

Use Green's theorem to evaluate

$$\oint_C ((x^2 + xy)dx + (x^2 + y^2)dy)$$

where C is the square formed by the lines  $y=\pm 1$  and  $x=\pm 1$ .

Solution:

Green's theorem:

Let  $C$  be a positively oriented, piecewise smooth, simple closed curve in a plane, and let  $D$  be the region bounded by  $C$ . If  $L$  and  $M$  are functions of  $(x, y)$  defined on an open region containing  $D$  and have continuous partial derivatives there, then

$$\oint_C (L(x, y)dx + M(x, y)dy) = \iint_D \left( \frac{\partial M}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} \right) dxdy$$

where the path of integration along  $C$  is counterclockwise.

In our case

$$L(x, y) = x^2 + xy, M(x, y) = x^2 + y^2,$$

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial x} = 2x, \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} = x.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_C ((x^2 + xy)dx + (x^2 + y^2)dy) &= \iint_D (2x - x) dxdy = \\ &= \iint_D x dxdy = \int_{-1}^1 dy \int_{-1}^1 x dx = \int_{-1}^1 \left( \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_{-1}^1 \right) dy = \int_{-1}^1 \left( \frac{1^2}{2} - \frac{(-1)^2}{2} \right) dy = \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right) dy = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Answer:

$$\oint_C ((x^2 + xy)dx + (x^2 + y^2)dy) = 0$$