

Evaluating triple integrals.

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A) Rectangular coordinates: $\iiint_R f(x, y, z) dx dy dz$.

METHOD 1:

* To find the bounds for $x \neq y$: project R onto the xy -plane to get a region D which bounds the possible values of $x \neq y$.

* To find the bounds of z : take a vertical cross-section

NOTE: the bounds of z are ONLY determined by surfaces whose equations involve z .

METHOD 2:

* Find all possible values of z in R : $[a \leq z \leq b]$.

* For a fixed $z_0 \in [a, b]$, take a horizontal slice

$$S = \{z = z_0\} \cap R$$

of the region, and describe S .

B) Cylindrical coordinates: $\iiint_{R_{r\theta z}} f(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, z) \cdot \overset{\text{Jac}}{\downarrow} r dz dr d\theta$.

METHOD 1:

* To find the bounds for $r \neq \theta$: project R onto the xy -plane, and describe the region D you obtain in polar coordinates.

* To find the bounds of z : take a vertical cross-section.

NOTE: • the bounds of z are ONLY determined by surfaces whose equations involve z
• write these equations in cylindrical coordinates.

METHOD 2:

* Find all possible values of z in R : $a \leq z \leq b$.

* For fixed $z_0 \in [a, b]$, take a horizontal slice
 $S = \{z = z_0\} \cap R$

of the region, and describe S in polar coordinates.

C) Spherical coordinates:

$$\iiint_{R_{\rho, \theta}} f(\rho \sin \phi \cos \theta, \rho \sin \phi \sin \theta, \rho \cos \phi) \cdot \overset{\text{Jac.}}{\rho^2 \sin \phi} d\rho d\phi d\theta$$

* Bounds for θ : project R onto xy -plane.

* Bounds for ρ & ϕ : take vertical cross-section.

NOTE: • You will need to convert all the equations into spherical coordinates.

• In spherical coordinates

$$\phi = \arctan\left(\frac{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{z}\right)$$