

# MATH-UA 123 Calculus 3: Line Integrals, Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals

Deane Yang

Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences  
New York University

November 8, 2021

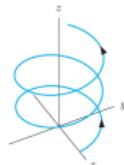
**LIVE TRANSCRIPT**  
**START RECORDING**

## Parameterized Curves

- ▶ Recall that a parameterized curve is a map from an interval into 2-space or 3-space,

$$c : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \text{ where } n = 2 \text{ or } 3$$

- ▶ The velocity of  $c$  is  $\vec{v}(t) = c'(t)$
- ▶ We will assume that the velocity is always nonzero
- ▶ The path of the curve is the image of  $c$



- ▶ A path has many different parameterizations
- ▶ The parameterized curves

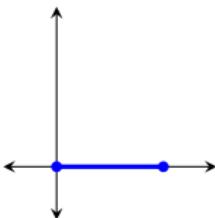
$$c_1(t) = (t, 0), \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$c_2(t) = (t, 0), \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$c_3(t) = (1 - t, 0), \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

have the same path

## Same Path, Different Parameterizations



- ▶  $c_1 : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ , where

$$c_1(s) = s$$

- ▶  $c_1 : [-1, 0] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ , where

$$c_1(s) = -s$$

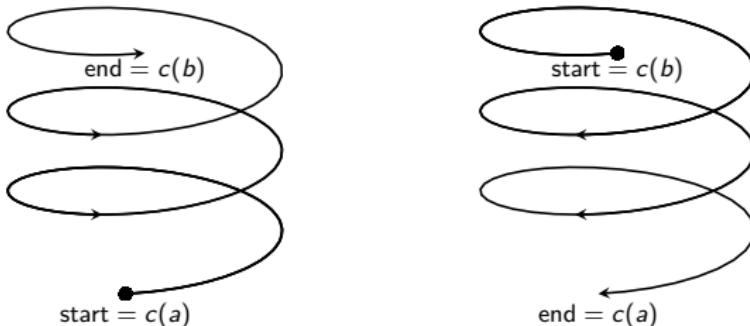
- ▶  $c_1 : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ , where

$$c_1(s) = 1 - s$$

- ▶  $c_1 : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ , where

$$c_1(s) = s^2$$

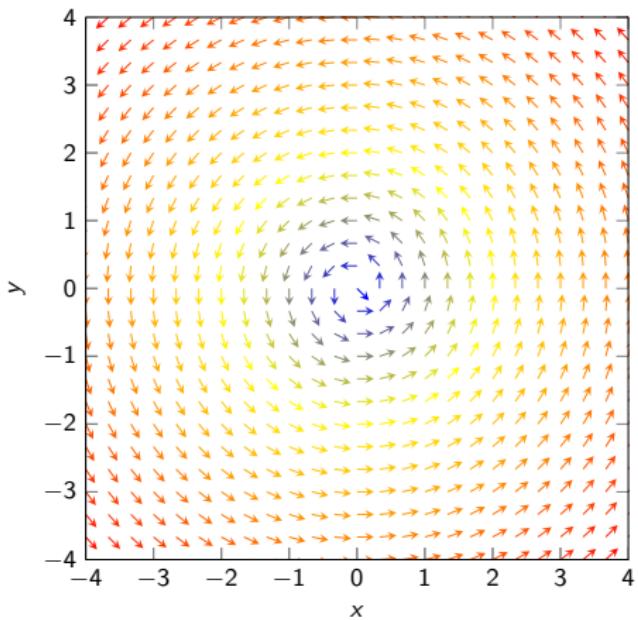
## Oriented Curve



- ▶ Orientation of a parameterized curve is direction of travel
- ▶ There are two possible orientations
  - ▶ The direction of the velocity vector
  - ▶ The opposite direction to the velocity vector
- ▶ Consider a curve  $c : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$
- ▶ If the orientation is in the direction of the velocity vector  $c'(t)$ , then  $c(a)$  is the start point and  $c(b)$  is the end point
- ▶ If the orientation is in the opposite direction of the velocity vector  $c'(t)$ , then  $c(b)$  is the start point and  $c(a)$  is the end point

