

## Lecture 15.3

Last time:

- To integrate over  $R = [a, b] \times [c, d]$ , use an iterated integral

$$\iint_R f(x, y) dA = \int_a^b \int_c^d f(x, y) dy dx.$$

- To integrate over a non-rectangular region  $R$ , write down a top and a bottom function  $y = g(x)$  and  $y = h(x)$  and compute

$$\iint_R f(x, y) dA = \int_a^b \int_{h(x)}^{g(x)} f(x, y) dy dx.$$

- If this doesn't work, you may need to

- break up the region into smaller pieces
- switch  $dy$  and  $dx$  and find right and left functions  $x = g(y)$ ,  $x = h(y)$  to compute

$$\int_c^d \int_{h(y)}^{g(y)} f(x, y) dx dy.$$

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## Polar Coordinates

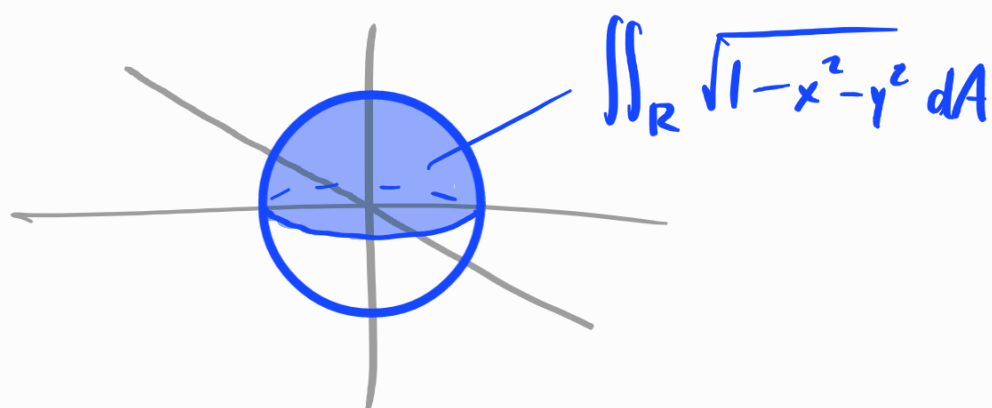
Motivation: let's find the volume of the unit sphere  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$ .

Solving for  $z$ , we get two functions:

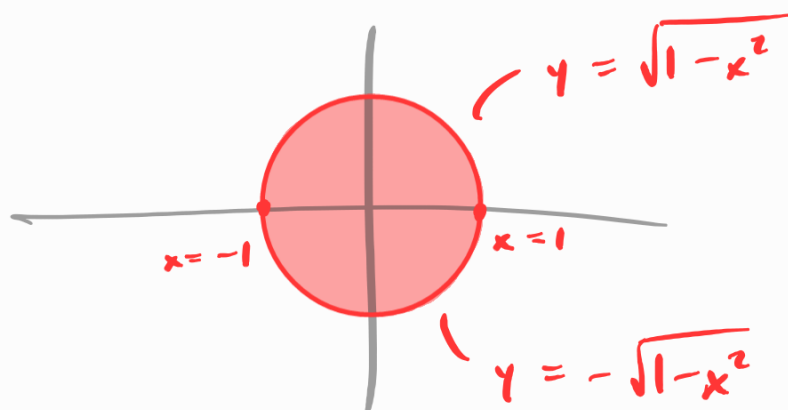
$$z = \sqrt{1 - x^2 - y^2} = f(x, y)$$

$$z = -\sqrt{1 - x^2 - y^2}$$

but the volume of the full sphere is  
twice the volume just under  $f(x,y)$  alone.



