

Change of Variables in Multiple Integrals

In this section, we will learn about:

The change of variables
in double and triple integrals.

In one-dimensional calculus, we often use a change of variable (a substitution) to simplify an integral.

By reversing the roles of *x* and *u*, we can write the Substitution Rule (Equation 6 in Section 5.5) as:

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_c^d f(g(u))g'(u) du$$

where x = g(u) and a = g(c), b = g(d).

Another way of writing Formula 1 is as follows:

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx = \int_{c}^{d} f(x(u)) \frac{dx}{du} du$$

CHANGE OF VARIABLES IN DOUBLE INTEGRALS A change of variables can also be useful in double integrals.

We have already seen one example of this: conversion to polar coordinates.

The new variables r and θ are related to the old variables x and y by:

$$x = r \cos \theta$$

$$y = r \sin \theta$$

The change of variables formula (Formula 2 in Section 15.4) can be written as:

$$\iint\limits_R f(x,y) dA = \iint\limits_S f(r\cos\theta, r\sin\theta) r dr d\theta$$

where S is the region in the $r\theta$ -plane that corresponds to the region R in the xy-plane.

More generally, we consider a change of variables that is given by a transformation *T* from the *uv*-plane to the *xy*-plane:

$$T(u, v) = (x, y)$$

where x and y are related to u and v by:

$$x = g(u, v)$$
 $y = h(u, v)$

■ We sometimes write these as: x = x(u, v), y = y(u, v)

C1 TRANSFORMATION

We usually assume that T is a C^1 transformation.

■ This means that *g* and *h* have continuous first-order partial derivatives.

IMAGE & ONE-TO-ONE TRANSFORMATION

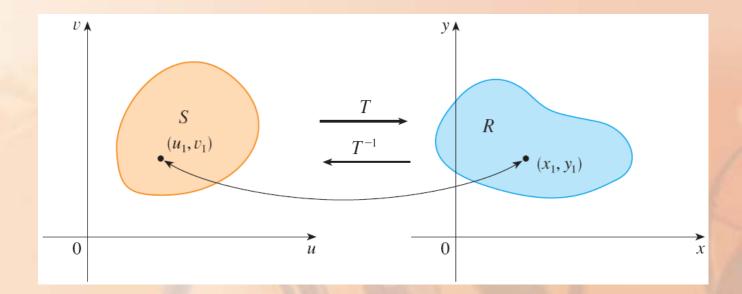
If $T(u_1, v_1) = (x_1, y_1)$, then the point (x_1, y_1) is called the image of the point (u_1, v_1) .

If no two points have the same image, *T* is called one-to-one.

CHANGE OF VARIABLES

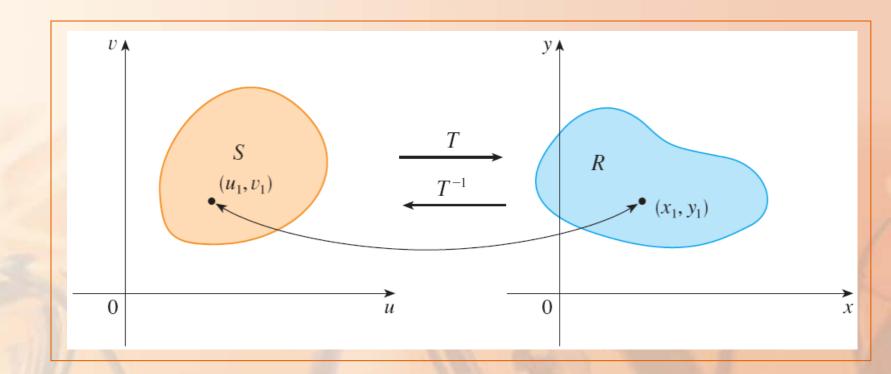
The figure shows the effect of a transformation *T* on a region *S* in the *uv*-plane.

■ *T* transforms *S* into a region *R* in the *xy*-plane called the image of *S*, consisting of the images of all points in *S*.



INVERSE TRANSFORMATION

If T is a one-to-one transformation, it has an inverse transformation T^{-1} from the xy-plane to the uv-plane.



INVERSE TRANSFORMATION

Then, it may be possible to solve Equations 3 for *u* and *v* in terms of *x* and *y*:

$$u = G(x, y)$$

$$V = H(X, y)$$

A transformation is defined by:

$$x = u^2 - v^2$$
$$y = 2uv$$

Find the image of the square

$$S = \{(u, v) \mid 0 \le u \le 1, 0 \le v \le 1\}$$

The transformation maps the boundary of S into the boundary of the image.

