

Lecture 21: Section 5.4: Gren's theorem. Suppose that D is a domain in the plane with boundary curve C going in positive direction, i.e. walking in the direction of C the domain D should be on your left. **Green's theorem** says that

$$(5.4.1) \quad \int_C P dx + Q dy = \iint_D \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dx dy$$

Ex Let $\mathbf{F} = xy\mathbf{i} + y^2\mathbf{j}$ and let D be the region between the graph of $y = x^2$ and $y = x$ when $0 \leq x \leq 1$. Let C be the positively oriented boundary of D . Calculate both sides of Green's theorem and check that it holds.

Sol. The boundary consists of two parts C_1 ; $x = t, y = t^2, 0 \leq t \leq 1$ and C_2 ; $x = 1 - t, y = 1 - t, 0 \leq t \leq 1$. Note that C_2 is oriented so it starts at $(x, y) = (1, 1)$ in order that the total curve should be positively oriented. Let $P = xy$ and $Q = y^2$.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_C P dx + Q dy &= \int_{C_1} \left(xy \frac{dx}{dt} + y^2 \frac{dy}{dt} \right) dt + \int_{C_2} \left(xy \frac{dx}{dt} + y^2 \frac{dy}{dt} \right) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 t^3 + 2t^5 dt + \int_0^1 -(1-t)^2 - (1-t)^2 dt = \left. \frac{t^4}{4} + \frac{2t^6}{6} \right|_0^1 + \left. \frac{2(1-t)^3}{3} \right|_0^1 = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{4} \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_D \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dx dy &= \iint_D -x dx dy = \int_0^1 \int_{x^2}^x -x dy dx = \int_0^1 -x(x - x^2) dx \\ &= \left. -\frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^4}{4} \right|_0^1 = -\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} = -\frac{1}{12} \end{aligned}$$

Ex. Find $\int_C -y dx + x dy$, where C is the unit circle centered at $(0, 0)$.

Sol. Let D be the unit disc centered at $(0, 0)$. By Green's theorem

$$\int_C -y dx + x dy = \iint_D \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial(-y)}{\partial y} \right) dx dy = \iint_D 2 dx dy = 2 \text{Area}(D) = 2\pi$$

From the proof of the above example we conclude that for any region D we have

$$(5.4.2) \quad \text{Area}(D) = \frac{1}{2} \int_C -y dx + x dy$$

which gives another way to calculate the area. Say that D is a region of type 1, i.e. lying above the graph: C_1 : $y = f_1(x), a \leq x \leq b$ and below the graph C_2 : $y = f_2(x), b \geq x \geq a$. Then, the area below C_2 and above the x -axis is $\int_a^b f_2(x) dx = -\int_b^a f_2(x) dx = \int_{C_2} -y dx$ and the area below C_1 and above the x -axis is $\int_a^b f_1(x) dx = \int_{C_1} y dx$, since y is the height above the x -axis. Therefore the area of D is $\int_a^b f_2(x) dx - \int_a^b f_1(x) dx = \int_{C_1} y dx + \int_{C_2} -y dx$.

Ex. Find the area of the interior of an ellipse: $D = \{(x, y); (x/a)^2 + (y/b)^2 \leq 1\}$

Sol. Parametrizing the ellipse $x = a \cos t, y = b \sin t, 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ and using (5.4.2)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area}(D) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_C -y dx + x dy = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} -y \frac{dx}{dt} + x \frac{dy}{dt} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} -b \sin t (-a \sin t) + (a \cos t) b \sin t dt = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} ab(\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t) dt = \pi ab \end{aligned}$$

Let us see how Green's theorem implies the divergence theorem in two dimensions:

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, ds = \iint_D \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} \, dx dy, \quad \mathbf{F} = F_1 \mathbf{i} + F_2 \mathbf{j}$$

If the curve C is parametrized by arclength $x = x(s)$ and $y = y(s)$, $a \leq s \leq b$, then since the normal \mathbf{n} is perpendicular to the unit tangent vector (x', y') it follows that unit normal is given by $(n_1, n_2) = (y', -x')$. Hence $dx = x' ds$ and $dy = y' ds$ and with $P = -F_2$ and $Q = F_1$ we get

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, ds = \int_C P dx + Q dy$$

and

$$\iint_D \operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} \, dx dy = \iint_D \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dx dy$$

Let us also see how Stokes's theorem in a special case follows from Green's theorem. Suppose that D is a region in the x - y plane with positively oriented boundary and suppose that $\mathbf{F} = F_1 \mathbf{i} + F_2 \mathbf{j}$ where $F_1 = P$ and $F_2 = Q$, where P and Q are independent of z . Then

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ P & Q & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \mathbf{k} \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right), \quad \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n}$$

It follows that

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{R} = \int_C P dx + Q dy, \quad \iint_D \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dx dy = \iint_D \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dx dy$$

And hence a special case of Stokes theorem follows from Green's theorem

$$\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{R} = \iint_D \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS$$

Let us now finally discuss how to prove Green's theorem for a region of type 3, which means it is a region of type 1: $D = \{(x, y); f_1(x) \leq y \leq f_2(x)\}$, $a \leq x \leq b\}$ and a region of type 2: $D = \{(x, y); g_1(y) \leq x \leq g_2(y)\}$, $c \leq y \leq d\}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_D \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \, dx dy &= \int_a^b \int_{f_1(x)}^{f_2(x)} \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}(x, y) \, dy \, dx = \int_a^b P(x, f_2(x)) \, dx - \int_a^b P(x, f_1(x)) \, dx \\ &= - \int_b^a P(x, f_2(x)) \, dx - \int_a^b P(x, f_1(x)) \, dx = - \int_C P dx. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly

$$\iint_D \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \, dx dy = \int_c^d \int_{g_1(y)}^{g_2(y)} \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}(x, y) \, dx \, dy = \dots = \int_C Q dy.$$