

12.8 Change of Variables in Multiple Integrals

In one dimensional calculus, change of variable (substitution) is often used to simplify an integral. By reversing the roles of x & u , the Substitution Rule can be written as

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

where $x = g(u)$, $a = g(c)$, & $b = g(d)$. Another way to express the Substitution Rule is

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_c^d f(x(u)) \frac{dx}{du} du$$

A change of variables is also useful in double integrals, an example would be conversion to polar coordinates. Where the new variables r & θ are related to the old variables x & y by the equations

$$x = r \cos \theta \quad y = r \sin \theta$$

The change of variables formula can be written as

$$\iint_E f(x, y) dA = \iint_S f(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta) r dr d\theta$$

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

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 & y are related to u & v by the equations

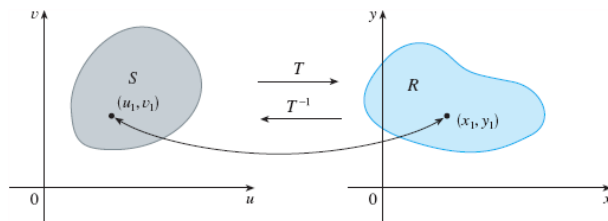
$$x = g(u, v) \quad y = h(u, v)$$

or alternatively

$$x = x(u, v) \quad y = y(u, v)$$

It is usually assumed that T is a C^1 transformation, meaning that g & h have continuous first-order partial derivatives.

T is a function whose domain and range are both subsets of \mathbb{R}^2 . If $T(u_1, v_1) = (x_1, y_1)$, then the point (x_1, y_1) is known as the image of the point (u_1, v_1) . T is called one-to-one if no two points have the same image.



The figure above 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 . The region R consists of images of all points in S .

The inverse transformation T^{-1} exists if T is one-to-one. To clarify, T^{-1} is the transformation from the xy plane to the uv plane and it may be possible to solve for u & v in terms of x & y in terms of the equations below

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

So

$$u = G(x, y) \quad v = H(x, y)$$

Ex 1

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

Find the image of the square $S = \{(u, v) \mid 0 \leq u \leq 1, 0 \leq v \leq 1\}$

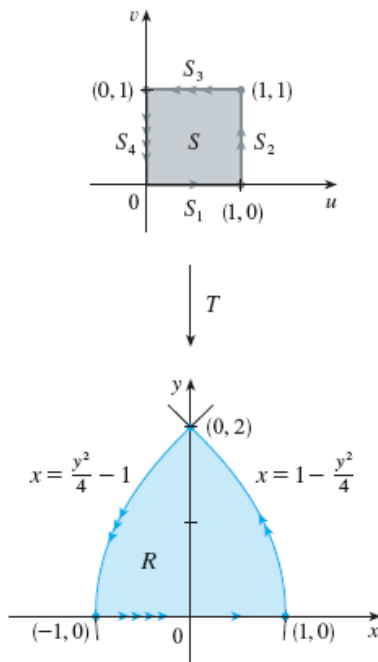
$$\begin{aligned} S_1, v = 0 \quad (0 \leq u \leq 1) \\ x = u^2 \quad y = 2u(0) = 0, \quad (0 \leq x \leq 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_2, u = 0 \quad (0 \leq v \leq 1) \\ x = -v^2 \quad y = 2(0)v = 0 \quad (-1 \leq x \leq 0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_3, v = 1 \quad (0 \leq u \leq 1) \\ x = u^2 - 1 \quad y = 2u(1) = 2u \rightarrow u = \frac{y}{2} \quad x = \frac{y^2}{4} - 1 \quad (-1 \leq x \leq 0) \end{aligned}$$

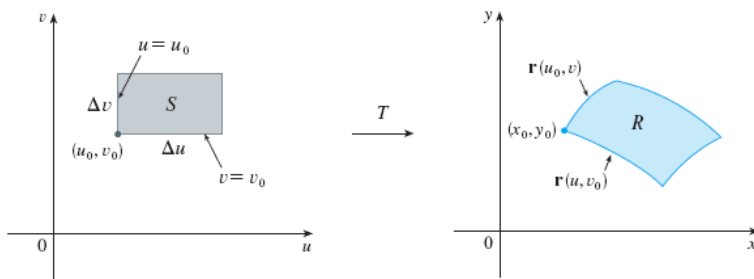
$$\begin{aligned} S_4, u = 1 \quad (0 \leq v \leq 1) \\ x = 1 - v^2 \quad y = 2(1)v = 2v \rightarrow v = \frac{y}{2} \quad x = 1 - \frac{y^2}{4} \quad (0 \leq x \leq 1) \end{aligned}$$

So we have $y = 0$ ($0 \leq x \leq 1$), $y = 0$ ($-1 \leq x \leq 0$), $x = \frac{y^2}{4} - 1$ ($-1 \leq x \leq 0$), $x = 1 - \frac{y^2}{4}$ ($0 \leq x \leq 1$), giving us the image of S which we call R .



