

1 (6.2.5, p. 388). (a) Use Green's theorem to calculate the line integral

$$\oint_C y^2 dx + x^2 dy,$$

where C is the path formed by the square with vertices $(0, 0)$, $(1, 0)$, $(0, 1)$ and $(1, 1)$ oriented counterclockwise.

(b) Verify your answer to part (a) by calculating the line integral directly.

Solution. (a) Let D be the square enclosed by the path C . By Green's theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_C y^2 dx + x^2 dy &= \iint_D \left(\frac{\partial x^2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial y^2}{\partial y} \right) dA = \iint_D (2x - 2y) dA \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 (2x - 2y) dx dy = \int_0^1 [x^2 - 2xy]_0^1 dy = \int_0^1 1 - 2y dy = 0. \end{aligned}$$

(b) Let C_1, C_2, C_3 and C_4 be the four sides of the square traversed counterclockwise, with C_1 being the side joining $(0, 0)$ and $(1, 0)$. Write $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = (y^2, x^2)$. We can parametrize the C_i as follows

i	$\mathbf{x}_i(t)$	$\mathbf{x}'_i(t)$	$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_i(t))$	$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_i(t)) \cdot \mathbf{x}'_i(t)$
1	$(t, 0) (0 \leq t \leq 1)$	$(1, 0)$	$(0, t^2)$	0
2	$(1, t) (0 \leq t \leq 1)$	$(0, 1)$	$(t^2, 1)$	1
3	$(1 - t, 1) (0 \leq t \leq 1)$	$(-1, 0)$	$(1, (1 - t)^2)$	-1
4	$(0, 1 - t) (0 \leq t \leq 1)$	$(0, -1)$	$((1 - t)^2, 0)$	0

Then

$$\oint_C y^2 dx + x^2 dy = \sum_{i=1}^4 \int_{C_i} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_0^1 0 + 1 - 1 + 0 dt = 0,$$

as before.

2 (6.2.7, p. 389). Evaluate

$$\oint_C (x^2 - y^2) dx + (x^2 + y^2) dy,$$

where C is the boundary of the square with vertices $(0, 0)$, $(1, 0)$, $(0, 1)$ and $(1, 1)$ oriented clockwise. Use whatever method of evaluation seems appropriate.

Solution.

Method 1 (Brute force calculation). Let C_1, C_2, C_3 and C_4 be the four sides of the square traversed clockwise, with C_1 being the side joining $(0, 0)$ and $(0, 1)$. Write $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = (x^2 - y^2, x^2 + y^2)$. We can parametrize the C_i as follows

i	$\mathbf{x}_i(t)$	$\mathbf{x}'_i(t)$	$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_i(t))$	$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_i(t)) \cdot \mathbf{x}'_i(t)$
1	$(0, t) (0 \leq t \leq 1)$	$(0, 1)$	$(-t^2, t^2)$	t^2
2	$(t, 1) (0 \leq t \leq 1)$	$(1, 0)$	$(t^2 - 1, t^2 + 1)$	$t^2 - 1$
3	$(1, 1 - t) (0 \leq t \leq 1)$	$(0, -1)$	$(1 - (1 - t)^2, 1 + (1 - t)^2)$	$-1 - (1 - t)^2$
4	$(1 - t, 0) (0 \leq t \leq 1)$	$(-1, 0)$	$((1 - t)^2, (1 - t)^2)$	$-(1 - t)^2$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} &= \sum_{i=1}^4 \int_{C_i} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_0^1 (t^2 + t^2 - 1 - 1 - (1-t)^2 - (1-t)^2) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 (2t^2 - 2 - 2(1 - 2t + t^2)) dt = \int_0^1 (-4 + 4t) dt = 4 \left(-1 + \frac{1}{2} \right) = -2.\end{aligned}$$

Method 2 (Green's theorem). Because the path C is oriented clockwise, we cannot immediately apply Green's theorem, as the region bounded by the path appears *on the right-hand side* as we traverse the path C (*cf.* the statement of Green's theorem on p. 381). However, we know that if we let \mathbf{x} be a clockwise parametrization of C and \mathbf{y} an *orientation-reversing* (that is, *counterclockwise*) reparametrization, then we have

$$\int_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = - \int_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s}.$$

(*cf.* theorem 1.5, p. 371 — the proof involves simply the single-variable chain-rule). Now, letting \tilde{C} be the path C with the counterclockwise orientation and D be the square enclosed by C (and \tilde{C}), we have by Green's theorem

$$\begin{aligned}\oint_{\tilde{C}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} &= \iint_D \left(\frac{\partial(x^2 + y^2)}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(x^2 - y^2)}{\partial y} \right) dA = \iint_D (2x + 2y) dA \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 (2x + 2y) dx dy = \int_0^1 [x^2 + 2xy]_0^1 dy = \int_0^1 1 + 2y dy = 2.\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\oint_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = - \oint_{\tilde{C}} \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = -2,$$

as before.

3 (6.2.8, p. 389). Use Green's theorem to find the work done by the vector field

$$\mathbf{F} = (4y - 3x)\mathbf{i} + (x - 4y)\mathbf{j}$$

on a particle as the particle moves counterclockwise once around the ellipse $x^2 + 4y^2 = 4$.

Solution. Let C be the boundary of the ellipse, oriented counterclockwise, and E be the ellipse. Applying Green's theorem, we have

$$W = \oint_C (4y - 3x) dx + (x - 4y) dy = \iint_E (1 - 4) dA = -3 \iint_E dA = -3 \times \text{Area}(E).$$

But the area of an ellipse with the semi-major and semi-minor axes having lengths a and b , respectively, is $ab\pi$. Thus, $W = -3(2 \cdot 1 \cdot \pi) = -6\pi$.