Integration - I (Cartesian)

Saturday, 17 January 2026 5:09 pm

Double Integrals over Rectangles

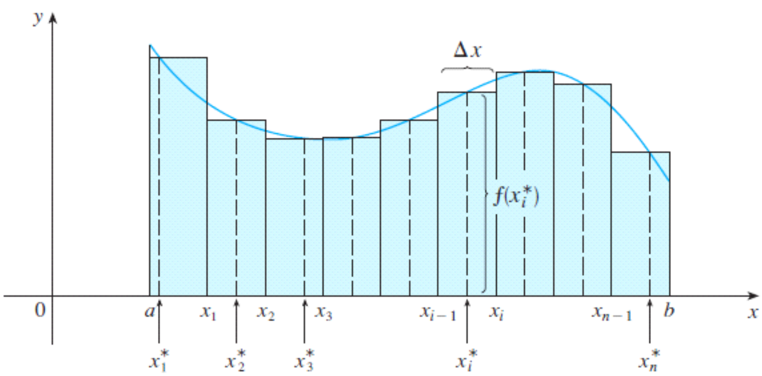
Review of the Definite Integral

First let's recall the basic facts concerning definite integrals of functions of a single variable. If $f(x)$ is defined for $a \leqslant x \leqslant b$, we start by dividing the interval $[a, b]$ into n subintervals $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$ of equal width $\Delta x = (b - a)/n$ and we choose sample points x_i^* in these subintervals. Then we form the Riemann sum

1
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} f(x_i^*)\, \Delta x$$

and take the limit of such sums as $n \to \infty$ to obtain the definite integral of f from a to b:

2
$$\int_a^b f(x)\, dx = \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{i=1}^{n} f(x_i^*)\, \Delta x$$



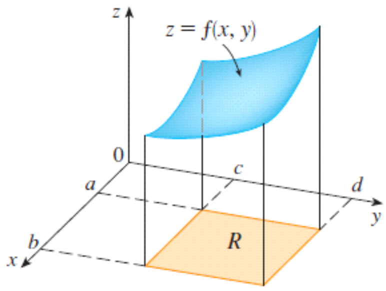
Volumes and Double Integrals

In a similar manner we consider a function f of two variables defined on a closed rectangle

$$R = [a, b] \times [c, d] = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid a \leqslant x \leqslant b,\ c \leqslant y \leqslant d\}$$

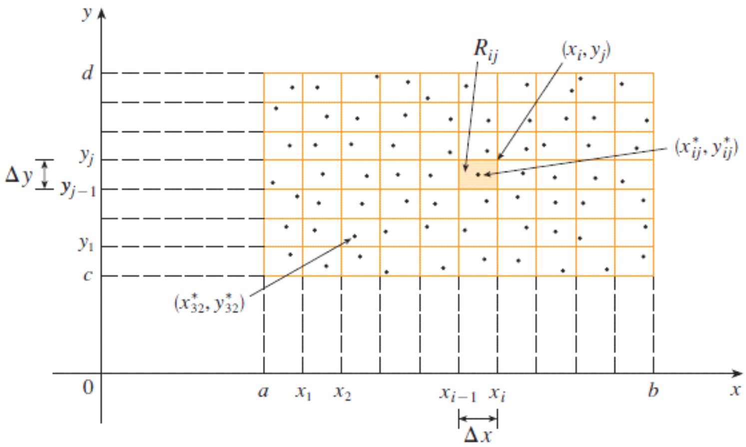
and we first suppose that $f(x, y) \geqslant 0$. The graph of f is a surface with equation $z = f(x, y)$. Let S be the solid that lies above R and under the graph of f, that is,

