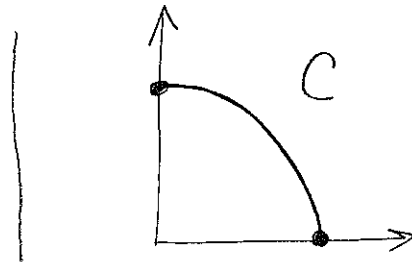


Lecture 19: Integration along curves (16.2)

58

Last time:



$$f(x, y) = 10x^2$$

C a curve in \mathbb{R}^2

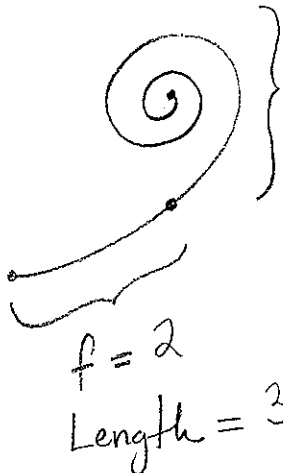
$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\int_C f \, ds = \int_a^b f(\vec{r}(t)) |\vec{r}'(t)| \, dt \quad \int_C f \, ds = \frac{5}{2}\pi$$

where $\vec{r}: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is a parameterization of C .

[Focus today: meaning of such line integrals.]

Q: What is the average value of f on C ?

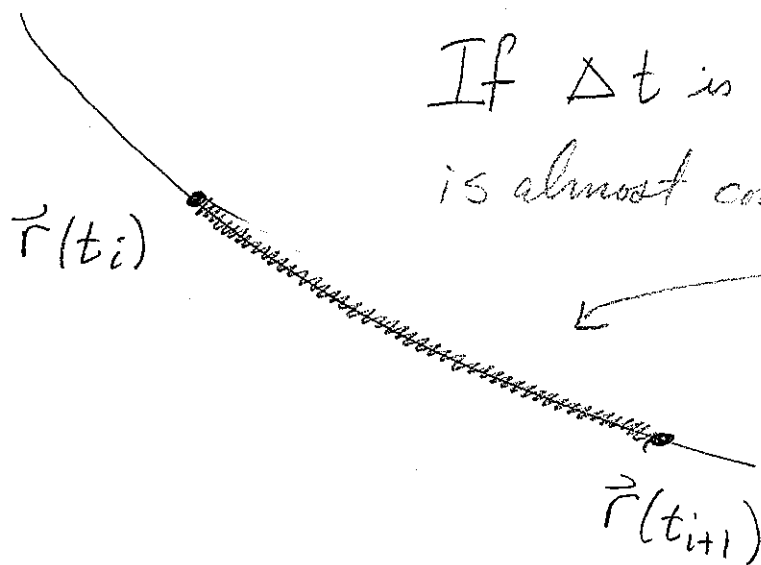
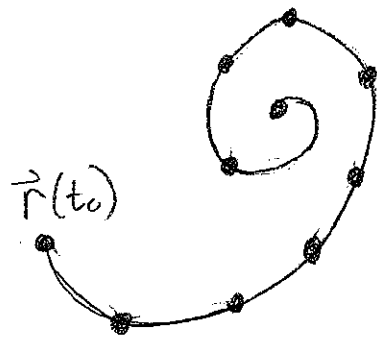
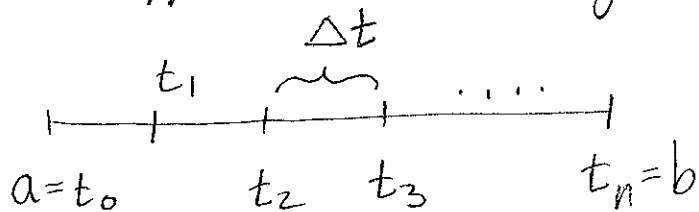
Ex:  $f=3$
Length = 5

$f=2$
Length = 3

$$\text{Average} = \left(\text{portion of } C \text{ where } f=3 \right) \cdot 3 + \left(\text{portion of } C \text{ where } f=2 \right) \cdot 2$$

$$= \frac{5}{8} \cdot 3 + \frac{3}{8} \cdot 2 = \frac{21}{8}$$
$$= 2\frac{5}{8}$$

To approx. the average



If Δt is small then f is almost const on C with value $f(t_i)$.