The region  $R$  we need to integrate over  
is the unit circle in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ :



So our volume double integral is:

$$\text{volume} = 2 \iint_R \sqrt{1 - x^2 - y^2} \, dA$$

$$= 2 \int_{-1}^1 \int_{-\sqrt{1-x^2}}^{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \sqrt{1 - x^2 - y^2} \, dy \, dx.$$

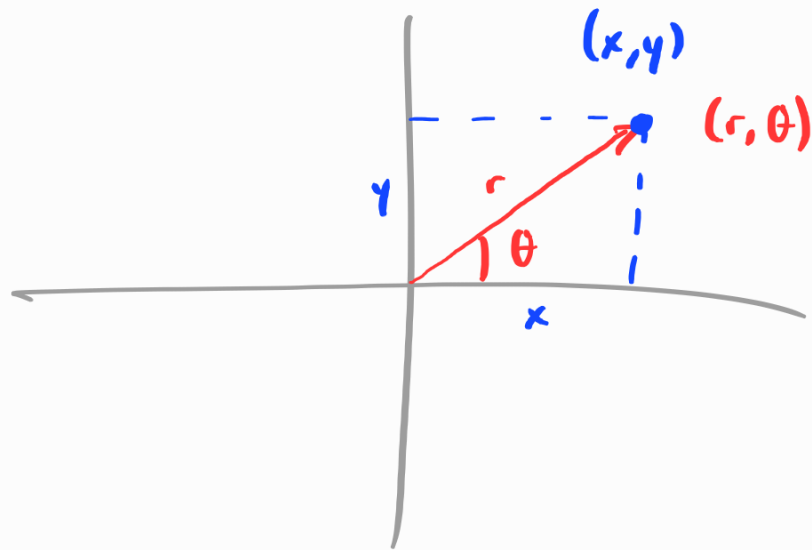
Exercise 1: Try to use trig substitution to solve this integral.

This isn't particularly nice, so let's find another way.

Key insight: points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  are represented by  $(x, y)$  or alternatively by a unique radius  $r \geq 0$  and angle  $\theta$  with the



positive x-axis :



here's how to get back and forth:

$$(x, y) \rightsquigarrow \begin{aligned} r &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \\ \theta &= \arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$(r, \theta) \rightsquigarrow \begin{aligned} x &= r \cos \theta \\ y &= r \sin \theta \end{aligned}$$

These new coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  form the  
polar coordinate system.

Exercise 2: Convert these points to polar coordinates:

(a)  $(1, 0)$       (b)  $(0, -5)$       (c)  $(4, 3)$

(d)  $(1, 1)$       (e)  $(-2, 2)$       (f)  $(1, -\sqrt{3})$

Exercise 3: Convert these polar coordinates back to standard  $xy$ -coordinates:

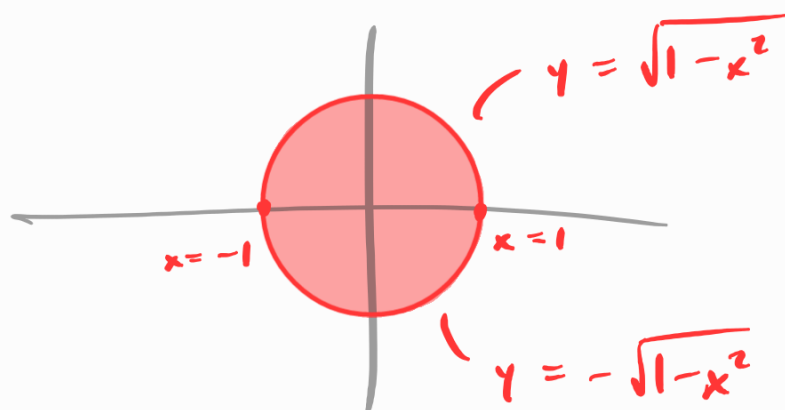
(a)  $(1, \frac{\pi}{4})$       (b)  $(5, 0)$       (c)  $(2, \pi)$

(d)  $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\pi}{6})$       (e)  $(4, \frac{2\pi}{3})$       (f)  $(1, \frac{5\pi}{4})$

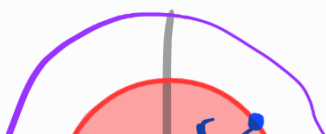
We can also convert functions back and forth between the coordinate systems, using