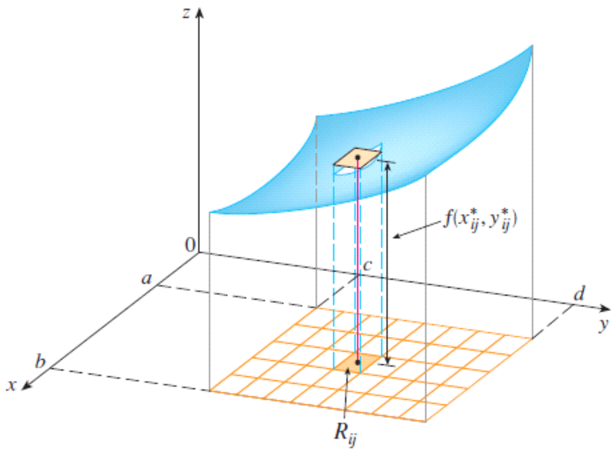
$$S = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid 0 \leqslant z \leqslant f(x, y),\ (x, y) \in R\}$$

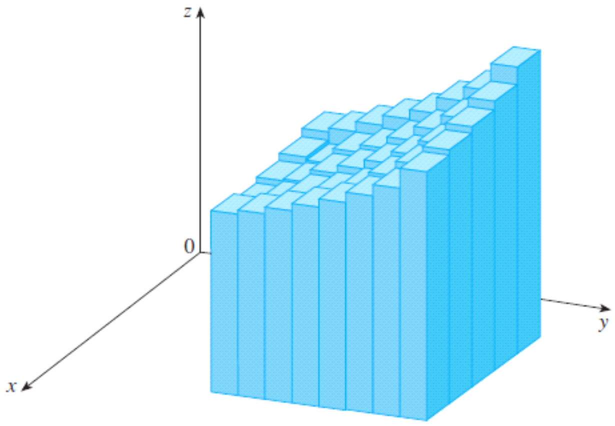


$$R_{ij} = [x_{i-1}, x_i] \times [y_{j-1}, y_j] = \{(x, y) \mid x_{i-1} \leqslant x \leqslant x_i,\ y_{j-1} \leqslant y \leqslant y_j\}$$

each with area $\Delta A = \Delta x \, \Delta y$.





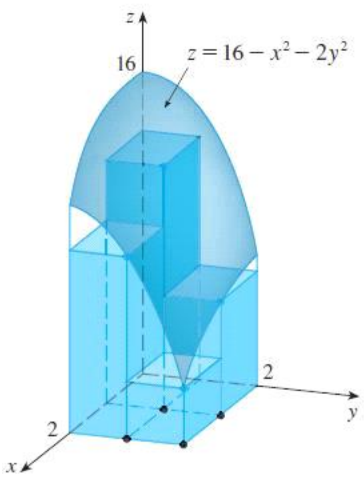


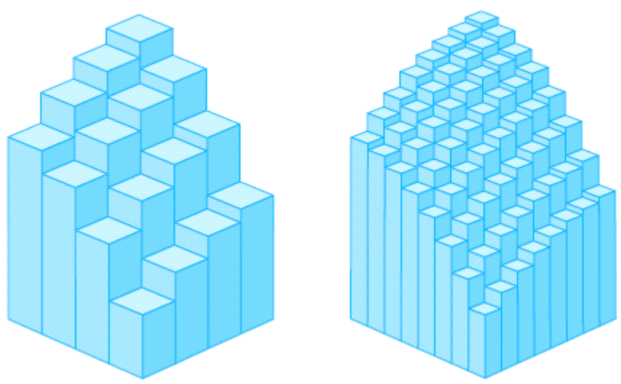
$$V \approx \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=1}^{n} f(x_{ij}^*, y_{ij}^*)\, \Delta A$$

5 Definition The **double integral** of f over the rectangle R is

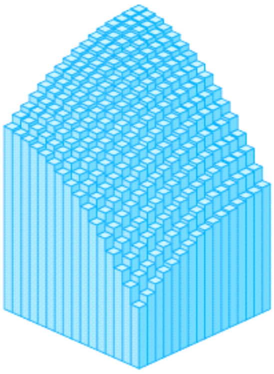
$$\iint_R f(x, y)\, dA = \lim_{m, n \to \infty} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=1}^{n} f(x_{ij}^*, y_{ij}^*)\, \Delta A$$

if this limit exists.



