

## §16.6 Surface integrals

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Just as we did for curves,  
we can integrate scalar functions  
 $G(x, y, z)$  over a surface  $S$ ,

$$\iint_S G(x, y, z) \, d\sigma$$

When  $G(x, y, z) = 1$ , we recover the

surface area of  $S$ . If  $G(x, y, z)$  is a density function (mass per unit area), then the integral represents the mass of (the physical object with shape)  $S$ .

Def Let  $G(x, y, z)$  be a continuous function defined on a (piecewise) smooth surface  $S$ .

a) If  $S$  is given parametrically by  $\vec{r}(u, v)$ ,  $(u, v) \in R$ , then

$$\iint_S G d\sigma = \iint_R G(\vec{r}(u, v)) |\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v| du dv$$

b) If  $S$  is given implicitly as

$$S = \{(x, y, z) : F(x, y, z) = c\}, \text{ then}$$

$$\iint_S G(x, y, z) d\sigma = \iint_R G(x, y, z) \frac{|\nabla F|}{|\nabla F \cdot \hat{p}|} dA$$

where  $\hat{p}$  is a unit vector normal to the plane region  $R$ , and

$$\nabla F \cdot \hat{p} \neq 0 \text{ on } S.$$

c) If  $S$  is given explicitly as

$$z = f(x, y), \text{ then}$$

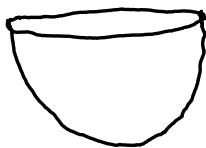
$$\iint_S G d\sigma = \iint_R G(x, y, f(x, y)) \sqrt{1 + f_x^2 + f_y^2} dx dy$$

ex Find the mass of a bowl  
in the shape of a hemisphere

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = a^2, \quad z \leq 0$$

if the density is

$$\delta(x, y, z) = 1 - z$$



We parametrize the bowl using  
spherical coordinates:

$$\vec{r}(\theta, \phi) \begin{cases} x = a \cos \theta \sin \phi \\ y = a \sin \theta \sin \phi \\ z = a \cos \phi \end{cases}$$

$$0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$$

$$\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \phi \leq \pi$$

Recall from previous calculations that  $|\vec{r}_\theta \times \vec{r}_\phi| = a^2 \sin \phi$ . Thus

$$\text{Mass} = \iint_S \delta \, d\sigma$$

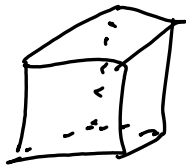
$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{\pi/2}^{\pi} (1 - a \cos \phi) (a^2 \sin \phi) \, d\phi \, d\theta$$

$$= 2\pi a^2 \int_{\pi/2}^{\pi} \sin \phi \, d\phi - 2\pi a^3 \int_{\pi/2}^{\pi} \cos \phi \sin \phi \, d\phi$$

$$= 2\pi a^2 \left[ -\cos \phi \right]_{\pi/2}^{\pi} + \pi a^3 \left[ \frac{\cos 2\phi}{2} \right]_{\pi/2}^{\pi}$$

$$= 2\pi a^2 + \pi a^3 = \pi a^2 (2 + a).$$

ex) Integrate  $G(x,y,z) = xyz$   
over the unit cube  $C$



$C$  is not smooth, but it is piecewise smooth, since each of the six faces is smooth. So

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_C &= \iint_{\text{Front}} + \iint_{\text{Back}} + \iint_{\text{Left}} + \iint_{\text{Right}} \\ &+ \iint_{\text{Top}} + \iint_{\text{Bottom}} \end{aligned}$$

In the case at hand, note that

$$\iint_{\text{Left}} xyz \, d\sigma = \iint_{\text{Bottom}} xyz \, d\sigma = \iint_{\text{Front}} xyz \, d\sigma$$

$$= 0 \quad \text{since } \begin{array}{l} x=0 \text{ on Left,} \\ z=0 \text{ on Bottom,} \\ y=0 \text{ on Front.} \end{array}$$

