

15.9 Change of Variables in Multiple Integrals

1. Motivation: For double integrals, sometimes vertically simple, horizontally simple and polar coordinates are insufficient for parallelograms, ellipse and other quirky shapes

2. Recall change of variables for integrals in 1D.

For $\int_0^1 \sqrt{1-x^2} dx$, we let $x = \sin(u)$ and get

$$\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{1-\sin^2(u)} \cos(u) du.$$

Three things have changed: the interval, the integrand function and the dx is replaced by $\cos(u)du$.

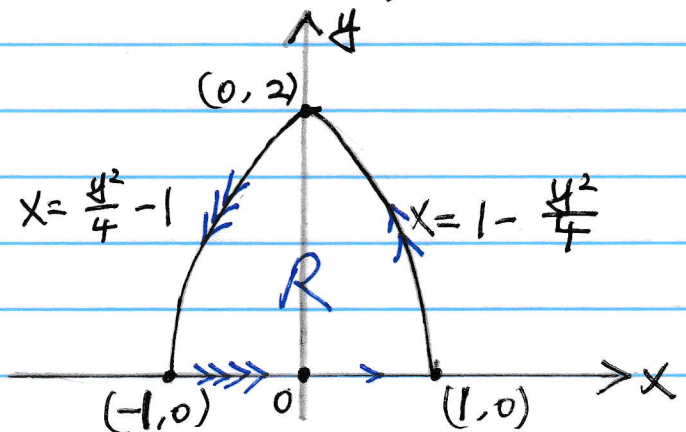
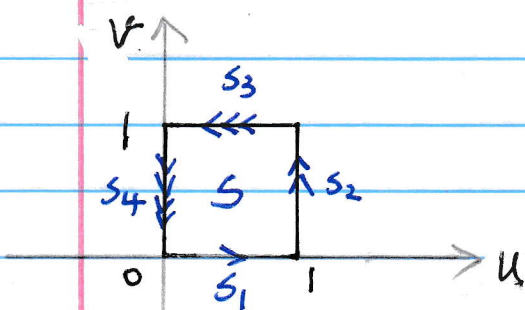
3. Transformation in 2D: An Example

Text-Ex 1: A transformation is defined by the equations

$$X = u^2 - v^2, \quad Y = 2uv.$$

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

Solution:



For S_1 : $v=0$, $0 \leq u \leq 1$.

It is mapped to $x = u^2$, $y = 0$, $0 \leq u \leq 1$.

The image is $0 \leq x \leq 1$, $y = 0$.

For S_2 : $u=1$, $0 \leq v \leq 1$

Mapped to $x = 1 - v^2$, $y = 2v$ (so $v = \frac{y}{2}$)

The image of S_2 is $x = 1 - (\frac{y}{2})^2$, $0 \leq y \leq 2$.

For S_3 : $v=1$, $0 \leq u \leq 1$

Mapped to $x = u^2 - 1$, $y = 2u$ (so $u = \frac{y}{2}$)

The image of S_3 is $x = (\frac{y}{2})^2 - 1$, $0 \leq y \leq 2$.

For S_4 : $u=0$, $0 \leq v \leq 1$

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

The image is $-1 \leq x \leq 0$, $y = 0$.

Combine the above images of S_1 , S_2 , S_3 , S_4 , We can plot the image of region S on xy -plane which is denoted by R .

• Definition of Jacobian of a transformation

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

$J_{(x,y)}(u,v)$, Jacobian

For Text-Ex 1, the Jacobian

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

$$= (2u)(2u) - (-2v)(2v) = 4u^2 + 4v^2.$$

4. Change of variables for a double integral

If R is a not-so-nice region and we want to evaluate

$\iint_R f(x,y) dA$ and if we can do a transformation (substitution)

$x = g(u,v)$, $y = h(u,v)$ as functions of u, v

which changes R (in the xy -plane) into S (in the uv -plane)

then:

S should be a nice region

$$\iint_R f(x,y) dA = \iint_S f(g(u,v), h(u,v)) \underbrace{\left| \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} \right|}_{\uparrow} dA$$

absolute value of Jacobian

Remarks: (1) Often the change of variables are given

by $u =$ and $v =$. So we need to solve for

$x =$ and $y =$ if we need them for the integrand.

