

Integrate The Given Function Over The Given Surface. $G(x,y,z) = x$ Over The Parabolic Cylinder $Y = X^2$,

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Introduction

When solving surface integrals in multivariable calculus, understanding the geometric nature of the surface and the behavior of the integrand is essential. In this article, we will explore how to evaluate the surface integral of the function $G(x,y,z) = x$ over a specific surface—the parabolic cylinder defined by $y = x^2$. Such problems are common in physics and engineering, where flux calculations, mass distributions, and other physical quantities depend on integrating over curved surfaces.

Understanding the Surface: The Parabolic Cylinder $y = x^2$

Definition and Geometric Description

The surface in question is a parabolic cylinder, which can be described as:

- Equation: $y = x^2$
- Surface in three-dimensional space: Extends infinitely along the z -axis.
- Shape: A parabola in the xy -plane, extruded infinitely in the z -direction.

This surface is a classic example in multivariable calculus, often used to illustrate the method of parametrization and surface integrals.

Visualizing the Surface

- In the xy -plane, the parabola opens upward.
- For each fixed x , y varies as $y = x^2$.
- The surface extends infinitely along the z -direction, making it a cylindrical surface.

Setting Up the Surface Integral

To evaluate the surface integral of $\iint_S G(x, y, z) \, dS$ over the surface, it is crucial to:

1. Parameterize the surface.
2. Express the surface element dS .
3. Determine the limits of integration.
4. Perform the integration.

Step 1: Choosing a Suitable Parameterization

Since the surface is described by $y = x^2$ and extends infinitely along z , a natural parameterization uses x and z :

$$\vec{r}(x, z) = (x, y, z) = (x, x^2, z)$$

where:

- x varies over some interval $[x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$.
- z varies over some interval $[z_{\min}, z_{\max}]$.

Note: If the problem specifies bounds, they should be incorporated here. Otherwise, the integral can be set up as an indefinite integral or over a specified region.

Step 2: Calculating the Surface Element dS

The surface element dS can be derived from the parameterization:

$$\vec{r}(x, z) = (x, x^2, z)$$

Compute the partial derivatives:

$$\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial x} = (1, 2x, 0)$$
$$\frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial z} = (0, 0, 1)$$

\]

The surface element vector is given by the cross product:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r}_x \times \vec{r}_z &= \\ \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 1 & 2x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \mathbf{i}(2x \cdot 1 - 0 \cdot 0) - \mathbf{j}(1 \cdot 1 - 0 \cdot 0) + \mathbf{k}(1 \cdot 0 - 2x \cdot 0) \\ \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (2x, -1, 0) \\ \end{aligned}$$

The magnitude of this cross product gives the differential surface area:

$$|\vec{r}_x \times \vec{r}_z| = \sqrt{(2x)^2 + (-1)^2 + 0^2} = \sqrt{4x^2 + 1}$$

Hence, the surface element:

$$d\mathbf{S} = |\vec{r}_x \times \vec{r}_z| \, dx \, dz = \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx \, dz$$

Step 3: Expressing the Integrand

The function $G(x, y, z) = x$ depends solely on x . Using the parameterization:

$$G(x, y, z) = x$$

which simplifies the integral significantly.

Step 4: Setting Up the Surface Integral

Assuming the surface is bounded within specific limits:

- x varies over $[a, b]$,
- z varies over $[z_{\min}, z_{\max}]$,

the surface integral becomes:

$$\iint_S G(x, y, z) \, dS = \int_{z_{\min}}^{z_{\max}} \int_a^b x \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx \, dz$$

Since the integrand and surface element are independent of z , the integral over z simply multiplies the result by $(z_{\max} - z_{\min})$.

