

Name:

Math 241, Section F1H, Fall 2007  
Graded HW Assignment 10, Due 11/5/2007

1. **Finding a potential function for a given vector field  $\vec{F}$ .** Use the *systematic* approach I used in class (via “partial integration”, e.g., as in Example 5 in 14.3), rather than what the book calls the “inspection” method (which really means just plain guessing). Once you have come up with an  $f$ , you can check your answer by computing the partial derivatives  $f_x$  and  $f_y$ , and checking whether those are equal to the given functions  $P$  and  $Q$ .
2. **Finding a potential function for a three-dimensional vector fields.** This is needed in 14.3:28. The basic procedure for finding a potential is the same as in the 2-dimensional case, but the “integration constants” are now functions of two (instead of one) variable: The first step is to integrate  $P$  with respect to  $x$  and set the result equal to  $f(x, y, z)$ . This gives  $f(x, y, z) = \text{something} + g(y, z)$ , where  $g(y, z)$  represents the “integration constant”. Next, differentiate  $f(x, y, z)$  with respect to  $y$  (i.e., computing  $f_y$ ) and set the result equal to  $Q$  to obtain an equation of the form (1)  $g_y(y, z) = \text{something}$ . Similarly, computing  $f_z$  one obtains an equation of the form (2)  $g_z(y, z) = \text{something}$ , where “something” stands for some function of  $y$  and  $z$ . Now the equations (1)–(2) combined represent a 2-dimensional “find the potential” problem, and can be solved as such to find  $g(y, z)$ , and hence  $f(x, y, z)$ .
3. **Problem 14.3:30** This is the example mentioned in class in which independence of path does in general not hold, due to a “hole” in the domain at  $(0, 0)$ . Just compute the integral over each of the two paths *explicitly* (i.e., by parametrizing each of the two paths and calculating the line integral using this parametrization). You can ignore the two questions at the end since these were addressed in class.
4. **Problem 14.3:36** To compute the line integral representing the work, find a potential for the given field  $\vec{F}$ . (Hint: This came up in a problem in 14.1.)
5. **Problem 14.4:27** This is a calculation involving the  $\nabla$  operator, unrelated to Green’s Theorem, of the type that came up in 14.1 (see 14.1:33). Note that  $\nabla^2$  is to be interpreted as the dot product  $\nabla \cdot \nabla$ , and evaluate the left side explicitly, using the definition  $\nabla = \langle \partial/\partial x, \partial/\partial y \rangle$  and the product rule for partial derivatives. After a couple of intermediate steps, you should end up with the expression on the right of the equation.

## Problems

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|------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. 14.3:6  | 8. 14.4:3                         |
| 2. 14.3:8  | 9. 14.4:4 (Answer: 1/5)           |
| 3. 14.3:16 | 10. 14.4:13                       |
| 4. 14.3:23 | 11. 14.4:17                       |
| 5. 14.3:28 | 12. 14.4:21                       |
| 6. 14.3:30 | 13. 14.4:22 (Answer: $243\pi/2$ ) |
| 7. 14.3:36 | 14. 14.4:27                       |
|            | 15. 14.4:29                       |