

Change of Variables in Integrals

One of the basic techniques for evaluating an integral in one-variable calculus is substitution, replacing one variable with another in such a way that the resulting integral is of a simpler form. Although slightly more subtle in the case of two or more variables, a similar idea provides a powerful technique for evaluating definite integrals.

Linear change of variables

We will present the main idea through an example. Let

$$D = \{(x, y) : 9x^2 + 4y^2 \le 36\},\$$

the region inside the ellipse which intersects the x-axis at (-2,0) and (2,0) and the y-axis at (0,-3) and (0,3). To find the area of D, we evaluate

$$\int \int_D dx dy = \int_{-2}^2 \int_{-\frac{3}{2}\sqrt{4-x^2}}^{\frac{3}{2}\sqrt{4-x^2}} dy dx = \int_{-2}^2 3\sqrt{4-x^2} \, dx = 6\pi,$$

where the final integral may be evaluated using the substitution $x = 2\sin(\theta)$ or by noting that

$$\int_{-2}^{2} \sqrt{4 - x^2} \, dx$$

is one-half of the area of a circle of radius 2. Alternatively, suppose we write the equation of the ellipse as

$$\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} = 1$$

and make the substitution x = 2u and y = 3v. Then $u = \frac{x}{2}$ and $v = \frac{y}{3}$, so if (x, y) is a point in D, then

$$u^2 + v^2 = \frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} \le 1$$

That is, if (x, y) is a point in D, then (u, v) is a point in the unit disk

$$E = \{(u, v) : u^2 + v^2 \le 1\}.$$

Conversely, if (u, v) is a point in E, then

$$\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} = \frac{4u^2}{4} + \frac{9v^2}{9} = u^2 + v^2 \le 1,$$

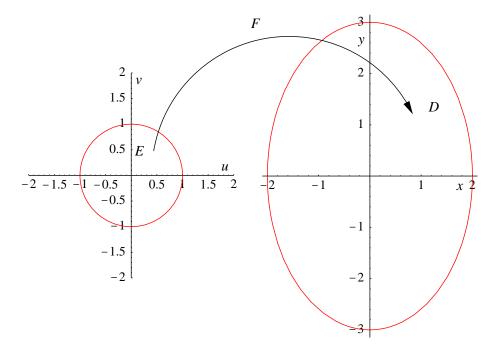


Figure 3.7.1 F maps E onto D

so (x, y) is a point in D. Thus the function F(u, v) = (2u, 3v) takes the region E, a closed disk of radius 1, and stretches it onto the region D (as shown in Figure 3.7.1). However, note that even though every point in E corresponds to exactly one point in D, and, conversely, every point in D corresponds to exactly on point in E, nevertheless E and D do not have the same area. To see how F changes area, consider what it does to the unit square S with sides $\mathbf{e}_1 = (1,0)$ and $\mathbf{e}_2 = (0,1)$. The area of S is 1, but F maps S onto a rectangle R with sides

$$F(0,1) = (0,3)$$

F(1,0) = (2,0)

and area 6. This a special case of a general fact we saw in Section 1.6: the linear function F, with associated matrix

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix},$$

maps the unit square S onto a parallelogram R with area

$$|\det(M)| = 6.$$

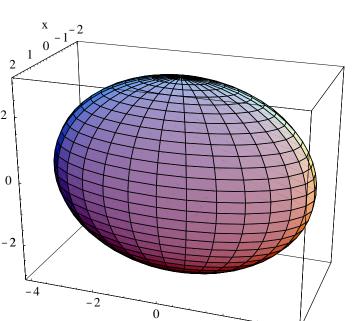
The important fact for us here is that 1 unit of area in the uv-plane corresponds to 6 units of area in the xy-plane. Hence the area of D will be 6 times the area of E. That is,

$$\int \int_D dx dy = \int \int_E |\det(M)| du dv = \int \int_E 6 du dv = 6 \int \int_E du dv = 6\pi,$$

where the final integral is simply the area inside a circle of radius 1.

2

z 0



2

4

Figure 3.7.2 The ellipsoid $\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{16} + \frac{z^2}{9} = 1$

y

These ideas provide the background for a proof of the following theorem.