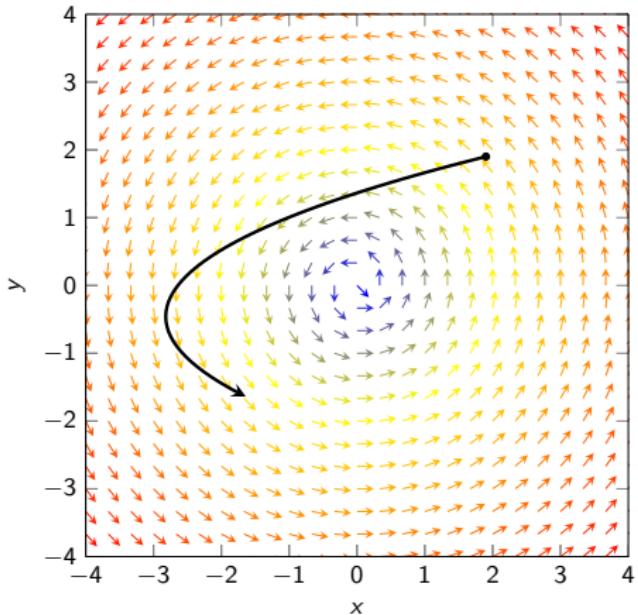
## Vector Field

$$\vec{V}(x, y) = \langle v_1(x, y), v_2(x, y) \rangle$$



## Oriented Curve in Vector Field

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t) \rangle, \quad a \leq t \leq b$$



## Oriented Curve in Vector Field

- Chop interval  $[a, b]$  into  $N$  equal pieces

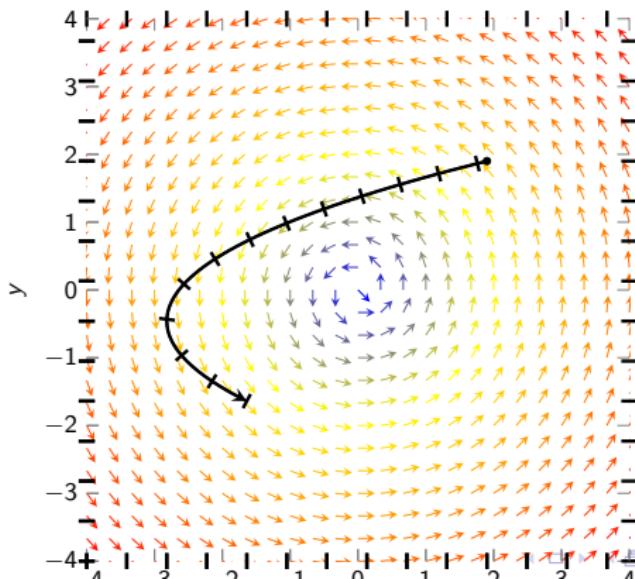
$$\Delta t = \frac{b - a}{N}$$



$$a = t_1 < t_2 = t_1 + \Delta t < \cdots < t_N = t_1 + (N-1)\Delta t < t_{N+1} = t_1 + (N+1)\Delta t = b$$

- Linear approximation of curve

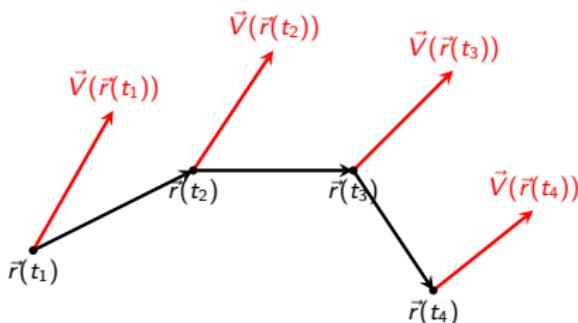
$$\vec{r}(t_k) - \vec{r}(t_{k-1}) \simeq \vec{r}'(t_k)(t_k - t_{k-1})$$



