

6.3 Conservative vector fields in \mathbb{R}^3

①

$$(n=3) \quad \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial x_j} = \frac{\partial F_j}{\partial x_i} \iff \text{curl } F = 0.$$

Ex) Is $F = (y, 2x-z, z^2)$ conservative?

$$\text{curl } F = \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ \partial_x & \partial_y & \partial_z \\ y & 2x-z & z^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} z^2 - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (2x-z), \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} z^2, \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (2x-z) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} y \right)$$

$$= (1, *, *) \neq (0, 0, 0)$$

$(n=3)$ F conservative $\implies \text{curl } F = \vec{0}$

$(n=3)$ F not conservative $\longleftarrow \text{curl } F \neq \vec{0}$ (Contrapositive)

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Ex $F = (2xy + 3 + z, x^2 + ze^{y^2} - 4, ye^{y^2} + x)$

Q: Is F conservative

Q2: If it is, then find a potential function.

$$\text{curl } F = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \partial_x & \partial_y & \partial_z \\ 2xy + 3 + z & x^2 + ze^{y^2} - 4 & ye^{y^2} + x \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= ((e^{y^2} + y \cdot ze^{y^2} + 0) - (0 + e^{y^2} + z \cdot ye^{y^2} - 0),$$

$$| - |, 2x - 2x) = (0, 0, 0)$$

Domain = \mathbb{R}^3 , which is convex

$\Rightarrow F$ is conservative.

$$\Rightarrow \exists f \quad \nabla f = (f_x, f_y, f_z) = F$$

$$f_x = 2xy + 3 + z \rightarrow f = \int (2xy + 3 + z) dx = x^2y + 3x + xz + c_1(y, z)$$

$$f_y = x^2 + ze^{y^2} - 4 \rightarrow f = \int (x^2 + ze^{y^2} - 4) dy = x^2y + e^{y^2} - 4y + c_2(x, z)$$

$$f_z = ye^{y^2} + x \rightarrow f = \int (ye^{y^2} + x) dz = e^{y^2} + xz + c_3(x, y)$$

$$f = x^2y + 3x + xz + e^{y^2} - 4y + \text{any real \#}$$

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$$\text{Find } \int_C (2y - 3z) dx + (2x + z) dy + (y - 3x) dz.$$

C : $(0, 0, 0) \rightarrow (0, 1, 1)$ line segment,
followed by $(0, 1, 1) \rightarrow (1, 2, 3)$ line segment

Want to apply FTLI. Is F conservative?

$$\text{curl } F = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \partial_x & \partial_y & \partial_z \\ 2y - 3z & 2x + z & y - 3x \end{vmatrix} = (1 - 1, -3 + 3, 2 - 2) = (0, 0, 0).$$

Domain $F = \mathbb{R}^3$ convex together
 $\swarrow \searrow$
 F is conservative.

Now: Want f s.t. $\nabla f = F$

$$f_x = 2y - 3z \quad f = 2xy - 3xz + c_1(y, z)$$

$$f_y = 2x + z \quad f = 2xy + yz + c_2(x, z)$$

$$f_z = y - 3x \quad f = yz - 3xz + c_3(x, y)$$

$$f = 2xy - 3xz + yz + 5$$

Doesn't matter what it is, as long as a real #.

(4)

By FTLT

$$\int (2y - 3z) dx + (2x + z) dy + (y - 5x) dz$$

$$= \int_C \vec{\nabla} f \cdot \vec{ds} = f \Big|_{\text{initial pt}}^{\text{end pt}}$$

$$= 2xy - 3xz + yz + 5 \Big|_{(0,0,0)}^{(1,2,3)}$$

$$= (4 - 9 + 6 + \cancel{5}) - (0 + 0 + 0 + \cancel{5})$$

$$= 1$$

arbitrary constant
cancels out.