(2) Sometimes it might be helpful to use

$$\frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} = \frac{1}{\frac{\partial(u, v)}{\partial(x, y)}}$$

in the computation of the Jacobian.

Text-Ex 2: Use 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 $y^2 = 4 - 4x$ and $y^2 = 4 + 4x$, $y \geq 0$.

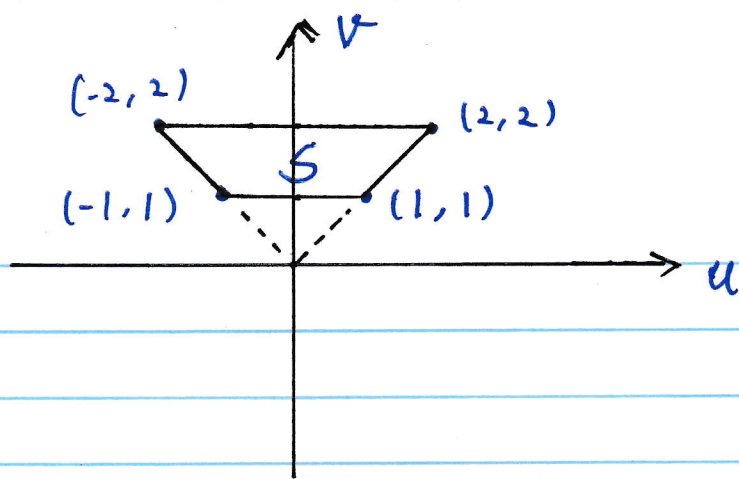
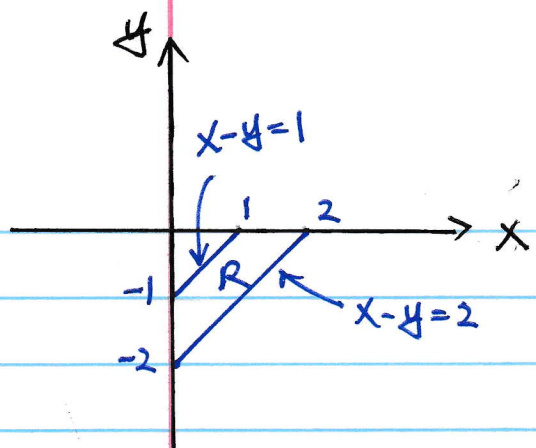
Solution: From Text-Ex 1, region S is (on uv -plane) described as $0 \leq u \leq 1$, $0 \leq v \leq 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } \iint_R y \, dA &= \iint_S 2uv \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| dA \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 2uv (4u^2 + 4v^2) \, du \, dv \end{aligned}$$

Text-Ex 3: Evaluate the integral $\iint_R e^{\frac{(x+y)}{(x-y)}} \, dA$

where R is the trapezoidal region with vertices $(1, 0)$, $(2, 0)$, $(0, -2)$ and $(0, -1)$.

(If in the exam, transformation $u = x + y$, $v = x - y$ will be given)



Solution: From the shape of R in the xy -plane, it may be natural to have a transformation with

$$v = x - y$$

What about u ? In fact if we only want to transform the integral over R into an integral over a nice region, we have many choices. However, there is one choice that makes the integrand function simpler at the same time.

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

Then the integrand becomes e^{uv} .

For $\frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)}$, we use the formula

$$\frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} = \frac{1}{\frac{\partial(u, v)}{\partial(x, y)}}$$

and compute

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

$$= (1)(-1) - (1)(1) = -2$$

$$\text{So } \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} = \frac{1}{-2} = -\frac{1}{2}.$$

An alternative method of computing $\frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)}$ is discussed in the textbook. You first solve x, y from

$$\begin{cases} u = x + y \\ v = x - y \end{cases}$$

and obtain expressions of x, y in terms of u, v :

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

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then: } \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} &= \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = -\frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Now to find the region S in the uv -plane, we notice that the sides of R are given by equations:

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

respectively. These become

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

in terms of u and v .

