

# The Theorem of Steiner.

**Theorem:** (Theorem of Steiner) For the moment of inertia of a homogeneous solid  $K$  with total mass  $m$  with respect to a given axis of rotation  $A$  we have

$$\underline{\Theta_A} = \underline{md^2} + \Theta_S$$

$S$  is the axis through to center of mass of the solid  $K$  parallel to the axis  $A$  and  $d$  the distance of the center of mass  $\mathbf{x}_s$  from the axis  $A$ .

**Idea of the proof:** Set  $\mathbf{x} := \Phi(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{u}$ . Then with the unit vector  $\mathbf{a}$  in direction of the axis  $A$

$$\rightarrow \Theta_A = \rho \int_K (\underbrace{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle - \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a} \rangle^2}_{d^2}) d\mathbf{x} = (*)$$

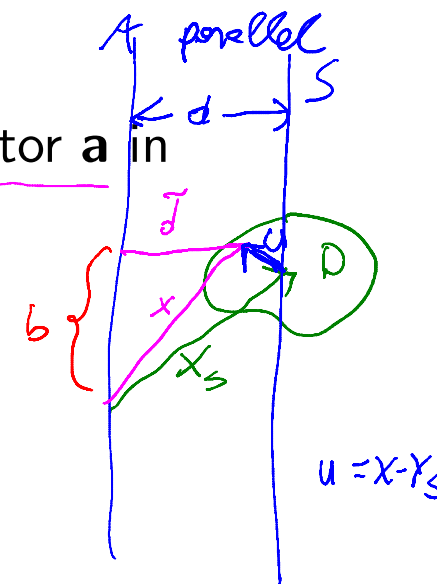
$$= \rho \int_D (\langle \mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{u} \rangle - \langle \mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{a} \rangle^2) d\mathbf{x}$$

$$(*) = \rho \int_K (\langle \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{x}_s, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{x}_s \rangle - \langle \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_s + \mathbf{x}_s, \mathbf{a} \rangle^2) d\mathbf{x} = \dots = \Theta_S + \rho \int_K \langle \mathbf{x}_s, \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}_s \rangle + \dots + md^2$$

where

$$D := \{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_s \mid \mathbf{x} \in K\}$$

$$\Theta_S = \rho \int_K (\langle \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_s, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_s \rangle - \langle \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_s, \mathbf{a} \rangle^2) d\mathbf{x}$$



# Chapter 3. Integration over general areas

## 3.2 Line integrals

We already had a definition of a **line integral of a scalar field** for a piecewise  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -curve  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow D$ ,  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , and a continuous **scalar** function  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} f(\mathbf{x}) ds := \int_a^b f(\mathbf{c}(t)) \underbrace{\|\dot{\mathbf{c}}(t)\|}_{ds} dt$$

