

Fundamental Theorem for Definite Integrals

If $F'(x) = f(x)$, then $\int_a^b f(x) dx = F(b) - F(a)$.

By substituting, we can also write the conclusion as

$$\int_a^b F'(x) dx = F(b) - F(a).$$

Note: In the above and following theorems, a hypothesis on continuity of the integrand is omitted in order to focus on other details. In the following, a hypothesis on “niceness” of the relevant region is also omitted for the same reason.

Fundamental Theorem for Line Integrals

Let C be a curve that starts at A and ends at B . If $\vec{\nabla}V = \vec{F}$, then

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = V(B) - V(A).$$

By substituting, we can also write the conclusion as

$$\int_C \vec{\nabla}V \cdot d\vec{r} = V(B) - V(A).$$

The Divergence Theorem

Let D be a solid region with the closed surface S as the edge of D and area element vectors $d\vec{A}$ for S oriented outward. If $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{F} = f$, then

$$\iiint_D f \, dV = \oiint_S \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A}.$$

By substituting, we can also write the conclusion as

$$\iiint_D (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{F}) \, dV = \oiint_S \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A}.$$

Stokes' Theorem

Let S be a surface with the closed curve C as the edge of S . Orient the area element vectors $d\vec{A}$ and the curve C to have a right-hand relation. If $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = \vec{G}$, then

$$\iint_S \vec{G} \cdot d\vec{A} = \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}.$$

By substituting, we can also write the conclusion as

$$\iint_S (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F}) \cdot d\vec{A} = \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}.$$

Green's Theorem (as a special case of Stokes' Theorem)

Start with $\vec{F} = P(x, y)\hat{i} + Q(x, y)\hat{j} + 0\hat{k}$.

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = (0 - 0)\hat{i} - (0 - 0)\hat{j} + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\right)\hat{k} = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\right)\hat{k}.$$

D : region in the xy -plane with closed curve C as edge.

Orient curve C counterclockwise.

Express area element vectors as $d\vec{A} = dx dy \hat{k}$.

$$(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F}) \cdot d\vec{A} = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\right)\hat{k} \cdot dx dy \hat{k} = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\right) dx dy.$$

Stokes' Theorem for this case:

$$\iint_D \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\right) dx dy = \oint_C (P\hat{i} + Q\hat{j}) \cdot d\vec{r}.$$

Green's Theorem (alternate notation)

Using an alternate notation for line integrals, Green's Theorem can also be written as

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

All together now

FTC
$$\int_a^b F'(x) dx = F(b) - F(a)$$

FTC for line integrals
$$\int_C \vec{\nabla} V \cdot d\vec{r} = V(B) - V(A)$$

Divergence
$$\iiint_D (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{F}) dV = \oiint_S \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A}$$

Stokes'
$$\iint_S (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F}) \cdot d\vec{A} = \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

Green's
$$\iint_D \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) dx dy = \oint_C P dx + Q dy.$$

Common structure

The theorems given above all have the same all of which have the same basic structure:

Integrating the derivative of a function over a region gives the same value as integrating the function itself over the edge of the region.

In the case of a one-dimensional region such as a curve, the edge consists of only two points so integrating over the edge reduces to simply adding together two values.

$$\text{FTC} \quad \int_a^b F'(x) dx = F(b) - F(a) = (-1)F(a) + F(b)$$

Factor of -1 accounts for orientation: at $x = a$, the direction pointing out of the segment $[a, b]$ is the negative direction while at $x = b$, the outward pointing direction is the positive direction.

Importance/utility of the fundamental theorems

Aesthetics: Beautiful unity among the various types of function, derivative, and integral we have explored in calculus.

Utility: Rather than evaluate an integral directly, we can trade it in for a related expression that is easier to evaluate. You are very familiar with doing this when you trade in a definite integral

$\int_a^b f(x) dx$ for the sum $(-1)F(a) + F(b) = F(b) - F(a)$.

Utility: Given information about the derivative of a function at each point in a region, we can deduce information about certain integrals for the function itself (and vice versa).