{R}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

where  $\mathcal{R}$  is a radial segment from  $(\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$  to  $(2 \cos \theta, 2 \sin \theta)$  (i.e. along the straight line through these points whose extension passes through the origin), and

$$\int_{\mathcal{S}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

where  $\mathcal{S}$  is a semicircle centered at the origin from  $(0, -r)$  to  $(0, r)$  through the halfplane where  $x \geq 0$ . Use this to show that

$$\int_{\mathcal{H}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = 0,$$

where  $\mathcal{H}$  is the boundary of the “half-washer” consisting of those points  $(x, y)$  with

$$x \geq 0 \text{ and } 1 \leq x^2 + y^2 \leq 4.$$

Repeat your calculations for similar curves in the halfplane where  $x \leq 0$ . You should discover that these integrals are not *always* independent of path. What is wrong with the function giving  $\theta$  as a function of  $x$  and  $y$  to allow a result that appears to contradict the fundamental theorem for line integrals?