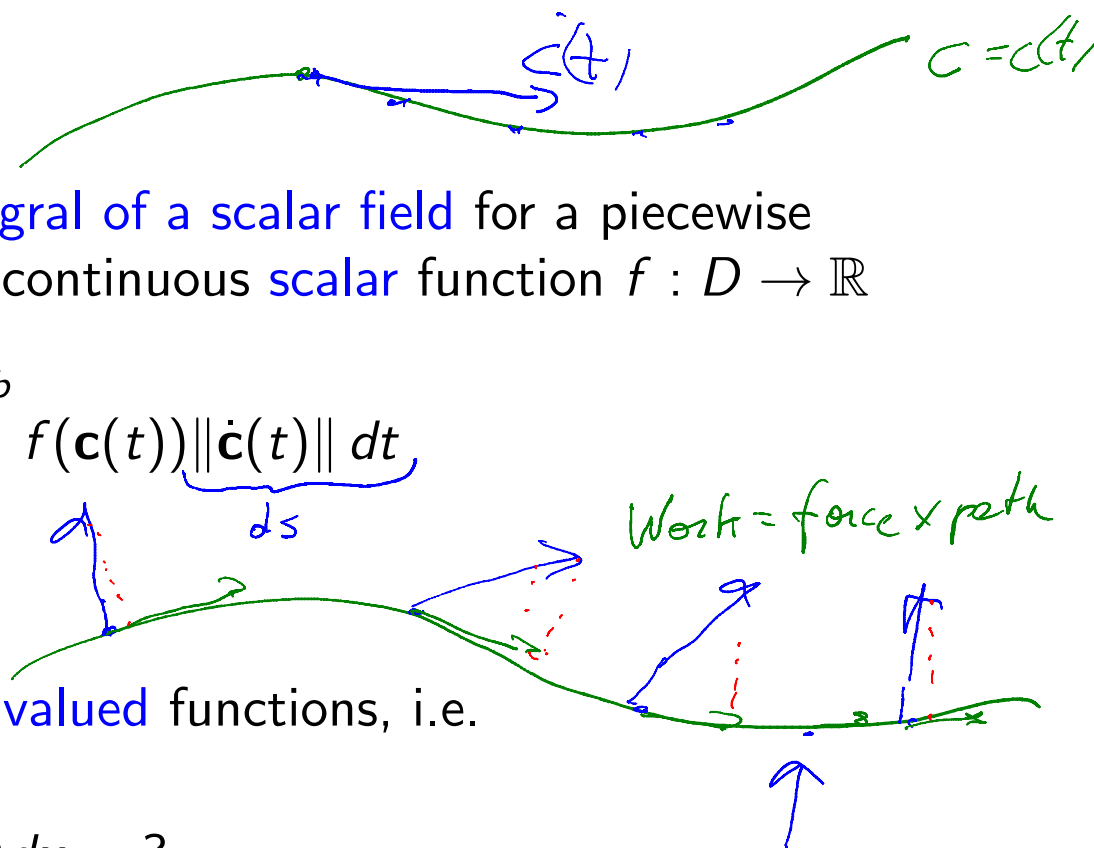
where  $\|\cdot\|$  denotes the Euklidian norm.

**Generalisation:** Line integrals of **vector valued** functions, i.e.

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} := ?$$

**Application:** A point mass is moving along  $\mathbf{c}(t)$  in a force field  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ .

**Question:** How much **physical** work has to be done along the curve?



# Line integral on vector fields.

**Definition:** For a continuous vector field  $\mathbf{f} : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  open, and a piecewise  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -curve  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow D$  we define the **line integral on vector fields** by

$$\int_c \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} := \int_a^b \overbrace{\langle \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{c}(t)), \dot{\mathbf{c}}(t) \rangle}^{\text{scalar}} dt$$

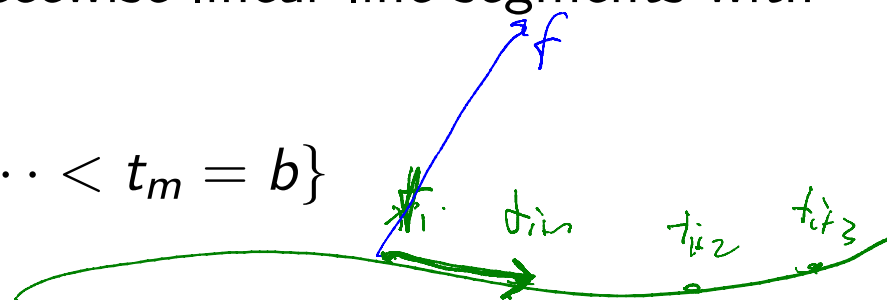
**Derivation:** Approximate the curve by piecewise linear line segments with corners  $\mathbf{c}(t_i)$ , where

$$Z = \{a = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_m = b\}$$

is a partition of the interval  $[a, b]$ .

Then the workload along the curve  $\mathbf{c}(t)$  in the force field  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  is approximately given by :

$$A \approx \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \langle \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{c}(t_i)), \mathbf{c}(t_{i+1}) - \mathbf{c}(t_i) \rangle$$



# Continuation of the derivation.

Thus:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &\approx \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \underbrace{f_j(\mathbf{c}(t_i))}_{\text{segments}} \underbrace{(\mathbf{c}(t_{i+1}) - \mathbf{c}(t_i))}_{\substack{\text{segments} \\ t_{i+1} - t_i}} \underbrace{(t_{i+1} - t_i)}_{\substack{\text{segments} \\ t_{i+1} - t_i}} \\
 &= \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} f_j(\mathbf{c}(t_i)) \dot{\mathbf{c}}_j(\tau_{ij}) \underbrace{(t_{i+1} - t_i)}_{\substack{\text{segments} \\ t_{i+1} - t_i}} \\
 &\quad \downarrow \text{ } \tau_{ij} \in [t_i, t_{i+1}] \quad \downarrow dt
 \end{aligned}$$

For a sequence of partitions  $Z$  with  $\|Z\| \rightarrow 0$  the left side converges to the above defined **line integral on vector fields**.