Theorem Suppose $f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is continuous on a an open set U containing the closed bounded set D. Suppose $F : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$ is a linear function, M is an $n \times n$ matrix such that $F(\mathbf{u}) = M\mathbf{u}$, and $\det(M) \neq 0$. If F maps the region E onto the region D and we define the change of variables

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = M \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix},$$

then

$$\int \int \cdots \int_D f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) dx_1 dx_2 \cdots dx_n$$

$$= \int \int \cdots \int_E f(F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)) |\det(M)| du_1 du_2 \cdots du_n.$$
(3.7.1)

Let D be the region in \mathbb{R}^3 bounded by the ellipsoid with equation Example

$$\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{16} + \frac{z^2}{9} = 1.$$

See Figure 3.7.2. If we make the change of variables x = 2u, y = 4v, and z = 3w, that is,

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{bmatrix},$$

then, for any (x, y, z) in D, we have

$$u^{2} + v^{2} + w^{2} = \frac{x^{2}}{4} + \frac{y^{2}}{16} + \frac{z^{2}}{9} \le 1.$$

That is, if (x, y, z) lies in D, then the corresponding (u, v, w) lies in the closed unit ball $E = \overline{B}^3((0, 0, 0), 1)$. Conversely, if (u, v, w) lies in E, then

$$\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{16} + \frac{z^2}{9} = \frac{4u^2}{4} + \frac{16v^2}{16} + \frac{9w^2}{9} = u^2 + v^2 + w^2 \le 1,$$

so (x, y, z) lies in D. Hence, the change of variables F(u, v, w) = (2u, 4v, 3w) maps E onto D. Now

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = 24,$$

so if V is the volume of D, then

$$V = \int \int \int_D dx dy dz = \int \int \int_E 24 du dv dw = 24 \int \int \int_E du dv dw = 24 \left(\frac{4\pi}{3}\right) = 32\pi,$$

where we have used the fact that the volume of a sphere of radius 1 is $\frac{4\pi}{3}$ to evaluate the final integral.

Nonlinear change of variables

Without going into the technical details, we will indicate how to proceed when the change of variables is not linear. Suppose $f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is continuous on a an open set U containing the closed bounded set D and $F : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$ maps a closed bounded region E of \mathbb{R}^n onto D so that every point of D corresponds to exactly one point of E. Writing $F(\mathbf{u}) =$ $(F_1(\mathbf{u}), F_2(\mathbf{u}), \ldots, F_n(\mathbf{u}))$, we will assume that F_1, F_2, \ldots , and F_n are all differentiable on an open set W containing E. Although we will not study this type of function until Chapter 4, the natural candidate for the derivative of F is the matrix whose *i*th row is $\nabla F_i(\mathbf{u})$. Letting $x_i = F_i(u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n), i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, we denote this matrix, called the Jacobian matrix of F,

$$\frac{\partial(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}{\partial(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)}.$$
(3.7.2)

Explicitly,

$$\frac{\partial(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}{\partial(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} F_1(\mathbf{u}) & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2} F_1(\mathbf{u}) & \cdots & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_n} F_1(\mathbf{u}) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} F_2(\mathbf{u}) & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2} F_2(\mathbf{u}) & \cdots & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_n} F_2(\mathbf{u}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} F_n(\mathbf{u}) & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2} F_n(\mathbf{u}) & \cdots & \frac{\partial}{\partial u_n} F_n(\mathbf{u}) \end{bmatrix}.$$
(3.7.3)

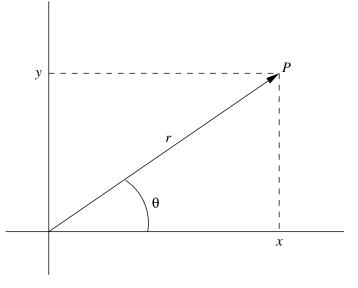


Figure 3.7.3 Polar and Cartesian coordinates for a point P

We shall see in Chapter 4 that

 $\frac{\partial(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}{\partial(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)}$

is the matrix for the linear part of the best affine approximation to F at (u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n) . Hence, for sufficiently small rectangles, the factor by which F changes the area of a rectangle when it maps it to a region will be approximately

$$\left| \det \frac{\partial(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}{\partial(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)} \right|.$$
(3.7.4)

One may then show that, analogous to (3.7.1), we have

$$\int \cdots \int \int_D f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) dx_1 dx_2 \cdots dx_n$$

$$= \int \cdots \int \int_E f(F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)) \left| \det \frac{\partial(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}{\partial(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)} \right| du_1 du_2 \cdots du_n.$$
(3.7.5)

Note that (3.7.5) is just (3.7.1) with the matrix M replaced by the Jacobian of F.

