

MORE DOUBLE INTEGRALS  
 BASED ON LECTURE NOTES BY JAMES MCKERNAN

**Proposition 1.** Let  $D = D_1 \cup D_2$  be a bounded region and let  $f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function.

If  $f$  is integrable over  $D_1$  and over  $D_2$ , then  $f$  is integrable over  $D$  and  $D_1 \cap D_2$ , and we have

$$\iint_D f(x, y) \, dx \, dy = \iint_{D_1} f(x, y) \, dx \, dy + \iint_{D_2} f(x, y) \, dx \, dy - \iint_{D_1 \cap D_2} f(x, y) \, dx \, dy.$$

**Example 2.** Let

$$D = \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 1 \leq x^2 + y^2 \leq 9 \}.$$

Then  $D$  is not an elementary region. Let

$$D_1 = \{ (x, y) \in D \mid y \geq 0 \} \quad \text{and} \quad D_2 = \{ (x, y) \in D \mid y \leq 0 \}.$$

Then  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are both of type 1.

If  $f$  is continuous, then  $f$  is integrable over  $D$  and  $D_1 \cap D_2$ . In fact

$$D_1 \cap D_2 = L \cup R = \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid -3 \leq x \leq -1, 0 \leq y \leq 0 \} \\ \cup \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 1 \leq x \leq 3, 0 \leq y \leq 0 \}.$$

Now  $L$  and  $R$  are elementary regions. We have

$$\iint_R f(x, y) \, dx \, dy = \int_{-1}^3 \left( \int_0^0 f(x, y) \, dy \right) dx = 0.$$

Therefore, by symmetry,

$$\iint_L f(x, y) \, dx \, dy = \iint_R f(x, y) \, dx \, dy = 0$$

and so

$$\iint_D f(x, y) \, dx \, dy = \iint_{D_1} f(x, y) \, dx \, dy + \iint_{D_2} f(x, y) \, dx \, dy.$$

To integrate  $f$  over  $D_1$ , break  $D_1$  into three parts.

$$\iint_{D_1} f(x, y) \, dx \, dy = \int_{-3}^3 \left( \int_{\gamma(x)}^{\delta(x)} f(x, y) \, dy \right) dx \\ = \int_{-3}^{-1} \left( \int_0^{\sqrt{9-x^2}} f(x, y) \, dy \right) dx \\ + \int_{-1}^1 \left( \int_{\sqrt{1-x^2}}^{\sqrt{9-x^2}} f(x, y) \, dy \right) dx \\ + \int_1^3 \left( \int_0^{\sqrt{9-x^2}} f(x, y) \, dy \right) dx.$$

One can do something similar for  $D_2$ .

**Example 3.** Calculate the volume of a solid ball of radius  $a$ . Let

$$B = \{ (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq a^2 \}.$$

We want the volume of  $B$ . Break into two pieces. Let

$$B^+ = \{ (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq a^2, z \geq 0 \}.$$

Let

$$D = \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x^2 + y^2 \leq a^2 \}.$$

Then  $B^+$  is bounded by the  $xy$ -plane and the graph of the function

$$f: D \longrightarrow \mathbb{R},$$

given by

$$f(x, y) = \sqrt{a^2 - x^2 - y^2}.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vol}(B^+) &= \iint_D \sqrt{a^2 - x^2 - y^2} \, dy \, dx \\ &= \int_{-a}^a \left( \int_{-\sqrt{a^2-x^2}}^{\sqrt{a^2-x^2}} \sqrt{a^2 - x^2 - y^2} \, dy \right) dx \\ &= \int_{-a}^a \left( \int_{-\sqrt{a^2-x^2}}^{\sqrt{a^2-x^2}} \sqrt{1 - \frac{y^2}{a^2-x^2}} \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \, dy \right) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Now let's make the substitution

$$t = \frac{y}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} \quad \text{so that} \quad dt = \frac{dy}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vol}(B^+) &= \int_{-a}^a \left( \int_{-1}^1 \sqrt{1 - t^2} (a^2 - x^2) \, dt \right) dx \\ &= \int_{-a}^a (a^2 - x^2) \left( \int_{-1}^1 \sqrt{1 - t^2} \, dt \right) dx \end{aligned}$$

Now let's make the substitution

$$t = \sin u \quad \text{so that} \quad dt = \cos u \, du.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vol}(B^+) &= \int_{-a}^a (a^2 - x^2) \left( \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^2 u \, du \right) dx \\ &= \int_{-a}^a (a^2 - x^2) \frac{\pi}{2} \, dx \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} \left[ a^2 x - \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{-a}^a \\ &= \pi \left( a^3 - \frac{a^3}{3} \right) \\ &= \frac{2\pi a^3}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we get the expected answer

$$\text{vol}(B) = 2 \text{vol}(B^+) = \frac{4\pi a^3}{3}.$$

**Example 4.** Now consider the example of a cone whose base radius is  $a$  and whose height is  $b$ . Put the central axis along the  $x$ -axis and the base in the  $yz$ -plane. In the  $xy$ -plane we get an equilateral triangle of height  $b$  and base  $2a$ . If we view this as a region of type 1, we have

$$\gamma(x) = -a \left(1 - \frac{x}{b}\right) \quad \text{and} \quad \delta(x) = a \left(1 - \frac{x}{b}\right).$$

We want to integrate the function

$$f: D \longrightarrow \mathbb{R},$$

given by

$$f(x, y) = \sqrt{a^2 \left(1 - \frac{x}{b}\right)^2 - y^2}.$$

So half of the volume of the cone is

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^b \left( \int_{-a(1-\frac{x}{b})}^{a(1-\frac{x}{b})} \sqrt{a^2 \left(1 - \frac{x}{b}\right)^2 - y^2} dy \right) dx &= \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^b a^2 \left(1 - \frac{x}{b}\right)^2 dx \\ &= \frac{\pi a^2}{2} \int_0^b \left(1 - \frac{2x}{b} + \frac{x^2}{b^2}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{\pi a^2}{2} \left[ x - \frac{x^2}{b} + \frac{x^3}{3b^2} \right]_0^b \\ &= \frac{1}{6}(\pi a^2 b). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the volume is

$$\frac{1}{3}(\pi a^2 b).$$