**Remarks:** For a closed curve  $\mathbf{c}(t)$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{c}(a) = \mathbf{c}(b)$ , we use the notation

$$\oint_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$


# Properties of the line integral on vector fields.

- Linearity:

$$\int_c (\alpha \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \beta \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})) d\mathbf{x} = \alpha \int_c \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} + \beta \int_c \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

- It is:

$$\int_{-c} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = - \int_c \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x},$$

where  $(-c)(t) := c(b + a - t)$ ,  $a \leq t \leq b$ , denotes the inverted path.

- It is

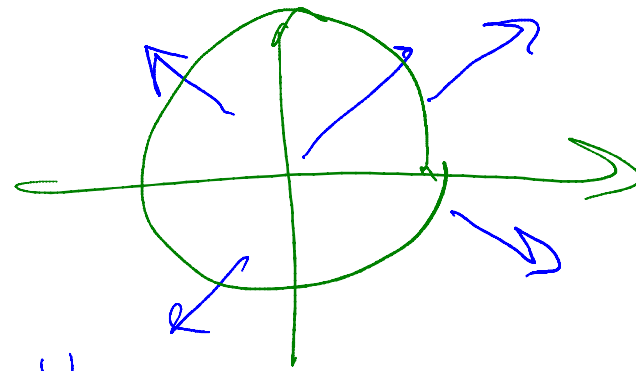
$$\int_{c_1 + c_2} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \int_{c_1} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} + \int_{c_2} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

where  $c_1 + c_2$  denotes the path composed by  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  such that the end point of  $c_1$  coincides with the starting point of  $c_2$ .

=

(-1)

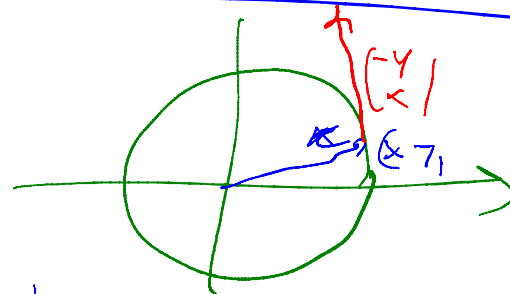
$$f(x, y) = \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\int f(x, y) d\alpha = \int_0^{2\pi} \left\langle \frac{1}{R^2} \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ \sin t \end{pmatrix}, R \begin{pmatrix} -\sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle dt = 0$$


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$$f(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\int f(x, y) d\alpha = \int_0^{2\pi} \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} -R \sin t \\ R \cos t \end{pmatrix}, R \begin{pmatrix} -\sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle dt = R^2 2\pi$$

## Further properties of the line integral on vector fields.

- The line integral on vector fields is **invariant under paramterisation**.
- It is

$$\int_c \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \int_a^b \langle \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{c}(t)), \mathbf{T}(t) \rangle \|\dot{\mathbf{c}}(t)\| dt = \int_c \langle \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{T} \rangle ds$$

with the **tangent unit vector**  $\mathbf{T}(t) := \frac{\dot{\mathbf{c}}(t)}{\|\dot{\mathbf{c}}(t)\|}$ .

