

9.12 Green's theorem.

Let  $C$  be a simple closed curve in the  $x, y$  plane. Then  $C$  divides the  $x, y$  plane into 2 regions: the "inside of  $C$ " and the "outside of  $C$ ".

Def. The positive direction around  $C$  (or positive orientation of  $C$ ) is the one such that the inside of  $C$  is always to the left as the curve is described using this orientation.

Green's Theorem (1st Version)

Suppose  $C$  is a piecewise smooth simple closed curve bounding a region  $R$  in the  $x, y$  plane. If  $P(x, y), Q(x, y), \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}(x, y), \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}(x, y)$  are continuous on  $R$ , then

$$\oint_C P(x, y) dx + Q(x, y) dy = \iint_R \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dA$$

Ex: Let  $P(x, y) = 2(x^2 + y^2)$ ,  $Q(x, y) = (x + y)^2$ .

Let  $R$  be the region bounded by the triangle with vertices at  $(1, 1)$ ,  $(2, 2)$  and  $(1, 3)$ .

Compute  $\oint_C P dx + Q dy$  directly and using Green's theorem if  $C$  is the triangle oriented positively.

Sol: On  $C_1$ : let  $(x(t), y(t)) = (t, t)$ ,  $1 \leq t \leq 2$   
 $x'(t) = y'(t) = 1$   
 $\int_{C_1} P dx + Q dy = \int_1^2 (2t^2)(1) + (2t)^2(1) dt$   
 $= \int_1^2 8t^2 dt = \left[ \frac{8t^3}{3} \right]_1^2 = \frac{56}{3}$

On  $C_2$ :  $(x(t), y(t)) = (1-t)(2, 2) + t(1, 3) = (2-t, 2+t)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$   
 $x'(t) = -1, y'(t) = 1$   
 $\int_{C_2} P dx + Q dy = \int_0^1 2(2-t)^2(-1) + 4^2(1) dt$   
 $= \int_0^1 -16 - 4t^2 + 16 dt = \int_0^1 -4t^2 dt = \left[ -\frac{4t^3}{3} \right]_0^1 = -\frac{4}{3}$

On  $C_3$ :  $(x(t), y(t)) = (1-t)(1, 3) + t(1, 1) = (1, 3-2t)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ .  
 $x'(t) = 0, y'(t) = -2$

$$\int_{C_3} P dx + Q dy = \int_0^1 (\dots)(0) + (4-2t)^2(-2) dt$$

$$= \int_0^1 \left[ \frac{4-2t}{3} \right]^3 (-2) dt = \frac{8}{3} - \frac{64}{3} = -\frac{56}{3}$$

$$\oint_C P dx + Q dy = \int_{C_1} + \int_{C_2} + \int_{C_3} = \frac{56}{3} - \frac{4}{3} - \frac{56}{3} = -\frac{4}{3}$$

Using Green's theorem,

$$\int_C P dx + Q dy = \iint_R \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dA = \iint_R (2(x+y) - 4y) dA$$

$$= \iint_R 2(x-y) dA$$

$R$  is a region of type I:  
 $R = \{(x, y), 1 \leq x \leq 2, x \leq y \leq 4-x\}$ .

$$\int_C P dx + Q dy = \int_1^2 \int_x^{4-x} 2(x-y) dy dx$$

$$= \int_1^2 \left[ -(x-y)^2 \right]_{y=x}^{y=4-x} dx = \int_1^2 \left[ -(2x-4)^2 \right] dx = \left[ -\frac{(2x-4)^3}{6} \right]_1^2 = -\frac{8}{6} = -\frac{4}{3}$$

Rem: let  $P(x,y) = \frac{-y}{x^2+y^2}$ ,  $Q(x,y) = \frac{x}{x^2+y^2}$

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = \frac{x^2+y^2 - 2x^2}{(x^2+y^2)^2} = \frac{y^2-x^2}{(x^2+y^2)^2}, \quad \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{-(x^2+y^2) + 2y^2}{(x^2+y^2)^2} = \frac{y^2-x^2}{(x^2+y^2)^2}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = 0$$

let  $C_R$  be circle centered at  $(0,0)$  with radius  $R > 0$ , oriented positively.

On  $C_R$ : let  $x(t) = R \cos t$ ,  $y(t) = R \sin t$   
 $x'(t) = -R \sin t$ ,  $y'(t) = R \cos t$

$$\int_C P dx + Q dy = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{-R \sin t (-R \sin t) + R \cos t (R \cos t)}{R^2} dt$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} 1 dt = 2\pi$$

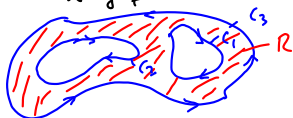
$$\text{but } \iint_R \underbrace{\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}}_0 dA = 0!$$

Reason it does not work: both  $P(x,y)$  and  $Q(x,y)$  are not defined at  $(0,0)$ !

$(P, Q, \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial P}{\partial y})$  all need to be defined and continuous on all of  $R$ .

Regions with holes.

let  $R$  be a bounded region whose boundary consists of finitely many simple closed curves  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_m$  oriented positively (i.e.  $R$  should always be on the left as any of these curves is traversed)

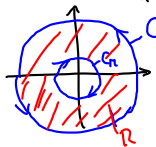


(Green's theorem (2nd Version))

If  $P, Q, \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}$  are all continuous on  $R$ , then

$$\oint_{C_1} P dx + Q dy + \dots + \oint_{C_m} P dx + Q dy = \iint_R \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dA$$

Ex:  $P(x,y) = \frac{-y}{x^2+y^2}$ ,  $Q(x,y) = \frac{x}{x^2+y^2}$ ,  $\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = 0$



$$\oint_{C_R} P dx + Q dy = 2\pi$$

$$\oint_{C_n} P dx + Q dy = -2\pi$$

$$0 = \iint_R \underbrace{\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}}_0 = \oint_{C_n} P dx + Q dy + \oint_{C_R} P dx + Q dy = -2\pi + 2\pi = 0$$