

Section 15.4

Integration in Polar, Cylindrical, and Spherical Coordinates

Double Integrals in Polar Coordinates

Example

Re-scaling the Area Elements

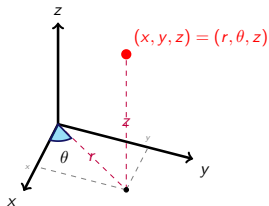
Triple Integrals in Cylindrical and Spherical Coordinates Formulas

Example, Cylindrical

Example, Simple and Non-Simple Regions in Picture

Examples, Spherical

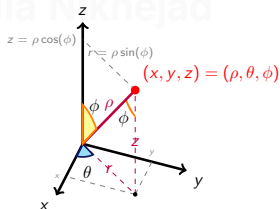
Cylindrical Coordinates



▶ [Link](#)

▶ [PreLecture Video](#)

Spherical Coordinates



Double Integrals in Polar Coordinates

Recall the **change-of-variables formula for double integrals**: if $G(u, v) = (x(u, v), y(u, v))$ is a transformation with $G(S) = R$, then

$$\iint_R f(x, y) dA_{xy} = \iint_S f(x(u, v), y(u, v)) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| dA_{uv}.$$

The transformation from polar to rectangular coordinates is $G(r, \theta) = (x, y) = (r \cos(\theta), r \sin(\theta))$, with Jacobian $\left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(r, \theta)} \right| = r$.

Double Integral Formula in Polar Coordinates

$$\iint_R f(x, y) dA_{xy} = \iint_S f(r \cos(\theta), r \sin(\theta)) \boxed{r} dA_{r\theta}$$

where the region R is described in rectangular coordinates x, y on the left side, and in polar coordinates r, θ on the right side.

1 Double Integrals in Polar Coordinates

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Double Integrals in Polar Coordinates

The double integral formula in polar coordinates is

$$\iint_R f(x, y) dx dy = \iint_S f(r \cos(\theta), r \sin(\theta)) r dr d\theta$$

or more simply

$$\iint_R f dx dy = \iint_S f r dr d\theta$$

or even more simply

$$dA = dx dy = r dr d\theta.$$

The object dA is sometimes called the **area element**. This is useful for regions that are easier to describe in polar coordinates.

Example 1: Let D be the disk of radius 1 centered at $(0,0)$. Evaluate

$$\iint_D e^{x^2+y^2} dA.$$

Solution: In polar coordinates,

$$D = \{(r, \theta) \mid 0 \leq r \leq 1, 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi\}.$$

Since $r^2 = x^2 + y^2$,

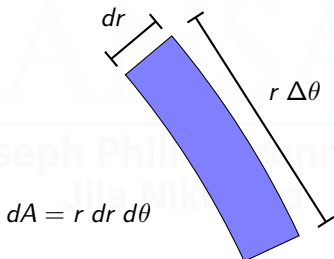
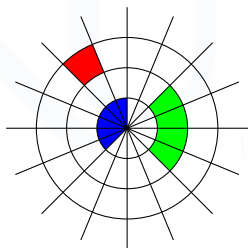
$$\begin{aligned} \iint_D e^{x^2+y^2} dA &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^1 e^{r^2} r dr d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \left[\frac{e^{r^2}}{2} \right]_0^1 d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{2}(e - 1) d\theta = \pi(e - 1) \end{aligned}$$

Polar Rectangles

In general, a region described in polar coordinates by

$$R = \{(r, \theta) : a \leq r \leq b, p \leq \theta \leq q\}$$

is called a **polar rectangle**. It corresponds to a section of an annulus:



(Recall that the measure of an angle in radians is $\frac{\text{arc length}}{\text{radius}}$.)

2 Triple Integrals in Cylindrical and Spherical Coordinates Formulas

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Triple Integrals in Cylindrical and Spherical Coordinates

Remember the change-of-variables formula for triple integrals:

Let $G(u, v, w) = (x, y, z)$ be a transformation with $G(S) = R$. Then

$$\iiint_R f(x, y, z) dV_{xyz} = \iiint_S f(G(u, v, w)) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(u, v, w)} \right| dV_{uvw}.$$

Transformations from **cylindrical** or **spherical** to rectangular coordinates:

$$G(r, \theta, z) = (r \cos(\theta), r \sin(\theta), z) \quad (\text{cylindrical})$$

$$H(\rho, \phi, \theta) = (\rho \sin(\phi) \cos(\theta), \rho \sin(\phi) \sin(\theta), \rho \cos(\phi)) \quad (\text{spherical})$$

$$\text{Jac}(G) = \frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(r, \theta, z)} = \begin{vmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -r \sin(\theta) & 0 \\ \sin(\theta) & r \cos(\theta) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \boxed{r}$$

$$\text{Jac}(H) = \frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(\rho, \phi, \theta)} = \begin{vmatrix} \sin(\phi) \cos(\theta) & \rho \cos(\phi) \cos(\theta) & -\rho \sin(\phi) \sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\phi) \sin(\theta) & \rho \cos(\phi) \sin(\theta) & \rho \sin(\phi) \cos(\theta) \\ \cos(\phi) & -\rho \sin(\phi) & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \boxed{\rho^2 \sin(\phi)}$$

Triple Integrals in Cylindrical Coordinates

$$\iiint_R f(x, y, z) \, dx \, dy \, dz = \iiint_{G^{-1}(R)} f(G(r, \theta, z)) \boxed{r} \, dr \, d\theta \, dz$$

Triple Integrals in Spherical Coordinates

$$\iiint_R f(x, y, z) \, dx \, dy \, dz = \iiint_{H^{-1}(R)} f(H(\rho, \phi, \theta)) \boxed{\rho^2 \sin(\phi)} \, d\rho \, d\phi \, d\theta$$

where $G(r, \theta, z) = (x, y, z)$ and $H(\rho, \phi, \theta) = (x, y, z)$.

