Math 241 Chapter 15

Dr. Justin O. Wyss-Gallifent

§15.1 Vector Fields

- 1. Define a vector field: Assigns a vector to each point in the plane or in 3-space. Can be visualized as loads of arrows. Can represent a force field or fluid flow both are useful.
- 2. Two important definitions. Often before I do these I define $\nabla = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \hat{i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \hat{j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \hat{k}$ so that gradient, divergence and curl all make sense with how ∇ is used.
 - (a) The divergence $\nabla \cdot \overline{F} = M_x + N_y + P_z$ gives the net fluid flow in/out of a point (very small ball).
 - (b) The curl $\nabla \times \overline{F}$ gives the axis of rotation of the fluid at a point.
- 3. For a function f we saw the gradient ∇f is a VF. In fact it's a special kind of VF. Any VF which is the gradient of a function f is conservative and the f is a potential function. There are two facts to note:
 - (a) If \overline{F} is conservative then $\nabla \times \overline{F} = \overline{0}$ and consequently if $\nabla \times \overline{F} \neq \overline{0}$ then \overline{F} is not conservative. Moreover if $\nabla \times \overline{F} = \overline{0}$ and \overline{F} is defined for all (x, y, z) then \overline{F} is conservative.
 - (b) If we have \overline{F} we can tell if it's conservative by the above method and we can find the potential function too using the iterative method. Make sure to do 2-variable and 3-variable cases.

§15.2 Line Integrals (of Functions and of VFs)

1. If C is a curve and f gives the density at any point then we can define the line integral of f over/on C, denoted $\int_C f \, ds$, as the total mass of C. We evaluate it by parametrizing C as $\bar{r}(t)$ on [a, b] and then $\int_C f \, ds = \int_a^b f(x(t), y(t), z(t)) ||\bar{r}'(t)|| \, dt$. The result is independent of the parametrization and the orientation.

Sample units: C in cm, f in g/cm and the result in g.

- 2. If C is the path of an object through a force field \bar{F} then we can define the line integral of \bar{F} over/on C, denoted $\int_C \bar{F} \cdot d\bar{r}$, as the total work done by \bar{F} as it traverses C. The most basic way to evaluate it is by parametrizing C as $\bar{r}(t)$ on [a, b] and then $\int_C \bar{F} \cdot d\bar{r} = \int_a^b \bar{F}(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \cdot \bar{r}'(t) dt$. Some notes about line integrals of vector fields:
 - (a) The orientation (direction) of C matters. If -C is the same curve in the opposite direction then $\int_{-C} \bar{F} \cdot d\bar{r} = -\int_{C} \bar{F} \cdot d\bar{r}$. This makes sense for work done.
 - (b) The parametrization in that direction doesn't matter.
 - (c) There is alternate notation for this integral. We can write $\int_C M \, dx + N \, dy + P \, dz$ which means the same as $\int_C (M \,\hat{i} + N \,\hat{j} + P \,\hat{k}) \cdot d\bar{r}$. Watch out for things like $\int_C M \, dx$ which looks deceivingly like a regular integral.

Sample units: C in cm, \overline{F} in $g \cdot cm/s$ (dynes) and the result in $g \cdot cm^2/s^2$ (ergs).

- §15.3 The Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals
 - 1. Thm: If \bar{F} is conservative with potential f then $\int_C \bar{F} \cdot d\bar{r} = f(\text{endpoint of C}) f(\text{startpoint of C})$.
 - 2. Two notes:
 - (a) If C is closed and \bar{F} is conservative then $\int_C \bar{F} \cdot d\bar{r} = 0$.
 - (b) If \overline{F} is conservative we say that the integral $\int_C \overline{F} \cdot d\overline{r}$ is *independent of path* because only the start and endpoints matter, not the path taken.
- §15.4 Green's Theorem
 - 1. Thm: If C is a closed counterclockwise curve in the xy-plane which is the edge of a region R then $\int_C M \, dx + N \, dy = \iint_R N_x M_y \, dA.$
 - 2. Some notes:
 - (a) C must be closed.
 - (b) This is the same as $\int_C (M \hat{i} + N \hat{j}) \cdot d\bar{r}$.
 - (c) If C is not counterclockwise then we must negate C to make it work: $\int_C M \ dx + N \ dy = -\int_{-C} M \ dx + N \ dy = -\iint_R N_x M_y \ dA.$
 - (d) If R contains holes then C is all the edges (made up of pieces) and the inner holes must have clockwise orientation.
 - (e) This can be sweet when $N_x M_y$ is a constant in which case the result is a multiple of the area of R.