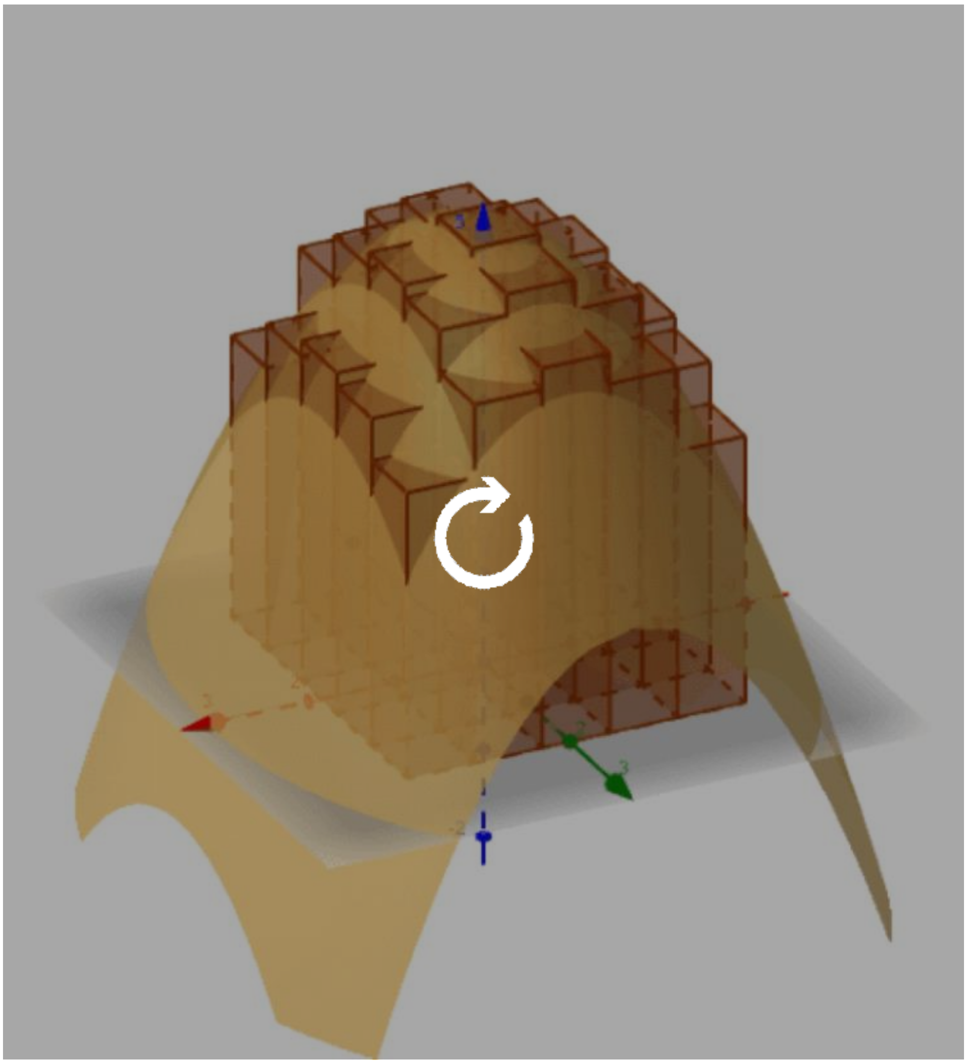


(a) $m = n = 4$, $V \approx 41.5$ (b) $m = n = 8$, $V \approx 44.875$



(c) $m = n = 16$, $V \approx 46.46875$

Definition of the double integral



EXAMPLE 1 Evaluate the iterated integrals.

