

1. Connected or simply connected?

- (a)  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  removed: neither connected nor simply connected.  
 (b)  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 1, z = 0$  removed: connected but not simply connected.  
 (c) The set  $\{(x, y) \mid 1 < x^2 + y^2 < 2\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ : connected but not simply connected.  
 (d)  $\mathbb{R}^3$  with the helix  $(\cos(t), \sin(t), t), t \in [0, \pi]$  removed: both connected and simply connected.  
 (e) The set  $\{(x, y) \mid x^2 - y^2 < 0\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ : simply connected but not connected.

2. For the three curves

$\mathbf{c}_1$ : The half-circle  $(\cos(t), \sin(t), 0), t \in [0, \pi]$ , (*not*  $2\pi$ !)

$\mathbf{c}_2$ : The segment  $(-t, t^2 - 1, 1 - t^2)$  of a parabola,  $t \in [-1, 1]$ , and

$\mathbf{c}_3$ : The straight line  $(-t, 0, 0), t \in [-1, 1]$ ,

let's first calculate the velocity vectors, since we'll need them for both integrals.

$$\mathbf{c}'_1(t) = (-\sin(t), \cos(t), 0), \quad \mathbf{c}'_2(t) = (-1, 2t, -2t), \quad \mathbf{c}'_3(t) = (-1, 0, 0).$$

(a) For  $\mathbf{F} = (-y, x, z)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbf{c}_1} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds &= \int_0^\pi \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{c}_1(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'_1(t) dt = \int_0^\pi (-\sin(t), \cos(t), 0) \cdot (-\sin(t), \cos(t), 0) dt \\ &= \int_0^\pi \sin^2(t) + \cos^2(t) dt = \pi. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbf{c}_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds &= \int_{-1}^1 \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{c}_2(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'_2(t) dt = \int_{-1}^1 (1 - t^2, -t, 1 - t^2) \cdot (-1, 2t, -2t) dt \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 -1 - 2t - t^2 + 2t^3 dt = \left( -t - t^2 - \frac{1}{3}t^3 + \frac{1}{2}t^4 \right)_{t=-1}^{t=1} \\ &= -\frac{8}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\mathbf{c}_3} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds &= \int_{-1}^1 \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{c}_3(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'_3(t) dt = \int_{-1}^1 (0, -t, 0) \cdot (-1, 0, 0) dt \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 0 dt = 0.\end{aligned}$$

(b) For  $\mathbf{G} = (e^{yz}, xz e^{yz}, xy e^{yz})$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\mathbf{c}_1} \mathbf{G} \cdot ds &= \int_0^\pi \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{c}_1(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'_1(t) dt = \int_0^\pi (e^0, 0, \sin(t) \cos(t) e^0) \cdot (-\sin(t), \cos(t), 0) dt \\ &= \int_0^\pi -\sin(t) dt = -2.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\mathbf{c}_2} \mathbf{G} \cdot ds &= \int_{-1}^1 \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{c}_2(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'_2(t) dt \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 \left( e^{-(t^2-1)^2}, (t^3 - t)e^{-(t^2-1)^2}, (t - t^3)e^{-(t^2-1)^2} \right) \cdot (-1, 2t, -2t) dt \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 (4t^4 - 4t^2 - 1)e^{-(t^2-1)^2} dt \\ &= -te^{-(t^2-1)^2} \Big|_{t=-1}^{t=1} = -1e^0 - (-(-1)e^0) = -2.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\mathbf{c}_3} \mathbf{G} \cdot ds &= \int_{-1}^1 \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{c}_3(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'_3(t) dt = \int_{-1}^1 (e^0, 0, 0) \cdot (-1, 0, 0) dt \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 -1 dt = -2.\end{aligned}$$

(c) Both  $\mathbf{F}$  and  $\mathbf{G}$  are defined on all of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . For a conservative vector field (with any domain of definition), the path integrals connecting any two points  $p$  and  $q$  are independent of the path (which is assumed to lie in the domain of definition of the vector field).

The calculations in part (a) show that  $\mathbf{F}$  cannot be a conservative vector field. The calculations in part (b) suggest that  $\mathbf{G}$  might be a conservative vector field, and in fact it is. We can verify this by either

- (i) computing that  $\text{Curl}(\mathbf{G}) = (0, 0, 0)$ , and using our theorems: since the domain of definition of  $\mathbf{G}$  is simply connected, this is enough to imply that there must be a function  $g$  with  $\mathbf{G} = \nabla g$ . Or
- (ii) finding the function  $g$  directly. In this case  $g(x, y, z) = x e^{yz}$  is clearly a solution.

3. We're starting with the vector field  $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = \left( \frac{y}{x^2+y^2}, \frac{-x}{x^2+y^2} \right)$ .

- (a) The domain of definition of  $\mathbf{F}$  is  $\mathbb{R}^2$  minus the origin. It is connected but not simply connected.
- (b) By the “ $\mathbb{R}^2$  curl” of a vector field  $\mathbf{F} = (F_1, F_2)$  we mean the function  $\frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y}$ .