So this segment contributes $\approx \frac{(\text{length of segment})}{(\text{length of } C)} \cdot f(t_i)$ to the average.

Last time, saw

$$(\text{length of seg}) \approx |\vec{r}(t_{i+1}) - \vec{r}(t_i)| \approx |\vec{r}'(t_i)| \Delta t$$

So

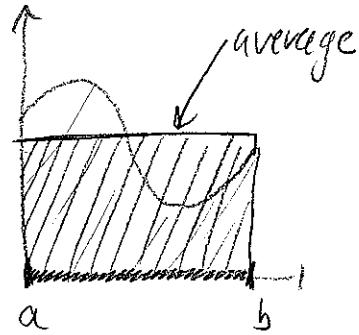
$$\text{Average} \approx \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{(\text{len of } i^{\text{th}} \text{ seg})}{(\text{len of } C)} f(t_i)$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{\text{len of } C} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} f(t_i) |\vec{r}'(t_i)| \Delta t$$

As $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$, get

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Average} &= \frac{1}{\text{length } C} \int_a^b f(t) |\vec{r}'(t)| dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\text{Length } C} \int_C f ds. \end{aligned}$$

Compare: Average of f on a, b = $\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt$.

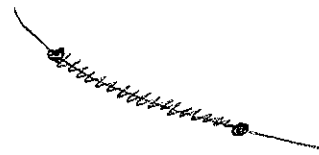


Ex: Average of $f(x) = 10x^2$ on C

$$= \frac{1}{\text{Length } C} \int_C f ds = \frac{1}{\pi/2} \cdot \frac{5\pi}{2} = 5.$$

$ds = |\vec{r}'(t)| dt \longrightarrow |\vec{r}'(t_i)| \Delta t$ in Riemann sum.

↑ called the "arc length" element.

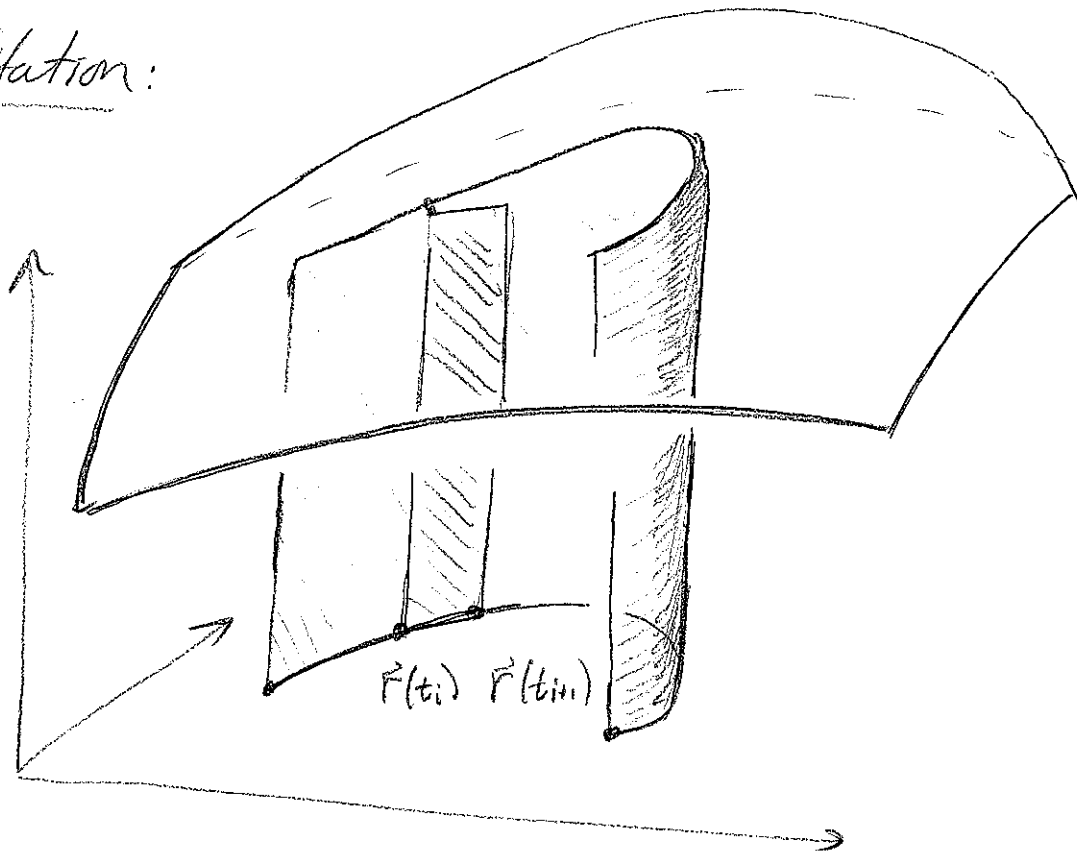


Note: $\int_C 1 ds = \text{Length of } C$.