Effects of Change of Variable on Double Integrals

A small rectangle S in the uv plane whose lower left corner is the point (u_0, v_0) and whose dimensions are Δu & Δv , shown in the figure below



The image of S is a region R in the xy plane, one of whose boundary points is $x_0, y_0 = T(u_0, v_0)$. The vector

$$\mathbf{r}(u, v) = g(u, v)\mathbf{i} + h(u, v)\mathbf{j}$$

is the position vector of the image of the point (u, v) . The equation representing the lower side of S is $v = v_0$, whose image curve is given by the vector function $\mathbf{r}(u, v_0)$. The tangent vector at x_0, y_0 to this image curve is

$$\mathbf{r}_u = g_u(u_0, v_0)\mathbf{i} + h_u(u_0, v_0)\mathbf{j} = \frac{\partial x}{\partial u}\mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial u}\mathbf{j}$$

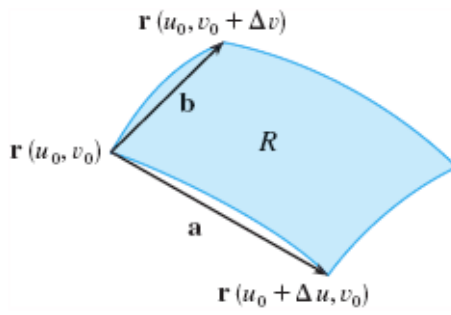
While the tangent vector at x_0, y_0 to the image curve of the left side of S , namely $u = u_0$ is

$$\mathbf{r}_v = g_v(u_0, v_0)\mathbf{i} + h_v(u_0, v_0)\mathbf{j} = \frac{\partial x}{\partial v}\mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial v}\mathbf{j}$$

The image region $R = T(S)$ can be approximated by the secant vectors

$$\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{r}(u_0 + \Delta u, v_0) - \mathbf{r}(u_0, v_0) \quad \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{r}(u_0, v_0 + \Delta v) - \mathbf{r}(u_0, v_0)$$

demonstrated in the diagram below



But

$$r_u = \lim_{\Delta u \rightarrow 0} \frac{r(u_0 + \Delta u, v_0) - r(u_0, v_0)}{\Delta u}$$

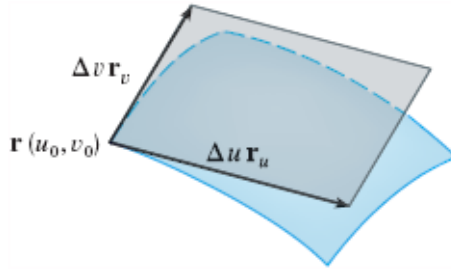
and so

$$r(u_0 + \Delta u, v_0) - r(u_0, v_0) \approx \Delta u r_u$$

Similarly

$$r(u_0, v_0 + \Delta v) - r(u_0, v_0) \approx \Delta v r_v$$

Meaning R can be approximated by a parallelogram determined by the vectors $\Delta u r_u$ & $\Delta v r_v$ (see figure below).



Therefore the area of R can be approximated by the area of this paralleloogram,

$$\left| (\Delta u r_u) \times (\Delta v r_v) \right| = \left| r_u \times r_v \right| \Delta u \Delta v$$

Computing the cross product gives

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

This determinant is called the Jacobian of the transformation and has a special notation

Definition

The Jacobian of the transformation T given by $x = g(u, v)$ & $y = h(u, v)$ 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, $r(u_0, v_0 + \Delta v) - r(u_0, v_0) \approx \Delta v r_v$ can be used 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)

Next, S in the uv plane is divided into rectangles S_{ij} and their images in the xy plane is known as R_{ij} .

By approximating to each R_{ij} , the double integral of f over R is

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_R f(x, y) \, dA &\approx \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n f(x_i, y_j) \, \Delta A \\ &\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n f(g(u_i), h(u_i, v_j)) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| \Delta u \Delta v \end{aligned}$$

where the Jacobian is evaluated at (u_i, v_j) . We can see this double sum is a Riemann sum for the integral

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

Theorem 9) Change of Variables in a Double Integral

Suppose T , a C^1 transformation, whose Jacobian is nonzero and maps a region S in the uv plane onto a region R in the xy plane. Suppose that f is continuous on R and that R & S are Type I or Type II plane regions. Suppose that T is one-to-one, except perhaps on S 's boundaries. Then

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

Meaning that we change from an integral in x & y to an integral in u & v by expressing x & y as functions of u & v and writing

