

Integral Vector Calculus

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Fundamental theorem of calculus

It relates indefinite and definite integrals. If

$$\int f(x) dx = F(x)$$

Then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = F(b) - F(a)$$

In a more compact way, one can restate the theorem as

$$\int_a^b \frac{df}{dx} dx = f(b) - f(a)$$

Fundamental theorem for gradients

(no proof here)

$$\bar{a} \equiv \{x_a, y_a, z_a\} \quad \bar{b} = \{x_b, y_b, z_b\}$$

$$\int_{\bar{a}}^{\bar{b}} (\nabla f) \cdot d\bar{r} = f(\bar{b}) - f(\bar{a})$$

Corollary 1

$$\int_{\bar{a}}^{\bar{b}} (\nabla f) \cdot d\bar{\ell}$$

is independent from
the path taken from
 \bar{a} to \bar{b}

Corollary 2

$$\oint (\nabla f) \cdot d\bar{\ell} = 0$$

since in a closed path
the initial and final
points coincide

Gauss theorem

(no proof here)

(can be thought of as the fundamental theorem for divergences)

$$\int_V \nabla \cdot \bar{v} \, d^3x = \oint_{\partial V} \bar{v} \cdot d\bar{s}$$

closed volume surface of the volume V

The integral of a divergence of a vector over a closed volume is equal to the flux of the vector over the surface that bounds the volume.

Geometrical interpretation

$$\int \text{sources within } V = \oint \text{flow through the surface of } V$$

Stoke's theorem

(no proof here)

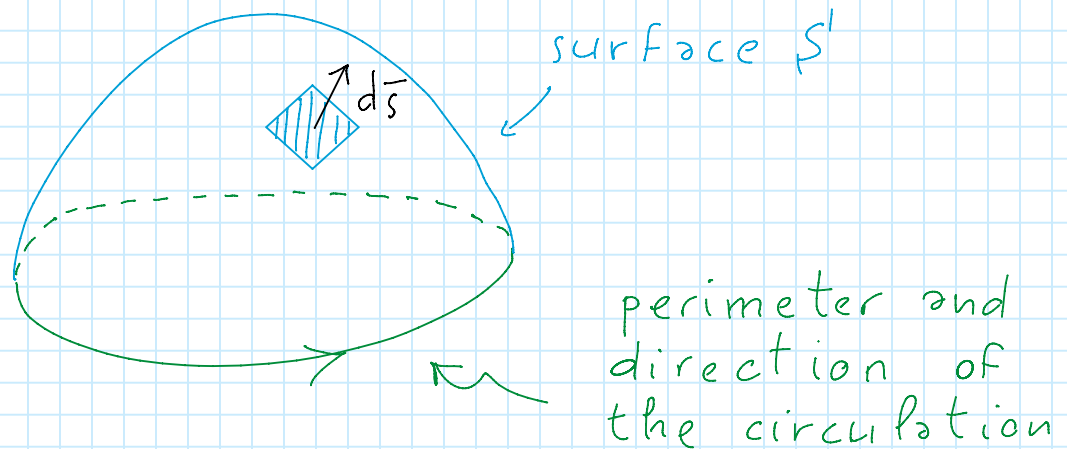
(can be interpreted as the fundamental theorem for curls)

$$\int_S (\nabla \times \vec{v}) \cdot d\vec{s} = \oint_P \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{e}$$

surface \swarrow S \nwarrow perimeter of the surface P

The flux of a curl of a vector through a surface is equal to the circulation of the vector along the line that bounds the surface. The circulation is the line integral of the vector along a closed path.

The direction of the circulation and the direction of the infinitesimal surface element dS are related by the right hand rule.



Corollary 1

The flux of a curl depends only on the boundary line, not on the particular surface chosen

Corollary 2

The flux of a curl through a closed surface is zero, since the boundary line has zero length