For our vector field  $\mathbf{F}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} &= \frac{-1}{x^2 + y^2} + \frac{2x^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \\ \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} &= \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2} - \frac{2y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Curl}(\mathbf{F}) &= \frac{-1}{x^2 + y^2} + \frac{2x^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} - \left( \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2} - \frac{2y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{-2}{x^2 + y^2} + \frac{2x^2 + 2y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

- (c) The curve  $\mathbf{c}$  is the unit circle, oriented counterclockwise. We can use the usual parameterization  $\mathbf{c}(t) = (\cos(t), \sin(t))$  for  $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ , with velocity vector  $\mathbf{c}'(t) = (-\sin(t), \cos(t))$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds &= \int_0^{2\pi} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{c}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'(t) dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} (\sin(t), -\cos(t)) \cdot (-\sin(t), \cos(t)) dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} -1 dt = -2\pi \end{aligned}$$

- (d) If  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$  for some function  $f$  then for any closed curve  $\mathbf{c}$  in the domain of  $\mathbf{F}$  we would have to have

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds = 0.$$

One way to see this is to note that if we pick any point  $p$  of  $\mathbf{c}$ , we can consider  $\mathbf{c}$  to be a curve that begins and ends at  $\mathbf{c}$ . Then, by the formula we proved in class (theorem 5.5 in the book)

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds = f(p) - f(p) = 0.$$

- (e) From parts (c) and (d) we see that  $\mathbf{F}$  cannot be the gradient of any function  $f$ .

The “curl test” is a local test (i.e., since it involves derivatives, it only involves very local information about the vector field  $\mathbf{F}$ ) and only guarantees that locally there is a function  $f$  with  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$ . The problem of piecing these local possibilities of functions together to make a global function then depends on the topology of the domain of  $\mathbf{F}$ .

In this case since the domain of  $\mathbf{F}$  is not simply connected, there is no guarantee that these local functions can be pieced together, and in fact our vector field  $\mathbf{F}$  gives an example of a case where this patching is not possible.

4. Let  $f$  be the function  $f(x, y) = x^2y$ , then

(a)  $f(1, 1) - f(-1, -1) = 1^2 \cdot 1 - (-1)^2(-1) = 2.$

(b)  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f = (2xy, x^2).$

Now we look at the curves

$\mathbf{c}_1$ : The half circle  $(\sqrt{2} \cos(t), \sqrt{2} \sin(t)), t \in [-3\pi/4, \pi/4].$

$\mathbf{c}_2$ : The half circle  $(\sqrt{2} \cos(t), -\sqrt{2} \sin(t)), t \in [3\pi/4, 7\pi/4].$

$\mathbf{c}_3$ : The straight line  $(t, t) t \in [-1, 1].$

with velocity vectors

$$\mathbf{c}'_1(t) = (-\sqrt{2} \sin(t), \sqrt{2} \cos(t)) \quad \mathbf{c}'_2(t) = (-\sqrt{2} \sin(t), -\sqrt{2} \cos(t)) \quad \mathbf{c}'_3(t) = (1, 1).$$

The integrals along these curves are

(c)

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\mathbf{c}_1} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds &= \int_{-3\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{c}_1(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'_1(t) dt \\ &= \int_{-3\pi/4}^{\pi/4} (4 \sin(t) \cos(t), 2 \cos^2(t)) \cdot (-\sqrt{2} \sin(t), \sqrt{2} \cos(t)) dt \\ &= \int_{-3\pi/4}^{\pi/4} -4\sqrt{2} \sin^2(t) \cos(t) + 2\sqrt{2} \cos^3(t) dt \\ &= 2\sqrt{2} \cos^2(t) \sin(t) \Big|_{t=-3\pi/4}^{\pi/4} = 1 - (-1) = 2.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\mathbf{c}_2} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds &= \int_{3\pi/4}^{7\pi/4} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{c}_2(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'_2(t) dt \\ &= \int_{3\pi/4}^{7\pi/4} (-4 \cos(t) \sin(t), 2 \cos^2(t)) \cdot (-\sqrt{2} \sin(t), -\sqrt{2} \cos(t)) \\ &= \int_{3\pi/4}^{7\pi/4} 4\sqrt{2} \sin^2(t) \cos(t) - 2\sqrt{2} \cos^3(t) dt \\ &= -2\sqrt{2} \cos^2(t) \sin(t) \Big|_{t=3\pi/4}^{7\pi/4} = 1 - (-1) = 2.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\mathbf{c}_3} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds &= \int_{-1}^1 \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{c}_3(t)) \cdot \mathbf{c}'_3(t) dt = \int_{-1}^1 (2t^2, t^2) \cdot (1, 1) dt \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 3t^2 dt = t^3 \Big|_{t=-1}^{t=1} = 1 - (-1)^3 = 2.\end{aligned}$$

(d) The answers to (b) and (c) are of course all the same. The reason is the calculation we did in class (theorem 5.5 in the book again), if  $\mathbf{F} = \nabla f$  is a conservative vector field, then for any oriented curve  $\mathbf{c}$  in the domain of  $\mathbf{F}$  starting at point  $q$  and ending at point  $p$ , we have

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{F} \cdot ds = f(p) - f(q).$$

The curves above all connect  $q = (-1, -1)$  to  $p = (1, 1)$ , which explains the calculations in part (c).