So

$$\iint_C xyz \, d\sigma = \iint_{\text{Back}} xyz \, d\sigma + \iint_{\text{Top}} xyz \, d\sigma$$

$$+ \iint_{\text{Right}} xyz \, d\sigma$$

$$= 3 \iint_{\text{Top}} xyz \, d\sigma \text{ by symmetry.}$$

The top face is the graph of  
 $z=1$  over  $0 \leq x, y \leq 1$ , so  
we get

$$\iint_C xyz \, d\sigma = 3 \iint_{\text{Top}} xyz \, d\sigma$$

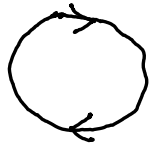
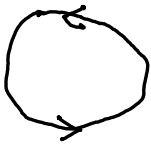
$$= 3 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 xy \, dx \, dy$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \int_0^1 y^2 \, dy = \frac{3}{4}$$



## Orientations

Recall that a simple closed curve admits two orientations:  
counterclockwise or clockwise,



and that the line integral  $\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$  changes sign (but has the same absolute value) if we reverse the orientation.

There is also a notion of orientation for surfaces, which distinguishes "inside/outside"

rather than "clockwise/counterclockwise"

For instance, if you are holding a spherical object, you're more interested in the outside, but if you're standing (floating?) in a spherical chamber, the "inside" is more relevant.

Formally, an orientation of a surface  $S$  is a continuous choice of unit normal vector,

$\vec{n}(x, y, z)$  (defined for  $(x, y, z) \in S$ )

It is equivalent to ask for a non-vanishing normal vector  $\vec{N}(x, y, z)$ , since we can then get a unit normal vector by dividing by the length:

$$\vec{n} = \frac{\vec{N}}{|\vec{N}|}$$

A surface is called orientable if it admits an orientation; an oriented surface consists of a surface together with a choice of orientation.

(Note the difference between orientable and oriented.) A connected orientable surface admits exactly two orientations: if  $\vec{n}$  is one, the other is  $-\vec{n}$ .

(In general, a surface with  $k$  connected components admits  $2^k$  orientations, since we have two on each component.)

Any surface which is the boundary of a region in space is orientable, since we can

then take  $\vec{n}$  to point "away"  
from the region.

However, not every surface  
is orientable. The standard example  
is a Möbius strip. You can  
make a Möbius strip by taking  
a small strip of paper and  
attaching the ends together after a  
twist.



cylinder



Möbius  
strip

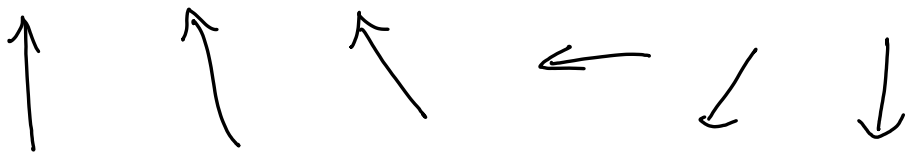
You will see that it is "one-sided". Let's approach this mathematically: we'll start with a parametrization of a cylinder,

$$x = \cos \theta \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$$

$$y = \sin \theta \quad -1 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$z = t$$

We think of this as: draw a circle in  $(x, y)$ , and at each point attach a straight vertical line. To get a Möbius strip, we want the line to instead twist as we go around the circle.



so instead of

$$\vec{r}(\theta, t) = \cos\theta \vec{c} + \sin\theta \vec{d} + t \vec{k}$$

we take

$$\vec{r}(\theta, t) = \cos\theta \vec{c} + \sin\theta \vec{d} + t \left( \sin\frac{\theta}{2} (\cos\theta \vec{c} + \sin\theta \vec{d}) + \cos\frac{\theta}{2} \vec{k} \right)$$

$$= \cos\theta \left( 1 + t \sin\frac{\theta}{2} \right) \vec{c} + \sin\theta \left( 1 + t \sin\frac{\theta}{2} \right) \vec{d} + t \cos\frac{\theta}{2} \vec{k}$$

If you are brave/masochistic,  
you could compute  $\vec{r}_\theta \times \vec{r}_t$  and  
see that it vanishes on the interior  
of the parameter domain.