Final integral:

$$\left(\int_{z_{\min}}^{z_{\max}} dz \right) \left(\int_a^b x \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx \right) = (z_{\max} - z_{\min}) \int_a^b x \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx$$

Step 5: Computing the Integral over x

Focus on:

$$I = \int x \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx$$

Method: substitution

Let:

$$u = 4x^2 + 1 \rightarrow du = 8x \, dx \rightarrow x \, dx = \frac{du}{8}$$

Rearranged:

$$\int x^8 \, dx = \frac{du}{8}$$

Express I in terms of u :

$$I = \int \sqrt{u} \cdot x^8 \, dx = \int \sqrt{u} \cdot \frac{du}{8} = \frac{1}{8} \int u^{1/2} \, du$$

Integrate:

$$I = \frac{1}{8} \times \frac{2}{3} u^{3/2} + C = \frac{1}{12} u^{3/2} + C$$

Substituting back:

$$u = 4x^2 + 1$$

So,

$$I = \frac{1}{12} (4x^2 + 1)^{3/2}$$

Therefore, the definite integral over $x \in [a, b]$:

$$\int_a^b x \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx = \frac{1}{12} \left[(4b^2 + 1)^{3/2} - (4a^2 + 1)^{3/2} \right]$$

Final Expression for the Surface Integral

Putting it all together:

$$\boxed{\iint_S G(x,y,z) \, dS = (z_{\max} - z_{\min}) \times \frac{1}{12} \left[(4b^2 + 1)^{3/2} - (4a^2 + 1)^{3/2} \right]}$$

$$\right]$$

$$\}$$

$$\backslash]$$

where (a) and (b) define the (x) -limits, and $(z_{\max} - z_{\min})$ represents the extent along the (z) -direction.

Special Cases and Applications

1. Finite Region in (x)

In many physical problems, the surface is bounded within specific limits. For example, if the surface is bounded between $(x = 0)$ and $(x = 1)$, and between $(z = 0)$ and $(z = 2)$:

$$[$$

$$a=0, \quad b=1, \quad z_{\min}=0, \quad z_{\max}=2$$

$$\backslash]$$

then the integral simplifies numerically.

2. Infinite Surfaces

For infinite surfaces, the integral may diverge unless the integrand decays sufficiently fast or the region is truncated.

3. Physical Interpretations

- Flux calculations: The surface integral may represent flux of a vector field where (G) is a component.
- Mass or charge distributions: If (ρ) reflects a density distribution, the integral computes total mass over the surface.

Additional Considerations

Choosing the Proper Surface Boundary

In real applications, the surface often has boundaries or is part of a closed surface. Clarifying the limits and the domain is critical for

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I set up the surface integral of $G(x, y, z) = x$ over the parabolic cylinder $y = x^2$?

To set up the surface integral, parameterize the surface using suitable parameters (e.g., x and y), express z accordingly if needed, and determine the surface element dS . For the parabolic cylinder $y = x^2$, you can use parameters x and y , with the surface defined as (x, y, z) , where z is typically constant or independent if not specified. The integral becomes $\iint_S x \, dS$, with dS expressed in terms of dx and dy .

What is the parametric representation of the surface $y = x^2$ for integrating over it?

A common parametric form is using x and y as parameters: (x, y, z) with $y = x^2$, so the surface can be represented as (x, y, z) , where $y = x^2$, and z can be any function or constant depending on the problem. If no z dependence is specified, the surface is 2D in x and y , with the surface element derived accordingly.

How do I compute the surface element dS for the paraboloid $y = x^2$ when integrating?

To compute dS , parameterize the surface using (x, y) with $y = x^2$. The surface element is given by $|r_x \times r_y| \, dx \, dy$, where r_x and r_y are partial derivatives of the position vector with respect to x and y . Alternatively, if z is constant, use the surface formula for a graph $z = f(x, y)$.

Are there specific limits of integration for x and y when integrating over $y = x^2$?

Yes, the limits depend on the region of the surface you are considering. For example, if integrating over a certain bounded region in the xy -plane, define the bounds for x and y accordingly. Typically, x ranges over an interval, and y ranges from the parabola $y = x^2$ within those x bounds.

