

Lesson 29 Line Integrals and Works

- Let C be a planar curve given by $\mathbf{r}(t) = x(t)\mathbf{i} + y(t)\mathbf{j}$, $a \leq t \leq b$. If \mathbf{F} is a vector field with unit tangent vector \mathbf{T} , then the **line integral** of \mathbf{F} is

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{T} ds = \int_a^b \mathbf{F}(x(t), y(t)) \cdot \mathbf{r}'(t) dt.$$

- Line integrals in **differential form**: If $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = M\mathbf{i} + N\mathbf{j}$, then $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_C M dx + N dy$.

Example

- Evaluate the line integral $\int_C y dx + x^2 dy$, where C is the parabola $y = 4x - x^2$ from $(4, 0)$ to $(1, 3)$.

$$\frac{69}{2}$$

- A spring $\mathbf{r}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, t)$ is a circular helix $0 \leq t \leq 6\pi$, density $\rho = 1 + z$

Then the mass of the spring is $\int_C \rho ds$

$$\mathbf{r}'(t) = (-\sin t, \cos t, 1) \quad , \quad ds = |\mathbf{r}'(t)| dt = \sqrt{2} dt$$

$$\int_0^{6\pi} (1+t)\sqrt{2} dt = 6\sqrt{2}\pi(3\pi+1)$$

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Exercises

- Evaluate the line integral $\int_C (3y - x) dx + y^2 dy$, where C is the path given by $x = 2t$, $y = 10t$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$.
- Evaluate the line integral $\int_C (x + 3y^2) dy$, where C is the path given by $x = 2t$, $y = 10t$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$.