Warning In Avengers: Endgame,

Tony Stark uses a Möbius  
strip to invent time travel. This  
will not work in reality.

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# Surface integrals of vector fields

Let  $\vec{F}(x, y, z)$  be a continuous vector field, and let  $S$  be a smooth surface with orientation  $\vec{n}$ . We define the integral of  $\vec{F}$  over  $S$  to be

$$\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} \, d\sigma.$$

This is also called the flux of  $\vec{F}$  over  $S$ . If  $\vec{F}$  is the

velocity field of a fluid in 3d space, then  $\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} \, d\sigma$  is the net rate at which the fluid is crossing  $S$  per unit time, in the direction specified by  $\vec{n}$ .

The above formula can be simplified slightly. If  $S$  is given parametrically by  $\vec{r}(u, v)$ , then we can take the orientation to be

$$\vec{n} = \frac{\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v}{|\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v|}$$

which gives

$$\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} \, d\sigma$$

$$= \iint_R \vec{F} \cdot \frac{\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v}{|\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v|} |\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v| \, du \, dv$$

$$= \iint_R \vec{F} \cdot (\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v) \, du \, dv$$

so we don't need to compute

$|\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v|$ . Recall that  $\vec{F} \cdot (\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v)$

is called the box product  
of  $\vec{F}$ ,  $\vec{r}_u$ , and  $\vec{r}_v$ , and  
represents the (signed) volume  
of the box/parallelepiped  
spanned by  $\vec{F}$ ,  $\vec{r}_u$ , and  $\vec{r}_v$ .

ex) Find the flux of

$$\vec{F} = yz\vec{i} - xz\vec{j} - xy\vec{k}$$

through the parabolic cylinder

$$y = x^2, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, \quad 0 \leq z \leq 3$$

oriented so that the normal vector points  
in the negative  $y$  direction.

Let

$$\vec{r}(x, z) = x \vec{i} + x^2 \vec{j} + z \vec{k},$$

Then

$$\vec{r}_x \times \vec{r}_z = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & 2x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 2x \vec{i} - \vec{j}$$

which gives the desired orientation.

Then

$$\text{Flux} = \iint_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} \, d\sigma$$

$$= \iint_R \vec{F} \cdot (\vec{r}_x \times \vec{r}_z) \, dx \, dz$$

$$= \int_0^3 \int_0^1 (x^2 z \vec{i} - xz \vec{j} - x^3 \vec{k}) \cdot (2xz \vec{i} - \vec{j}) dx dz$$

$$= \int_0^3 \int_0^1 (2x^3 z + xz) dx dz$$

$$= \int_0^3 z dz = \frac{9}{2}$$

Alternatively, suppose that  $S$  is given as the level surface  $g(x, y, z) = c$  of some function  $g$ . Then

We can take our orientation to be  $\pm \frac{\nabla g}{|\nabla g|}$ , so that our

formula becomes

$$\iint_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} \, d\sigma = \pm \iint_R \vec{F} \cdot \frac{\nabla g}{|\nabla g|} \frac{|\nabla g|}{|\nabla g \cdot \vec{p}|} \, dA$$

$$= \pm \iint_R \vec{F} \cdot \frac{\nabla g}{|\nabla g \cdot \vec{p}|} \, dA$$

ex] Find the flux of

$$\vec{F} = x^2 \vec{i} - yz \vec{k}$$

outward through the surface  
cut from the cylinder

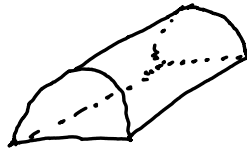
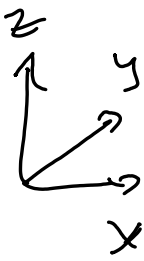
$$x^2 + z^2 = 4, \quad z \geq 0$$

by the planes  $y=0$  and  $y=3$

Let  $g(x, y, z) = x^2 + z^2 - 4$ , so

$\nabla g = 2x \vec{i} + 2z \vec{k}$ , which indeed  
points "outward" from the cylinder.