(a) $\int_0^3 \int_1^2 x^2 y \, dy \, dx$ (b) $\int_1^2 \int_0^3 x^2 y \, dx \, dy$

SOLUTION

(a) Regarding x as a constant, we obtain

$$\int_1^2 x^2 y\,dy = \left[x^2 \frac{y^2}{2}\right]_{y=1}^{y=2} = x^2\left(\frac{2^2}{2}\right) - x^2\left(\frac{1^2}{2}\right) = \tfrac{3}{2}x^2$$

Thus the function A in the preceding discussion is given by $A(x) = \frac{3}{2}x^2$ in this example. We now integrate this function of x from 0 to 3:

$$\int_0^3 \int_1^2 x^2 y\,dy\,dx = \int_0^3 \left[\int_1^2 x^2 y\,dy\right] dx$$

$$= \int_0^3 \tfrac{3}{2}x^2\,dx = \frac{x^3}{2}\bigg]_0^3 = \frac{27}{2}$$

(b) Here we first integrate with respect to x:

$$\int_1^2 \int_0^3 x^2 y\,dx\,dy = \int_1^2 \left[\int_0^3 x^2 y\,dx\right] dy = \int_1^2 \left[\frac{x^3}{3}y\right]_{x=0}^{x=3} dy$$

$$= \int_1^2 9y\,dy = 9\frac{y^2}{2}\bigg]_1^2 = \frac{27}{2}$$

$\boxed{4}$ **Fubini's Theorem** If f is continuous on the rectangle $R = \{(x, y) \mid a \leqslant x \leqslant b,\ c \leqslant y \leqslant d\}$, then

$$\iint_R f(x, y)\,dA = \int_a^b \int_c^d f(x, y)\,dy\,dx = \int_c^d \int_a^b f(x, y)\,dx\,dy$$

More generally, this is true if we assume that f is bounded on R, f is discontinuous only on a finite number of smooth curves, and the iterated integrals exist.

V EXAMPLE 2 Evaluate the double integral $\iint_R (x - 3y^2)\,dA$, where $R = \{(x, y) \mid 0 \leqslant x \leqslant 2,\ 1 \leqslant y \leqslant 2\}$. (Compare with Example 3 in Section 15.1.)

SOLUTION 1 Fubini's Theorem gives

$$\iint_R (x - 3y^2)\,dA = \int_0^2 \int_1^2 (x - 3y^2)\,dy\,dx = \int_0^2 \left[xy - y^3\right]_{y=1}^{y=2} dx$$

$$= \int_0^2 (x - 7)\,dx = \frac{x^2}{2} - 7x\bigg]_0^2 = -12$$

V EXAMPLE 3 Evaluate $\iint_R y\sin(xy)\,dA$, where $R = [1, 2] \times [0, \pi]$.

SOLUTION 1 If we first integrate with respect to x, we get

$$\iint_R y\sin(xy)\,dA = \int_0^\pi \int_1^2 y\sin(xy)\,dx\,dy = \int_0^\pi \left[-\cos(xy)\right]_{x=1}^{x=2} dy$$

$$= \int_0^\pi (-\cos 2y + \cos y)\,dy$$

$$= -\tfrac{1}{2}\sin 2y + \sin y\Big]_0^\pi = 0$$

V **EXAMPLE 4** Find the volume of the solid S that is bounded by the elliptic paraboloid $x^2 + 2y^2 + z = 16$, the planes $x = 2$ and $y = 2$, and the three coordinate planes.

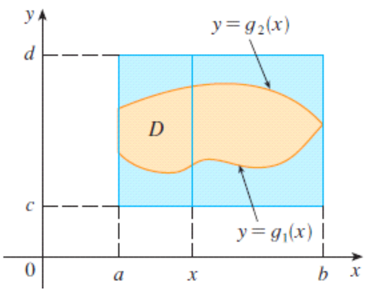
SOLUTION We first observe that S is the solid that lies under the surface $z = 16 - x^2 - 2y^2$ and above the square $R = [0, 2] \times [0, 2]$. (See Figure 5.) This solid was considered in Example 1 in Section 15.1, but we are now in a position to evaluate the double integral using Fubini's Theorem. Therefore

$$V = \iint_R (16 - x^2 - 2y^2)\,dA = \int_0^2 \int_0^2 (16 - x^2 - 2y^2)\,dx\,dy$$

$$= \int_0^2 \left[16x - \tfrac{1}{3}x^3 - 2y^2x\right]_{x=0}^{x=2} dy$$

$$= \int_0^2 \left(\tfrac{88}{3} - 4y^2\right) dy = \left[\tfrac{88}{3}y - \tfrac{4}{3}y^3\right]_0^2 = 48$$

