

Chapter 13. **Multiple integrals.**

Section 13.8 **Triple integrals.**

We want to define the triple integrals for functions of three variables.

Let  $f$  is defined on a rectangular box

$$B = \{(x, y, z) | a \leq x \leq b, c \leq y \leq d, r \leq z \leq s\} = [a, b] \times [c, d] \times [r, s]$$

We partition the intervals  $[a, b]$ ,  $[c, d]$ , and  $[r, s]$  as follows:

$$a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_m = b$$

$$c = y_0 < y_1 < \dots < y_n = d$$

$$r = z_0 < z_1 < \dots < z_k = s$$

The planes through these partition points parallel to coordinate planes divide the box  $B$  into  $lmn$  sub-boxes

$$B_{ijk} = [x_{i-1}, x_i] \times [y_{j-1}, y_j] \times [z_{k-1}, z_k]$$

The volume of  $B_{ijk}$  is

$$\Delta V_{ijk} = \Delta x_i \Delta y_j \Delta z_k$$

where  $\Delta x_i = x_i - x_{i-1}$ ,  $\Delta y_j = y_j - y_{j-1}$ , and  $\Delta z_k = z_k - z_{k-1}$ .

Then we form the **triple Riemann sum**

$$\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^n f(x_{ijk}^*, y_{ijk}^*, z_{ijk}^*) \Delta V_{ijk}$$

where  $(x_{ijk}^*, y_{ijk}^*, z_{ijk}^*) \in B_{ijk}$ . We define the **norm**  $\|P\|$  of the partition  $P$  to be the length of the longest diagonal of all the boxes  $B_{ijk}$ .

**Definition.** The **triple integral** of  $f$  over the box  $B$  is

$$\iiint_B f(x, y, z) dV = \lim_{\|P\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^n f(x_{ijk}^*, y_{ijk}^*, z_{ijk}^*) \Delta V_{ijk}$$

if this limit exists.

**Fubini's Theorem for triple integrals.** If  $f$  is continuous on the rectangular box  $B = [a, b] \times [c, d] \times [r, s]$ , then

$$\iiint_B f(x, y, z) dV = \int_r^s \int_c^d \int_a^b f(x, y, z) dx dy dz$$

There are five other possible orders in which we can integrate.

**Example 1.** Evaluate the integral  $\iiint_E (x^2 + yz) dV$ , where

$$E = \{(x, y, z) | 0 \leq x \leq 2, -3 \leq y \leq 0, -1 \leq z \leq 1\}$$

Now we define the **triple integral over a general bounded region**  $E$  in three-dimensional space.

A solid region  $E$  is said to be of **type 1** if it lies between the graphs of two continuous functions of  $x$  and  $y$ , that is,

$$E = \{(x, y, z) | (x, y) \in D, \varphi_1(x, y) \leq z \leq \varphi_2(x, y)\}$$

where  $D$  is the projection of  $E$  onto the  $xy$ -plane.

Then

$$\iiint_E f(x, y, z) dV = \iint_D \left[ \int_{\varphi_1(x, y)}^{\varphi_2(x, y)} f(x, y, z) dz \right] dA$$

**Example 2.** Evaluate  $\iiint_E x dV$ , where  $E$  is bounded by planes  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$ ,  $z = 0$ , and  $3x + 2y + z = 6$ .

A solid region  $E$  is of **type 2** if it is of the form

$$E = \{(x, y, z) | (y, z) \in D, \psi_1(y, z) \leq x \leq \psi_2(y, z)\}$$

where  $D$  is the projection of  $E$  onto the  $yz$ -plane.

Then

$$\iiint_E f(x, y, z) dV = \iint_D \left[ \int_{\psi_1(y, z)}^{\psi_2(y, z)} f(x, y, z) dx \right] dA$$

A solid region  $E$  is of **type 3** if it is of the form

$$E = \{(x, y, z) | (x, z) \in D, \chi_1(x, z) \leq y \leq \chi_2(x, z)\}$$

where  $D$  is the projection of  $E$  onto the  $xz$ -plane.

Then

$$\iiint_E f(x, y, z) dV = \iint_D \left[ \int_{\chi_1(x, z)}^{\chi_2(x, z)} f(x, y, z) dy \right] dA$$

**Applications of triple integrals.**

$$V(E) = \iiint_E dV$$

**Example 3.** Find the volume of the solid bounded by the elliptic cylinder  $4x^2 + z^2 = 4$  and the planes  $y = 0$  and  $y = z + 2$ .

If the density function of a solid object that occupies the region  $E$  is  $\rho(x, y, z)$  in units of mass per unit volume, at any given point  $(x, y, z)$ , then its **mass** is

$$m = \iiint_E \rho(x, y, z) dV$$

and its **moments** about the three coordinate planes are

$$M_{yz} = \iiint_E x\rho(x, y, z) dV, \quad M_{xz} = \iiint_E y\rho(x, y, z) dV, \quad M_{xy} = \iiint_E z\rho(x, y, z) dV$$

The **center of mass** is located at the point  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$  where

$$\bar{x} = \frac{M_{yz}}{m} = \frac{\iiint_E x\rho(x, y, z) dV}{\iiint_E \rho(x, y, z) dV}, \quad \bar{y} = \frac{M_{xz}}{m} = \frac{\iiint_E y\rho(x, y, z) dV}{\iiint_E \rho(x, y, z) dV}, \quad \bar{z} = \frac{M_{xy}}{m} = \frac{\iiint_E z\rho(x, y, z) dV}{\iiint_E \rho(x, y, z) dV}$$

**Example 4.** Find the center of mass of a solid  $E$  with density  $\rho(x, y, z) = x$ , where  $E$  is bounded by the paraboloid  $x = 4y^2 + 4z^2$  and the plane  $x = 4$ .