How does the orientation of the surface affect the surface integral of $G(x, y, z) = x$?

The orientation determines the sign of the surface element dS . Choosing the upward or downward normal vector affects the sign of the integral. Ensure the normal vector is consistently oriented with the problem's context to correctly evaluate the surface integral.

Can I use Green's theorem or other 2D theorems to evaluate the surface integral over the paraboloid?

Green's theorem applies to line integrals in the plane, not directly to surface integrals over curved surfaces. For surfaces like $y = x^2$, using parameterization and surface calculus is more appropriate unless the problem reduces to a boundary curve in the xy -plane.

What are common mistakes to avoid when integrating a function over a parabolic cylinder surface?

Common mistakes include incorrect parameterization, neglecting the surface element magnitude, misapplying limits of integration, and forgetting to consider surface orientation. Double-check the parameterization, compute the surface element carefully, and verify the bounds for accuracy.

Additional Resources

Integrate The Given Function Over The Given Surface. $G(x,y,z) = x$ Over The Parabolic Cylinder $y = x^2$

Introduction: The Significance of Surface Integrals in Multivariable Calculus

In the realm of multivariable calculus, surface integrals serve as a fundamental tool for analyzing how functions behave over complex geometric surfaces. They extend the concept of integration beyond simple intervals and areas, allowing mathematicians and engineers to quantify quantities such as flux, circulation, and surface area in three-dimensional space. When functions are integrated over surfaces like cylinders, spheres, or paraboloids, they often model real-world phenomena — from fluid flow over a wing to the distribution of electric fields over a charged surface.

This article delves into a specific and instructive problem: evaluating the surface integral of the function $G(x, y, z) = x$ over a surface defined by a parabolic cylinder $(y = x^2)$. This problem exemplifies how geometric constraints influence the integration process and illustrates the step-by-step methodology that transforms a complex surface integral into manageable calculations.

Understanding the Surface: The Parabolic Cylinder $(y = x^2)$

Defining the Surface

The surface in question is given by the equation:

$$\begin{aligned} &[\\ &y = x^2 \\ &] \end{aligned}$$

This describes a parabolic cylinder extending infinitely along the (z) -axis, with the parabola opening in the positive and negative (y) -directions depending on (x) . The surface is characterized by the following features:

- Unbounded in the (x) and (z) directions: The parabola extends infinitely along (x) , and the surface extends infinitely along (z) .
- Parabolic cross-section: For fixed (z) , the cross-section in the (xy) -plane is a parabola.
- Surface parameterization necessity: To evaluate integrals over this surface, establishing a parameterization that captures the geometry accurately is crucial.

Physical and Mathematical Relevance

Understanding such surfaces is not purely academic; they model physical structures like parabolic reflectors or certain types of parabolic shells in engineering. In physics, the surface integral of a function like $(G(x, y, z) = x)$ could represent flux or other physical quantities depending on the context. The unbounded nature of the surface, however, necessitates defining limits or considering a bounded region for practical calculations.

Parameterization of the Surface

To evaluate the surface integral, the first step is to parameterize the surface $(y = x^2)$.

Choosing Appropriate Parameters

Since the surface extends infinitely in (x) and (z) , an effective parameterization involves selecting (x) and (z) as parameters:

$$\mathbf{r}(x, z) = (x, y, z) = (x, x^2, z)$$

where:

- $(x \in \mathbb{R})$ (or a specified bounded interval for bounded integrals),
- $(z \in \mathbb{R})$ (or bounded if finite surface area is considered).

This parameterization explicitly tracks points on the surface, with the parameters (x, z) covering the entire surface when unbounded.