We will now look at two very useful special cases of the preceding result. See Problems 22 and 23 for a third special case.

Polar coordinates

As an alternative to describing the location of a point P in the plane using its Cartesian coordinates (x, y), we may locate the point using r, the distance from P to the origin, and θ , the angle between the vector from (0,0) to P and the positive x-axis, measured in the counterclockwise direction from 0 to 2π (see Figure 3.7.3). That is, if P has Cartesian coordinates (x, y), with $x \neq 0$, we may define its *polar coordinates* (r, θ) by specifying that

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$
(3.7.6)

and

$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{y}{x},\tag{3.7.7}$$

where we take $0 \le \theta \le \pi$ if $y \ge 0$ and $\pi < \theta < 2\pi$ if y < 0. If x = 0, we let $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ if y > 0 and $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{2}$ if y < 0. For (x, y) = (0, 0), r = 0 and θ could have any value, and so is undefined. Conversely, if a point P has polar coordinates (r, θ) , then

$$x = r\cos(\theta) \tag{3.7.8}$$

and

$$y = r\sin(\theta). \tag{3.7.9}$$

Note that the choice of the interval $[0, 2\pi)$ for the values of θ is not unique, with any interval of length 2π working as well. Although $[0, 2\pi)$ is the most common choice for values of θ , it is sometimes useful to use $(-\pi, \pi)$ instead.

Example If a point P has Cartesian coordinates (-1, 1), then its polar coordinates are $(\sqrt{2}, \frac{3\pi}{4})$.

Example A point with polar coordinates $(3, \frac{\pi}{6})$ has Cartesian coordinates $(\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}, \frac{3}{2})$.

In our current context, we want to think of the polar coordinate mapping

$$(x, y) = F(r, \theta) = (r\cos(\theta), r\sin(\theta))$$
(3.7.10)

as a change of variables between the $r\theta$ -plane and the xy-plane. This mapping is particularly useful for us because it maps rectangular regions in the $r\theta$ -plane onto circular regions in the xy-plane. For example, for any a > 0, F maps the rectangular region

$$E = \{ (r, \theta) : 0 \le r \le a, 0 \le \theta < 2\pi \}$$

in the $r\theta$ -plane onto the closed disk

$$D = \bar{B}^2((0,0), a) = \{(x,y) : x^2 + y^2 \le a\}$$

in the xy-plane (see Figure 3.7.5 below for an example). More generally, for any $0 \le \alpha < \beta < 2\pi$, F maps the rectangular region

$$E = \{ (r, \theta) : 0 \le r \le a, \alpha \le \theta < \beta \}$$

in the $r\theta$ -plane onto a region D in the xy-plane which is the sector of the closed disk $\bar{B}^2((0,0),a)$ which lies between radii of angles α and β (see Figure 3.7.4). Another basic example is an annulus: for any 0 < a < b, F maps the rectangular region

$$E = \{(r,\theta) : a \le r \le b, 0 \le \theta < 2\pi\}$$

in the $r\theta$ -plane onto the annulus

$$D = \{(x, y) : a \le x^2 + y^2 \le b\}$$

in the xy-plane. Figure 3.7.6 illustrates this mapping for the upper half of an annulus.