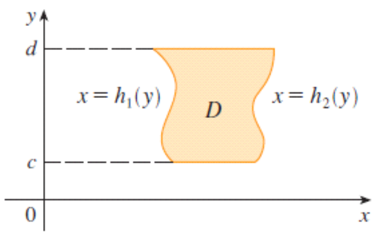
Double Integrals over General Regions



3 If f is continuous on a type I region D such that

$$D = \{(x, y) \mid a \leqslant x \leqslant b,\ g_1(x) \leqslant y \leqslant g_2(x)\}$$

then $$\iint_D f(x, y)\,dA = \int_a^b \int_{g_1(x)}^{g_2(x)} f(x, y)\,dy\,dx$$



5 $$\iint_D f(x, y)\,dA = \int_c^d \int_{h_1(y)}^{h_2(y)} f(x, y)\,dx\,dy$$

V EXAMPLE 4 Find the volume of the solid S that is bounded by the elliptic paraboloid $x^2 + 2y^2 + z = 16$, the planes $x = 2$ and $y = 2$, and the three coordinate planes.

SOLUTION We first observe that S is the solid that lies under the surface $z = 16 - x^2 - 2y^2$ and above the square $R = [0, 2] \times [0, 2]$. (See Figure 5.) This solid was considered in Example 1 in Section 15.1, but we are now in a position to evaluate the double integral using Fubini's Theorem. Therefore

$$V = \iint_R (16 - x^2 - 2y^2)\, dA = \int_0^2 \int_0^2 (16 - x^2 - 2y^2)\, dx\, dy$$
$$= \int_0^2 \left[16x - \tfrac{1}{3}x^3 - 2y^2x\right]_{x=0}^{x=2} dy$$
$$= \int_0^2 \left(\tfrac{88}{3} - 4y^2\right) dy = \left[\tfrac{88}{3}y - \tfrac{4}{3}y^3\right]_0^2 = 48$$

SOLUTION The parabolas intersect when $2x^2 = 1 + x^2$, that is, $x^2 = 1$, so $x = \pm 1$. We note that the region D, sketched in Figure 8, is a type I region but not a type II region and we can write

$$D = \{(x, y) \mid -1 \leqslant x \leqslant 1,\ 2x^2 \leqslant y \leqslant 1 + x^2\}$$

Since the lower boundary is $y = 2x^2$ and the upper boundary is $y = 1 + x^2$, Equation 3 gives

$$\iint_D (x + 2y)\, dA = \int_{-1}^{1} \int_{2x^2}^{1+x^2} (x + 2y)\, dy\, dx$$

$$\iint_D (x + 2y)\, dA = \int_{-1}^{1} \int_{2x^2}^{1+x^2} (x + 2y)\, dy\, dx$$
$$= \int_{-1}^{1} \left[xy + y^2\right]_{y=2x^2}^{y=1+x^2} dx$$
$$= \int_{-1}^{1} \left[x(1 + x^2) + (1 + x^2)^2 - x(2x^2) - (2x^2)^2\right] dx$$
$$= \int_{-1}^{1} (-3x^4 - x^3 + 2x^2 + x + 1)\, dx$$
$$= -3\frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^4}{4} + 2\frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^2}{2} + x \Bigg]_{-1}^{1} = \frac{32}{15}$$

EXAMPLE 2 Find the volume of the solid that lies under the paraboloid $z = x^2 + y^2$ and above the region D in the xy-plane bounded by the line $y = 2x$ and the parabola $y = x^2$.