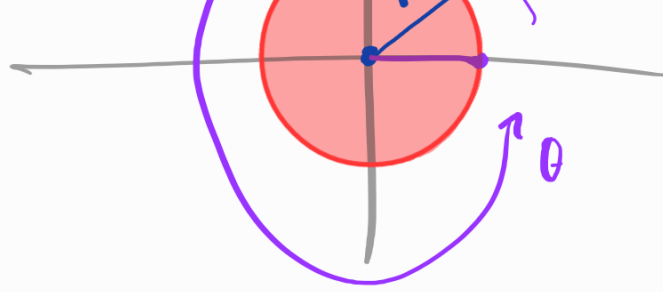
$$\begin{aligned} r &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} & x &= r \cos \theta \\ \theta &= \arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) & y &= r \sin \theta \end{aligned} \quad \longleftrightarrow$$

For example, our unit circle picture



can be written in polar coordinates as





$$r = 0 \text{ to } r = 1 \quad \theta = 0 \text{ to } \theta = 2\pi$$

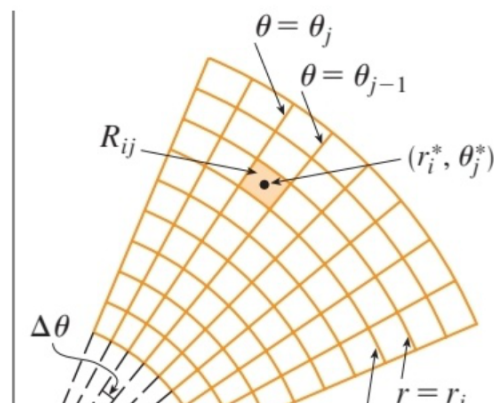
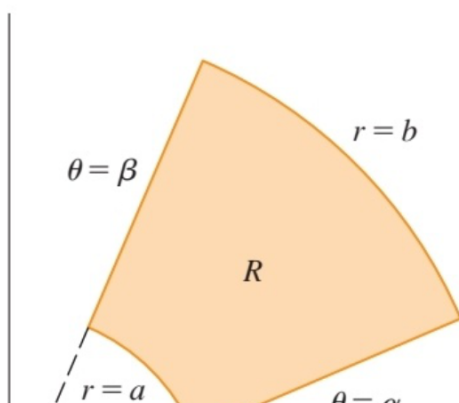
Also, since  $r^2 = x^2 + y^2$  we can write

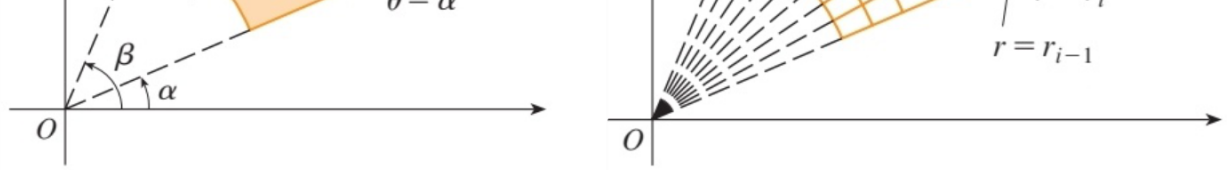
$$f(x, y) = \sqrt{1 - x^2 - y^2} \text{ as a function of}$$

$r$  and  $\theta$ :

$$f(r, \theta) = \sqrt{1 - r^2}$$

Last step: how do we handle  $dA = dydx$ ?



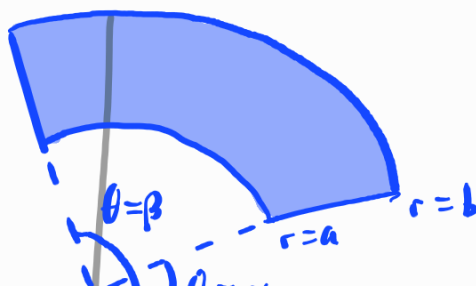


Idea: a "rectangle" in  $(r, \theta)$  space is a section of a circle in  $(x, y)$  space and the transformation  $(x, y) \rightsquigarrow (r, \theta)$  changes the differential by:  $dA = dy dx \rightsquigarrow \underline{\underline{r dr d\theta}}$ .

