

Change of Variables (15.9)

Reasons to change variables:

A. Simplify the integrand

eg. $\iint_R e^{(x+y)/x^2} dA \xrightarrow[\substack{u=x+y \\ v=x^2}]{\substack{u=x+y \\ v=x^2}} \iint_S e^{u/v} \left| \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} \right| dA.$

B. Simplify the region

eg. $\iint_R xy dA$ where R is elliptical disk $9x^2 + 4y^2 \leq 1$

Use the substitution $u=3x, v=2y$ to get

$\iint_S \left(\frac{u}{3}\right)\left(\frac{v}{2}\right) \left| \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} \right| dA$, for S the circular disk $u^2 + v^2 \leq 1$

(From here you can use polar coordinates to finish)

Note

This ellipse to circle conversion is a common exam question

Procedure:

1. Decide on the substitution

$$\begin{aligned} u &= ?(x,y) \\ v &= ?(x,y) \end{aligned}$$

2. Solve for x, y in terms of u and v .

$$\begin{aligned} x &= ?(u,v) \\ y &= ?(u,v) \end{aligned}$$

(3 and 4 are independent from one another)

3. Compute Jacobian

$$\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} = \begin{vmatrix} x_u & x_v \\ y_u & y_v \end{vmatrix}$$

4. Find new region of integration, S

Use substitutions from 1 & 2 on the boundary curves of R .

5. Form the integral $\iint_S f(x(u,v), y(u,v)) \left| \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} \right| dA.$

You'll need to replace dA with $du dv$ or $dv du$ and S with the appropriate bounds

6. Solve the integral