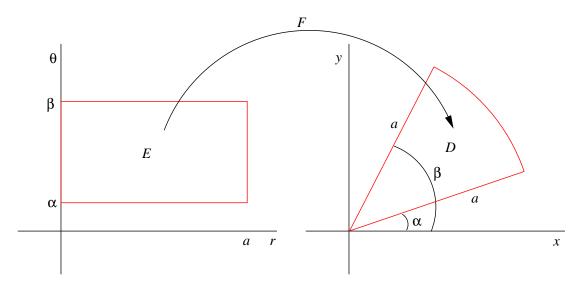


Figure 3.7.4 Polar coordinate change of variables

Example Let V be the volume of the region which lies beneath the paraboloid with equation $z = 4 - x^2 - y^2$ and above the xy-plane. In Section 3.6, we saw that

$$V = \int \int_{D} (4 - x^2 - y^2) dx dy = 8\pi,$$

where

$$D = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 \le 4\}.$$

The use of polar coordinates greatly simplifies the evaluation of this integral. With the polar coordinate change of variables

$$x = r\cos(\theta)$$

and

$$y = r\sin(\theta),$$

the closed disk D in the xy-plane corresponds to the closed rectangle

$$E = \{(r,\theta) : 0 \le r \le 2, 0 \le \theta \le 2\pi\}$$

in the $r\theta$ -plane (see Figure 3.7.5). Note that in describing E we have allowed $\theta = 2\pi$, but this has no affect on our outcome since a line has no area in \mathbb{R}^2 . Moreover, if we let $f(x, y) = 4 - x^2 - y^2$, then

$$f(F(r,\theta)) = f(r\cos(\theta), r\sin(\theta))$$

= 4 - r² cos²(\theta) - r² sin(\theta)
= 4 - r² (cos²(\theta) + sin²(\theta)
= 4 - r²,

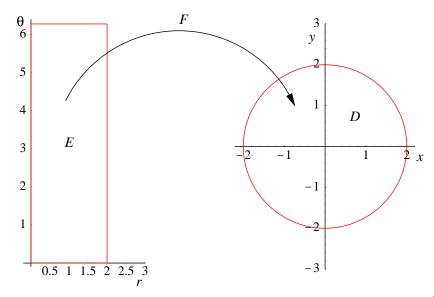


Figure 3.7.5 Polar coordinate change of variables maps $[0,2] \times [0,2\pi]$ to $\bar{B}^2((0,0),2)$

which also follows from the fact that $r^2 = x^2 + y^2$. Now

$$\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(r,\theta)} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r \cos(\theta) & \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} r \cos(\theta) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r \sin(\theta) & \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} r \sin(\theta) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -r \sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) & r \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3.7.11)$$

 \mathbf{SO}

$$\det \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(r,\theta)} = r\cos^2(\theta) + r\sin^2(\theta) = r(\cos^2(\theta) + \sin^2(\theta)) = r.$$
(3.7.12)

Hence, using (3.7.5), we have

$$\int \int_D (4 - x^2 - y^2) dx dy = \int \int_E (4 - r^2) \left| \det \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(r, \theta)} \right| dr d\theta$$
$$= \int_0^2 \int_0^{2\pi} (4 - r^2) r d\theta dr$$
$$= \int_0^2 2\pi (4r - r^3) dr$$
$$= 2\pi \left(2r^2 - \frac{r^4}{4} \right) \Big|_0^2$$
$$= 2\pi (8 - 4)$$
$$= 8\pi.$$

Example Suppose D is the part of the region between the circles with equations $x^2+y^2 = 1$ and $x^2 + y^2 = 9$ which lies above the x-axis. That is,

$$D = \{(x, y) : 1 \le x^2 + y^2 \le 9, x \ge 0\}.$$

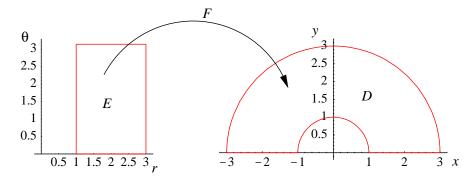


Figure 3.7.6 Polar coordinates map $[1,3] \times [0,\pi]$ to top half of an annulus

We wish to evaluate

$$\int \int_D e^{-(x^2+y^2)} dx dy.$$

Under the polar coordinate change of variables

 $x = r\cos(\theta)$

and

$$y = r\sin(\theta),$$

the annular region D corresponds to the closed rectangle

$$E = \{ (r, \theta) : 1 \le r \le 3, 0 \le \theta \le \pi \},\$$

as illustrated in Figure 3.7.6. Moreover, $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$ and, as we saw in the previous example,

$$\left|\det\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(r,\theta)}\right| = r.$$