§15.5 Surface Integrals of Functions

- 1. If Σ is a surface and f gives the density at any point then we can define the surface integral of fover/on Σ , denoted $\iint_{\Sigma} f \, dS$, as the total mass of Σ . We evaluate it by parametrizing Σ as $\bar{r}(u, v)$ on the region R in the uv-plane and then $\iint_{\Sigma} f \, dS = \iint_{R} f(x(u, v), y(u, v), z(u, v)) || \bar{r}_{u} \times \bar{r}_{v} || \, dA$. Sample units: Σ in cm², f in g/cm² and the result in g.
- 2. In this section I'll do parametrizations where one variable depends on the other. At this point we're comfortable enough (hopefully!) to understand these pretty easily.

§15.6 Surface Integrals of Vector Fields

- 1. Comment on oriented versus nonoriented surfaces and on fluid flow. In reality to say \bar{F} is a fluid flow we really mean $\bar{F} = \delta \bar{v}$ where δ is the density at each point and \bar{v} gives the velocity at each point.
- 2. If Σ is an oriented surface (with a sense of direction through) and \bar{F} gives the fluid flow then we can define the surface integral of \bar{F} over/on Σ , aka the flux integral, denoted $\iint_{\Sigma} \bar{F} \cdot \bar{n} \, dS$, as the total fluid flow through Σ in the direction given by the orientation. The most basic way to evaluate it is by parametrizing Σ as $\bar{r}(u,v)$ on the region R in the uv-plane and then $\iint_{\Sigma} \bar{F} \cdot \bar{n} \, dS = \pm \iint_{R} \bar{F}(x(u,v), y(u,v), z(u,v)) \cdot (\bar{r}_u \times \bar{r}_v) \, dA$ where we use + if $\bar{r}_u \times \bar{r}_v$ points in the same direction as the preferred orientation and - otherwise. Sample units: Σ in cm², \bar{F} in g/(s \cdot cm²) and the result in g/s.
- 3. Important note: The use of \bar{n} is to a large degree just notation and can be ignored. However If the surface is very very simple (like a horizontal plane) then we can find \bar{n} directly and just do $\bar{F} \cdot \bar{n}$ first and then it becomes an integral from §15.5.

§15.7 Stokes' Theorem

- 1. Discuss induced orientations.
- 2. Thm: If Σ is a surface with oriented edge C then $\int_C \bar{F} \cdot d\bar{r} = \iint_{\Sigma} (\nabla \times \bar{F}) \cdot \bar{n} \, dS$ where the orientation on Σ is induced from C. Again note that the left side often appears as $\int_C M \, dx + N \, dy + P \, dz$.
- 3. Some notes:
 - (a) We'd use this when the edge is complicated but the surface is fairly easy to parametrize, a bit like Green's Theorem.
 - (b) It's interesting (not heavily used by us) that this can be used when integrating $\nabla \times \bar{F}$ over some Σ_1 because we can replace Σ_1 by another surface Σ_2 provided they have the same boundary curve C via $\iint_{\Sigma_1} (\nabla \times \bar{F}) \cdot n \ dS = \int_C \bar{F} \cdot \bar{n} \ dS = \iint_{\Sigma_2} (\nabla \times \bar{F}) \cdot n \ dS$ provided we're careful about orientations.
- §15.8 The Divergence Theorem (Gauss' Theorem)
 - 1. Thm: If D is a solid object and if Σ is the boundary (outside surface) of D with outward orientation then $\iint_{\Sigma} \bar{F} \cdot \bar{n} \, dS = \iiint_{D} \nabla \cdot \bar{F} \, dV.$
 - 2. Some notes:
 - (a) Note that Σ must completely surround D.
 - (b) If Σ is oriented inwards we just reverse, meaning put on a negative sign.
 - (c) Watch out for shorcuts when $\nabla \cdot \overline{F}$ is a constant then the right side is just a multiple of the volume of D.