**Theorem** If  $f(x, y)$  is continuous on the polar region  $R = \left\{ (r, \theta) \mid \begin{array}{l} a \leq r \leq b \\ \alpha \leq \theta \leq \beta, 0 \leq \beta - \alpha \leq 2\pi \end{array} \right\}$

then

$$\iint_R f(x, y) dA = \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} \int_a^b f(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta) r dr d\theta.$$



Ex Let's finish our computation of the volume of the sphere.

We have  $\iint_R \sqrt{1-x^2-y^2} dA$  where

$$R = \left\{ (r, \theta) \mid \begin{array}{l} 0 \leq r \leq 1 \\ 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi \end{array} \right\}$$

and  $f(r, \theta) = \sqrt{1-r^2}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{volume} &= 2 \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^1 \underline{r} \sqrt{1-r^2} dr d\theta \\ &= 2 \int_0^{2\pi} \left[ \frac{-1}{3} (1-r^2)^{3/2} \right]_{r=0}^{r=1} d\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$= 2 \int_0^{2\pi} \left[ \frac{-1}{3} (1-1)^{3/2} + \frac{1}{3} (1-0)^{3/2} \right] d\theta$$

$$= 2 \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{3} d\theta = \frac{4\pi}{3}.$$

So the volume of the unit sphere is  $\frac{4\pi}{3}$ .

Exercise 4: Modify the above formula to

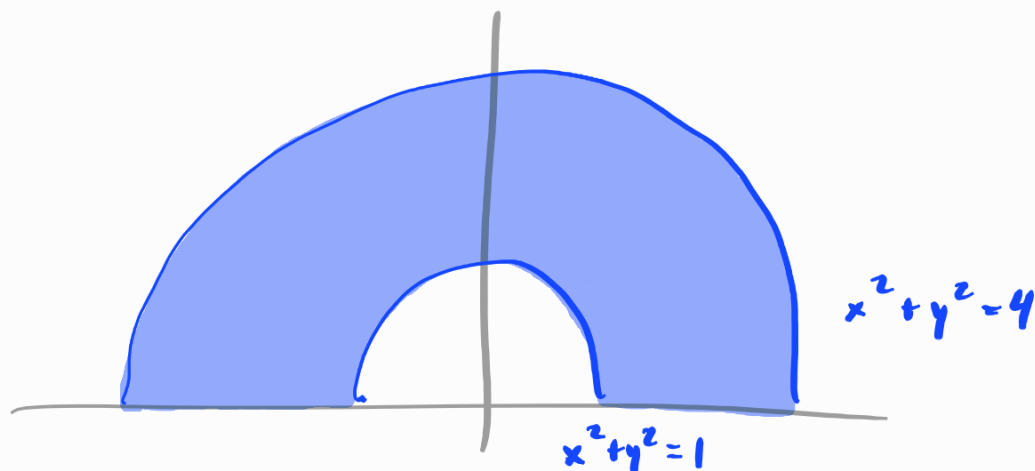
calculate the volume of a sphere with radius

$R > 0$ .

Ex Let's use polar coordinates to find

$$\iint_R (3x + 4y^2) dA$$

where  $R$  is the region pictured below:



This  $R$  can be described by

$$R = \left\{ (r, \theta) \mid \begin{array}{l} 1 \leq r \leq 2, \\ 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi \end{array} \right\}$$

so

$$\iint_R (3x + 4y^2) dA = \int_0^\pi \int_1^2 (3r \cos \theta + 4r^2 \sin^2 \theta) \underline{\underline{r}} dr d\theta$$

$$= \int_0^\pi \int_1^2 (3r^2 \cos \theta + 4r^3 \sin^2 \theta) dr d\theta$$

$$= \int_0^\pi \left[ r^3 \cos \theta + r^4 \sin^2 \theta \right]_{r=1}^{r=2} d\theta$$

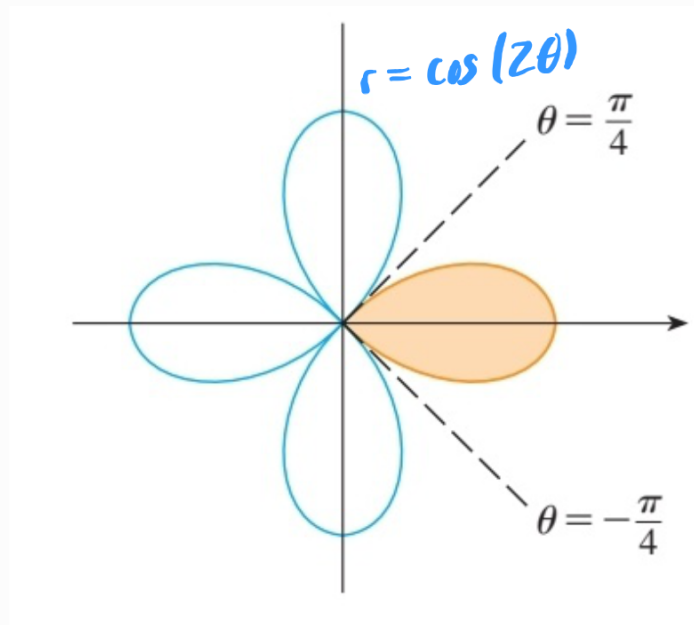


$$\begin{aligned}
&= \int_0^\pi [8\cos\theta + 16\sin^2\theta - \cos\theta - \sin^2\theta] d\theta \\
&= \int_0^\pi [7\cos\theta + \frac{15}{2}(1 - \cos(2\theta))] d\theta \quad \downarrow \sin^2\theta = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos(2\theta)) \\
&= \left[ 7\sin\theta + \frac{15}{2}\theta - \frac{15}{4}\sin(2\theta) \right]_{\theta=0}^{\theta=\pi} \\
&= \frac{15\pi}{2}.
\end{aligned}$$

What if  $R$  isn't a "polar rectangle", i.e. with  $r, \theta$  bounded by constant values the whole time?

**Ex** The function  $r = \cos(2\theta)$  traces a

four-petal flower pattern in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ :



Let's find the total area of the figure by computing the area of one of its petals.

First, recall from [Lecture 15.2](#) that

$$\text{area}(R) = \iint_R 1 \, dA.$$

Here,  $R$  is the region enclosed by one petal:

$$0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{4} \text{ and } 0 \leq r \leq \cos(2\theta)$$

$$R = \left\{ (r, \theta) \mid 0 \leq r \leq \cos(2\theta), -\frac{\pi}{4} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{4} \right\}$$

so

$$\text{area}(R) = \int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \int_0^{\cos(2\theta)} \underline{\underline{r}} \, dr \, d\theta$$

$$= \int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \left[ \frac{1}{2} r^2 \right]_{r=0}^{r=\cos(2\theta)} d\theta$$

$$= \int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \cos^2(2\theta) \right] d\theta$$

$$= \int_{-\pi/4}^{\pi/4} \frac{1}{4} (1 + \cos(4\theta)) d\theta$$

$\left( \cos^2(u) = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos(2u)) \right)$

$$= \left[ \frac{1}{4} \theta + \frac{1}{16} \sin(4\theta) \right]_{\theta=-\pi/4}^{\theta=\pi/4}$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{8}.$$

So the total area enclosed by the graph

of  $r = \cos(n\theta)$  is  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ .

Exercise 5: Try this example again

with  $r = \cos(n\theta)$  for different  $n$ .

Exercise 6: Compute each area or volume

by changing to polar coordinates.

(a) The area inside the graph of  $r = 3 + 2\sin\theta$  and outside the circle centered at the origin with radius 2.

(b) The volume inside the hemisphere

$$\{(x, y, z) \mid z \geq 0, x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \leq 9\}$$

and inside the cylinder  $x^2 + y^2 = 5$ .

(c) The volume of the region bounded by the surface  $z = x^2 + y^2$  and the plane  $z = 16$ .

Next time: applications of double integrals, plus triple integrals.

