

Earlier we defined a **vector field** as a function:

$$F : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \quad \text{or} \quad F : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

We defined a vector field F to be **conservative** if there is a function f so that $F = \nabla f$, and we call f the **potential function** for the conservative vector field F .

We also defined the work of a force field $F = \langle M, N, P \rangle$ along a curve C parameterized by $\vec{r}(t)$, $a \leq t \leq b$ to be

$$W = \int_C F \cdot \vec{T} \, ds = \int_a^b F \cdot \vec{r}' \, dt$$

1. Suppose $F = \langle M, N, P \rangle$ is a *conservative* vector field and C is a curve parameterized by $\vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$ for $a \leq t \leq b$.

(a) Since F is conservative, there is....

(b) We know that the work done by this conservative vector field along the curve C can be found to be:

$$W = \int_C F \cdot \vec{T} \, ds$$

$$= \int_a^b F \cdot \vec{r}' \, dt$$

$$= \int_a^b \langle \quad, \quad, \quad \rangle \cdot \langle \quad, \quad, \quad \rangle \, dt$$

$$= \int_a^b \langle \quad, \quad, \quad \rangle \cdot \langle \quad, \quad, \quad \rangle \, dt \quad [\text{because } F \text{ is conservative}]$$

$$= \int_a^b \frac{d}{dt} [\quad] \, dt$$

=

[because of the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus]

(c) The Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals:

If F is a *conservative* vector field with potential function f , and C is a curve parameterized by $\vec{r}(t)$ for $a \leq t \leq b$ then the work done by F along the curve C may be found by

$$W = \int_C F \cdot \vec{T} \, ds = \int_a^b F \cdot \vec{r}' \, dt =$$

2. Verify that F is conservative and find its potential function. Then compute the work done by F along the curve parameterized by $\vec{r}(t)$.

$$F = \langle ye^z, xe^z, xye^z \rangle \qquad \vec{r}(t) = \langle t^2, t^3, t-1 \rangle, \ 1 \leq t \leq 2$$

3. Suppose C is some curve from the point $P = (1, 2, 3)$ to $Q = (0, 6, 2)$. What can you say about the work done by the vector field $F = \langle y, x, z^3 \rangle$ along this unknown curve C ?

4. Suppose F is some conservative vector field with potential function f . Also suppose C_1 and C_2 are two different curves which both start at the same point P and end at the same point Q . What can you say about the work done by F along these two different curves?

5. Complete the following sentence. (It's a first *corollary* to the Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals.)

If F is a conservative vector field, then the work done by F from point P to point $Q \dots$

6. Suppose that C is a special curve we will call *closed*. That is, C is parameterized by $\vec{r}(t)$ for $a \leq t \leq b$ but we know $\vec{r}(a) = \vec{r}(b)$. What can you say about the work done by a conservative vector field F along a *closed* curve C ?

7. Complete the following sentence. (It's another *corollary* to the Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals.)

If F is conservative vector field, then the work done by F around a closed curve C is \dots

8. Suppose $F = \langle 2xyz^{-1}, z + x^2z^{-1}, y - x^2yz^{-2} \rangle$. Compute the work done by F along each of the curves below.

(a) The ellipse $3y^2 + 7z^2 = 10$, starting at $(0, 1, 1)$, going around three times.

(b) The ellipse $3y^2 + 7z^2 = 10$, from $(1, 1)$ to $(0, 1, -1)$