

# Triple Integrals



Change in volume  $= \Delta V = \Delta x \Delta y \Delta z$

$$dV = dx dy dz$$

Let  $w = f(x, y, z)$

$$\iiint_V f(x, y, z) dV = \lim_{\Delta x, \Delta y, \Delta z \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i, j, k} f(x_{ijk}, y_{ijk}, z_{ijk}) \Delta V$$

$$= \int_a^b \int_{g_1(x)}^{g_2(x)} \int_{h_1(x, y)}^{h_2(x, y)} f(x, y, z) dz dy dx$$

$$\text{Volume} = \iiint_V dV = \int_a^b \int_{g_1(x)}^{g_2(x)} \int_{h_1(x, y)}^{h_2(x, y)} dz dy dx$$

**EXAMPLE:** Find the volume of the solid in the first octant that is bounded below by the  $xy$ -plane and above by  $x + y + z = 1$ .

$$0 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$0 \leq y \leq -x + 1$$

$$0 \leq z \leq 1 - x - y$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Volume} &= \iiint_V dV = \int_0^1 \int_0^{-x+1} \int_0^{1-x-y} dz dy dx = \int_0^1 \int_0^{-x+1} (1-x-y) dy dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \left( y - xy - \frac{y^2}{2} \right) \Big|_0^{-x+1} dx = \int_0^1 \left( -x+1 - x(-x+1) - \frac{(-x+1)^2}{2} \right) dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \left( -x+1 + x^2 - x - \frac{x^2 - 2x + 1}{2} \right) dx = \int_0^1 \left( \frac{x^2}{2} - x + \frac{1}{2} \right) dx \\ &= \left( \frac{x^3}{6} - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x}{2} \right) \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{6} \end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE: Let  $R$  be the solid region between the graphs of  $z = -y^2$  and  $z = x^2$  where  $0 \leq x \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq y \leq x$ . Evaluate  $\iiint_R (x+1) dV$ .

$$0 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$0 \leq y \leq x$$

$$-y^2 \leq z \leq x^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \iiint_V (x+1) dV &= \int_0^1 \int_0^x \int_{-y^2}^{x^2} (x+1) dz dy dx = \int_0^1 \int_0^x z(x+1) \Big|_{-y^2}^{x^2} dy dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^x (x^3 + x^2) + (xy^2 + y^2) dy dx = \int_0^1 \left( x^3 y + x^2 y + \frac{xy^3}{3} + \frac{y^3}{3} \right) \Big|_0^x dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \left( x^4 + x^3 + \frac{x^4}{3} + \frac{x^3}{3} \right) dx = \int_0^1 \left( \frac{4x^4}{3} + \frac{4x^3}{3} \right) dx = \left( \frac{4x^5}{15} + \frac{4x^4}{12} \right) \Big|_0^1 \\ &= \frac{4}{15} + \frac{4}{12} = \frac{16}{60} + \frac{20}{60} = \frac{36}{60} = \frac{6}{10} = \frac{3}{5} \end{aligned}$$

**NOTE:** In physics, triple integrals are used to compute other things besides just volume.

Let  $\rho = \rho(x, y, z) \frac{\text{mass}}{\text{volume}}$  be a density function.

1. Mass =  $\iiint_V \rho \, dV$

2. First moment about yz-plane =  $\iiint_V xp \, dV$

3. First moment about xz-plane =  $\iiint_V yp \, dV$

4. First moment about xy-plane =  $\iiint_V zp \, dV$

5. Center of mass =  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) = \left( \frac{\iiint_V xp \, dV}{\iiint_V \rho \, dV}, \frac{\iiint_V yp \, dV}{\iiint_V \rho \, dV}, \frac{\iiint_V zp \, dV}{\iiint_V \rho \, dV} \right)$

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Let  $\rho = \rho(x, y, z) \frac{\text{mass}}{\text{volume}}$  be a density function.

6. Moment of inertia about the x-axis  $= \iiint_V (y^2 + z^2) \rho \, dV$

7. Moment of inertia about the y-axis  $= \iiint_V (x^2 + z^2) \rho \, dV$

8. Moment of inertia about the z-axis  $= \iiint_V (x^2 + y^2) \rho \, dV$

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**The Joy of Physics!**

