

## Solutions to some triple integral problems

For each of the following, set up an iterated integral equal to the given triple integral.

1.  $\iiint_R (x + 2y - z) dV$  where  $R = [0, 2] \times [-4, 6] \times [-3, 0]$

**Solution:**  $\iiint_R (x + 2y - z) dV = \int_{-3}^0 \int_{-4}^6 \int_0^2 (x + 2y - z) dx dy dz$

2.  $\iiint_R (x + 2y - z) dV$  where  $R$  is the solid region bounded between the graph of  $z = x^2 + y^2$  and the plane  $3x + 5y + 2z - 12 = 0$

**Solution:** The graph of  $z = x^2 + y^2$  is a paraboloid. We find the intersection between the paraboloid and the plane by equating  $z$  for each to get

$$x^2 + y^2 = -\frac{3}{2}x - \frac{5}{2}y + 6.$$

By completing the square on the  $x$  terms and on the  $y$  terms, we can rewrite this as

$$\left(x + \frac{3}{4}\right)^2 + \left(y + \frac{5}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{65}{8}.$$

This is the equation of a circle of radius  $r_0 = \sqrt{65/8}$  centered at the point  $(-3/4, -5/4)$ . This circle is the projection of the intersection between the paraboloid and the plane. For points of the  $xy$ -plane inside the circle, the solid region extends in the  $z$ -direction from  $z = x^2 + y^2$  to  $z = -\frac{3}{2}x - \frac{5}{2}y + 6$ . To describe the points of the  $xy$ -plane inside the disk, let's introduce some temporary new coordinates  $u = x + \frac{3}{4}$  and  $v = y + \frac{5}{4}$ . In  $uv$ -coordinates, the equation of the circle is

$$u^2 + v^2 = r_0^2.$$

We can choose constant bounds for  $u$  to get

$$-r_0 \leq u \leq r_0 \quad \text{and} \quad -\sqrt{r_0^2 - u^2} \leq v \leq \sqrt{r_0^2 - u^2}$$

as our description of the disk. Translating back to  $x$  and  $y$  gives

$$-r_0 \leq x + \frac{3}{4} \leq r_0 \quad \text{and} \quad -\sqrt{r_0^2 - \left(x + \frac{3}{4}\right)^2} \leq y + \frac{5}{4} \leq \sqrt{r_0^2 - \left(x + \frac{3}{4}\right)^2}$$

so we can describe the disk by

$$-r_0 - \frac{3}{4} \leq x \leq r_0 - \frac{3}{4} \quad \text{and} \quad -\sqrt{r_0^2 - \left(x + \frac{3}{4}\right)^2} - \frac{5}{4} \leq y \leq \sqrt{r_0^2 - \left(x + \frac{3}{4}\right)^2} - \frac{5}{4}.$$

A complete description of the solid region is thus given by

$$\begin{aligned} -r_0 - \frac{3}{4} &\leq x \leq r_0 - \frac{3}{4} \\ -\sqrt{r_0^2 - \left(x + \frac{3}{4}\right)^2} - \frac{5}{4} &\leq y \leq \sqrt{r_0^2 - \left(x + \frac{3}{4}\right)^2} - \frac{5}{4} \\ x^2 + y^2 &\leq z \leq -\frac{3}{2}x - \frac{5}{2}y + 6 \end{aligned}$$

We can thus write

$$\iiint_R (x + 2y - z) dV = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \int_{y_1(x)}^{y_2(x)} \int_{z_1(x,y)}^{z_2(x,y)} (x + 2y - z) dz dy dx$$

where the limits of integration can be read off from the description of the solid region.

Using *Mathematica*, I evaluated this iterated integral and got

$$\iiint_R (x + 2y - z) dV = \frac{-1094275 \pi}{3072} \approx -1119.06.$$

3.  $\iiint_R 1 dV$  where  $R$  is the solid region bounded by the surface  $\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} - z^2 = 1$ , the plane  $z = -1$  and the plane  $z = 2$

**Solution:** The graph of  $\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} - z^2 = 1$  is a hyperboloid of one sheet with main axis along the  $z$ -axis and elliptic cross-sections parallel to the  $xy$ -plane. We are given constant bounds on  $z$  so consider the  $yz$  cross-section. (One could also choose to work with the  $xy$  cross-section here.) In the  $yz$ -plane, the relevant region is between the two branches of the hyperbola  $\frac{y^2}{9} - z^2 = 1$  from  $z = -1$  to  $z = 2$ . We can describe this planar region by

$$-1 \leq z \leq 2 \quad \text{and} \quad -3\sqrt{1+z^2} \leq y \leq 3\sqrt{1+z^2}.$$

For each point of the  $yz$ -plane in this region, the solid region extends in the  $x$  direction from one side of the hyperboloid to the opposite side. The relevant bound on  $x$  come from solving  $\frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} - z^2 = 1$  for  $x$ . A complete description of the region is thus

$$\begin{aligned} -1 &\leq z \leq 2 \\ -3\sqrt{1+z^2} &\leq y \leq 3\sqrt{1+z^2} \\ -2\sqrt{1+z^2 - \frac{y^2}{9}} &\leq x \leq 2\sqrt{1+z^2 - \frac{y^2}{9}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\iiint_R 1 dV = \int_{-1}^2 \int_{y_1(z)}^{y_2(z)} \int_{x_1(y,z)}^{x_2(y,z)} dx dy dz$$

where the limits of integration can be read off from the description of the solid region.

Using *Mathematica*, I evaluated this iterated integral and got

$$\iiint_R 1 dV = 9 \left( \sqrt{2} + 2\sqrt{5} + \operatorname{arcsinh}(1) + \operatorname{arcsinh}(2) \right) \approx 73.9.$$

We can interpret this result as the volume of the solid region because the integrand is 1. For comparison, note that this solid region fits inside a cylinder of radius 3 and height 3 for which the volume is  $\pi(3)^2(3) \approx 84.8$ .

Note: The function  $\operatorname{arcsinh}$  is the *inverse hyperbolic sine function*.