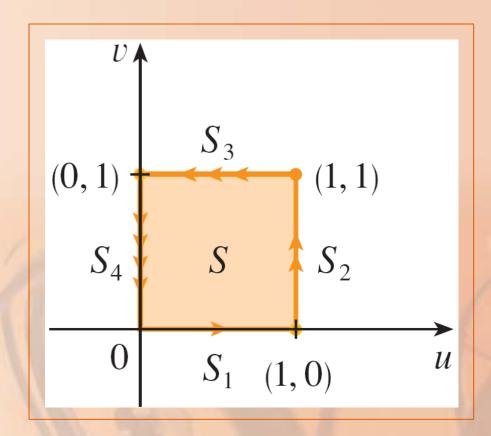
 So, we begin by finding the images of the sides of S.

TRANSFORMATION

Example 1

The first side, S_1 , is given by:

$$v = 0 \ (0 \le u \le 1)$$



From the given equations, we have:

$$x = u^2$$
, $y = 0$, and so $0 \le x \le 1$.

Thus, S_1 is mapped into the line segment from (0, 0) to (1, 0) in the xy-plane.

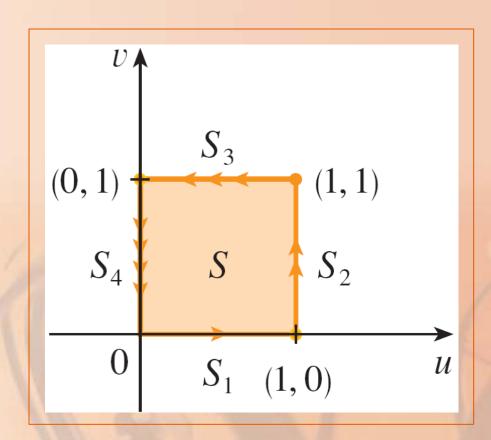
The second side, S_2 , is:

$$u = 1 (0 \le v \le 1)$$

Putting u = 1 in the given equations, we get:

$$x = 1 - v^2$$

$$y = 2v$$



Eliminating v, we obtain:

$$x = 1 - \frac{y^2}{4} \qquad 0 \le x \le 1$$

which is part of a parabola.

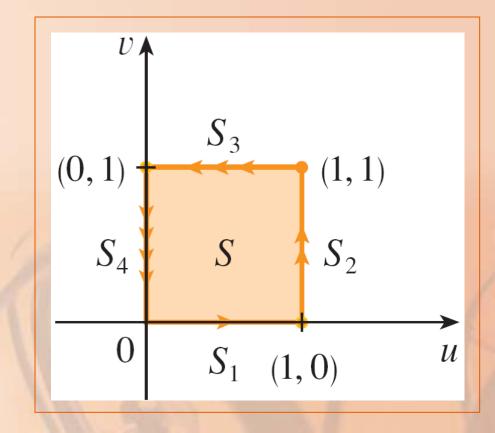
Similarly, S_3 is given by:

$$v = 1 \ (0 \le u \le 1)$$

Its image is the parabolic arc

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

$$(-1 \le x \le 0)$$



Finally, S_4 is given by:

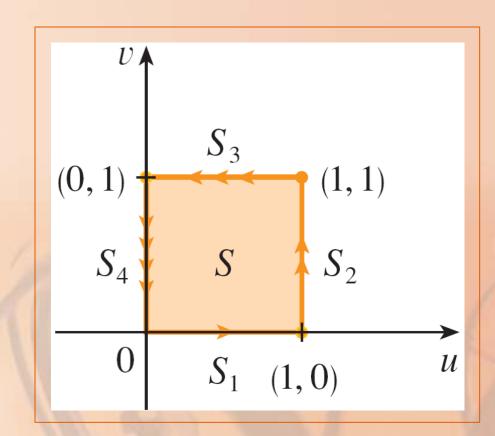
$$u = 0(0 \le v \le 1)$$

Its image is:

$$x = -v^2$$
, $y = 0$

that is,

$$-1 \le x \le 0$$

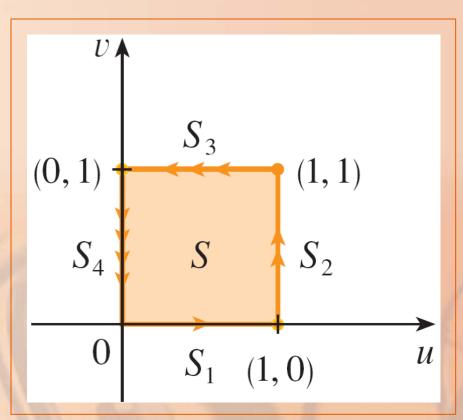


TRANSFORMATION

Example 1

Notice that as, we move around the square in the counterclockwise direction, we also move around the parabolic region in

the counterclockwise direction.