- Formal notation:

$$\int_c \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \int_c \sum_{i=1}^n f_i(\mathbf{x}) dx_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_c f_i(\mathbf{x}) dx_i$$

with

$$\int_c f_i(\mathbf{x}) dx_i := \int_a^b f_i(\mathbf{c}(t)) \dot{c}_i(t) dt$$

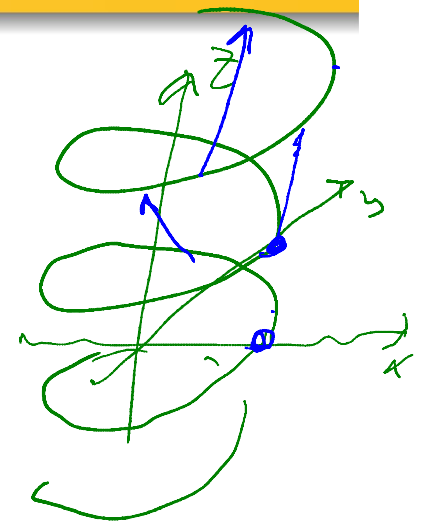


# Example.

Let  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  and

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) := (-y, x, z^2)^T$$

$$\mathbf{c}(t) := (\cos t, \sin t, at)^T \quad \text{with } 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$$



We calculate

$$\begin{aligned} \int_c \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} &= \int_c (\overset{f_1}{-y}dx + \overset{f_2}{x}dy + \overset{f_3}{z^2}dz) = \int_c \sum_i f_i dx_i \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} (\overset{f_1}{(-\sin t)} \underbrace{(-\sin t)}_{\dot{c}_1} + \overset{f_2}{\cos t} \underbrace{\cos t}_{\dot{c}_2} + \overset{f_3}{a^2 t^2} \underbrace{a}_{\dot{c}_3}) dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} (1 + a^3 t^2) dt \\ &= 2\pi + \frac{a^3}{3} (2\pi)^3 \end{aligned}$$

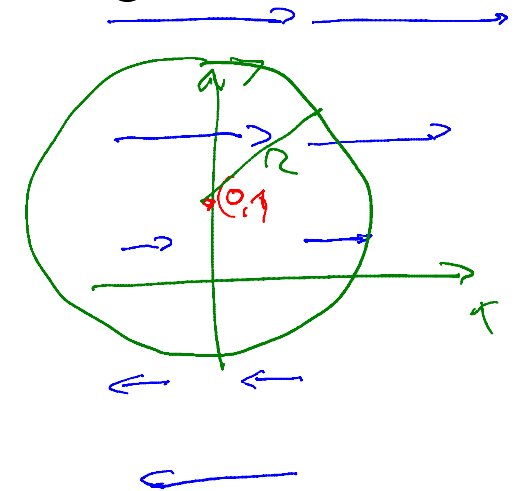
# The circulation of a field along a curve.

**Definition:** Let  $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$  be the velocity field of a moving fluid. We call the line integral  $\oint_C \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$  along a closed curve the **circulation** of the field  $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$ .

*depends on C*

**Example:** For the field  $\mathbf{u}(x, y) = (y, 0)^T \in \mathbb{R}^2$  we obtain along the curve  $\mathbf{c}(t) = (r \cos t, 1 + r \sin t)^T, 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$  the circulation

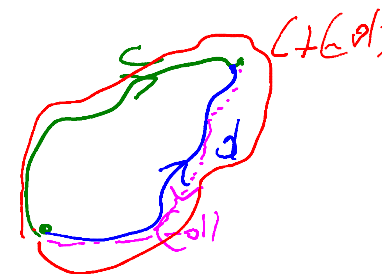
$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^{2\pi} \begin{pmatrix} 1 + r \sin t \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -r \sin t \\ r \cos t \end{pmatrix} dt &= \int_0^{2\pi} (1 + r \sin t)(-r \sin t) dt \\
 &= \int_0^{2\pi} (-r \sin t - r^2 \sin^2 t) dt \\
 &= \left[ r \cos t - \frac{r^2}{2} (t - \sin t \cos t) \right]_0^{2\pi} = -\pi r^2
 \end{aligned}$$



# Curl free vector fields.

**Definition:** A continuous vector field  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , is called curl free, if the line integral along all closed and piecewise  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -curves  $\mathbf{c}(t)$  in  $D$  vanishes, i.e.

$$\oint_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = 0 \quad \text{for all closed } \mathbf{c}.$$



**Remark:** A vector field is curl free if and only if the value of the line integral  $\int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$  depends only from the starting and the end point of the path, but not on the specific path  $\mathbf{c}$ . In this case we call the line integral path independent.