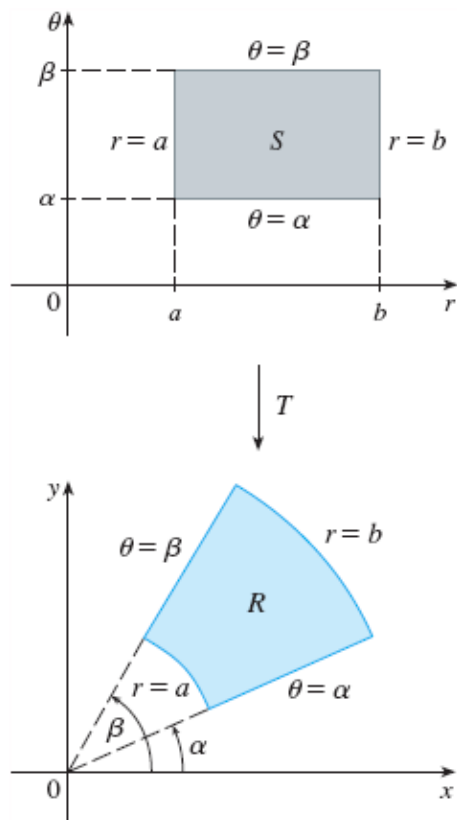
$$dA = \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| \, du \, dv$$

The transformation T from the $r\theta$ to the xy plane is given by

$$x = g(r, \theta) = r \cos \theta \quad y = h(r, \theta) = r \sin \theta$$

The geometry of the transformation is shown below. T maps a rectangle in the $r\theta$ plane to a polar rectangle in the xy plane. The Jacobian of T is

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



So Theorem 9 gives

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_R f(x, y) \, dx dy &= \iint_S f(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(r, \theta)} \right| \, dr d\theta \\ &= \int_{\beta}^{\alpha} \int_a^b f(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta) r \, dr d\theta \end{aligned}$$

Ex 2

Use the change of variables $x = u^2 - v^2$ & $y = 2uv$ to evaluate the integral $\iint_R y \, dA$, where R is the region bounded by the x axis and the parabolas $y^2 = 4 - 4x$ & $y^2 = 4x, y \geq 0$.

Previously, we worked with $x = u^2 - v^2$ & $y = 2uv$ and $T(S) = R$, where S is the square $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$. Evaluating the integral for S is much simpler than for R . First, compute the jacobian

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

So

$$\iint_R y \, dA = \iint_S 2uv \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| \, dA = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 (2uv) 4(u^2 + v^2) \, dudv = \boxed{2}$$

Ex 3

Evaluate the integral $\iint_R e^{\frac{x+y}{x-y}}$, where R is the trapezoidal region with vertices $(1, 0), (2, 0), (0, -2)$, & $(0, -1)$.

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

We then solve for x & y

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

$$2x = u + v$$

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

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

$$2y = u - v$$

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

Now compute the Jacobian

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

The sides of R lie on the lines

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

By using the equations x & y that are in terms of u & v , we obtain

$$u = v \quad v = 2 \quad u = -v \quad v = 1$$

So

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

Which gives

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_R e^{\frac{x+y}{x-y}} dA &= \iint_S e^{\frac{u}{v}} \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| dudv \\ \int_1^2 \int_{-v}^v e^{\frac{u}{v}} \frac{1}{2} dudv &= \boxed{\frac{3}{4}(e - e^{-1})} \end{aligned}$$

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

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

The Jacobian of T is the 3×3 determinant

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

$$\iiint_R f(x, y, z) dV$$

→

$$\iiint_S f(x(u, v, w), y(u, v, w), z(u, v, w)) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(u, v, w)} \right| dudvdw$$

Ex 4

Derive the formula for triple integration in spherical coordinates

$$x = \rho \sin \phi \cos \theta \quad y = \rho \sin \phi \sin \theta \quad z = \rho \cos \phi$$

Compute the Jacobian

$$\frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(\rho, \theta, \phi)} = \begin{vmatrix} \sin \phi \cos \theta & -\rho \sin \phi \sin \theta & \rho \cos \phi \cos \theta \\ \sin \phi \sin \theta & \rho \sin \phi \cos \theta & \rho \cos \phi \sin \theta \\ \cos \phi & 0 & -\rho \sin \phi \end{vmatrix} = -\rho^2 \sin \phi$$

Since $0 \leq \phi \leq \pi$, $\sin \phi \geq 0$. Therefore

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

$$\iiint_R f(x, y, z) \, dV$$

→

$$\boxed{\iiint_S f(\rho \sin \phi \cos \theta, \rho \sin \phi \sin \theta, \rho \cos \phi) \rho^2 \sin \phi \, d\rho d\theta d\phi}$$