Hence

$$\int \int_{D} e^{-(x^{2}+y^{2})} dx dy = \int \int_{E} r e^{-r^{2}} dr d\theta$$
$$= \int_{1}^{3} \int_{0}^{\pi} r e^{-r^{2}} d\theta dr$$
$$= \int_{1}^{3} \pi r e^{-r^{2}} dr$$
$$= -\frac{\pi}{2} e^{-r^{2}} \Big|_{1}^{3}$$
$$= \frac{\pi}{2} (e^{-1} - e^{-9}).$$

Note that in this case the change of variables not only simplified the region of integration, but also put the function being integrated into a form to which we could apply the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

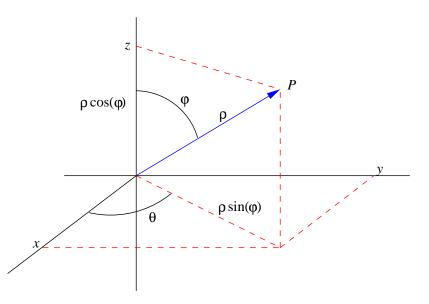


Figure 3.7.7 Spherical and Cartesian coordinates for a point P

Spherical coordinates

Next consider the following extension of polar coordinates to three space: given a point P with Cartesian coordinates (x, y, z), let ρ be the distance from P to the origin, θ be the angle coordinate for the polar coordinates of (x, y, 0) (the projection of P onto the xy-plane), and let φ be the angle between the vector from the origin to P and the positive z-axis, measured from 0 to π . If $x \neq 0$, we have

$$\rho = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2},\tag{3.7.13}$$

$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{y}{x},\tag{3.7.14}$$

and

$$\cos(\varphi) = \frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}},$$
(3.7.15)

where $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$ and $0 \le \varphi \le \pi$. As with polar coordinates, if x = 0 we let $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ if y > 0, $\theta = \frac{3\pi}{2}$ if y < 0, and θ is undefined if y = 0. See Figure 3.7.7. Conversely, given a point P with spherical coordinates (ρ, θ, φ) , the projection of P onto the *xy*-plane will have polar coordinate $r = \rho \sin(\varphi)$. Hence the Cartesian coordinates of P are

$$x = \rho \cos(\theta) \sin(\varphi), \qquad (3.7.16)$$

$$y = \rho \sin(\theta) \sin(\varphi), \qquad (3.7.17)$$

and

$$z = \rho \cos(\varphi). \tag{3.7.18}$$

Example If a point P has Cartesian coordinates (2, -2, 1), then its spherical coordinates satisfy

$$\rho = \sqrt{4} + 4 + 1 = 3,$$

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$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{-2}{2} = -1,$$

and

$$\cos(\varphi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4+4+1}} = \frac{1}{3}.$$

Hence we have

$$\theta = \frac{7\pi}{4}$$

and

$$\varphi = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = 1.2310,$$

where we have rounded the value of φ to four decimal places. Hence P has spherical coordinates $(3, \frac{7\pi}{4}, 1.2310)$.

Example If a point *P* has spherical coordinates $\left(4, \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{3\pi}{4}\right)$, then its Cartesian coordinates are

$$x = 4\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right)\sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) = 4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = \sqrt{2},$$
$$y = 4\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right)\sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) = 4\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = \sqrt{6},$$

and

$$z = 4\cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) = 4\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = -2\sqrt{2}.$$

Analogous to our work with polar coordinates, we think of the spherical coordinate mapping

$$(x, y, z) = F(\rho, \theta, \varphi) = (\rho \cos(\theta) \sin(\varphi), \rho \sin(\theta) \sin(\varphi), \rho \cos(\varphi))$$
(3.7.19)

as a change of variables between $\rho\theta\varphi$ -space and xyz-space. This mapping is particularly useful for evaluating triple integrals because it maps rectangular regions in $\rho\theta\varphi$ -space onto spherical regions in xyz-space. For the most basic example, for any a > 0, F maps the rectangular region

$$E = \{(\rho, \theta, \varphi) : 0 \le \rho \le a, 0 \le \theta < 2\pi, 0 \le \varphi \le \pi\}$$

in $\rho\theta\varphi$ -space onto the closed ball

$$D = \bar{B}^3((0,0,0), a) = \{(x,y,z) : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \le a\}$$

in xyz-space. More generally, for any 0 < a < b, $0 \le \alpha < \beta < 2\pi$, and $0 \le \gamma < \delta \le \pi$, F maps the rectangular region

$$E = \{(\rho, \theta, \varphi) : a \le \rho \le b, \alpha \le \theta < \beta, \gamma \le \varphi \le \delta\}$$