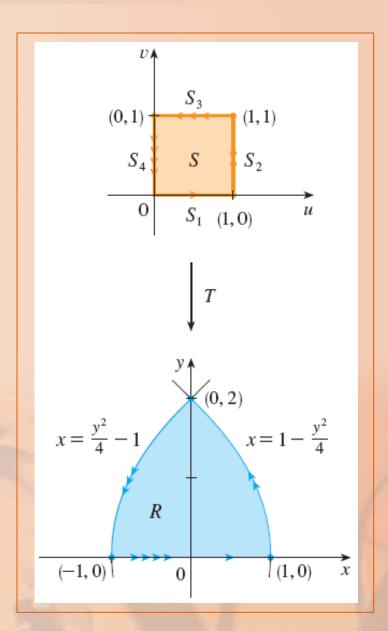


TRANSFORMATION

The image of *S* is the region *R* bounded by:

- The x-axis.
- The parabolas given by Equations 4 and 5.

Example 1



DOUBLE INTEGRALS USING CROSS PRODUCT

Computing the cross product, we obtain:

$$\mathbf{r}_{u} \times \mathbf{r}_{v} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & 0 \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{k} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{k}$$

JACOBIAN

The determinant that arises in this calculation is called the Jacobian of the transformation.

It is given a special notation.

The Jacobian of the transformation T given by x = g(u, v) and y = h(u, v) is:

$$\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{vmatrix} = \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \frac{\partial y}{\partial u}$$

With this notation, we can use Equation 6 to give an approximation to the area ΔA of R:

$$\Delta A \approx \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| \Delta u \, \Delta v$$

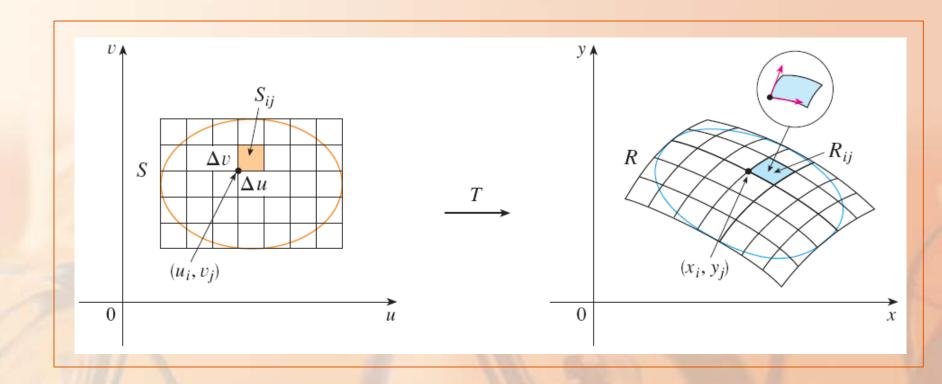
where the Jacobian is evaluated at (u_0, v_0) .

JACOBIAN

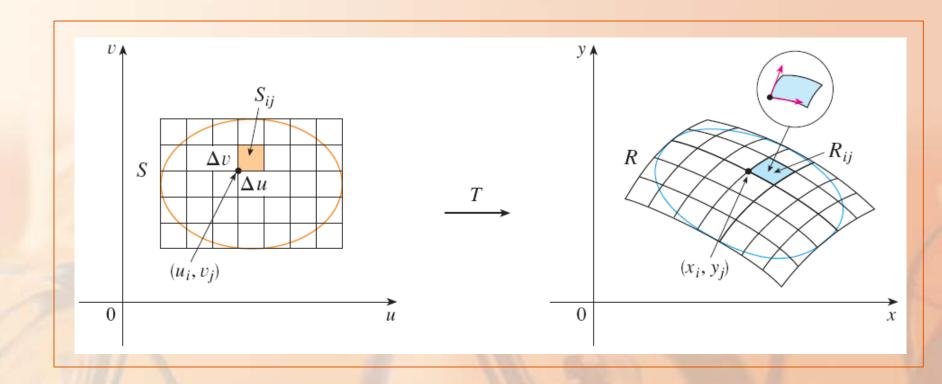
The Jacobian is named after the German mathematician Carl Gustav Jacob Jacobi (1804–1851).

