Lecture 24: Spherical integration

Cylindrical coordinates are coordinates in space in which polar coordinates are chosen in the xy-plane and where the z-coordinate is left untouched. A surface of revolution can be described in cylindrical coordinates as r = g(z). The coordinate change transformation $T(r, \theta, z) = (r \cos(\theta), r \sin(\theta), z)$, produces the same integration factor [r] as in polar coordinates.

$$\iint_{T(R)} f(x, y, z) \, dx dy dz = \iint_{R} g(r, \theta, z) \operatorname{r} dr d\theta dz$$

In spherical coordinates we use the distance ρ to the origin as well as the polar angle θ as well as ϕ , the angle between the vector and the z axis. The coordinate change is

 $T: (x, y, z) = (\rho \cos(\theta) \sin(\phi), \rho \sin(\theta) \sin(\phi), \rho \cos(\phi)).$

It produces an integration factor is the volume of a **spherical wedge** which is $d\rho$, $\rho \sin(\phi) d\theta$, $\rho d\phi = \rho^2 \sin(\phi) d\theta d\phi d\rho$.

$$\iint_{T(R)} f(x, y, z) \, dx dy dz = \iint_{R} g(\rho, \theta, \phi) \, \rho^2 \sin(\phi) \, d\rho d\theta d\phi$$

1 A sphere of radius R has the volume

$$\int_0^R \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \rho^2 \sin(\phi) \ d\phi d\theta d\rho \ .$$

The most inner integral $\int_0^{\pi} \rho^2 \sin(\phi) d\phi = -\rho^2 \cos(\phi)|_0^{\pi} = 2\rho^2$. The next layer is, because ϕ does not appear: $\int_0^{2\pi} 2\rho^2 d\phi = 4\pi\rho^2$. The final integral is $\int_0^R 4\pi\rho^2 d\rho = 4\pi R^3/3$.

The moment of inertia of a body G with respect to an z axes is defined as the triple integral $\int \int \int_G x^2 + y^2 dz dy dx$, where r is the distance from the axes.

For a sphere of radius R we obtain with respect to the z-axis:

$$I = \int_0^R \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \rho^2 \sin^2(\phi) \rho^2 \sin(\phi) \, d\phi d\theta d\rho$$

$$= (\int_0^\pi \sin^3(\phi) \, d\phi) (\int_0^R \rho^4 \, dr) (\int_0^{2\pi} \, d\theta)$$

$$= (\int_0^\pi \sin(\phi) (1 - \cos^2(\phi)) \, d\phi) (\int_0^R \rho^4 \, dr) (\int_0^{2pi} \, d\theta)$$

$$= (-\cos(\phi) + \cos(\phi)^3/3) |_0^\pi (L^5/5) (2\pi) = \frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{R^5}{5} \cdot 2\pi = \frac{8\pi R^3}{18}$$



If the sphere rotates with angular velocity ω , then $I\omega^2/2$ is the **kinetic energy** of that sphere. **Example:** the moment of inertia of the earth is $8 \cdot 10^{37} kgm^2$. The angular velocity is $\omega = 2\pi/day = 2\pi/(86400s)$. The rotational energy is $8 \cdot 10^{37} kgm^2/(7464960000s^2) \sim 10^{29} J \sim 2.510^{24} kcal$.

3 Find the volume and the center of mass of a diamond, the intersection of the unit sphere with the cone given in cylindrical coordinates as $z = \sqrt{3}r$. Solution: we use spherical coordinates to find the center of mass

$$\overline{x} = \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\pi/6} \rho^{3} \sin^{2}(\phi) \cos(\theta) \, d\phi d\theta d\rho \frac{1}{V} = 0$$

$$\overline{y} = \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\pi/6} \rho^{3} \sin^{2}(\phi) \sin(\theta) \, d\phi d\theta d\rho \frac{1}{V} = 0$$

$$\overline{z} = \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\pi/6} \rho^{3} \cos(\phi) \sin(\phi) \, d\phi d\theta d\rho \frac{1}{V} = \frac{2\pi}{32V}$$

Find $\int \int \int_R z^2 dV$ for the solid obtained by intersecting $\{1 \le x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \le 4\}$ with the double cone $\{z^2 \ge x^2 + y^2\}$.

Solution: since the result for the double cone is twice the result for the single cone, we work with the diamond shaped region R in $\{z > 0\}$ and multiply the result at the end with 2. In spherical coordinates, the solid R is given by $1 \le \rho \le 2$ and $0 \le \phi \le \pi/4$. With $z = \rho \cos(\phi)$, we have

$$\begin{split} &\int_{1}^{2} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\pi/4} \rho^{4} \cos^{2}(\phi) \sin(\phi) \ d\phi d\theta d\rho \\ &= (\frac{2^{5}}{5} - \frac{1^{5}}{5}) 2\pi (\frac{-\cos^{3}(\phi))}{3} |_{0}^{\pi/4} = 2\pi \frac{31}{5} (1 - 2^{-3/2}) \ . \end{split}$$

The result for the double cone is $4\pi(31/5)(1-1/\sqrt{2}^3)$.