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} - \int_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} - (-1) \int_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \int_{\mathbf{c} + \mathbf{d}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \stackrel{\text{curl free}}{=} 0$$

**Question:** Which criteria on the vector field  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  guarantee the path independency of the line integral?

# Connected sets.

**Definition:** A subset  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is called **connected**, if any two points in  $D$  can be connected by a piecewise  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -curve:

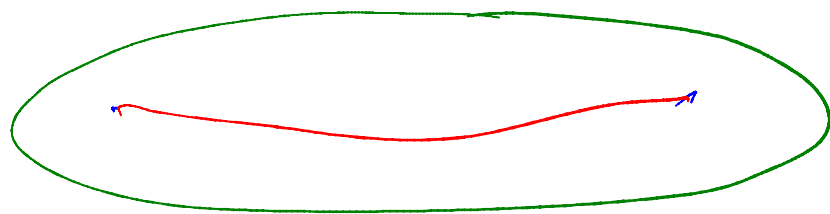
$$\forall \mathbf{x}^0, \mathbf{y}^0 \in D : \exists \mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow D \quad : \quad \mathbf{c}(a) = \mathbf{x}^0 \wedge \mathbf{c}(b) = \mathbf{y}^0$$

An open and connected set  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is called **domain** in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

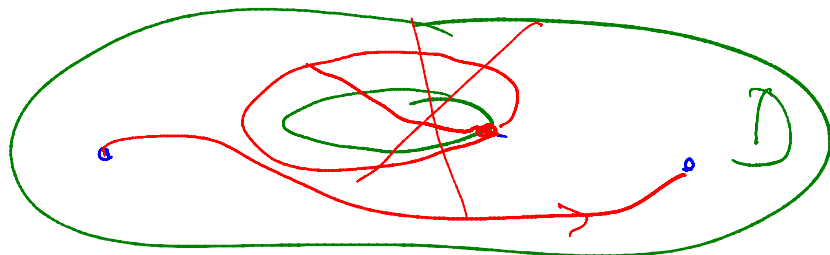
**Remark:** An **open** set  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is **not** connected if and only if there exist **disjoint** and open sets  $U_1, U_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  with

$$U_1 \cap D \neq \emptyset, \quad U_2 \cap D \neq \emptyset, \quad D \subset U_1 \cup U_2$$

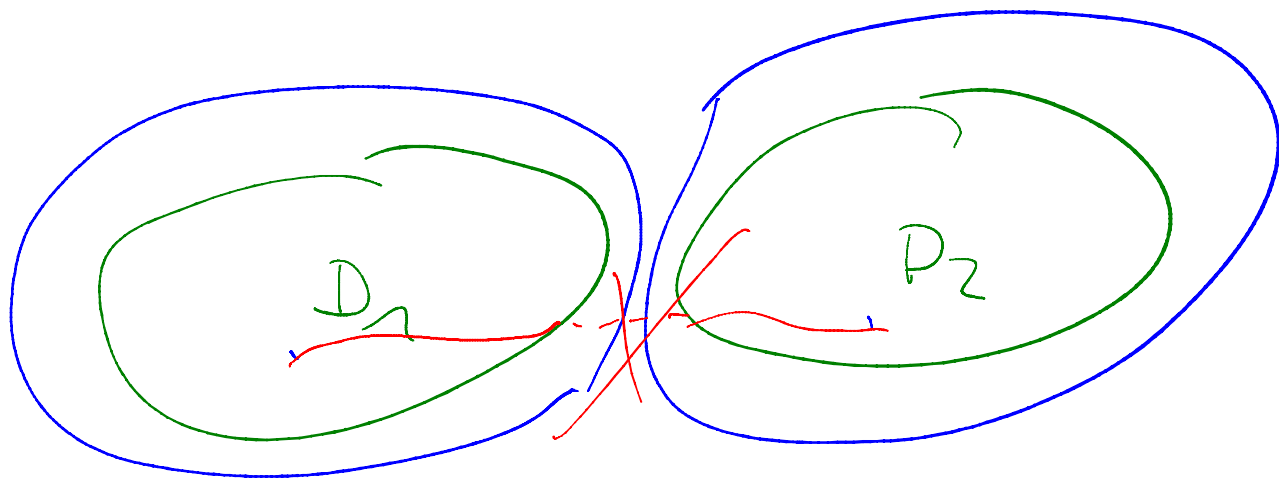
Not connected sets are – in contrary to connected sets – a separable in at least two disjoint open sets.