Another interpretation:

$$\int_C f ds =$$

Area above
C below
the graph
of f .



Same formula let's define $\int_C f ds$
for a curve C in \mathbb{R}^3 .

Ex: $C =$ one turn
of helix

Made of material with density

$$\rho(x, y, z) = x^2 + z^2 \text{ g/cm}$$

What is the total mass of C ? $\int_C \rho ds$

Take $\vec{r}: [0, 2\pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ $\vec{r}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, t)$

$$\vec{r}'(t) = (-\sin t, \cos t, 1)$$

$$|\vec{r}'(t)| = \sqrt{\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t + 1} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\int_C \rho \, ds = \int_0^{2\pi} \rho(\vec{r}(t)) |\vec{r}'(t)| \, dt$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \rho(\cos t, \sin t, t) \sqrt{2} \, dt$$

$$= \sqrt{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 t + t^2 \, dt = \sqrt{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 t \, dt + \int_0^{2\pi} t^2 \, dt$$

$$\sqrt{2}\pi + \sqrt{2} \frac{(2\pi)^3}{3} \approx 121.37 \, \text{g}$$

Notes: Unit check:

$$\rho(\vec{r}(t)) |\vec{r}'(t)| \, dt = \text{g}$$

g/cm cm/s s

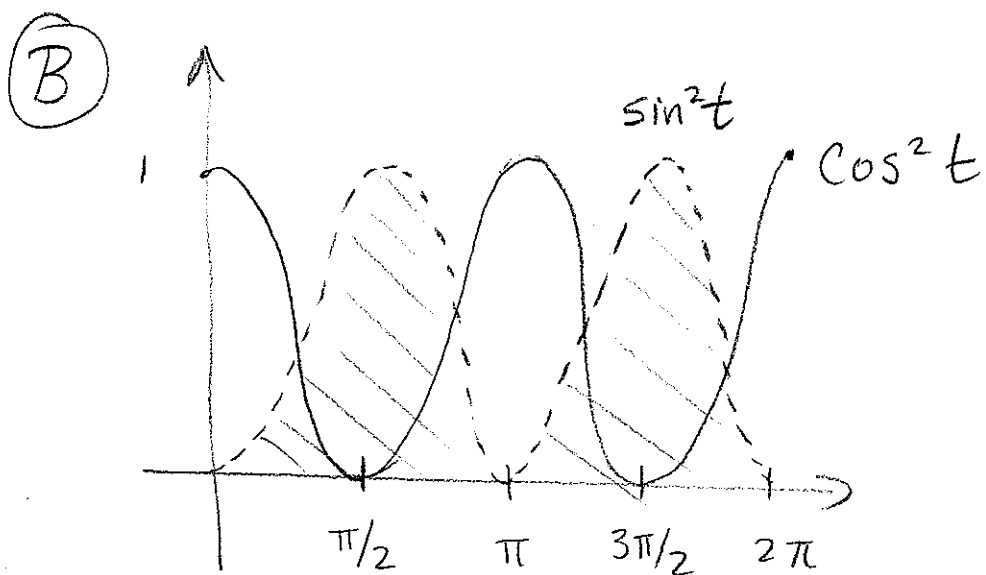
Note on $\int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 t \, dt$

(A) Trig identities: $\cos 2t = \cos^2 t - \sin^2 t$
 $= 2\cos^2 t - 1$

$\Rightarrow \cos^2 t = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos 2t)$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 t \, dt = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} (1 + \cos 2t) \, dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(t - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t \right) \Big|_{t=0}^{2\pi} = \pi$$



Notice $\int_0^{2\pi} \sin^2 t \, dt = \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 t \, dt$

Since $2\pi = \int_0^{2\pi} 1 \, dt = \int_0^{2\pi} \sin^2 t \, dt + \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 t \, dt$
we get $\int_0^{2\pi} \sin^2 t \, dt = \pi$.