

Let \mathbf{F} be the vector field defined by

$$\mathbf{F}(x, y) = (2x + 3y, 3x - 2y)$$

and let C be the curve parametrized by

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = (x, y) = (\sin t, \cos t \sin^2 t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq \pi/2.$$

Evaluate the integral $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$ using any correct methods and/or shortcuts.

Could there be a potential function? Need $f(x, y)$ satisfying:

$$f_x = 2x + 3y \quad \text{and} \quad f_y = 3x - 2y$$

$$f = x^2 + 3xy + C_1$$

↑
can depend on y

$$f = 3xy - y^2 + C_2$$

↑
can depend on x

So $f = x^2 + 3xy - y^2$ works. By fundamental theorem
 of line integrals,

we have $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = f(B) - f(A)$ where $A = \text{starting point of } C$
 $B = \text{ending point of } C$.

$$A = (\sin 0, \cos 0 \sin^2 0) = (0, 0) \quad B = (\sin \frac{\pi}{2}, \cos \frac{\pi}{2} \sin^2 \frac{\pi}{2}) = (1, 0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} &= f(1, 0) - f(0, 0) = (1^2 + 3 \cdot 1 \cdot 0 - 0^2) - (0^2 + 3 \cdot 0 \cdot 0 - 0^2) \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

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What happens if you try to integrate directly?

On C , we have $x = \sin t \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{dt} = \cos t$

$$\begin{aligned} y = \cos t \sin^2 t &\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dt} = (\cos t)' \sin^2 t + \cos t (\sin^2 t)' \\ &= -\sin t \cdot \sin^2 t + \cos t \cdot 2 \sin t \cdot \cos t \\ &= -\sin^3 t + 2 \cos^2 t \sin t \end{aligned}$$

Also on C , we have $\vec{\mathbf{F}} = \left(\underbrace{2 \sin t}_x + \underbrace{3 \cos t \sin^2 t}_y, \underbrace{3 \sin t}_x - \underbrace{2 \cos t \sin^2 t}_y \right)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } \int_C \vec{\mathbf{F}} \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{r}} &= \int_0^{\pi/2} (2 \sin t + 3 \cos t \sin^2 t, 3 \sin t - 2 \cos t \sin^2 t) \cdot (\cos t, -\sin^3 t + 2 \cos^2 t \sin t) dt \\ &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \left((2 \sin t + 3 \cos t \sin^2 t)(\cos t) + (3 \sin t - 2 \cos t \sin^2 t)(-\sin^3 t + 2 \cos^2 t \sin t) \right) dt \end{aligned}$$

Very cumbersome to expand manually