## Line Integral of Vector Field Along Oriented Curve

- ▶ Let  $C$  be a curve in a domain  $D$  with parameterization  $\vec{r}(t)$ , for each  $t$  between  $a$  and  $b$
- ▶ Let  $\vec{V}$  be a vector field on the domain  $D$
- ▶ Define the line integral of a vector field  $\vec{V}$  along an oriented curve  $C$  to be

$$\begin{aligned}\int_C \vec{V} \cdot d\vec{r} &\simeq \vec{V}(\vec{r}(t_1)) \cdot (\vec{r}(t_2) - \vec{r}(t_1)) + \cdots + \vec{V}(\vec{r}(t_N)) \cdot (\vec{r}(t_{N+1}) - \vec{r}(t_N)) \\ &\simeq \vec{V}(\vec{r}(t_1)) \cdot \vec{r}'(t_1)(t_2 - t_1) + \cdots + \vec{V}(\vec{r}(t_N)) \cdot (\vec{r}'(t_N)(t_{N+1} - t_N)) \\ &\rightarrow \int_{t=a}^{t=b} \vec{V}(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) dt,\end{aligned}$$



- ▶ Does not matter whether  $a \leq b$  or  $a \geq b$

## Line integral of a Vector Field Along an Oriented Curve

- ▶ Let  $\vec{F}(x, y, z)$  be a vector field on a domain  $D$
- ▶ Let  $C$  an oriented curve in  $D$  with start point  $\vec{r}_{\text{start}}$  and end point  $\vec{r}_{\text{end}}$
- ▶ Let  $\vec{r}(t)$  be a parameterization of  $C$  such that

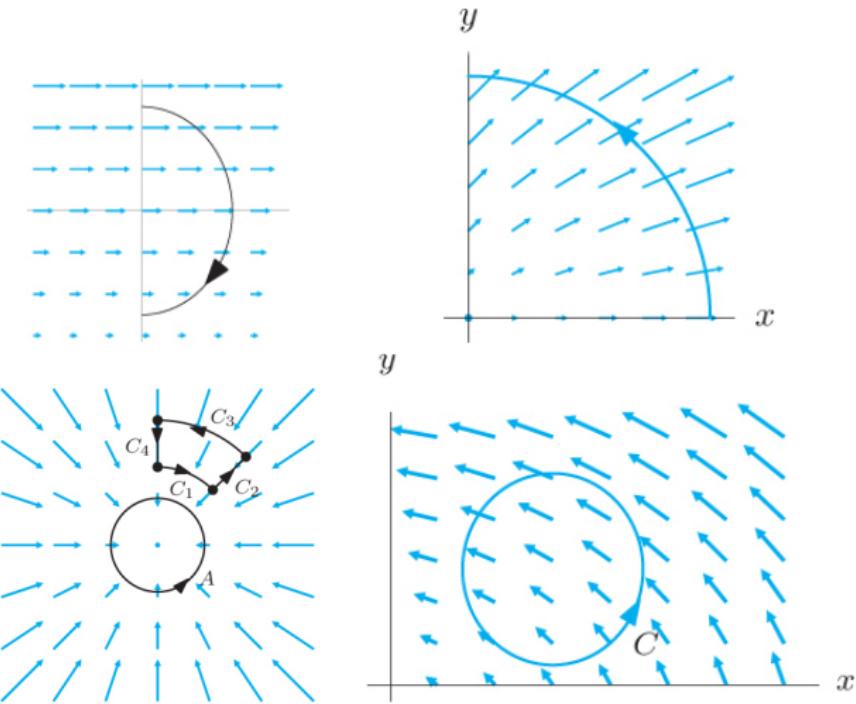
$$\vec{r}(t_{\text{start}}) = \vec{r}_{\text{start}} \text{ and } \vec{r}(t_{\text{end}}) = \vec{r}_{\text{end}}$$

- ▶ The line integral of  $\vec{F}$  along the curve  $C$  is defined to be

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{t=t_{\text{start}}}^{t=t_{\text{end}}} \vec{F}(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) dt$$

