

Applying Green's Theorem to determine Growth of Annual Lines of a Plant

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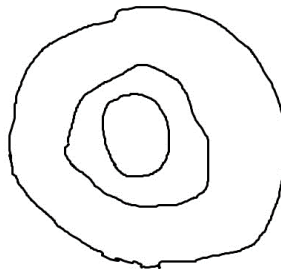
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Abstract: By applying the Green's theorem on a simple mathematical model. I intend to find the nature of growth of the annual rings of a plant. Though this paper has taken ideal cases and is just an approximation. The insight of the paper is purely mathematical.

Keywords: Greens theorem, annual rings, cross section, stem

I. INTRODUCTION

We start by taking a system in which we take an arbitrary formation of annual line in some stem. By taking a centre of the stem, we measure the distance from the centre to a point on the annual line. We define each components taken as a vector.



The girth of a tree increases by distance s .

Here, \vec{s} is taken a vector quantity. The point on the annual line moved from the centre by distance \vec{s} in a certain direction on the 2-D plane (cross section of the stem).

\vec{r} is a small vector taken on the curve of the annual ring. Where r is an element of a line.

Say the angle made by the line from the centre of the stem to the point of which we are measuring the growth and at a tangential distance r from the point is θ .

Thus,

$$\vec{r} = \vec{s} \tan\theta$$

The differential is,

$$d\vec{r} = d\vec{s} \tan\theta$$

As \vec{r} is an element itself,

$$d\vec{r} = \vec{s}d\tan\theta$$

From Green's theorem we can say,

$$\oint \vec{s}d\tan\theta \cdot \vec{r} = \iint \nabla \times d\vec{s} \cdot dA$$

Above we define the function, which now can be operated with the Green's theorem

Now we see,

$$\vec{s} \cdot \vec{r} = 0 \text{ As, } \vec{s} \text{ and } \vec{r} \text{ are perpendicular}$$

Hence,

$$\iint \nabla \times \vec{s} \cdot dA = 0$$

The 2-D curl of $d\vec{s}$ is,

$$\iint \left(\frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial \vec{g}}{\partial x} \right) \cdot dA = 0$$

As dA cannot be 0,

$$\frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial \vec{g}}{\partial x} = 0$$

II. CONCLUSION

Hence one family of solution is f is only a function of x , $f(x)$ and g is only a function of y , $g(y)$.

Hence we observe the growth of the annual rings over the y axis is only dependent upon the value for y in the given point, while we observe that the growth in x direction is only dependent on the value for x in the given point.

Now this be our first interpretation. There is also a possibility of $\frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial \vec{g}}{\partial x}$

Now if we consider this possibility, we know about the infinite possibilities of the solution of f and g , that may be both dependent on x and y .

However, we can conclude the nature of growth of the annual lines in the plant by a simple property of mathematics. We have arrived at a possible partial differential equation that may guide the above phenomena.

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