

1. Consider the vector field $\vec{F}(x, y) = (1 - ye^{-x})\hat{i} + e^{-x}\hat{j}$.

(a) (5 points.) Show by direct computation that the line integral of \vec{F} along the straight line path from $(0, 1)$ to $(1, 2)$ is $2e^{-1}$. [HINT: $\int ue^u du = ue^u - e^u$]

STEP 1
parametrize path

$$\begin{aligned} x &= t \\ y &= 1+t \\ t: 0 \rightarrow 1 \end{aligned}$$

STEP 2
compute integrand

$$\dot{x} = 1 \quad \vec{F}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - (1+t)e^{-t} \\ e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\dot{y} = 1$$

STEP 3
Integrate!

$$\int_0^1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 - (1+t)e^{-t} \\ e^{-t} \end{pmatrix} dt$$

$$I = \int_0^1 (1 - e^{-t} - te^{-t} + e^{-t}) dt = \int_0^1 (1 - te^{-t}) dt$$

$$I = \int_0^1 1 dt + \int_0^1 (-t)e^{-t} dt$$

$$I = t \Big|_0^1 + \int_0^1 ue^u du$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= -t \\ du &= -dt \\ t=0, u=0 \\ t=1, u=-1 \end{aligned}$$

$$= 1 + \int_{-1}^0 ue^u du = 1 + ue^u - e^u \Big|_{-1}^0 = 1 + 0 - e^0 - (-1e^{-1} - e^{-1}) = 1 + 0 - e^0 - (-1e^{-1} - e^{-1})$$

$$I = 1 - 1 - (-2e^{-1}) = \boxed{2e^{-1}}$$

(b) (3 points.) Show that this vector field is a **gradient field**, in other words that there exists a function $f(x, y)$ such that $\nabla f = \vec{F}(x, y) = (1 - ye^{-x})\hat{i} + e^{-x}\hat{j}$. [HINT: find $f(x, y)$ so that $\nabla f = \vec{F}$.] If \vec{F} is a **vector gradient field** $\iff \text{curl } \vec{F} = \vec{0}$

$$\text{curl } \vec{F} = \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial (e^{-x})}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial (1 - ye^{-x})}{\partial y} = -e^{-x} - (-e^{-x}) = 0$$

$$f_x = 1 - ye^{-x}, f_y = e^{-x} \Rightarrow f = ye^{-x} + A(x) \Rightarrow f_x = -ye^{-x} + A'(x) = -ye^{-x} + 1$$

$$A'(x) = 1$$

$$A(x) = x + C$$

$$\boxed{f = ye^{-x} + x + C}$$

$$\nabla f = (-ye^{-x} + 1)\hat{i} + e^{-x}\hat{j} = \vec{F}$$

(c) (2 points.) Use the Fundamental Theorem for Line Integrals (and your answer in (b)) to show that the value of the line integral of \vec{F} from $(0, 1)$ to $(1, 2)$ is the same value regardless of the path taken to travel between these two points. What is this value and how is it related to f you found in (b)?

By FTLI $\int_{\vec{F}} d\vec{x} = f(\vec{x}_B) - f(\vec{x}_A)$

where $\vec{F} = \nabla f$ $(0, 1) \rightarrow (1, 2)$ $= 2e^{-1} + 1 - (1e^0 + 0)$

Since \vec{F} is gradient field $\iff \vec{F}$ is path-independent so $\int_{\vec{x}_A}^{\vec{x}_B} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{x}$ is same