- ▶ Here,  $\vec{F} = \vec{F}(\vec{r}(t))$  and  $d\vec{r} = \vec{r}'(t) dt$

## Examples

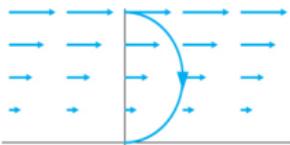


## Calculation of Line Integral in Constant Vector Field

- ▶ Consider a constant vector field  $\vec{F} = \vec{i}F_1 + \vec{j}F_2 + \vec{k}F_3$ , where  $F_1, F_2, F_3$  are scalar constants
- ▶ An oriented curve  $C$  with parameterization  $\vec{r}(t) = \vec{i}x(t) + \vec{j}y(t) + \vec{k}z(t)$ ,  $a \leq t \leq b$ , oriented in the direction of the velocity vector
  - ▶  $d\vec{r} = \vec{r}'(t) dt = (\vec{i}x'(t) + \vec{j}y'(t) + \vec{k}z'(t)) dt$
- ▶ We want to compute the line integral of  $\vec{F}$  along the oriented curve  $C$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} &= \int_{t=a}^{t=b} \langle F_1, F_2, F_3 \rangle \langle x'(t), y'(t), z'(t) \rangle dt \\ &= \int_{t=a}^{t=b} F_1 x'(t) + F_2 y'(t) + F_3 z'(t) dt \\ &= F_1 x(t) + F_2 y(t) + F_3 z(t) \Big|_{t=a}^{t=b} \\ &= F_1(x(b) - x(a)) + F_2(y(b) - y(a)) + F_3(z(b) - z(a)) \\ &= \vec{F} \cdot (\vec{r}(b) - \vec{r}(a))\end{aligned}$$

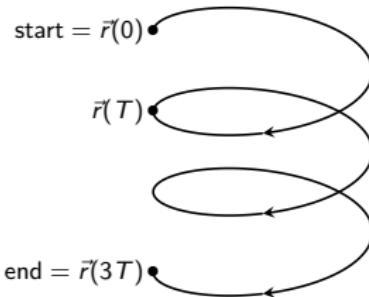
## Example of Line Integral



- ▶ Vector field:  $\vec{F}(x, y) = y \vec{i}$
- ▶ Curve  $C$ :  $\vec{r}(t) = \vec{i} \cos(t) + \vec{j}(1 + \sin(t)), -\frac{\pi}{2} \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ , oriented opposite to the velocity
- ▶  $d\vec{r} = (-\vec{i} \sin(t) + \vec{j} \cos(t)) dt$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} &= \int_{t=\frac{\pi}{2}}^{t=-\frac{\pi}{2}} (\sin(t) \vec{i}) \cdot (-\vec{i} \sin(t) + \vec{j} \cos(t)) dt \\ &= \int_{t=\frac{\pi}{2}}^{t=-\frac{\pi}{2}} -(\sin(t))^2 dt = \int_{t=\frac{\pi}{2}}^{t=-\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{-1 + \cos(2t)}{2} dt \\ &= -\frac{t}{2} + \frac{\sin(2t)}{4} \Big|_{t=\frac{\pi}{2}}^{t=-\frac{\pi}{2}} = \frac{\pi}{2}\end{aligned}$$

## Work Done By Gravity Along Helical Path



- ▶  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle R \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T}\right), R \sin\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T}\right), h(t) \rangle$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 3T$ , where  
 $T$  = period and  $h(t)$  = height at time  $t$  (meters)

- ▶ Work done by gravity  $\vec{F} = -g\vec{k}$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} &= \int_{t=0}^{t=3T} -g \cdot \left\langle -\frac{2\pi R}{T} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T}\right), R \frac{2\pi}{T} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T}\right), -h'(t) \right\rangle dt \\ &= \int_{t=0}^{t=3T} gh'(t) dt = g(h(3T))\end{aligned}$$