simply connected  
 $\Rightarrow$  connected + every closed curve can be  
 shrunk to a point in  $D$



connected



not connect

# Gradient fields, antiderivatives, potentials.

**Definition:** Let  $\mathbf{f} : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be a vector field on a domain  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . The vector field is called gradient field, if there is a scalar  $C^1$ -function  $\varphi : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \nabla \varphi(\mathbf{x})$$

The function  $\varphi(\mathbf{x})$  is called antiderivative or potential of  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ , and the vector field  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  is called conservative.

**Remark:** Suppose a mass point is moving in a conservative force field  $\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x})$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{K}$  has a potential  $\varphi(\mathbf{x})$  such that  $\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}) = \nabla \varphi(\mathbf{x})$ . The the function  $U(\mathbf{x}) = -\varphi(\mathbf{x})$  gives the potential energy:

$$\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}) \stackrel{\text{Newton}}{=} m\ddot{\mathbf{x}} = -\nabla U(\mathbf{x}) \quad \langle \mathbf{K}, \dot{\mathbf{x}} \rangle$$

Multiplying this relation with  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}$  we obtain

$$m\langle \ddot{\mathbf{x}}, \dot{\mathbf{x}} \rangle + \underbrace{\langle \nabla U(\mathbf{x}), \dot{\mathbf{x}} \rangle}_{\frac{d}{dt} U(\mathbf{x})} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} m \|\dot{\mathbf{x}}\|^2}_{\text{total energy}} + U(\mathbf{x}) \right) = 0$$

$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\dot{\mathbf{x}}\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \langle \dot{\mathbf{x}}, \dot{\mathbf{x}} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle \ddot{\mathbf{x}}, \dot{\mathbf{x}} \rangle$  conserved

# Fundamental theorem on line integrals.

## Theorem: (Fundamental theorem on line integrals)

Let  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a domain and  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  a continuous vector field on  $D$ .

- 1) If  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  has a potential  $\varphi(\mathbf{x})$ , then for all piecewise  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -curves  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow D$  we have:

$$\int_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \varphi(\mathbf{c}(b)) - \varphi(\mathbf{c}(a))$$

In particular the line integral is path independent and  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  is curl free.

- 2) In the opposite direction we have: If  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  is curl free, <sup>+ simply connected  $D$</sup>  then  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  has a potential  $\varphi(\mathbf{x})$ .

Let  $\mathbf{x}^0 \in D$  be a fixed point and  $\mathbf{c}_x$  (for  $\mathbf{x} \in D$ ) denotes an arbitrary piecewise  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -curve in  $D$  connecting the points  $\mathbf{x}^0$  and  $\mathbf{x}$ , then  $\varphi(\mathbf{x})$  is given by:

$$\varphi(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathbf{c}_x} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} + \text{const.}$$

## Example I.

The central force field

$$\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}) := \frac{\mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|^3} = \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{x}\|^2} \frac{\mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|}$$

has the potential

$$U(\mathbf{x}) = -\frac{1}{\|\mathbf{x}\|} = -(x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2)^{-1/2} \quad \nabla U(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x})$$

since

$$\nabla U(\mathbf{x}) = (x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2)^{-3/2} (x, y, z)^T = \frac{\mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|^3}$$

The workload along a piecewise  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -curve  $\mathbf{c} : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$  is given by

$$A = \int_c \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \left( \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{c}(a)\|} - \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{c}(b)\|} \right)$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{U(\mathbf{c}(a)) - U(\mathbf{c}(b))}$



## Example II.

The vector field

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) := \begin{pmatrix} 2xy + z^3 \\ x^2 + 3z \\ 3xz^2 + 3y \end{pmatrix}$$

has the potential

$$\varphi(\mathbf{x}) = x^2y + xz^3 + 3yz \quad \text{with } \nabla\varphi = \mathbf{f}$$

For an arbitrary  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -curve  $\mathbf{c}(t)$  from  $P = (1, 1, 2)$  to  $Q = (3, 5, -2)$  we have

$$\int_c \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \varphi(Q) - \varphi(P) = -9 - 15 = -24$$

If we interpret  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  as electrical field, then the line integral on vector fields represents the **electrical voltage** between the two points  $P$  and  $Q$ .