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onto a region D in xyz-space which lies between the concentric spheres $S^2((0,0,0), a)$ and $S^2((0,0,0), b)$, and for which the angle θ lies between α and β and the angle φ between γ and δ . For example, if $\alpha = 0$, $\beta = \pi$, $\gamma = 0$, and $\delta = \frac{\pi}{2}$, then D is one-half of the region lying between two concentric hemispheres with radii a and b.

Before using the spherical coordinate change of variable in (3.7.19) to evaluate an integral using (3.7.5), we need to compute the determinate of the Jacobian of F. Now

$$\frac{\partial(x,y,z)}{\partial(\rho,\theta,\varphi)} = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{\partial}{\partial\rho}\rho\cos(\theta)\sin(\varphi) & \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}\rho\cos(\theta)\sin(\varphi) & \frac{\partial}{\partial\varphi}\rho\cos(\theta)\sin(\varphi) \\
\frac{\partial}{\partial\rho}\rho\sin(\theta)\sin(\varphi) & \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}\rho\sin(\theta)\sin(\varphi) & \frac{\partial}{\partial\varphi}\rho\sin(\theta)\sin(\varphi) \\
\frac{\partial}{\partial\rho}\rho\cos(\varphi) & \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}\rho\cos(\varphi) & \frac{\partial}{\partial\varphi}\rho\cos(\varphi)
\end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix}
\cos(\theta)\sin(\varphi) & -\rho\sin(\theta)\sin(\varphi) & \rho\cos(\theta)\cos(\varphi) \\
\sin(\theta)\sin(\varphi) & \rho\cos(\theta)\sin(\varphi) & \rho\sin(\theta)\cos(\varphi) \\
\cos(\varphi) & 0 & -\rho\sin(\varphi)
\end{bmatrix}, \quad (3.7.20)$$

so, expanding along the third row,

$$\det \frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(\rho, \theta, \varphi)} = \cos(\varphi)(-\rho^2 \sin^2(\theta) \sin(\varphi) \cos(\varphi) - \rho^2 \cos^2(\theta) \sin(\varphi) \cos(\varphi)) -\rho \sin(\varphi)(\rho \cos^2(\theta) \sin^2(\varphi) + \rho \sin^2(\theta) \sin^2(\varphi) = -\rho^2 \sin(\varphi) \cos^2(\varphi)(\sin^2(\theta) + \cos^2(\theta)) - \rho^2 \sin^3(\varphi)(\sin^2(\theta) + \cos^2(\theta)) = -\rho^2 \sin(\varphi) \cos^2(\varphi) - \rho^2 \sin^3(\varphi) = -\rho^2 \sin(\varphi)(\cos^2(\varphi) + \sin^2(\varphi)) = -\rho^2 \sin(\varphi).$$
(3.7.21)

Now $\rho \ge 0$ and, since $0 \le \varphi \le \pi$, $\sin(\varphi) \ge 0$, so

$$\left|\frac{\partial(x,y,z)}{\partial(\rho,\theta,\varphi)}\right| = \rho^2 \sin(\varphi). \tag{3.7.22}$$

Example In an earlier example we used the fact that the volume of a sphere of radius 1 is $\frac{4\pi}{3}$. In this example we will verify that the volume of a sphere of radius a is $\frac{4}{3}\pi a^3$. Let V be the volume of

$$D = \bar{B}^3((0,0,0),a),$$

the closed ball of radius a centered at the origin in \mathbb{R}^3 . Then

$$V = \int \int \int_D dx dy dz.$$

Although we may evaluate this integral using Cartesian coordinates, we will find it significantly easier to use spherical coordinates. Using the spherical coordinate change of variables (2) is (2)

$$x = \rho \cos(\theta) \sin(\varphi),$$

$$y = \rho \sin(\theta) \sin(\varphi),$$

and

 $z = \rho \cos(\varphi),$

the region D in xyz-space corresponds to the region

$$E = \{(\rho, \theta, \varphi) : 0 \le \rho \le a, 0 \le \theta \le 2\pi, 0 \le \varphi \le \pi\}$$