So S is the trapezoidal region with vertices $(1, 1)$, $(2, 2)$, $(-2, 2)$ and $(-1, 1)$. See plots at the beginning of the solution or the ones in the book.

Hence S is described as (horizontally simple)

$$1 \leq v \leq 2, \quad -v \leq u \leq v.$$

By the formula of change of variables,

$$\iint_R e^{\frac{x+y}{x-y}} dA = \iint_S e^{\frac{u}{v}} \left| \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} \right| dA$$

$$= \iint_S e^{\frac{u}{v}} \left| -\frac{1}{2} \right| dA$$

$$= \int_1^2 \int_{-v}^v \frac{1}{2} e^{\frac{u}{v}} du dv$$

$$= \int_1^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} v e^{\frac{u}{v}} \right]_{u=-v}^{u=v} dv$$

$$= \int_1^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} v e - \frac{1}{2} v e^{-1} \right) dv$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{2} e - \frac{1}{2} e^{-1} \right) \int_1^2 v dv = \frac{3}{4} (e - e^{-1}).$$

Example: Find $\iint_R y^2 dA$ where R is the region

inside $\frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1$. Use change of variables

$$u = \frac{x}{3}, \quad v = \frac{y}{2}$$

Solution: Rewrite $\frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1$ as :

$$\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{2}\right)^2 = 1$$

So after change of variables, the equation becomes

$$u^2 + v^2 = 1$$

Then S is the unit disk (inside $u^2 + v^2 = 1$).

Since $x = 3u$, $y = 2v$ from the change of variables,

we have

$$\frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 6$$

$$\iint_R y^2 dA = \iint_S (2v)^2 (6) dA$$

Polar coordinates

$$u = r \cos(\theta),$$

$$v = r \sin(\theta)$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^1 (2r \sin(\theta))^2 6 r dr d\theta$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^1 24 r^3 \sin^2(\theta) dr d\theta$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \left[6 r^4 \sin^2(\theta) \right]_{r=0}^{r=1} d\theta$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} 6 \sin^2(\theta) d\theta$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} 3 (1 - \cos(2\theta)) d\theta$$

$$= \left[3\theta - \frac{3}{2} \sin(2\theta) \right]_0^{2\pi} = 6\pi$$

Example: Use change of variables and set up an iterated integral for $\iint_R y \, dA$,

where R is the region bounded by $y = 2x - 1$, $y = 2x + 1$, $y = 1 - x$, $y = 3 - x$.

Solution: You need to come up with the change of variables by yourself for this kind of problem.

Rewrite the equations for the boundary of R :

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

$$y = 2x + 1 \quad \longrightarrow \quad y - 2x = 1$$

$$y = 1 - x \quad \longrightarrow \quad y + x = 1$$

$$y = 3 - x \quad \longrightarrow \quad y + x = 3.$$

Let $u = x + y$, $v = y - 2x$, then the equations for the boundary become

$$v = -1, \quad v = 1, \quad u = 1, \quad u = 3.$$

So the region S is a rectangle:

$$1 \leq u \leq 3, \quad -1 \leq v \leq 1.$$

Solve x, y in terms of u, v from

$$\begin{cases} u = x + y \\ v = y - 2x \end{cases}.$$

and obtain

$$x = \frac{u-v}{3}, \quad y = \frac{2u+v}{3}.$$

Hence $\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{vmatrix}$

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

So $\iint_R y \, dA = \iint_S \frac{2u+v}{3} \left|\frac{1}{3}\right| \, dA$

$$= \int_1^3 \int_{-1}^1 \frac{2u+v}{9} \, dv \, du.$$

Example Use change of variables and set up an iterated integral for $\iint_R xy \, dA$,

where R is bounded by $y = x$, $y = 2x$, $y = \frac{1}{x}$, $y = \frac{2}{x}$ in the first quadrant.