## Example III.

Consider the vector field

$$\mathbf{f}(x, y) = \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2} \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{mit } (x, y)^T \in D = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$$

*Handwritten notes:*  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{r} \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix}$  (with a diagram of a vector field in the plane).  
*Not simply connected*

For the unit sphere  $\mathbf{c}(t) := (\cos t, \sin t)^T$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_c \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} &= \int_0^{2\pi} \langle \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{c}(t)), \dot{\mathbf{c}}(t) \rangle dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} -\sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -\sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle dt \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} 1 dt = 2\pi \end{aligned}$$

$\mathbf{f}(x, y)$  is therefore not curl free and has ~~no potential on  $D$~~ .

# Requirements for potentials.

**Remark:** If  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  is a  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -vector field with potential  $\varphi(\mathbf{x})$ , then

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{curl} (\nabla \varphi(\mathbf{x})) = 0 \quad \text{für alle } \mathbf{x} \in D$$

Thus  $\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = 0$  is a **necessary condition** for the existence of a potential.

If we define for a vector field  $\mathbf{f} : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , the **scalar** curl

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{f}(x, y) := \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x}(x, y) - \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial y}(x, y)$$

then  $\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{f}(x, y) = 0$  is a **necessary condition** even in 2 dimensions.

The condition

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = 0$$

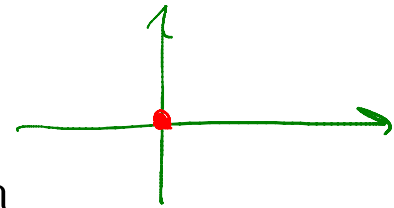
is a **sufficient condition**, if the domain  $D$  is **simply connected**, i.e. if  $D$  has no "holes".

# Example.

We consider the vector field

$$\mathbf{f}(x, y) = \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2} \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with } (x, y)^T \in D = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$$

*not simply connected*



Calculating the curl gives

$$\begin{aligned} \text{curl} \left[ \frac{1}{r^2} \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix} \right] &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \overbrace{\frac{x}{x^2 + y^2}}^{f_2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \overbrace{\frac{y}{x^2 + y^2}}^{-f_1} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2} - \frac{2x^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} + \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2} - \frac{2y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The curl of  $\mathbf{f}(x, y)$  vanishes.

But  $\mathbf{f}(x, y)$  has on the set  $D = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$  no potential.

The domain is not simply connected.

# The integral theorem of Green for vector fields in $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

## **Theorem:** (Integral theorem of Green)

Let  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  be a  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -vector field on a domain  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ . Let  $K \subset D$  be compact and projectable with respect to both coordinates, such that  $K$  is bounded by a closed and piecewise  $\mathcal{C}^1$ -curve  $\mathbf{c}(t)$ .

The parameterisation of  $\mathbf{c}(t)$  is chosen such that  $K$  is always on the left when going along the curve with increasing parameter (positive circulation). Then:

$$\oint_{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \int_K \text{curl } \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

## **Remark:**

The integral theorem is also valid for domains which can be splitted in *finite* many domains which all are projectable with respect to both coordinate directions, so called **Green domains**.

# Alternative formulation of the integral theorem of Green I.

We have seen that the relation

$$\oint_c \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \oint_c \langle \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{T} \rangle ds$$

holds, where  $\mathbf{T}(t) = \frac{\dot{\mathbf{c}}(t)}{\|\dot{\mathbf{c}}(t)\|}$  denotes the tangent unit vector.

With the intergral thoerem of Green we obtain

$$\int_K \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \oint_{\partial K} \langle \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{T} \rangle ds$$

Is  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  a velocity field, then the fluid motion described by  $\mathbf{f}$  is curl free if  $\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = 0$ , since

$$\oint_c \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

is the circulation of  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ .