

Lecture 4016.7 - Surface Integrals

Suppose we have a surface S which is parametrized by $\vec{r}(u,v), (u,v) \in D$.

Recall from last Monday that

$$dS = |\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v| dA$$

$$\left(\vec{r}_u = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial u}, \vec{r}_v = \frac{\partial \vec{r}}{\partial v} \right)$$

As we did with curves, we can integrate functions along surfaces: $\iint_S f dS$.

Def: The surface integral of f over S (also called a scalar surface integral) is given by

$$\iint_S f dS = \iint_D f(\vec{r}(u,v)) |\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v| dA$$

(If $\vec{r}(u,v) = \langle x(u,v), y(u,v), z(u,v) \rangle$ and $f = f(x,y,z)$, then $f(\vec{r}(u,v)) = f(x(u,v), y(u,v), z(u,v))$.)

Ex: Compute the surface integral

$\iint_S xyz \, dS$ where S is the piece of the cone $z^2 = x^2 + y^2$ in the first octant, below $z=1$.

Sol: First, we parametrize the cone. It's easiest to use cylindrical coordinates here:

$$x = r \cos \theta, \quad y = r \sin \theta, \quad z = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = r$$

(we take the positive root for z since we want the piece in the first octant, namely $z \geq 0$.)

So, $\vec{r}(r, \theta) = \langle r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, r \rangle$.

The domain of parametrization is: $0 \leq r \leq 1$, $0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ ← (this keeps x and y positive)

Now, we compute dS :

$$\vec{r}_r = \langle \cos \theta, \sin \theta, 1 \rangle, \quad \vec{r}_\theta = \langle -r \sin \theta, r \cos \theta, 0 \rangle$$

$$\vec{r}_r \times \vec{r}_\theta = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ \cos \theta & \sin \theta & 1 \\ -r \sin \theta & r \cos \theta & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \langle -r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, r \rangle$$

$$|\vec{r}_r \times \vec{r}_\theta| = \sqrt{r^2 \cos^2 \theta + r^2 \sin^2 \theta + r^2} = \sqrt{2r^2} = \sqrt{2} r,$$

$$\text{So, } dS = \sqrt{2} r dA.$$

Finally,

$$\iint_S xyz dS = \iint_D (r \cos \theta)(r \sin \theta)(r)(\sqrt{2} r) dA$$

$$= \sqrt{2} \int_0^1 \int_0^{\pi/2} r^4 \cos \theta \sin \theta d\theta dr$$

$$= \sqrt{2} \int_0^1 r^4 \left(\frac{1}{2} \sin^2 \theta \right) \Big|_0^{\pi/2} dr = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \int_0^1 r^4 dr$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{10}$$



An Application

If we know the density function, $\rho(x, y, z)$, for a surface, we can find its mass and the coordinates of its center of mass, as before. The formulas are analogous to the line integral case:

$$\text{mass} = m = \iint_S \rho \, dS$$

$$\text{center of mass} = (\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{m} \iint_S x \rho \, dS, \quad \bar{y} = \frac{1}{m} \iint_S y \rho \, dS, \quad \bar{z} = \frac{1}{m} \iint_S z \rho \, dS$$

Ex: Find the mass of the hemisphere $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 25, z \leq 0$, if it has density function $\rho(x, y, z) = \sqrt{2\pi}$.

Sol: First, we parametrize the hemisphere:

Use spherical coordinates: $\rho = 5$

$$\vec{r}(\theta, \varphi) = \langle 5 \cos \theta \sin \varphi, 5 \sin \theta \sin \varphi, 5 \cos \varphi \rangle$$

$$0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi, \quad \frac{\pi}{2} \leq \varphi \leq \pi \quad (\text{this makes } z \leq 0, \text{ i.e., below the } xy\text{-plane}).$$

$$\vec{r}_\theta = \langle -5 \sin \theta \sin \varphi, 5 \cos \theta \sin \varphi, 0 \rangle$$

$$\vec{r}_\varphi = \langle 5 \cos \theta \cos \varphi, 5 \sin \theta \cos \varphi, -5 \sin \varphi \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r}_\theta \times \vec{r}_\varphi &= \langle -25 \cos \theta \sin^2 \varphi, -25 \sin \theta \sin^2 \varphi, -25 \cos^2 \theta \sin \varphi \cos \varphi - 25 \sin^2 \theta \sin \varphi \cos \varphi \rangle \\ &= -25 \sin \varphi \langle \cos \theta \sin \varphi, \sin \theta \sin \varphi, \cos \varphi \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$|\vec{r}_\theta \times \vec{r}_\varphi| = |25 \sin \varphi| \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \varphi + \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \varphi + \cos^2 \varphi}$$

$$= 25 \sin \varphi \quad (\sin \varphi \geq 0 \text{ for } \frac{\pi}{2} \leq \varphi \leq \pi).$$

So,

$$\text{mass} = \iint_S \rho \, dS = \int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{2\pi} (25 \sin \varphi) \, d\theta \, d\varphi$$

$$= 50\pi \sqrt{2\pi} \int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} \sin \varphi \, d\varphi = 50\pi \sqrt{2\pi} (-\cos \varphi) \Big|_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi}$$

$$= 50\pi \sqrt{2\pi} (-(-1) - (0)) = 50\pi \sqrt{2\pi} = \sqrt{5000\pi^3}$$



There is a formula for scalar surface integrals when the surface is a graph: $z = g(x, y)$, $(x, y) \in D$.

$$\iint_S f(x, y, z) \, dS = \iint_D f(x, y, g(x, y)) \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial y}\right)^2 + 1} \, dA$$

Once again, I find memorizing these extra formulas pointless, since you can just use the previous method.