

Compute iterated triple integrals

Useful facts: Suppose that $f(x, y, z)$ is continuous on a spacial region T , and T is **z -simple**: each line parallel to the z -axis intersects T (if not empty) in a a single line segment. An example of such region is

$$z_1(x, y) \leq z \leq z_2(x, y), \text{ and } (x, y) \text{ in } R,$$

where R is the vertical projection of T into the plane $z = 0$. Then

$$\int \int \int_T f(x, y, z) dV = \int \int_R \left(\int_{z_1(x, y)}^{z_2(x, y)} f(x, y, z) dz \right) dA.$$

Example (1) Compute the value of the triple integral $\int \int \int_T f(x, y, z) dV$, where $f(x, y, z) = xy \sin z$, and T is the cube $0 \leq x \leq \pi$, $0 \leq y \leq \pi$ and $0 \leq z \leq \pi$.

Solution: Then R is the region $0 \leq x \leq \pi$ and $0 \leq y \leq \pi$ on $z = 0$. Therefore,

$$\int \int \int_T xy \sin z dV = \int \int_R \left(\int_0^\pi xy \sin z dz \right) dA = \int_0^\pi x dx \int_0^\pi y dy \int_0^\pi \sin z dz = \frac{\pi^2}{2} \frac{\pi^2}{2} (2) = \frac{\pi^4}{2}.$$

Example (2) Compute the value of the triple integral $\int \int \int_T f(x, y, z) dV$, where $f(x, y, z) = 2x + 3y$, and T is the tetrahedron bounded by the coordinate planes and the first octant part of the plane with equation $2x + 3y + z = 6$.

Solution: Then R is the region on $z = 0$ bounded by $x = 0$, $y = 0$ and $2x + 3y = 6$, which can be described as $0 \leq x \leq 3$ and $0 \leq y \leq 2 - \frac{2x}{3}$. Note that here $z_1(x, y) = 0$ and $z_2(x, y) = 6 - 2x - 3y$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \int \int \int_T (2x + 3y) dV &= \int \int_R \left(\int_0^{6-2x-3y} (2x + 3y) dz \right) dA = \int_0^3 \int_0^{2-\frac{2x}{3}} \int_0^{6-2x-3y} (2x + 3y) dz dy dx \\ &= \int_0^3 \int_0^{2-\frac{2x}{3}} (12x + 18y - 4x^2 - 12xy - 9y^2) dy dx = 18. \end{aligned}$$

Example (3) Compute the value of the triple integral $\int \int \int_T f(x, y, z) dV$, where $f(x, y, z) = x + y$, and T is the region between the surfaces $z = 2 - x^2$ and $z = x^2$ from $0 \leq y \leq 3$.

Solution: The two surfaces $z = 2 - x^2$ and $z = x^2$ intersect in two lines $x = 1$ and $x = -1$ (solve the equations $z = 2 - x^2$ and $z = x^2$ for x to find it out). Then R is the region on $z = 0$ bounded by the lines $x = -1$, $x = 1$, $y = 0$ and $y = 3$. Note that here $z_1(x, y) = x^2$ and $z_2(x, y) = 2 - x^2$. Therefore,

$$\int \int \int_T (x + y) dV = \int \int_R \left(\int_{x^2}^{2-x^2} (x + y) dz \right) dA = \int_0^3 \int_{-1}^1 \int_{x^2}^{2-x^2} (x + y) dz dx dy$$

Example (4) Find the volume of the solid bounded by these surfaces $z = x^2 + y^2$, $z = 0$, $x = 0$, $y = 0$ and $x + y = 1$.

Solution: The region R on the xy -plane is bounded by $x = 0$, $y = 0$ and $x + y = 1$. The surfaces $z = x^2 + y^2$ and $z = 0$ tops and bottoms the solid. Therefore,

$$\text{Volume} = \iint_R \left(\int_0^{x^2+y^2} dz \right) dA = \int_0^1 \int_0^{1-x} (x^2 + y^2) dy dx = \frac{1}{6}.$$