Solution: Rewrite the equations for the boundary of R as:

$$\frac{y}{x} = 1, \quad \frac{y}{x} = 2, \quad xy = 1, \quad xy = 2.$$

Let $u = xy$ and $v = \frac{y}{x}$, then the equations become

$$v = 1, \quad v = 2, \quad u = 1, \quad u = 2.$$

So S is: $1 \leq u \leq 2, \quad 1 \leq v \leq 2.$

From $u = xy$ and $v = \frac{y}{x}$, we can solve x, y in terms of u, v . To be specific,

$$uv = (xy) \left(\frac{y}{x} \right) = y^2.$$

$$\frac{y}{v} = \frac{xy}{\frac{y}{x}} = x^2.$$

Since $x, y > 0$ (b/c first quadrant), we have

$$x = \sqrt{\frac{y}{v}}, \quad y = \sqrt{uv}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} &= \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{uv}} & -\frac{1}{2} u^{\frac{1}{2}} v^{-\frac{3}{2}} \\ \frac{\sqrt{v}}{2\sqrt{u}} & \frac{\sqrt{u}}{2\sqrt{v}} \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2\sqrt{uv}} \right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{u}}{2\sqrt{v}} \right) - \left(-\frac{1}{2} u^{\frac{1}{2}} v^{-\frac{3}{2}} \right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{v}}{2\sqrt{u}} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4v} + \frac{1}{4v} = \frac{1}{2v} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hence } \iint_R xy \, dA &= \iint_S u \left| \frac{1}{2v} \right| dA \\ &= \int_1^2 \int_1^2 \frac{u}{2v} \, dv \, du. \end{aligned}$$

5. Triple Integrals (Not Required)

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

$$\iiint_R f(x, y, z) dV = \iiint_S f(x(u, v, w), y(u, v, w), z(u, v, w)) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(u, v, w)} \right| \underline{du dv dw}$$

Text-Ex 4: Derive the formula for triple integration in spherical coordinates.

Solution: We let (ρ, θ, ϕ) be (u, v, w) in the formula above. Since

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

we compute the Jacobian as follows:

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

$$\begin{aligned}
& - (-\rho \sinh(\phi) \sinh(\theta)) \begin{vmatrix} \sinh(\phi) \sinh(\theta) & \rho \cos(\phi) \sinh(\theta) \\ \cos(\phi) & -\rho \sinh(\phi) \end{vmatrix} \\
& + \rho \cos(\phi) \cos(\theta) \begin{vmatrix} \sinh(\phi) \sinh(\theta) & \rho \sinh(\phi) \cos(\theta) \\ \cos(\phi) & 0 \end{vmatrix} \\
& = \sinh(\phi) \cos(\theta) (\rho \sinh(\phi) \cos(\theta) (-\rho \sinh(\phi))) \\
& + \rho \sinh(\phi) \sinh(\theta) (-\rho \sinh^2(\phi) \sinh(\theta) - \rho \cos^2(\phi) \sinh(\theta)) \\
& + \rho \cos(\phi) \cos(\theta) (-\rho \sinh(\phi) \cos(\phi) \cos(\theta)) \\
& = -\rho^2 \sinh^3(\phi) \cos^2(\theta) - \rho^2 \sinh(\phi) \sinh^3(\theta) \\
& \quad - \rho^2 \sinh(\phi) \cos^2(\phi) \cos^2(\theta) \\
& = -\rho^2 \sinh(\phi) \cos^2(\theta) - \rho^2 \sinh(\phi) \sinh^2(\theta) \\
& = -\rho^2 \sinh(\phi) .
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \left| \frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(u, v, w)} \right| = |-\rho^2 \sinh(\phi)| = \rho^2 \sinh(\phi)$$

$$\iiint_R f(x, y, z) dV = \iiint_S f(\rho \sinh(\phi) \cos(\theta), \rho \sinh(\phi) \sinh(\theta), \rho \cos(\phi)) \underbrace{\rho^2 \sinh(\phi)}_{\text{additional factor for spherical}} d\rho d\theta d\phi$$

We get the additional factor for spherical \longleftarrow