in $\rho\theta\varphi$ -space. Using (3.7.22) in the change of variables formula (3.7.5), we have

$$V = \int \int \int_{D} dx dy dz$$

= $\int \int \int_{E} \left| \det \frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(\rho, \theta, \varphi)} \right| d\rho d\theta d\varphi$
= $\int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\pi} \rho^{2} \sin(\varphi) d\varphi d\theta d\rho$
= $\int_{0}^{a} \int_{0}^{2\pi} (-\rho^{2} \cos(\varphi)) \Big|_{0}^{\pi} d\theta d\rho$
= $\int_{0}^{a} \int_{0}^{2\pi} (-\rho^{2}(-1-1)) d\theta d\rho$
= $2 \int_{0}^{a} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \rho^{2} d\theta d\rho$
= $4\pi \int_{0}^{a} \rho^{2} d\rho$
= $\frac{4\pi}{3} \rho^{3} \Big|_{0}^{a}$
= $\frac{4}{3} \pi a^{3}$.

Example Suppose we wish to evaluate

$$\int \int \int_D \log \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \, dx dy dz,$$

where D is the region in \mathbb{R}^3 which lies between the two spheres with equations $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$ and $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 4$ and above the xy-plane. Under the spherical coordinate change of variables

$$x = \rho \cos(\theta) \sin(\varphi),$$

$$y = \rho \sin(\theta) \sin(\varphi),$$

and

 $z = \rho \cos(\varphi),$

the region D in xyz-space corresponds to the region

$$E = \left\{ (\rho, \theta, \varphi) : 1 \le \rho \le 2, 0 \le \theta \le 2\pi, 0 \le \varphi \le \frac{\pi}{2} \right\}$$

in $\rho\theta\varphi$ -space. Using (3.7.22) in the change of variables formula (3.7.5), we have

$$\begin{split} \int \int \int_D \log \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \, dx dy dz &= \int \int \int_E \log(\rho) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(\rho, \theta, \varphi)} \right| d\rho d\theta d\varphi \\ &= \int_1^2 \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \rho^2 \log(\rho) \sin(\varphi) d\varphi d\theta d\rho \\ &= \int_1^2 \int_0^{2\pi} (-\rho^2 \log(\rho) \cos(\varphi)) \Big|_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} d\theta d\rho \\ &= \int_1^2 \int_0^{2\pi} (-\rho^2 \log(\rho)) (0 - 1) d\theta d\rho \\ &= \int_1^2 \int_0^{2\pi} \rho^2 \log(\rho) d\theta d\rho \\ &= 2\pi \int_1^2 \rho^2 \log(\rho) d\rho. \end{split}$$

We use integration by parts to evaluate this final integral: letting

$$u = \log(\rho) \quad dv = \rho^2 d\rho$$
$$du = \frac{1}{\rho} d\rho \quad v = \frac{\rho^3}{3},$$

we have

$$\begin{split} \int \int \int_D \log \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \, dx dy dz &= 2\pi \left(\frac{1}{3} \rho^3 \log(\rho) \Big|_1^2 - \frac{1}{3} \int_1^2 \rho^2 d\rho \right) \\ &= \frac{16}{3} \pi \log(2) - \frac{2\pi \rho^3}{9} \Big|_1^2 \\ &= \frac{16}{3} \pi \log(2) - \frac{14\pi}{9} \\ &= \frac{2\pi}{3} \left(8 \log(2) - \frac{7}{3} \right). \end{split}$$

Problems

- 1. Find the area of the region enclosed by the ellipse with equation $x^2 + 4y^2 = 4$.
- 2. Given a > 0 and b > 0, show that the area enclosed by the ellipse with equation

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

is πab .

3. Find the volume of the region enclosed by the ellipsoid with equation

$$\frac{x^2}{25} + y^2 + \frac{z^2}{4} = 1.$$

4. Given a > 0, b > 0, and c > 0, show that the volume of the region enclosed by the ellipsoid

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$$

is $\frac{4}{3}\pi abc$.

