

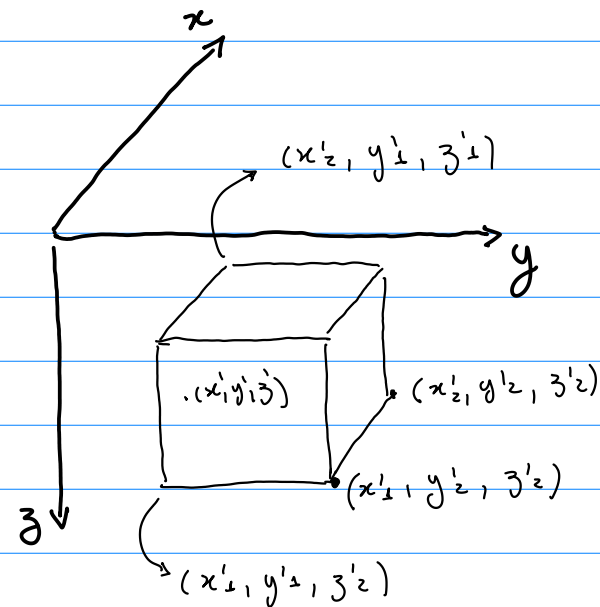
Rectangular prism

Consider a rectangular prism with constant density and sides aligned with a topocentric Cartesian coordinate system having x-, y-, and z-axis pointing to north, east and down, respectively. The gravitational potential produced by this prism at a point P = (x, y, z) is given by:

$$U_P = G \rho \int_{x'_1}^{x'_2} \int_{y'_1}^{y'_2} \int_{z'_1}^{z'_2} \frac{1}{\ell} dx' dy' dz'$$

$$\ell = \sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}$$

$$i=1,2 \quad j=1,2 \quad k=1,2$$



A solution for this integral is given by (Nagy et al., 2000, 2002):

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= x'_1 - x & Y_1 &= y'_1 - y & Z_1 &= z'_1 - z \\ X_2 &= x'_2 - x & Y_2 &= y'_2 - y & Z_2 &= z'_2 - z \end{aligned}$$

$$l_{ijk} = \sqrt{X_i^2 + Y_j^2 + Z_k^2}$$

$$i=1,2 \quad j=1,2 \quad k=1,2$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(i,j,k) &= X_i Y_j \ln(-Z_k + l_{ijk}) + Y_j Z_k \ln(X_i + l_{ijk}) + X_i Z_k \ln(Y_j + l_{ijk}) + \\ &- \frac{X_i^2}{2} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{Y_j Z_k}{X_i l_{ijk}} \right) - \frac{Y_j^2}{2} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{X_i Z_k}{Y_j l_{ijk}} \right) - \frac{Z_k^2}{2} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{X_i Y_j}{Z_k l_{ijk}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} U_P &= G \rho \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \int_{y_1}^{y_2} \int_{z_1}^{z_2} f(i,j,k) dx dy dz \\ &= G \rho \left[f(2,j,k) - f(1,j,k) \right]_{y_1}^{y_2} \int_{z_1}^{z_2} dz \\ &= G \rho \left[f(2,2,k) - f(2,1,k) - f(1,2,k) + f(1,1,k) \right]_{z_1}^{z_2} \\ &= G \rho \left[f(2,2,2) - f(2,2,1) - f(2,1,2) + f(2,1,1) - f(1,2,2) + f(1,2,1) + f(1,1,2) - f(1,1,1) \right] \\ &= G \rho \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{k=1}^2 (-1)^{i+j+k} f(i,j,k) \end{aligned}$$