Calculating Surface Elements

The differential surface element $(d\mathbf{S})$ can be expressed using the cross product of the partial derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{r}_x &= \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial x} = (1, 2x, 0) \\ \mathbf{r}_z &= \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial z} = (0, 0, 1)\end{aligned}$$

The surface element vector:

$$d\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{r}_x \times \mathbf{r}_z \, dx \, dz$$

Calculating the cross product:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{r}_x \times \mathbf{r}_z &= \\ \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \end{vmatrix} &\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (1 \cdot 0 - 0 \cdot 2x) \mathbf{i} - (1 \cdot 0 - 0 \cdot 0) \mathbf{j} + (1 \cdot 0 - 2x \cdot 0) \mathbf{k}$$

$$= (0, 0, -2x)$$

$$= (0, 0, -2x)$$

$$= (0, 0, -2x)$$

$$\mathbf{r}_x \times \mathbf{r}_z = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 1 & 2x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

The magnitude of this vector gives the differential surface area element:

$$dS = \sqrt{(2x)^2 + (-1)^2 + 0^2} = \sqrt{4x^2 + 1}$$

$$dS = \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx \, dz$$

$$dS = \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx \, dz$$

Thus, the differential surface element magnitude:

$$dS = \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx \, dz$$

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Formulating the Surface Integral

General Expression

The surface integral of a scalar function $G(x, y, z)$ over a surface S is given by:

$$\iint_S G(x, y, z) \, dS$$

$$\iint_S G(x, y, z) \, dS$$

$$\iint_S G(x, y, z) \, dS$$

Using the parameterization, this becomes:

$$\iint_D G(\mathbf{r}(x, z)) \, |\mathbf{r}_x \times \mathbf{r}_z| \, dx \, dz$$

$$\iint_D G(\mathbf{r}(x, z)) \, |\mathbf{r}_x \times \mathbf{r}_z| \, dx \, dz$$

$$\iint_D G(\mathbf{r}(x, z)) \, |\mathbf{r}_x \times \mathbf{r}_z| \, dx \, dz$$

where D is the domain in the xz -plane over which the surface is integrated.

Applying to Our Function $G(\mathbf{x}, y, z) = x$

Since $y = x^2$, the function simplifies to:

$$G(\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{x}, z)) = x$$

The integral becomes:

$$\iint_D x \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx \, dz$$

The limits of integration depend on the region of interest, which is not specified in the problem statement. For a bounded problem, typical limits could be finite intervals for x and z . For the scope of this analysis, we consider a bounded region:

- $x \in [x_1, x_2]$,
- $z \in [z_1, z_2]$.

The integral then reads:

$$\int_{z_1}^{z_2} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} x \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx \, dz$$

Evaluating the Integral

Integration Process

Since the integrand separates into a product involving x and z (with no z -dependence), the integral over z can be factored out:

$$\left(\int_{z_1}^{z_2} dz \right) \left(\int_{x_1}^{x_2} x \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx \right)$$

The first integral:

$$\int_{z_1}^{z_2} dz = Z = z_2 - z_1$$

The second integral:

$$I = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} x \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx$$

This integral requires substitution and careful algebraic manipulation.

Calculating I

Let's focus on the integral:

$$I = \int x \sqrt{4x^2 + 1} \, dx$$

Substitution Strategy:

Let:

$$u = 4x^2 + 1$$

Then:

$$du = 8x \, dx \Rightarrow x \, dx = \frac{du}{8}$$

Expressed in terms of u , the integral becomes:

$$I = \int \sqrt{u} \cdot \frac{du}{8} = \frac{1}{8} \int u^{1/2} \, du$$

Integrate:

$$\int \frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{2}{3} u^{3/2} + C = \frac{1}{12} u^{3/2} + C$$

Substituting back for (u) :

$$I = \frac{1}{12} (4x^2 + 1)^{3/2}$$

Definite Integral:

$$I = \left. \frac{1}{12} (4x^2 + 1)^{3/2} \right|_{x=x_1}^{x=x_2}$$

Thus, the entire surface integral over the specified bounds is:

$$\boxed{\iint_S G \, dS = \int \frac{1}{12} (4x^2 + 1)^{3/2}}$$

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