

# LECTURE 29

In this lecture we come back to triple integrals. We learn how to compute these in cylindrical and spherical coordinates

## § 29.1. Cylindrical coordinates

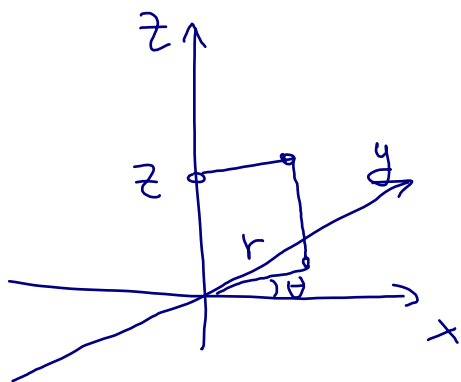
These are obtained by using polar coordinates for  $(x, y)$  and leaving  $z$  as it is:

$$\begin{cases} x = r \cos \theta \\ y = r \sin \theta \\ z = z \end{cases}$$

Here  $r \geq 0$

$$0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$$

$z$  is any real number



Integration in cylindrical coordinates:

$$\iiint_T f(x, y, z) dV = \iiint_U f(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, z) r dr d\theta dz$$

where  $T$  is a region in space and  
 $U$  is the corresponding region  
in the  $r, \theta, z$  variables:

$$(r, \theta, z) \text{ in } U \iff (r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, z) \text{ in } T$$

Note:  $dV = r dr d\theta dz$ . Here

the  $r$  factor comes from the  
use of polar coordinates in  $(x, y)$ :

$$dV = dx dy dz, \quad dx dy = r dr d\theta$$

Exercise: Compute the volume of

$$\text{the barrel } T: x^2 + y^2 + (z+3)^2 \leq 4, \\ -4 \leq z \leq -2$$

using cylindrical coordinates

Solution: We have

$$\text{Volume}(T) = \iiint_T dV = \iiint_U r dr d\theta dz.$$

But what is  $U$ ?

Recall that  $x = r \cos \theta$ ,  $y = r \sin \theta$ ,  $z = z$

We need to write  $T$  in the  $r, \theta, z$  variables:

$$T: x^2 + y^2 + (z+3)^2 \leq 4, -4 \leq z \leq -2$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

$$r^2 + (z+3)^2 \leq 4, -4 \leq z \leq -2$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

$$0 \leq r \leq \sqrt{4 - (z+3)^2}, -4 \leq z \leq -2$$

$$\text{So } \iiint_U r dr d\theta dz = \int_{-4}^{-2} \left( \int_0^{\sqrt{4 - (z+3)^2}} \left( \int_0^{2\pi} r d\theta \right) dr \right) dz$$

$$= \pi \int_{-4}^{-2} \left( \int_0^{\sqrt{4 - (z+3)^2}} 2r dr \right) dz = \pi \int_{-4}^{-2} 4 - (z+3)^2 dz$$

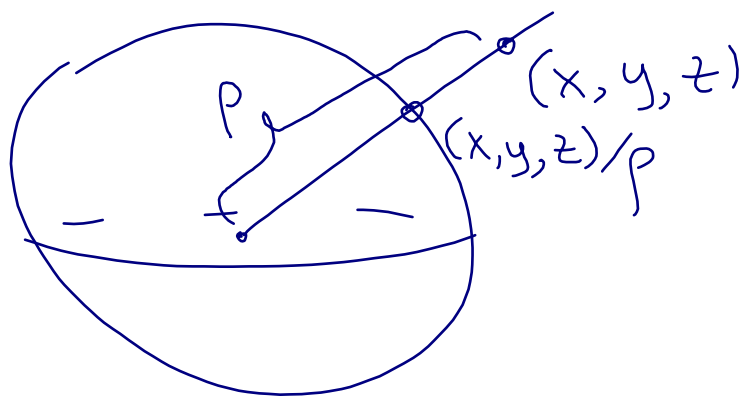
$$= \pi \left( 4 \cdot 2 - \frac{(-2+3)^3}{3} + \frac{(-4+3)^3}{3} \right) = \frac{22\pi}{3}.$$

## §29.2. Spherical coordinates (in space)

These are obtained by  
using the distance to origin

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

and the spherical coordinates  $(\varphi, \theta)$   
of the point on the sphere,  $\frac{(x, y, z)}{\rho}$ :



$$x = \rho \sin \varphi \cos \theta$$

$$y = \rho \sin \varphi \sin \theta$$

$$z = \rho \cos \varphi$$

Here  $\rho \geq 0$ ,

$$0 \leq \varphi \leq \pi,$$

$$0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$$

Integration in spherical coordinates:

$$\iiint_T f(x, y, z) dV$$

$$\iiint_U f(\rho \sin \varphi \cos \theta, \rho \sin \varphi \sin \theta, \rho \cos \varphi) \rho^2 \sin \varphi \, d\rho \, d\varphi \, d\theta$$

where  $U$  is the region expressing  $T$  in spherical coordinates.

So,  $dV = \rho^2 \sin \varphi \, d\rho \, d\varphi \, d\theta$

Why so?

- $\sin \varphi$  comes from Spherical Coordinates
- $\rho^2$  can be explained by looking at an example:

Imagine that  $T$  was a spherical shell:  $\rho_0 \leq \rho \leq \rho_0 + \Delta\rho$ ,  $\Delta\rho$  small.