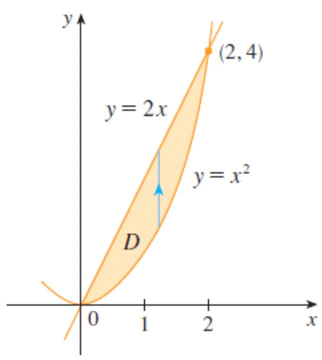


FIGURE 9
D as a type I region

SOLUTION 1 From Figure 9 we see that D is a type I region and

$$D = \{(x, y) \mid 0 \leqslant x \leqslant 2,\ x^2 \leqslant y \leqslant 2x\}$$

Therefore the volume under $z = x^2 + y^2$ and above D is

$$V = \iint_D (x^2 + y^2)\, dA = \int_0^2 \int_{x^2}^{2x} (x^2 + y^2)\, dy\, dx$$

$$\begin{aligned}
V &= \iint_D (x^2 + y^2)\, dA = \int_0^2 \int_{x^2}^{2x} (x^2 + y^2)\, dy\, dx \\
&= \int_0^2 \left[x^2 y + \frac{y^3}{3} \right]_{y=x^2}^{y=2x} dx \\
&= \int_0^2 \left[x^2(2x) + \frac{(2x)^3}{3} - x^2 x^2 - \frac{(x^2)^3}{3} \right] dx \\
&= \int_0^2 \left(-\frac{x^6}{3} - x^4 + \frac{14x^3}{3} \right) dx \\
&= -\frac{x^7}{21} - \frac{x^5}{5} + \frac{7x^4}{6} \Bigg]_0^2 = \frac{216}{35}
\end{aligned}$$

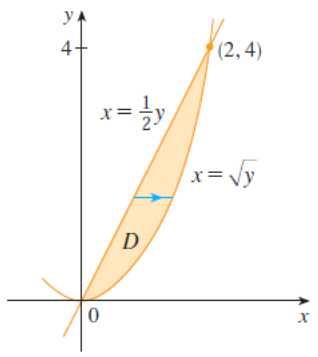


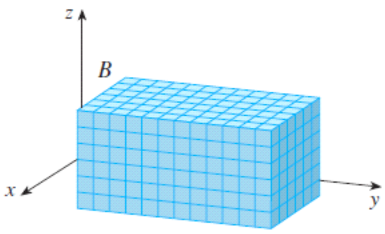
FIGURE 10
D as a type II region

SOLUTION 2 From Figure 10 we see that D can also be written as a type II region:

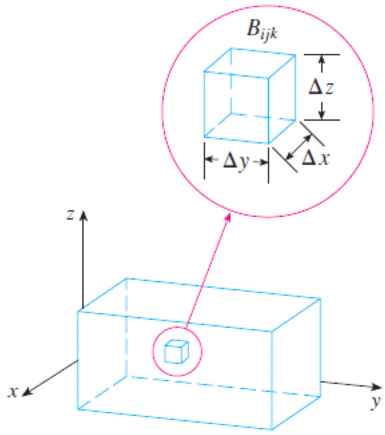
$$D = \{(x, y) \mid 0 \leqslant y \leqslant 4,\ \tfrac{1}{2}y \leqslant x \leqslant \sqrt{y}\}$$

Therefore another expression for V is

$$\begin{aligned}
V &= \iint_D (x^2 + y^2)\, dA = \int_0^4 \int_{\frac{1}{2}y}^{\sqrt{y}} (x^2 + y^2)\, dx\, dy \\
&= \int_0^4 \left[\frac{x^3}{3} + y^2 x \right]_{x=\frac{1}{2}y}^{x=\sqrt{y}} dy = \int_0^4 \left(\frac{y^{3/2}}{3} + y^{5/2} - \frac{y^3}{24} - \frac{y^3}{2} \right) dy \\
&= \tfrac{2}{15} y^{5/2} + \tfrac{2}{7} y^{7/2} - \tfrac{13}{96} y^4 \Big]_0^4 = \tfrac{216}{35}
\end{aligned}$$



$$B = \{(x, y, z) \mid a \leqslant x \leqslant b,\ c \leqslant y \leqslant d,\ r \leqslant z \leqslant s\}$$



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

which are shown in Figure 1. Each sub-box has volume $\Delta V = \Delta x \, \Delta y \, \Delta z$.