- 5. Find the polar coordinates for each of the following points given in Cartesian coordinates.
 - (a) (1,1) (b) (-2,3)
 - (c) (-1,3) (d) (4,-4)
- 6. Find the Cartesian coordinates for each of the following points given in polar coordinates.
 - (a) (3,0) (b) $\left(2,\frac{5\pi}{6}\right)$

(c)
$$(5,\pi)$$
 (d) $\left(4,\frac{4\pi}{3}\right)$

7. Evaluate

$$\int \int_D (x^2 + y^2) dx dy,$$

where D is the disk in \mathbb{R}^2 of radius 2 centered at the origin.

8. Evaluate

$$\int \int_D \sin(x^2 + y^2) dx dy,$$

where D is the disk in \mathbb{R}^2 of radius 1 centered at the origin.

9. Evaluate

$$\int \int_D \frac{1}{x^2 + y^2} \, dx dy,$$

where D is the region in the first quadrant of \mathbb{R}^2 which lies between the circle with equation $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ and the circle with equation $x^2 + y^2 = 16$.

10. Evaluate

$$\int \int_D \log(x^2 + y^2) dx dy,$$

where D is the region in \mathbb{R}^2 which lies between the circle with equation $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ and the circle with equation $x^2 + y^2 = 4$.

- 11. Using polar coordinates, verify that the area of a circle of radius r is πr^2 .
- 12. Let

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx.$$

(a) Show that

$$I^{2} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^{2}+y^{2})} dx dy.$$

(b) Show that

$$I^{2} = \int_{0}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{2\pi} r e^{-\frac{r^{2}}{2}} d\theta dr.$$

(c) Show that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx = \sqrt{2\pi}.$$

- 13. Find the spherical coordinates of the point with Cartesian coordinates (-1, 1, 2).
- 14. Find the spherical coordinates of the point with Cartesian coordinates (3, 2, -1).
- 15. Find the Cartesian coordinates of the point with spherical coordinates $\left(2, \frac{3\pi}{4}, \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)$.
- 16. Find the Cartesian coordinates of the point with spherical coordinates $(5, \frac{5\pi}{3}, \frac{\pi}{6})$.
- 17. Evaluate

$$\int \int \int (x^2 + y^2 + z^2) dx dy dz$$

where D is the closed ball in \mathbb{R}^3 of radius 2 centered at the origin.

18. Evaluate

$$\int \int \int_D \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \, dx \, dy \, dz,$$

where D is the region in \mathbb{R}^3 between the two spheres with equations $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 4$ and $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 9$.

19. Evaluate

$$\int \int \int_D \sin(\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}) dx dy dz,$$

where D is the region in \mathbb{R}^3 described by $x \ge 0, y \ge 0, z \ge 0$, and $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \le 1$.

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20. Evaluate

$$\int \int \int_D e^{-(x^2+y^2+z^2)} dx dy dz,$$

where D is the closed ball in \mathbb{R}^3 of radius 3 centered at the origin.

21. Let D be the region in \mathbb{R}^3 described by $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 1$ and $z \geq \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$.

(a) Explain why the spherical coordinate change of variables maps the region

$$E = \left\{ (\rho, \theta, \varphi) : 0 \le \rho \le 1, 0 \le \theta \le 2\pi, 0 \le \varphi \le \frac{\pi}{4} \right\}$$

onto D.

- (b) Find the volume of D.
- 22. If a point P has Cartesian coordinates (x, y, z), then the cylindrical coordinates of P are (r, θ, z) , where r and θ are the polar coordinates of (x, y). Show that

$$\left|\det\frac{\partial(x,y,z)}{\partial(r,\theta,z)}\right| = r.$$

23. Use cylindrical coordinates to evaluate

$$\int \int_D \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} dx dy dz,$$

where D is the region in \mathbb{R}^3 described by $1 \le x^2 + y^2 \le 4$ and $0 \le z \le 5$.

- 24. A drill with a bit with a radius of 1 centimeter is used to drill a hole through the center of a solid ball of radius 3 centimeters. What is the volume of the remaining solid?
- 25. Let D be the set of all points in the intersection of the two solid cylinders in \mathbb{R}^3 described by $x^2 + y^2 \leq 1$ and $x^2 + z^2 \leq 1$. Find the volume of D.

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