Or, for short:

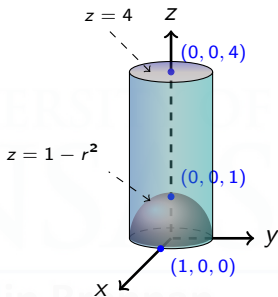
Volume Element in \mathbb{R}^3

$$dV = dx \, dy \, dz = r \, dr \, d\theta \, dz = \rho^2 \sin(\phi) \, d\rho \, d\phi \, d\theta.$$

Cylindrical Triple Integrals: Example

Example 2: Integrate $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2$ over the solid S contained inside the cylinder $x^2 + y^2 = 1$, under the plane $z = 4$, and above the elliptic paraboloid $z = 1 - x^2 - y^2$.

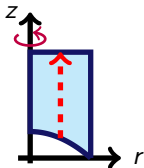
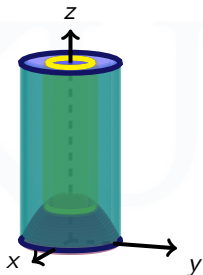
Solution: In cylindrical coordinates, the solid S has bounds $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$, $0 \leq r \leq 1$, $1 - r^2 \leq z \leq 4$.



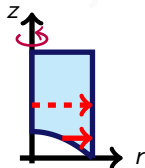
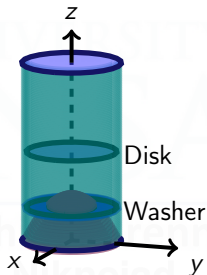
$$\begin{aligned} \iiint_S (x^2 + y^2) dV &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^1 \int_{1-r^2}^4 r^3 dz dr d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^1 3r^3 + r^5 dr d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \left[\frac{3r^4}{4} + \frac{r^6}{6} \right]_0^1 d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{11}{12} d\theta = \boxed{\frac{11\pi}{6}} \end{aligned}$$

Cylindrical Integrals: Example 2 Continued

The cylindrical integral set-up in order $dz dr d\theta$ can be described similar to the shell method.

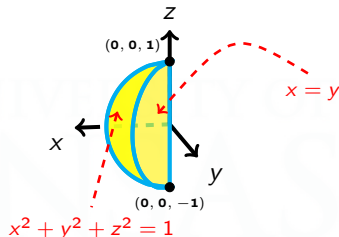


The cylindrical integral set-up in order $dr dz d\theta$, can be described similar to the washer method.



Spherical Triple Integrals: Example

Example 3: Set up (but do not evaluate) the integral $\iiint_W y \, dv$, where W is the “orange slice” bounded by the unit ball and the planes $y = 0$ and $y = x$, as shown.



Solution: In spherical coordinates,

$$W = \{(\rho, \phi, \theta) \mid 0 \leq \rho \leq 1, 0 \leq \phi \leq \pi, 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4\}$$

so

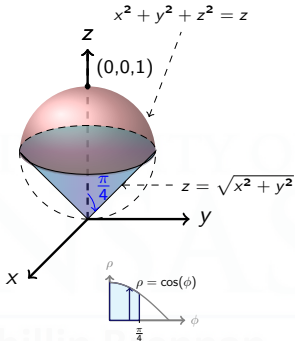
$$\iiint_W y \, dv = \int_0^1 \int_0^\pi \int_0^{\pi/4} \underbrace{\rho \sin \phi \sin \theta}_y \underbrace{\rho^2 \sin(\phi) \, d\theta \, d\phi \, d\rho}_{dV}$$

Spherical Triple Integrals: Example

Example 4: Find the volume of the solid contained above the cone $z = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ and below the sphere $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = z$.

Solution: In spherical coordinates, the solid has bounds $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$, $0 \leq \phi \leq \frac{\pi}{4}$, and $0 \leq \rho \leq \cos(\phi)$.

(For the bound on ρ , write $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = z$ in spherical coordinates as $\rho^2 = \rho \cos(\phi)$.)



$$\begin{aligned} \iiint_S 1 \, dV &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \int_0^{\cos(\phi)} \int_0^{2\pi} \rho^2 \sin(\phi) \, d\theta \, d\rho \, d\phi \\ &= \frac{2\pi}{3} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \underbrace{\sin(\phi) \cos^3(\phi)}_{u=\cos(\phi), du=-\sin(\phi)d\phi} \, d\phi = \frac{2\pi}{3} \int_1^{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}} -u^3 \, du = \frac{\pi}{8} \end{aligned}$$