

Finding Area enclosed by a curve.

If a curve is in the  $x - y$  plane, then, since  $d\mathbf{S} = \langle 0, 0, |d\mathbf{S}| \rangle$  if  $\nabla \times F = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$  then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= \int \int_S dS = \int \int \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \\ &= \int \int_S \nabla \times F \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \int_{\partial S} F \cdot dr \end{aligned}$$

Possible choices for  $\mathbf{F}$  are  $\mathbf{F} = \langle -y, 0, 0 \rangle$  or  $\mathbf{F} = \langle 0, x, 0 \rangle$  or  $\mathbf{F} = \langle \frac{-y}{2}, \frac{x}{2}, 0 \rangle$