Compute the mass and the centroid of a solid

Useful facts: Suppose that $\delta(x, y, z)$ denotes the density function of a solid T . Let m denote the **mass** of T , and $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$ denote the coordinates the **centroid** of T . and I_x, I_y and I_z denote the **moments** of T around the x -axis, the y -axis and the z -axis, respectively. Then

$$\begin{aligned} m &= \iiint_T \delta(x, y, z) dV. \\ \bar{x} &= \frac{1}{m} \iiint_T x \delta(x, y, z) dV. \\ \bar{y} &= \frac{1}{m} \iiint_T y \delta(x, y, z) dV. \\ \bar{z} &= \frac{1}{m} \iiint_T z \delta(x, y, z) dV. \\ I_x &= \iiint_T (y^2 + z^2) \delta(x, y, z) dV. \\ I_y &= \iiint_T (x^2 + z^2) \delta(x, y, z) dV. \\ I_z &= \iiint_T (y^2 + x^2) \delta(x, y, z) dV. \end{aligned}$$

Example (1) Find the centroid of the solid T bounded by $z = x^2$, $y + z = 4$, $y = 0$ and $z = 0$, given the density function $\delta \equiv 1$.

Solution: As the density is 1, this is the same as to find the volume. View the y -axis as the vertical axis. Then T lies between $y = 0$ and $y = 4 - z$. The region R on the xz -plane is bounded by $z = x^2$ and $z = 4$ (obtained by substituting $y = 0$ in $y + z = 4$). Therefore, the mass is

$$\begin{aligned} m &= \iint_R \left(\int_0^{4-z} dy \right) dA = \int_{-2}^2 \int_{x^2}^4 (4 - z) dz dx = \int_{-2}^2 \left[4z - \frac{z^2}{2} \right]_{x^2}^4 dx \\ &= \int_{-2}^2 \left(8 - 4x^2 + \frac{x^4}{2} \right) dx = \left[8x - \frac{4x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{10} \right]_{-2}^2 = 64 \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{10} \right) = \frac{256}{15}. \end{aligned}$$

The coordinates of the centroid is

$$\bar{x} = \frac{15}{256} \int_{-2}^2 \int_{x^2}^4 \int_0^{4-z} x dy dz dx = \frac{15}{256} \int_{-2}^2 \int_0^{x^2} (4 - z) x dz dx = \int_{-2}^2 \left(8x - 4x^3 + \frac{x^5}{2} \right) dx = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{y} &= \frac{15}{256} \int_{-2}^2 \int_{x^2}^4 \int_0^{4-z} y dy dz dx = \frac{15}{256} \int_{-2}^2 \int_{x^2}^4 \frac{(4-z)^2}{2} dz dx = \frac{15}{256} \int_{-2}^2 \frac{1}{2} \int_{x^2}^4 (16 - 8z + z^2) dz dx \\
&= \frac{15}{512} \int_{-2}^2 \left[16z - 4z^2 + \frac{z^3}{3} \right]_{x^2}^4 dx = \frac{15}{512} \int_{-2}^2 \left[\frac{64}{3} - 16x^2 + 4x^4 - \frac{x^6}{3} \right] dx \\
&= \frac{15}{512} \left[\frac{64x}{3} - \frac{16x^3}{3} + \frac{4x^5}{5} - \frac{x^7}{21} \right]_{-2}^2 = \frac{15}{512} \left[\frac{256}{3} - \frac{256}{3} + \frac{256}{5} - \frac{256}{21} \right] = \frac{15}{2} \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} \right) = \frac{8}{7}. \\
\bar{z} &= \frac{15}{256} \int_{-2}^2 \int_{x^2}^4 \int_0^{4-z} z dy dz dx = \frac{15}{256} \int_{-2}^2 \int_{x^2}^4 (4z - z^2) dz dx = \frac{15}{256} \int_{-2}^2 \left[2z - \frac{z^3}{3} \right]_{x^2}^4 dx \\
&= \frac{15}{256} \int_{-2}^2 \left[\frac{32}{3} - 2x^4 + \frac{x^6}{3} \right] dx = \frac{15}{256} \int_{-2}^2 \left[\frac{32x}{3} - \frac{2x^5}{5} + \frac{x^7}{21} \right]_{-2}^2 dx \\
&= \frac{15}{256} \left[\frac{128}{3} - \frac{128}{5} + \frac{256}{21} \right] = \frac{12}{7}.
\end{aligned}$$