- The French mathematician Cauchy first used these special determinants involving partial derivatives.
- Jacobi, though, developed them into a method for evaluating multiple integrals.

Next, we divide a region S in the uv-plane into rectangles S_{ij} and call their images in the xy-plane R_{ii} .



Applying Approximation 8 to each R_{ij} , we approximate the double integral of f over R as follows.



$$\iint\limits_R f(x,y) \, dA$$

$$\approx \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=1}^{n} f(x_i, y_j) \Delta A$$

$$\approx \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=1}^{n} f(g(u_i, v_j), h(u_i, v_j)) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| \Delta u \, \Delta v$$

where the Jacobian is evaluated at (u_i, v_j) .

Notice that this double sum is a Riemann sum for the integral

$$\iint_{S} f(g(u,v),h(u,v)) \left| \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} \right| du dv$$

The foregoing argument suggests that the following theorem is true.

A full proof is given in books on advanced calculus.

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Theorem 9 Suppose:

- *T* is a *C*¹ transformation whose Jacobian is nonzero and that maps a region *S* in the *uv*-plane onto a region *R* in the *xy*-plane.
- f is continuous on R and that R and S are type I or type II plane regions.
- T is one-to-one, except perhaps on the boundary of S.

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Theorem 9 Then,

$$\iint\limits_R f(x,y)\,dA$$

$$= \iint_{S} f(x(u,v),y(u,v)) \left| \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} \right| du dv$$

Theorem 9 says that we change from an integral in *x* and *y* to an integral in *u* and *v* by expressing *x* and *y* in terms of *u* and *v* and writing:

$$dA = \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| du \, dv$$

Notice the similarity between
Theorem 9 and the one-dimensional
formula in Equation 2.

• Instead of the derivative dx/du, we have the absolute value of the Jacobian, that is,

 $|\partial(x, y)/\partial(u, v)|$

As a first illustration of Theorem 9, we show that the formula for integration in polar coordinates is just a special case.

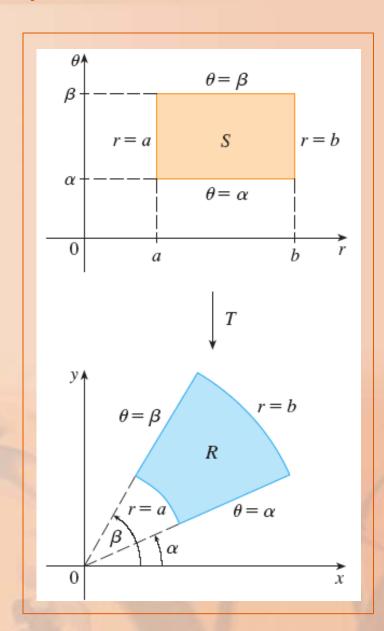
Here, the transformation T from the $r\theta$ -plane to the xy-plane is given by:

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

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

The geometry of the transformation is shown here.

T maps an ordinary rectangle in the rθ-plane to a polar rectangle in the xy-plane.



The Jacobian of T is:

$$\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(r,\theta)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \cos\theta & -r\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & r\cos\theta \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= r\cos^{2}\theta + r\sin^{2}\theta$$
$$= r > 0$$

So, Theorem 9 gives:

$$\iint_{R} f(x, y) dx dy$$

$$= \iint_{S} f(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| dr d\theta$$

$$= \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} \int_{a}^{b} f(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta) r \, dr \, d\theta$$

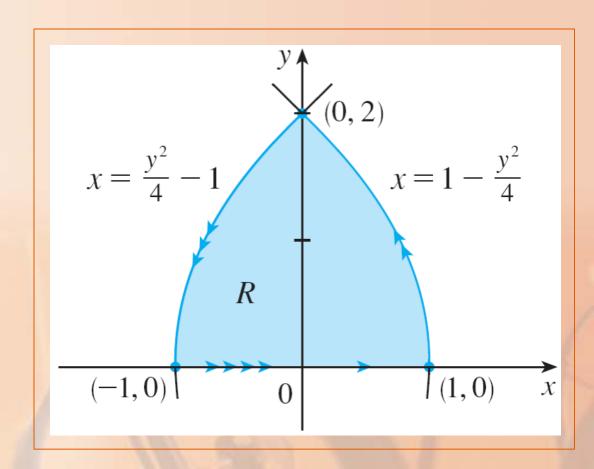
■ This is the same as polar coordinate formula.