Then we'd get

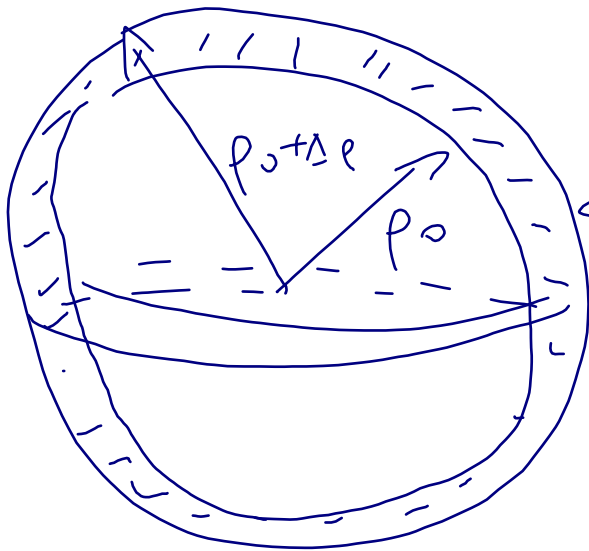
$$\text{Volume}(T) \approx \Delta\rho \cdot \text{Area}(\text{sphere of radius } \rho_0)$$

$$= 4\pi \rho_0^2 \Delta\rho \quad (\rho_0^2 \text{ comes from Area})$$

But we'd also get

$$\text{Volume}(T) \approx \int_{\rho_0}^{\rho_0 + \Delta\rho} \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} \rho^2 \sin\varphi \, d\theta \, d\varphi \, d\rho$$

$$\approx 4\pi \rho_0^2 \Delta\rho \quad (\rho_0^2 \text{ comes from } dV = \rho^2 \sin\varphi \, d\theta \, d\varphi \, d\rho)$$



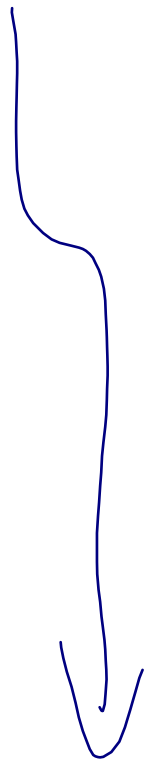
$$\text{Volume} \approx 4\pi \rho_0^2 \Delta\rho$$

Exercise: use spherical coordinates  
to compute the following integrals  
where  $T$  is the unit ball

$$T: x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 1$$

$$\textcircled{a} \iiint_T x^2 dV$$

$$\textcircled{b} \iiint_T z^2 dV$$



Solution: in spherical coordinates

$$x = \rho \sin \varphi \cos \theta$$

$$y = \rho \sin \varphi \sin \theta$$

$$z = \rho \cos \varphi ;$$

T is given by  $\boxed{\rho \leq 1}$  ;

$$\text{and } dV = \rho^2 \sin \varphi d\rho d\varphi d\theta$$

$$(a) \iiint_T x^2 dV = \int_0^1 \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} (\rho \sin \varphi \cos \theta)^2 \cdot \rho^2 \sin \varphi d\theta d\varphi d\rho$$

$$= \int_0^1 \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} \rho^4 \sin^3 \varphi \cos^2 \theta d\theta d\varphi d\rho.$$

This is equal to a product of three integrals:

$$\left( \int_0^1 \rho^4 d\rho \right) \cdot \left( \int_0^\pi \sin^3 \varphi d\varphi \right) \cdot \left( \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 \theta d\theta \right).$$



Now  $\int_0^1 \rho^4 d\rho = \left. \frac{\rho^5}{5} \right|_{\rho=0}^1 = \left( \frac{1}{5} \right)$

$$\int_0^\pi \sin^3 \varphi d\varphi = - \int_0^\pi (1 - \cos^2 \varphi) d(\cos \varphi)$$

$u = \cos \varphi$

$$= \int_{-1}^1 u^2 - 1 du = \left. \frac{u^3}{3} - u \right|_{u=1}^{-1} = \left( \frac{4}{3} \right)$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 \theta d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1 + \cos(2\theta)}{2} d\theta$$

$$= \left. \frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{\sin(2\theta)}{4} \right|_{\theta=0}^{2\pi} = \left( \frac{11}{2} \right)$$

So  $\iiint_T x^2 dV = \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{4}{3} \cdot \pi = \left( \frac{4\pi}{15} \right)$

⑥  $\iiint_T z^2 dV = \int_0^1 \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} (\rho \cos \varphi)^2 \rho^2 \sin \varphi d\theta d\varphi d\rho$

$$= \left( \int_0^1 \rho^4 d\rho \right) \cdot \int_0^\pi \cos^2 \varphi \sin \varphi d\varphi \cdot 2\pi.$$

Now  $\int_0^1 \rho^4 d\rho = \frac{1}{5}$  as before and

$$\int_0^\pi \cos^2 \varphi \cdot \sin \varphi d\varphi = - \int_0^1 \cos^2 \varphi \cdot d(\cos \varphi)$$

$$= - \int_1^{-1} u^2 du = \left. \frac{u^3}{3} \right|_{u=-1}^1 = \frac{2}{3}.$$

$$u = \cos \varphi$$

$$\text{So } \iiint_T z^2 dV = \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot 2\pi = \boxed{\frac{4\pi}{15}}$$