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Chapter 7 Applications of Integration

7.1 Area of a Region between Two Curves

The motivation of integration of functions is finding areas. Let us recall that if $f : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ is non-negative, then the area A of the region bounded by the graph of f, the x-axis and vertical lines x = a and x = b is the integral of f on [a, b] or in notation,

$$A = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \, dx$$

The idea above can be extended to the following statement: Let $f, g : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ be continuous and $g(x) \leq f(x)$ for all $x \in [a, b]$, then the area of the region bounded by the graphs of f and g and the vertical lines x = a and x = b is

$$A = \int_{a}^{b} \left[f(x) - g(x) \right] dx$$

• How about if the graphs of two continuous functions intersect?

Suppose that $f, g : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ are continuous functions but neither $g(x) \leq f(x)$ for all $x \in [a, b]$ nor $f(x) \leq g(x)$ for all $x \in [a, b]$. In other words, the graphs of f and g intersect (and transverse). In this case, the area of the region bounded by the graphs of f and g, as well as the vertical lines x = a and x = b, is given by

$$A = \int_a^b \left| f(x) - g(x) \right| dx \, .$$

To find this integral, in general we need to find all the zeros of the function h(x) = f(x) - g(x)and write the integral as sum of integrals on sub-intervals. To be more precise, suppose that the distinct zeros of h is given by $\{c_k\}_{k=1}^n$, where $a \leq c_1 < c_2 < \cdots < c_n \leq b$, then

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \int_{a}^{b} \left| f(x) - g(x) \right| dx \\ &= \int_{a}^{c_{1}} \left| f(x) - g(x) \right| dx + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \int_{c_{k-1}}^{c_{k}} \left| f(x) - g(x) \right| dx + \int_{c_{n}}^{b} \left| f(x) - g(x) \right| dx \\ &= \left| \int_{a}^{c_{1}} \left[f(x) - g(x) \right] dx \right| + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left| \int_{c_{k-1}}^{c_{k}} \left[f(x) - g(x) \right] dx \right| + \left| \int_{c_{n}}^{b} \left[f(x) - g(x) \right] dx \right|. \end{aligned}$$

When f, g are continuous function on \mathbb{R} and h = f - g has finitely many distinct zeros $\{c_k\}_{k=1}^n$, we can also talk about the area of the (bounded) region bounded by the graph of f and g. This area is given by

$$A = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left| \int_{c_{k-1}}^{c_k} \left[f(x) - g(x) \right] dx \right|$$

7.2 Volume: The Disk Method (圓盤法)

In the following two sections, the main focus is to develop ways of finding the volume of the so-called solids of revolution (旋轉體), a solid formed by revolving a certain region about a line called the axis of revolution (and usually a line parallel to the *x*-axis or *y*-axis).

Example 7.1. The ball centered at the origin with radius r (usually denoted by B(0, r) or $B_r(0)$), is a solid of revolution. It can be formed by revolving the region

$$\mathbf{R} = \left\{ (x, y) \, \middle| \, 0 \leqslant y \leqslant \sqrt{r^2 - x^2} \right\}$$

about the x-axis.

Example 7.2. A solid torus can be formed by revolving a disk

$$\mathsf{D} = \left\{ (x, y) \, \middle| \, (x - a)^2 + y^2 = r^2 \right\} \qquad \text{(where } 0 < a < r)$$

about the y-axis.



Figure 7.1: A solid torus

Consider the volume of a solid D formed by revolving a region R about the line $y = y_0$, where the region R is given by

$$\mathbf{R} = \left\{ (x, y) \, \middle| \, x \in [a, b] \,, y_0 \leqslant y \leqslant f(x) \right\}$$

for some continuous function $f : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ with $\min_{x \in [a, b]} f(x) \ge y_0$. Note that the function $y = \pi [f(x) - c]^2$ is also continuous on [a, b] thus integrable on [a, b].