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Example 2 Use the change of variables $x = u^2 - v^2$, y = 2uv to evaluate the integral $\iint y \, dA$

where *R* is the region bounded by:

- The x-axis.
- The parabolas $y^2 = 4 4x$ and $y^2 = 4 + 4x$, $y \ge 0$.

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Example 2 The region R is pictured here.



CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Example 2 In Example 1, we discovered that T(S) = Rwhere S is the square $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$.

• Indeed, the reason for making the change of variables to evaluate the integral is that S is a much simpler region than R.

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Example 2 First, we need to compute the Jacobian:

$$\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 2u & -2v \\ 2v & 2u \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= 4u^2 + 4v^2 > 0$$

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Example 2 So, by Theorem 9,

$$\iint_{R} y \, dA = \iint_{S} 2uv \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| dA$$

$$= \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{1} (2uv) 4(u^{2} + v^{2}) \, du \, dv$$

$$= 8 \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{1} (u^{3}v + uv^{3}) \, du \, dv$$

$$= 8 \int_{0}^{1} \left[\frac{1}{4} u^{4}v + \frac{1}{2} u^{2}v^{3} \right]_{u=0}^{u=1} \, dv$$

$$= \int_{0}^{1} (2v + 4v^{3}) \, dv = \left[v^{2} + v^{4} \right]_{0}^{1} = 2$$

Example 2 was not very difficult to solve as we were given a suitable change of variables.

If we are not supplied with a transformation, the first step is to think of an appropriate change of variables.

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Note If f(x, y) is difficult to integrate,

■ The form of f(x, y) may suggest a transformation.

If the region of integration R is awkward,

■ The transformation should be chosen so that the corresponding region S in the uv-plane has a convenient description.

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Example 3 Evaluate the integral

$$\iint_{R} e^{(x+y)/(x-y)} dA$$

where *R* is the trapezoidal region with vertices

$$(1, 0), (2, 0), (0, -2), (0, -1)$$

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) E. g. 3—Eqns. 10 It isn't easy to integrate $e^{(x+y)/(x-y)}$.

So, we make a change of variables suggested by the form of this function:

$$u = x + y$$
 $v = x - y$

■ These equations define a transformation T^{-1} from the xy-plane to the uv-plane.

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) E. g. 3—Equation 11 Theorem 9 talks about a transformation *T* from the *uv*-plane to the *xy*-plane.

It is obtained by solving Equations 10 for *x* and *y*:

$$x = \frac{1}{2}(u + v)$$
 $y = \frac{1}{2}(u - v)$

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Example 3 The Jacobian of *T* is:

$$\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{vmatrix} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Example 3 To find the region S in the uv-plane corresponding to R, we note that:

The sides of R lie on the lines

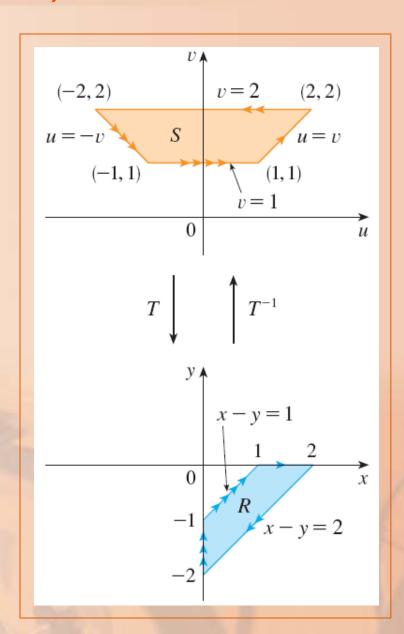
$$y = 0$$
 $x - y = 2$ $x = 0$ $x - y = 1$

