

Recitation March 31

Fubini's Theorem

Definition 1

$$S_x U = \{y | (x, y) \in U\} \quad T_y U = \{x | (x, y) \in U\}$$

Theorem 2 Let $U \subset \mathbb{R}^2$. Suppose $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies

$$\int_{x \in \mathbb{R}} \left(\int_{y \in S_x U} |f(x, y)| dy \right) dx < \infty$$

or

$$\int_{y \in \mathbb{R}} \left(\int_{x \in T_y U} |f(x, y)| dx \right) dy < \infty$$

the f is integrable over U and

$$\int_U f dA = \int_{x \in \mathbb{R}} \left(\int_{y \in S_x U} f(x, y) dy \right) dx = \int_{y \in \mathbb{R}} \left(\int_{x \in T_y U} f(x, y) dx \right) dy$$

Example 1

Compute the integral $\int_0^1 \int_y^1 e^{x^2} dx dy$.

Solution: We first check that

$$\int_0^1 \int_y^1 |e^{x^2}| dx dy \leq \int_0^1 \int_0^1 |e^{x^2}| dx dy \leq \int_0^1 \int_0^1 e dx dy = e < \infty$$

Thus, by Fubini's theorem,

$$\int_0^1 \int_y^1 e^{x^2} dx dy = \int_0^1 \int_0^x e^{x^2} dy dx = \int_0^1 x e^{x^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} e^{x^2} \Big|_{x=0}^1 = \frac{e-1}{2}$$

Example 2

Use a triple integral to compute the volume of a cone with height h and base radius r .

Solution: Let the cone be $C = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : z \in [0, h], \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \leq \frac{r}{h}(h - z)\}$. Thus, after checking Fubini, we can express the volume of C as

$$\begin{aligned}\int_C 1 \, dV &= \int_0^h \int_{-r(h-z)/h}^{r(h-z)/h} \int_{-\sqrt{(r(h-z)/h)^2 - y^2}}^{\sqrt{(r(h-z)/h)^2 - y^2}} 1 \, dx \, dy \, dz \\ &= \int_0^h \int_{-r(h-z)/h}^{r(h-z)/h} 2\sqrt{(r(h-z)/h)^2 - y^2} \, dy \, dz \\ &= \int_0^h \pi \left(\frac{r(h-z)}{h} \right)^2 \, dz \\ &= \pi r^2 \int_0^h \left(1 - \frac{2z}{h} + \frac{z^2}{h^2} \right) \, dz \\ &= \pi r^2 \left(h - h + \frac{1}{3}h \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h\end{aligned}$$

What if we want to compute the mass of C given its density function $\rho(x, y, z)$? Then, the mass is

$$\int_C \rho \, dV = \int_0^h \int_{-r(h-z)/h}^{r(h-z)/h} \int_{-\sqrt{(r(h-z)/h)^2 - y^2}}^{\sqrt{(r(h-z)/h)^2 - y^2}} \rho(x, y, z) \, dx \, dy \, dz$$

“counter example” of Fubini

Let $f : [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined via $f(x, y) = \frac{x^2 - y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}$. First we check if the condition of Fubini is satisfied

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 \int_0^1 |f(x, y)| \, dy \, dx &\geq \int_0^1 \int_0^x |f(x, y)| \, dy \, dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^x \frac{x^2 - y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \, dy \, dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{y}{x^2 + y^2} \Big|_{y=0}^x \, dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2x} \Big|_{y=0}^x \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \ln x \Big|_{x=0}^1 = \infty\end{aligned}$$

Similarly we have $\int_0^1 \int_0^1 |f(x, y)| \, dx \, dy = \infty$. So the condition for Fubini is not satisfied.

Compute the double integral in both ways

$$\int_0^1 \frac{x^2 - y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} dx = \frac{-x}{x^2 + y^2} \Big|_{x=0}^1 = \frac{-1}{1 + y^2}$$

$$\int_0^1 \frac{x^2 - y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} dy = \frac{y}{x^2 + y^2} \Big|_{y=0}^1 = \frac{1}{1 + x^2}$$

$$\int_0^1 \int_0^1 f(x, y) dx dy = \int_0^1 \frac{-1}{1 + y^2} dy = -\arctan y \Big|_{y=0}^1 = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$\int_0^1 \int_0^1 f(x, y) dy dx = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{1 + x^2} dx = \arctan x \Big|_{x=0}^1 = -\frac{\pi}{4}$$

They are not equal to each other

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Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ define

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}[X > x] &= \int_x^\infty f(y) dy \\ \mathbf{E}[X] &= \int_0^\infty x f(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

(for those who have seen some probability theory, these are the probability of $X > x$ and expectation for the continuous, non-negative variable X that has pdf f .)

We claim the following holds:

$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \int_0^\infty \mathbf{P}[X > x] dx$$

Proof: Let $\mathbf{1}_{y \leq x} : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ be defined via $\mathbf{1}_{y \leq x}(x, y) = 1$ when $y \leq x$ and $\mathbf{1}_{y \leq x}(x, y) = 0$ when $y > x$ (we also call it the characteristic function of $y \leq x$). Then fix any x , $\int_0^\infty g(x, y) dy = x$ So

$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \int_0^\infty x f(x) dx = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}_{y \leq x}(x, y) dy f(x) dx = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}_{y \leq x}(x, y) f(x) dy dx$$

Assume Fubini holds,

$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty g(x, y) f(x) dxdy = \int_0^\infty \int_y^\infty \mathbf{1} f(x) dxdy = \int_0^\infty \mathbf{P}[X > y] dy$$

Another equivalent way of doing it without using the characteristic function is to observe

$$xf(x) = \int_0^x f(x) dy$$

So

$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \int_0^\infty xf(x)dx = \int_0^\infty \int_0^x f(x)dydx = \int_0^\infty \int_y^\infty f(x)dxdy = \int_0^\infty \mathbf{P}[X > y]dy$$

Now if Fubini does not hold, then both

$$\int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty g(x, y)f(x)dxdy = \infty$$

$$\int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty g(x, y)f(x)dydx = \infty$$

So they are still the same. (In general same logic follows for all non-negative functions) ■