AMAT 309 Quiz 5 Solutions

1. Given a wire in the shape of the curve $e^t \mathbf{i} + e^{2t} \mathbf{j}, \quad 0 \le t \le \pi$ in \mathbb{R}^2 , with density d = x at a point (x, y), find the mass of the wire.

Solution: Mass is density times length, so here the mass is $\int_{\mathcal{C}} x \, ds$. For this curve, $\mathbf{r}' = e^t \mathbf{i} + 2e^{2t} \mathbf{j}$ and so $ds = |\mathbf{r}'| = \sqrt{e^{2t} + 4e^{4t}} \, dt$. Thus the mass is

$$\int_{\mathcal{C}} x \, ds = \int_0^{\pi} e^t \sqrt{e^{2t} + 4e^{4t}} \, dt.$$

Let $u = e^t$, so the integral becomes

$$\int_{1}^{e^{\pi}} \sqrt{u^2 + 4u^4} \, du = \int_{1}^{e^{\pi}} u\sqrt{1 + 4u^2} \, du$$

and another substitution $(v = 1 + 4u^2)$ gives

$$= \frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \left(1 + 4u^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \Big]_{5}^{e^{\pi}}$$
$$= \frac{1}{12} \left(\left(1 + 4e^{2\pi}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} - 5^{\frac{3}{2}} \right)$$

2. (a) Show that the vector field $\mathbf{F} = (y \cos x - \cos y) \mathbf{i} + (\sin x + x \sin y) \mathbf{j}$ is conservative by finding a potential ϕ for which $\nabla \phi = \mathbf{F}$.

(b) Evaluate the line integral $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$ where C is any curve connecting $(0, \frac{\pi}{2})$ and $(\frac{3\pi}{2}, \pi)$.

Solution:

(a) If $\mathbf{F} = \nabla \phi$, then $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = y \cos x - \cos y$. This tells us that $\phi = y \sin x - x \cos y + g(y)$ for some function g of y only. Differentiating on y, we get $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = \sin x + x \sin y + g'(y)$, which tells us that g is a constant, which we may as well take to be zero. Thus if $\phi = y \sin x - x \cos y$, then $\mathbf{F} = \nabla \phi$ and thus is conservative.

(b) The line integral of a conservative vector field is the difference of the potential function between the end and the beginning of the curve. Thus

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \phi(\frac{3\pi}{2}, \pi) - \phi(0, \frac{\pi}{2})$$

= $[y \sin x - x \cos y]_{(0, \frac{\pi}{2})}^{(\frac{3\pi}{2}, \pi)}$
= $\pi \sin(\frac{3\pi}{2}) - \frac{3\pi}{2} \cos(\pi) - \frac{\pi}{2} \sin(0) + 0 \cos(\frac{\pi}{2})$
= $-\pi + \frac{3\pi}{2} - 0 + 0 = \frac{1}{2}$

3. (a) Evaluate the line integral $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$, where

$$\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = 2xy\,\mathbf{i} + 3z\,\mathbf{j} + xy^2\,\mathbf{k},$$

and C is the curve from (1,0,0) to $(0,1,\pi)$ defined by $\mathbf{r}(t) = \cos(t)\mathbf{i} + \sin(t)\mathbf{j} + 2t\mathbf{k}$.

(b) What is the value of the integral if we traverse the curve in the opposite direction?

Solution: (a) Here $\mathbf{r}'(t) = -\sin(t)\mathbf{i} + \cos(t)\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$, while $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}) = 2\cos(t)\sin(t)\mathbf{i} + 6t\mathbf{j} + \cos(t)\sin^2(t)\mathbf{k}$. Finally, t = 0 at the beginning and $t = \frac{\pi}{2}$ at the end. Thus

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r} = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \langle 2\cos t\sin t\mathbf{i} + 6t\mathbf{j} + \cos t\sin^2 t\mathbf{k} \rangle \bullet \langle -\sin t\mathbf{i} + \cos t\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k} \rangle dt$$
$$= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} -2\cos^2 t\sin t + 6t\cos t + 2\cos t\sin^2 t\, dt$$
$$= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} 6t\cos t\, dt$$

Integration by parts gives

$$= 6t \sin t \Big]_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} - \int_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} 6\sin t \, dt$$
$$= 3\pi - 0 - \left[-6\cos t\right]_{0}^{\frac{\pi}{2}}$$
$$= 3\pi - 6$$

(b) If we traverse the curve in the opposite direction, we get the negative of the line integral, i.e. $6 - 3\pi$.

4. Find the area of the surface $z = x^2 + y^2$, below the plane z = 4.

Solution: If we think of the graph of a surface z = f(x, y) as being parametrized by x and y, then a normal vector is

$$\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{r}_x \times \mathbf{r}_y = -\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\mathbf{i} - \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$$

and

$$dS = |\mathbf{r}_x \times \mathbf{r}_y| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}\right)^2 + 1} \, dx \, dy$$

(Cf. Adams, Example 15.5.4, though don't worry about the geometry comments at the end.)

The surface area is $\iint_R dS$, where R is the region in the xy plane that corresponds to the surface—the projection of the surface onto the xy plane. In this case, R is the disc $\{x^2 + y^2 \leq 4\}$, and the area is

$$\iint_R \sqrt{4x^2 + 4y^2 + 1} \, dx \, dy$$

This is easiest to evaluate in polar coordinates, where it becomes

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^2 r\sqrt{1+4r^2} \, dr \, d\theta,$$

which (after substituting for $1 + 4r^2$) gives

$$2\pi \cdot \frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \left(1 + 4r^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \Big]_0^2 = \frac{\pi}{6} \left(17\sqrt{17} - 1\right).$$