■ From either Equations 10 or Equations 11, the image lines in the *uv*-plane are:

$$u = v$$
 $v = 2$ $u = -v$ $v = 1$

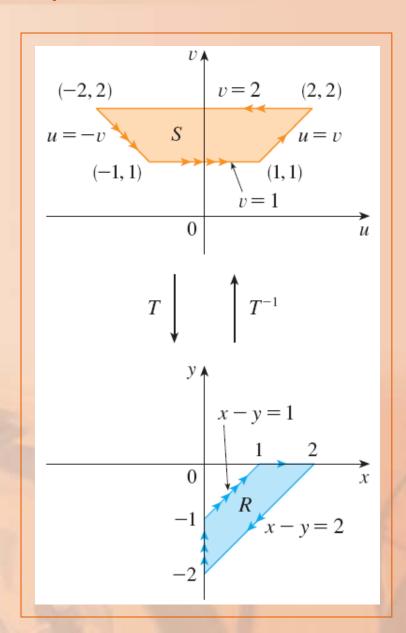
CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Example 3

Thus, the region S is the trapezoidal region with vertices



CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Example 3

$$S = \{(u, v) \mid 1 \le v \le 2, \\ -v \le u \le v\}$$



CHG. OF VRBLS. (DOUBLE INTEG.) Example 3 So, Theorem 9 gives:

$$\iint_{R} e^{(x+y)/(x-y)} dA = \iint_{S} e^{u/v} \left| \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} \right| du \, dv$$

$$= \int_{1}^{2} \int_{-v}^{v} e^{u/v} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) du \, dv$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_{1}^{2} \left[v e^{u/v} \right]_{u=-v}^{u=v} dv$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_{1}^{2} \left(e - e^{-1} \right) v \, dv = \frac{3}{4} \left(e - e^{-1} \right)$$

TRIPLE INTEGRALS

There is a similar change of variables formula for triple integrals.

Let T be a transformation that maps a region S in uvw-space onto a region R in xyz-space by means of the equations

$$x = g(u, v, w)$$
 $y = h(u, v, w)$ $z = k(u, v, w)$

The Jacobian of *T* is this 3 x 3 determinant:

$$\frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(u, v, w)} = \begin{vmatrix}
\frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial w} \\
\frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial w} \\
\frac{\partial z}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial w}
\end{vmatrix}$$

Under hypotheses similar to those in Theorem 9, we have this formula for triple integrals:

$$\iiint_{R} f(x, y, z) dV$$

$$= \iiint_{S} f(x(u, v, w), y(u, v, w), z(u, v, w))$$

$$\frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(u, v, w)} du dv dw$$

Use Formula 13 to derive the formula for triple integration in spherical coordinates.

■ The change of variables is given by:

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

$$y = \rho \sin \Phi \sin \theta$$

$$z = \rho \cos \Phi$$

TRIPLE INTEGRALS

Example 4

We compute the Jacobian as follows:

$$\frac{\partial(x,y,z)}{\partial(\rho,\theta,\phi)}$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} \sin \phi \cos \theta & -\rho \sin \phi \sin \theta & \rho \cos \phi \cos \theta \\ = \sin \phi \sin \theta & \rho \sin \phi \cos \theta & \rho \cos \phi \sin \theta \\ \cos \phi & 0 & -\rho \sin \phi \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \cos \phi \begin{vmatrix} -\rho \sin \phi \sin \theta & \rho \cos \phi \cos \theta \\ \rho \sin \phi \cos \theta & \rho \cos \phi \sin \theta \end{vmatrix}$$

$$-\rho \sin \phi \begin{vmatrix} \sin \phi \cos \theta & -\rho \sin \phi \sin \theta \\ \sin \phi \sin \theta & \rho \sin \phi \cos \theta \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \cos \phi (-\rho^2 \sin \phi \cos \phi \sin^2 \theta - \rho^2 \sin \phi \cos \phi \cos^2 \theta)$$

$$-\rho \sin \phi (\rho \sin^2 \phi \cos^2 \theta + \rho \sin^2 \phi \sin^2 \theta)$$

$$= -\rho^2 \sin \phi \cos^2 \phi - \rho^2 \sin \phi \sin^2 \phi$$

$$= -\rho^2 \sin \phi$$

Since $0 \le \Phi \le \pi$, we have $\sin \Phi \ge 0$.

Therefore,

$$\frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(\rho, \theta, \phi)} = \left| -\rho^2 \sin \phi \right|$$
$$= \rho^2 \sin \phi$$

TRIPLE INTEGRALS

Thus, Formula 13 gives:

$$\iiint\limits_R f(x,y,z)\,dV$$

$$= \iiint_{S} f(\rho \sin \phi \cos \theta, \rho \sin \phi \sin \theta, \rho \cos \phi)$$

$$\rho^{2} \sin \phi d\rho d\theta d\phi$$

This is equivalent to Formula 3 in Section 15.8