Then we form the **triple Riemann sum**

2
$$\sum_{i=1}^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{k=1}^{n} f(x_{ijk}^*, y_{ijk}^*, z_{ijk}^*) \, \Delta V$$

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

$$\iiint_B f(x, y, z) \, dV = \lim_{l, m, n \to \infty} \sum_{i=1}^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{k=1}^{n} f(x_{ijk}^*, y_{ijk}^*, z_{ijk}^*) \, \Delta V$$

if this limit exists.

4 Fubini's Theorem for Triple Integrals If f is continuous on the rectangular box $B = [a, b] \times [c, d] \times [r, s]$, then

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

V EXAMPLE 1 Evaluate the triple integral $\iiint_B xyz^2\,dV$, where B is the rectangular box given by

$$B = \{(x, y, z) \mid 0 \leqslant x \leqslant 1,\ -1 \leqslant y \leqslant 2,\ 0 \leqslant z \leqslant 3\}$$

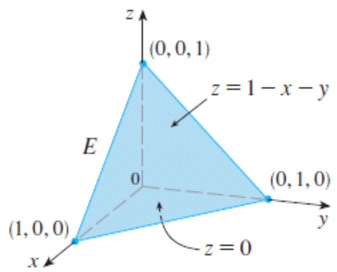
SOLUTION We could use any of the six possible orders of integration. If we choose to integrate with respect to x, then y, and then z, we obtain

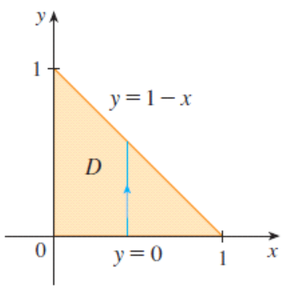
$$\iiint_B xyz^2\,dV = \int_0^3 \int_{-1}^2 \int_0^1 xyz^2\,dx\,dy\,dz = \int_0^3 \int_{-1}^2 \left[\frac{x^2yz^2}{2}\right]_{x=0}^{x=1} dy\,dz$$

$$= \int_0^3 \int_{-1}^2 \frac{yz^2}{2}\,dy\,dz = \int_0^3 \left[\frac{y^2z^2}{4}\right]_{y=-1}^{y=2} dz$$

$$= \int_0^3 \frac{3z^2}{4}\,dz = \frac{z^3}{4}\Big]_0^3 = \frac{27}{4}$$

EXAMPLE 2 Evaluate $\iiint_E z\,dV$, where E is the solid tetrahedron bounded by the four planes $x = 0$, $y = 0$, $z = 0$, and $x + y + z = 1$.





9 $\quad E = \{(x, y, z) \mid 0 \leqslant x \leqslant 1,\ 0 \leqslant y \leqslant 1 - x,\ 0 \leqslant z \leqslant 1 - x - y\}$

$$\iiint_E z\,dV = \int_0^1 \int_0^{1-x} \int_0^{1-x-y} z\,dz\,dy\,dx = \int_0^1 \int_0^{1-x} \left[\frac{z^2}{2}\right]_{z=0}^{z=1-x-y} dy\,dx$$

$$= \tfrac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \int_0^{1-x} (1 - x - y)^2\,dy\,dx = \tfrac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \left[-\frac{(1 - x - y)^3}{3}\right]_{y=0}^{y=1-x} dx$$

$$= \tfrac{1}{6} \int_0^1 (1 - x)^3\,dx = \frac{1}{6}\left[-\frac{(1 - x)^4}{4}\right]_0^1 = \frac{1}{24}$$

Evaluate the integral in Example 1, integrating first with respect to y, then z, and then x.

Evaluate the integral $\iiint_E (xy + z^2)\, dV$, where

$$E = \{(x, y, z) \mid 0 \leqslant x \leqslant 2, 0 \leqslant y \leqslant 1, 0 \leqslant z \leqslant 3\}$$

using three different orders of integration.