## Another Notation for a Line Integral

- ▶ Consider a vector  $\vec{F} = \vec{i}F_1 + \vec{j}F_2 + \vec{k}F_3$  and a parameterized curve  $\vec{r}(t) = \vec{i}x(t) + \vec{j}y(t) + \vec{k}z(t)$
- ▶  $d\vec{r} = \vec{i}dx + \vec{j}dy + \vec{k}dz$
- ▶  $\vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = F_1 dx + F_2 dy + F_3 dz$
- ▶ The line integral of  $\vec{F}$  along an oriented curve  $C$  is

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_C F_1 dx + F_2 dy + F_3 dz$$

- ▶ Example: Suppose  $C$  is parameterized by

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle t, t^2, t^3 \rangle, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

and we want to compute

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_C x dx + y dy + z dz$$

- ▶ Since  $x = t$ ,  $y = t^2$ ,  $z = t^3$ ,

$$dx = dt, \quad dy = 2t dt, \quad dz = 3t^2 dt$$

- ▶ Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_C x dx + y dy + z dz &= \int_{t=0}^{t=1} t dt + t^2(2t dt) + t^3(3t^2) dt \\ &= \int_{t=0}^{t=1} (t + 2t^3 + 3t^5) dt = \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

## Example of Line Integral in 2-space

- ▶ Suppose  $C$  is an oriented curve in 2-space with parameterization  $\vec{r}(t) = \vec{i}x(t) + \vec{j}y(t)$ ,  $a \leq t \leq b$ , and  $P(x, y)$ ,  $Q(x, y)$  are scalar functions
- ▶ To compute the line integral  $\int_C P \, dx + Q \, dy$ ,

$$\int_C P \, dx + Q \, dy = \int_{t=a}^{t=b} (P(x(t), y(t))x'(t) + Q(x(t), y(t))y'(t)) \, dt$$

- ▶ Example: Suppose the curve  $C$  has the parameterization  $\vec{r}(t) = \vec{i}t \cos(t) + \vec{j}t \sin(t)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ , with orientation in the direction of the velocity vector
- ▶ To calculate  $\int_C -y \, dx + x \, dy$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_C -y \, dx + x \, dy &= \int_{t=0}^{t=2\pi} -(t \sin t)(\cos(t) - t \sin(t)) \, dt \\ &\quad + (t \cos(t))(\sin(t) + t \cos(t)) \, dt \\ &= \int_{t=0}^{t=2\pi} t^2 \, dt = \frac{(2\pi)^3}{3}\end{aligned}$$

## Properties of Line Integrals

- If  $C$  is an oriented curve and  $\vec{F}$  is a vector field, then the line integral of  $\vec{F}$  along  $C$  is

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{t=t_{\text{start}}}^{t=t_{\text{end}}} \vec{F}(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) dt,$$

where  $\vec{r}(t)$  is a parameterization of  $C$

- The value of the line integral stays the same, even if a different parameterization is used
- Given an oriented curve  $C$ ,  $-C$  will denote the same curve but with the opposite orientation:

$$\int_{-C} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = - \int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

- If  $C = C_1 \cup C_2$ , then

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} + \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

## Gradient Field

- A vector field  $\vec{F}$  a domain  $D$  is a *gradient field*, if there is a scalar function  $f$  on  $D$  such that

$$\vec{F} = \vec{\nabla}f$$

- Equivalently, a vector field  $\vec{F} = \vec{i}F_1 + \vec{j}F_2 + \vec{k}F_3$  is a gradient field if there is a scalar function such that

$$F_1 = f_x, \quad F_2 = f_y, \quad F_3 = f_z$$

- The function  $f$  is called the potential or the energy potential of  $\vec{F}$
- $\vec{F} = \langle x, y, z \rangle$  is a gradient field, because  $\vec{F} = \nabla f$ , where

$$f(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)$$

- $\vec{G} = \langle y, x \rangle$  is a gradient field, because  $\vec{G} = \nabla q$ , where

$$q(x, y, z) = xy$$

- $\vec{H} = \langle y, -x \rangle$  is not a gradient field, because if  $\vec{H} = \langle y, -x \rangle = \nabla p = \langle p_x, p_y \rangle$ , then

$$p_x = y \text{ and } p_y = -x, \text{ which implies } p_{xy} = 1 \text{ and } p_{yx} = -1$$

