

MULTIPLE INTEGRALS

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PROBABILITY I

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Outline

- 1 Double integrals - Overview
- 2 Probability
- 3 How to compute a double integral
 - Rectangular system
 - Polar system
- 4 HD

\pm Volume

An equation $z = f(x, y)$ represents a surface in 3-space.

Let D be a region in the xy -plane within the domain of f .

If $f(x, y) \geq 0$ then D cuts off a 3D solid:

above D (“floor”), below the surface (“roof”).

Its volume can be approximated like in the 1D case.

If f takes also negative values, then we assign “minus volume” for the part of the surface below the xy -plane.

The usual procedure

- partition the xy -plane into small simple shapes such as rectangles or other figures,
- on each small base of area ΔA build a narrow block reaching the surface with the volume $f(x, y) \Delta A$ (height \times base),
- sum up the volumes: $\sum_x \sum_y f(x, y) \Delta A$,
- Increase the resolution and pass to the limit, denoted by

$$\iint_D f(x, y) \, dA$$

Normalized mass

Let $f(x, y) \geq 0$ be a density of the lamina of the plane.

It has a physical dimension, e.g. $\left[\frac{g}{cm^2}\right]$.

Denote $S = \{(x, y) : f(x, y) > 0\}$, called the **support**.. The mass of a lamina D equals

$$M(D) = \int \int_D f(x, y) dA = \int \int_{D \cap S} f(x, y) dA$$

The normalization yields the dimensionless (scalar) quantity

$$P(D) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{M(D \cap S)}{M(S)}, \quad \text{where, obviously} \quad P(S) = 1.$$

Probability = normalized mass

We interpret $P(D)$ as the probability that a random point (X, Y) falls into or occurs in the region D .

Typography: The capital X and Y indicate randomness of the coordinates or variables in contrast to lower case x and y that indicate non-random (deterministic) variables.

Normalization is equivalent to the assumption that a dimension-less function $f(x) \geq 0$ and $\int\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} f \, dA = 1$.

Traditionally, $f(x, y)$ is called the **joint density**.
(However, the plain “density” would suffice).

Example

Let $f(x, y) = 3(x + y)$, $x \geq 0$, $y \geq 0$, $x + y \leq 1$.

The support S is the triangle with vertices $(0, 0)$, $(1, 0)$, $(0, 1)$.

The constant “3” is needed to ensure that $\int \int_S f(x, y) dA = 1$.

Let us set up the double integral to compute $P(X \leq \frac{3}{4}, Y \leq \frac{3}{4})$.

We see that $D = [0, \frac{3}{4}] \times [0, \frac{3}{4}]$, partially “sticking out” of S :

$$P\left(X \leq \frac{3}{4}, Y \leq \frac{3}{4}\right) = \int \int_{D \cap S} 3(x + y) dA.$$

Why constant 3?

It takes a while to compute $\iint_S (x + y) dA = \frac{1}{3}$.

However, the given solid is a pyramid from the vertex $(0, 0, 0)$ to the rectangular base with four vertices

$$(1, 0, 0), (1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1), (0, 1, 0).$$

The area of the base is $\sqrt{2}$ and the height of the pyramid is $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$.

Thus the volume equals

$$\frac{1}{3} \left(\sqrt{2} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{3}.$$

Rectangles

If $D = [a, b] \times [c, d]$ is rectangular, then we also use the rectangular partition of the plane. Then

$$dA = dx \, dy \quad \text{or} \quad dA = dy \, dx,$$

and the double integral becomes either iterated integral

$$\int_c^d \left(\int_a^b f(x, y) \, dx \right) dy \quad \text{or} \quad \int_a^b \left(\int_c^d f(x, y) \, dy \right) dx.$$

That's Calculus 1 or 2 done twice.

A normal region

Let D lie between graphs of two functions, top and bottom:

$$a \leq x \leq b, \quad b(x) \leq y \leq t(x).$$

Then the double integral is again the iterated integral

$$\int_a^b \left(\int_{b(x)}^{t(x)} f(x, y) dy \right) dx.$$

Reverse order

By symmetry, let D lie between a left graph $x = l(y)$ and a right graph $x = r(y)$:

$$c \leq y \leq d, \quad l(y) \leq x \leq r(y).$$

Then the double integral is again the iterated integral

$$\int_c^d \left(\int_{l(y)}^{r(y)} f(x, y) dx \right) dy.$$

More complicated regions

Some regions are not normal but usually they can be divided into a union of normal regions.

