

INDEPENDENCE OF PATH

For each vector field below in problems 1 through 5, evaluate $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ where C is any path from $(0,0)$ to $(1,1)$.

1. $\vec{F} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$
2. $\vec{F} = y\hat{i} + x\hat{j}$
3. $\vec{F} = \cos(x)\hat{i} + \sin(y)\hat{j}$
4. $\vec{F} = (e^x + y^2)\hat{i} + (\cos y + 2xy)\hat{j}$
5. $\vec{F} = (3xy^2 + 5)\hat{i} + (3 + 3x^2y)\hat{j}$
6. Suppose \vec{F} is a conservative vector field (i.e. a gradient field) with potential f , and suppose C is a path from (a,b) to (c,d) and that $-C$ is the same path traversed in the opposite direction. Explain why $\int_{C+(-C)} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} + \int_{-C} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$.

7. If \vec{F} is a gradient field and $\int_{(0,0)}^{(1,0)} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 5$, $\int_{(1,0)}^{(1,1)} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 10$, and $\int_{(0,1)}^{(1,1)} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 20$, find $\int_{(0,1)}^{(0,0)} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$.

8. Isaac Newton discovered that *Force = mass time acceleration*, or as we express it mathematically, $F = ma = m \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2}$. In particular, the force due to gravity is represented by the vector field $\vec{F} = -mg\hat{k}$. Thus, if you are moving upwards, the force you exert against gravity can be represented by the vector field $\vec{F}_1 = mg\hat{k}$. For the sake of simplicity, assume that units of feet, pounds, and seconds are being used.
 - a. Find a potential function f for $\vec{F}_1 = mg\hat{k}$.
 - b. If you ascend 1000 feet up a winding staircase, how much work do you do?
 - c. If you walk to the top of the Empire State Building and back down again, how much work do you do?

9. Given that $\vec{F} = \cos x \sin y \sin z \hat{i} + \sin x \cos y \sin z \hat{j} + \sin x \sin y \cos z \hat{k}$ is a gradient field, find the value of $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ along any path from $(0,0,0)$ to $\left(\frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$.