## Test for a Gradient Field: Partial Derivatives Commute

- If  $\vec{F} = \vec{i}F_1 + \vec{j}F_2 = \nabla f = \vec{i}f_x + \vec{j}f_y$ , then

$$\partial_y F_1 = (f_x)_y = (f_y)_x = \partial_x F_2$$

- If  $\vec{F} = \vec{i}F_1 + \vec{j}F_2 + \vec{k}F_3 = \nabla f = \vec{i}f_x + \vec{j}f_y + \vec{k}f_z$ , then

$$\partial_y F_1 = (f_x)_y = (f_y)_x = \partial_x F_2$$

$$\partial_z F_1 = (f_x)_z = (f_z)_x = \partial_x F_3$$

$$\partial_z F_2 = (f_y)_z = (f_z)_y = \partial_y F_3$$

- BEWARE: The converse is not necessarily true: If  $\vec{F} = \vec{i}F_1 + \vec{j}F_2$  satisfies

$$\partial_y F_1 = \partial_x F_2,$$

it does not necessarily imply that  $\vec{F}$  is a gradient field

## Line Integral of Gradient Field

- ▶ Suppose  $\vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$  is a parameterization of an oriented curve that starts at  $\vec{r}_{\text{start}} = \vec{r}(t_{\text{start}})$  and ends at  $\vec{r}_{\text{end}} = \vec{r}(t_{\text{end}})$
- ▶ Consider the scalar function  $\phi(t) = f(\vec{r}(t))$
- ▶ By the chain rule,

$$\begin{aligned}\phi'(t) &= \frac{d}{dt}(f(\vec{r}(t))) \\ &= f_x x' + f_y y' + f_z z' \\ &= \langle f_x, f_y, f_z \rangle \cdot \langle x', y', z' \rangle \\ &= \vec{\nabla} f(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \vec{r}'(t)\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Therefore, by the definition of the line integral and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_C \vec{\nabla} f \cdot d\vec{r} &= \int_{t=t_{\text{start}}}^{t=t_{\text{end}}} \vec{\nabla} f(\vec{r}(t)) \cdot \vec{r}'(t) dt \\ &= \int_{t=t_{\text{start}}}^{t=t_{\text{end}}} \phi'(t) dt \\ &= \phi(t_{\text{end}}) - \phi(t_{\text{start}}) \\ &= f(\vec{r}(t_{\text{end}})) - f(\vec{r}(t_{\text{start}})) \\ &= f(\vec{r}_{\text{end}}) - f(\vec{r}_{\text{start}})\end{aligned}$$

## Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals

- ▶ Let  $\vec{F} = \vec{\nabla}f$  be a gradient field on a domain  $D$
- ▶ Let  $C$  be an oriented curve in  $D$  with start point  $\vec{r}_{\text{start}}$  and end point  $\vec{r}_{\text{end}}$
- ▶ We have shown that

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = f(\vec{r}_{\text{end}}) - f(\vec{r}_{\text{start}})$$

- ▶ If  $C$  is a closed curve, then  $\vec{r}_{\text{end}} = \vec{r}_{\text{start}}$  and therefore

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$$

- ▶ If  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are any two oriented curves with the same start and end points, then

$$\int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

## Path Independent, Conservative, Gradient Vector Fields

- ▶ A vector field  $\vec{F}$  is path-independent on a domain  $D$ , if, for any two oriented curves  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  in  $D$  with the same start points and same end points,

$$\int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

- ▶ A vector field  $\vec{F}$  is path-independent on a domain  $D$ , if, for any closed curve  $C$  in  $D$ ,

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$$

- ▶ A vector field  $\vec{F}$  is gradient or conservative on a domain  $D$ , if there is a potential function  $f$  on domain  $D$  such that  $\vec{\nabla}f = \vec{F}$
- ▶ Any path-independent vector field on a domain  $D$  is conservative, and any conservative vector field on a domain  $D$  is path-independent
- ▶ Gradient  $\iff$  conservative  $\iff$  path-independent