Then the overall integral is just the sum of partial integrals.

Which order of integration is better - “ $dx\,dy$ ” or “ $dy\,dx$ ”?

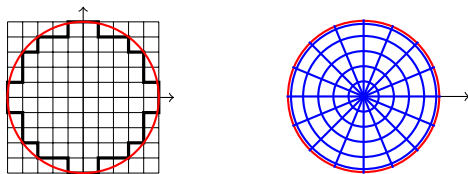
It depends.

Sometimes it doesn't matter.

Sometimes one order yields impossible or hard integrals while the other order yields easy ones.

Polar regions

Some regions D cooperate poorly with the rectangular partition.
A round pizza or cake is cut not into rectangles but to slices!



Concentric circles and polar semi-axes yield the polar partition (a.k.a. **tessellation**) of the plain.

Polar dA

The pair (x, y) of rectangular coordinates is replaced by the pair (r, θ) of polar coordinates, $r \geq 0$ and $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$:

$$\begin{array}{ll} x = r \cos \theta & \text{or} \quad r^2 = x^2 + y^2 \\ y = r \sin \theta & \theta = \arctan \frac{y}{x} \end{array}$$

The polar infinitesimal piece of the area:

$$dA = r \, dr \, d\theta$$

WARNING

A quite **frequent error**:

writing dA in polar coordinates as " $dr d\theta$ ", skipping the factor " r ".

Apart from a common negligence, this error may have semantic and psychological reasons. The phrase

"replace (x, y) by (r, θ) "

might be incorrectly understood as

"replace x by r and replace y by θ "

Example 1

Compute $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2/2} dx$.

Answer. It's $\sqrt{2\pi}$. See Slides 6-7 in the presentation 'BP_11_normal'.

This example shows that sometimes double integrals are much simpler than single integrals.

Exercise 2a

Find c to make $f(x, y) = \frac{c}{(1 + x^2 + y^2)^3}$ a 2D (a.k.a. joint) pdf of a random pair (X, Y) .

Solution. The support is the whole plane: $r \geq 0, 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$.

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{c}{(1 + x^2 + y^2)^3} dA = c \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{(1 + r^2)^3} r dr d\theta \\ &= c \cdot 2\pi \cdot \left. \frac{-1}{2(1 + r^2)^2} \right|_0^\infty = \pi c \end{aligned}$$

Hence $c = 1/\pi$.

Exercise 2b

Find $P(X/\sqrt{3} < Y < X\sqrt{3})$.

Solution. The event of interest:

$$\left\{ x/\sqrt{3} < y < x\sqrt{3} \right\} : \quad r \geq 0, \pi/6 < \theta < \pi/3.$$

Hence

$$P(X/\sqrt{3} < Y < X\sqrt{3}) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/3} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1+r^2)^3} r dr d\theta = \frac{1}{12}$$

A quick alternative. Angles of the same measure have equal probability. Ours measures $\pi/6$ radians, i.e., $1/12$ of the full 2π .

Comment on the setup

The set is framed by two straight lines $y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}x$ and $y = x\sqrt{3}$, lying in the 1th and 3rd quadrant and passing through the origin.

However, the implicit inequality

$$\frac{x}{\sqrt{3}} < x \quad \text{yields} \quad x > 0, \quad \text{so } y > 0 \text{ also.}$$

Therefore, the region lies entirely in the first quadrant.

Exercise 2c: Find EX , EY , EXY .

Quick Solution: All quantities seem to be 0 by symmetry.

Warning: They might not exist! The existence needs proof!

Hard Solution: Three double integrals must be set up and calculated. For example, for the third quantity,

$$\begin{aligned} EXY &= \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} xy \frac{1}{\pi(1+x^2+y^2)^3} dA \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{r \cos \theta \cdot r \sin \theta}{\pi(1+r^2)^3} r dr d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \left(\int_0^\infty \frac{r^3}{\pi(1+r^2)^3} dr \right) \cos \theta \sin \theta d\theta = \dots = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Triple and multiple integrals and pdfs

The concept: continues without change.

Probabilities - like diamonds - are forever.

Formalization: still the same but longer, more tedious or technical

Visualization: gone, no more.

No graphing in 4D or HD, only limited projections possible.