We take our region of integration to be  $-2 \leq x \leq 2$ ,  $0 \leq y \leq 3$ .

Then

$$\text{Flux} = \iint_S \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} \, d\sigma = \iint_R \vec{F} \cdot \frac{\nabla g}{|\nabla g \cdot \vec{k}|} \, dA$$

$$= \int_0^3 \int_{-2}^2 \left( x^2 \vec{i} - y \sqrt{4-x^2} \vec{k} \right) \cdot \left( 2x \vec{i} + 2 \sqrt{4-x^2} \vec{k} \right) \frac{dx dy}{2\sqrt{4-x^2}}$$

$$= \int_0^3 \int_{-2}^2 \left( \frac{x^3}{\sqrt{4-x^2}} - y \sqrt{4-x^2} \right) dx dy$$

odd function so  $\int_{-2}^2 = 0$

$$= \underbrace{\left( -\int_0^3 y dy \right)}_{-9/2} \underbrace{\left( \int_{-2}^2 \sqrt{4-x^2} dx \right)}_{\text{area of semicircle of radius 2, so } \frac{\pi \cdot 2^2}{2} = 2\pi}$$

$$= -9\pi.$$


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## Masses and moments

We can model thin sheets/shells of material by surfaces. We then have formulas for mass and

moments, just as for curves  
or bodies.

$$\text{Mass: } M = \iiint_S \delta d\sigma$$

First moments about coordinate planes!

$$M_{yz} = \iiint_S x \delta d\sigma, \quad M_{xz} = \iiint_S y \delta d\sigma,$$

$$M_{xy} = \iiint_S z \delta d\sigma$$

Coordinates of center of mass!

$$\bar{x} = \frac{M_{yz}}{M}, \quad \bar{y} = \frac{M_{xz}}{M}, \quad \bar{z} = \frac{M_{xy}}{M}$$

Moments of inertia about coordinate axes!

$$I_x = \iiint_S (y^2 + z^2) \delta \, d\sigma$$

$$I_y = \iiint_S (x^2 + z^2) \delta \, d\sigma$$

$$I_z = \iiint_S (x^2 + y^2) \delta \, d\sigma$$

$$I_L = \iiint_S r^2 \delta \, d\sigma$$

$r =$  distance from  $(x, y, z)$  to line  $L$

ex Find the center of mass of a conical band

$$z = x^2 + y^2, \quad 1 \leq z \leq 3$$

with density  $\delta = \frac{1}{z}$ .

By symmetry,  $\bar{x} = \bar{y} = 0$ , so we only need to find  $\bar{z}$ . We take polar coordinates

$$\vec{c}(r, \theta) \begin{cases} x = r \cos \theta \\ y = r \sin \theta \\ z = r \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} 1 \leq r \leq 3 \\ 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi \end{cases}$$

which gives  $\vec{c}_r \times \vec{c}_\theta =$

$$\begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ \cos \theta & \sin \theta & 1 \\ -r \sin \theta & r \cos \theta & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -r \cos \theta \vec{i} - r \sin \theta \vec{j} + r \vec{k}$$

and thus  $d\sigma = r\sqrt{2} dr d\theta$ .

The mass is then

$$M = \iint_S \delta d\sigma = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^3 \left(\frac{1}{r}\right) (r\sqrt{2}) dr d\theta$$
$$= 4\pi\sqrt{2}$$

The first moment with respect to the  $xy$ -plane is

$$M_{xy} = \iiint_S \delta z \, d\sigma$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^3 \left(\frac{1}{r}\right)(r)(r\sqrt{z}) \, dr \, d\theta$$

$$= 2\pi\sqrt{2} \left[ \frac{r^2}{2} \right]_0^3 = 8\pi\sqrt{2}$$



This gives

$$\bar{z} = \frac{M_{xy}}{M} = \frac{8\pi\sqrt{2}}{4\pi\sqrt{2}} = 2$$

So the center of mass is

$$(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) = (0, 0, 2)$$