

\vec{F} is conservative in a simply-connected region of interest

Zero rest length spring: $\vec{F} = k(\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1)$

$$\vec{F}(t, \vec{r}, \vec{v}) = \vec{F}(\vec{r})$$

Near Earth Gravity

Far Earth gravity

Springs

Example:

$$\vec{F} = -kr\hat{e}_r = -k(x\hat{e} + y\hat{j})$$

Example

$$\vec{F} = Kr\hat{e}_\theta = K(-y\hat{e} + x\hat{j})$$

\vec{F} is conservative

1.

$E_p(\vec{r})$ exists with $\vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla} E_p$

$$F_x = -\frac{\partial E_p}{\partial x}, F_y = -\frac{\partial E_p}{\partial y}$$

Ex. 1. $E_p = \frac{kr^2}{2}$, $E_p = \text{no such thing}$

$$\text{2. } \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x}$$

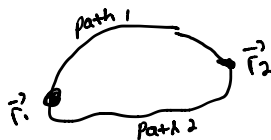
Ex. 1. $0 = 0 \checkmark$

Ex. 2. $-1 \neq 1 \times$

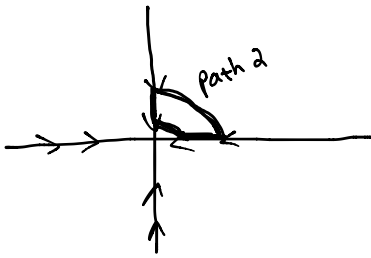
3. For any pair, \vec{r}_1 and \vec{r}_2 and any pair of paths between them:

$\int_{\vec{r}_1}^{\vec{r}_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ is path independent

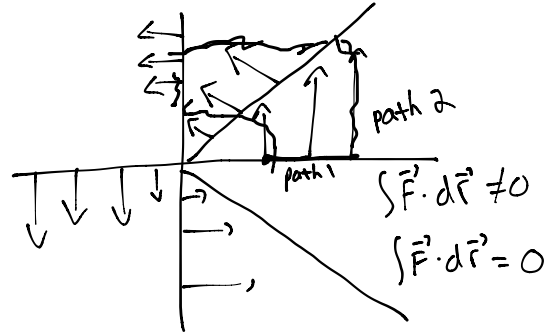
The Work integral



Ex. 1



Ex. 2



4. $\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$ all closed paths

"net work of the force when going on a 'round trip' = 0"

Ex. 1 $\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$

Ex. 2 $\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} \neq 0$

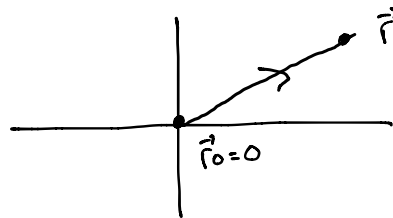
If one closed path is nonzero, it's bad

5. $E_p(\vec{r}) = \int_{\vec{r}_0}^{\vec{r}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$

\vec{r} of your choice, path of your choice

Ex. 1 $\vec{F} = K\vec{r}$

$$\int_{\vec{r}_0}^{\vec{r}} \vec{F}(\vec{r}') \cdot d\vec{r}'$$



parameterization: $\vec{r}' = t\vec{r}$

$$0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$d\vec{r}' = d(t\vec{r}) = \vec{r} dt$$

$$\vec{F}(\vec{r}') = K\vec{r}' = Kt\vec{r}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{F}(\vec{r}') \cdot d\vec{r}' &= Kt\vec{r} \cdot \vec{r} dt \\ &= r^2 K t dt \end{aligned}$$

$$-\int_{\vec{r}_0}^{\vec{r}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}' = \int_0^t k r^2 t dt = -k r^2 \int_0^t t dt = -\frac{k r^2}{2} = E_p$$

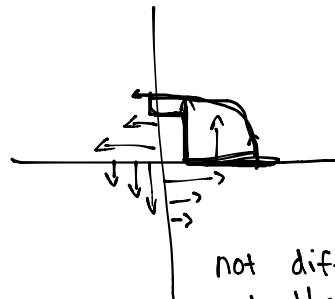
Ex. 2 There is no E_p

$$\vec{F} = -y\hat{i} + x\hat{j} \quad \text{Non-conservative} \quad \text{valuable}$$

Subtle example $\vec{F} = \frac{1}{r}\hat{e}_\theta$

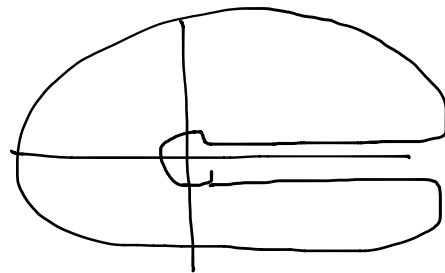
Conservative or not conservative

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = 0 \quad \text{everywhere but } 0$$



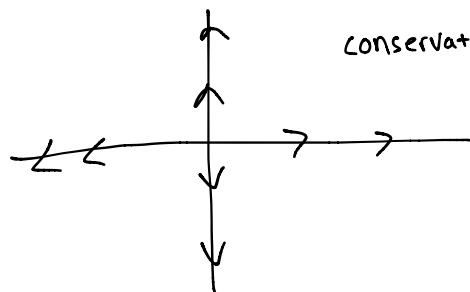
not differentiable at the origin

You can't go around the origin
-if you do it's not conservative



Conservative

$$\text{Ex } \vec{F} = k\vec{r}$$



conservative, and goes to infinity

negative spring

Multi-particle systems

$$\vec{F} = \vec{F}(t, \vec{r}^1, \vec{r}^2, \dots, \vec{r}^i, \dots, \vec{r}^n, \vec{v}^1, \vec{v}^2, \dots, \vec{v}^n)$$