Figure 7.2: Disk method

Let $\mathcal{P} = \{a = x_0 < x_1 < \cdots < x_n = b\}$ be a partition of [a, b], and $\Delta x_i = x_i - x_{i-1}$. Then the volume of D is approximated by

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \pi \left[f(\xi_i) - y_0 \right]^2 \Delta x_i \,,$$

where $\xi_i \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]$ for each $1 \leq i \leq n$. Note that the sum above is a Riemann sum of the function $y = \pi [f(x) - y_0]^2$ for partition \mathcal{P} .

When $\|\mathcal{P}\|$ approaches 0, we expect that the sum above approaches the volume of D. Since f is continuous on [a, b], the function $y = \pi [f(x) - y_0]^2$ is Riemann integrable on [a, b]; thus for any given $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that if $\|P\| < \delta$, then any Riemann sum of the function $y = \pi [f(x) - y_0]^2$ for \mathcal{P} lies in the interval

$$\left(\int_{a}^{b}\pi\left[f(x)-y_{0}\right]^{2}dx-\varepsilon,\int_{a}^{b}\pi\left[f(x)-y_{0}\right]^{2}dx+\varepsilon\right).$$

In particular, if $\max \{x_i - x_{i-1} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\} < \delta$,

$$\left|\sum_{i=1}^{n} \pi \left[f(\xi_i) - y_0\right]^2 \Delta x_i - \int_a^b \pi \left[f(x) - y_0\right]^2 dx\right| < \varepsilon.$$

Since $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrary, we conclude that the volume of D can be computed by

$$\pi \int_{a}^{b} \left[f(x) - y_0 \right]^2 dx \, .$$

Example 7.3. The volume of the ball B(0,r) is given by

$$\pi \int_{-r}^{r} \left(\sqrt{r^2 - x^2}\right)^2 dx = \pi \int_{-r}^{r} (r^2 - x^2) dx = \pi \left[r^2 x - \frac{1}{3}x^3\right]\Big|_{x=-r}^{x=r} = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3.$$

Example 7.4. The volume of the solid formed by revolving the region bounded by the graphs of $f(x) = 2 - x^2$ and g(x) = 1 about the line y = 1 is given by

$$\pi \int_{-1}^{1} \left[(2-x^2) - 1 \right]^2 dx = \pi \int_{-1}^{1} (1-x^2)^2 dx = \pi \int_{-1}^{1} (1-2x^2+x^4) dx$$
$$= \pi \left[x - \frac{2}{3}x^3 + \frac{1}{5}x^5 \right]_{x=-1}^{x=1} = \frac{16\pi}{15} \,.$$

Similarly, if D is a solid formed by revolving a region R about the line $x = x_0$, where R is given by

$$\mathbf{R} = \{(x, y) \mid y \in [c, d], x_0 \le x \le g(y)\}$$

for some continuous function $g: [c, d] \to \mathbb{R}$ with $\min_{y \in [c, d]} g(y) \ge x_0$, then the volume of D is

$$\pi \int_c^d \left[g(y) - x_0 \right]^2 dy \, .$$

A solid of revolution may be formed by revolving a region away from the axis of revolution. In this case, the solid will have holes and the volume of

Suppose that the region R is given by

$$\mathbf{R} = \left\{ (x, y) \, \middle| \, a \leqslant x \leqslant b \,, y_0 \leqslant g(x) \leqslant y \leqslant f(x) \right\}$$

where $f, g: [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ are continuous functions with $\max_{x \in [a, b]} g(x) \leq \min_{x \in [a, b]} f(x)$. Let \mathbb{R}_1 and \mathbb{R}_2 be given by

$$\mathbf{R}_1 = \left\{ (x, y) \mid a \leqslant x \leqslant b, y_0 \leqslant y \leqslant f(x) \right\} \text{ and } \mathbf{R}_2 = \left\{ (x, y) \mid a \leqslant x \leqslant b, y_0 \leqslant y \leqslant g(x) \right\}.$$

Then the volume of the solid formed by revolving R about the line $y = y_0$ is the volume of the solid formed by revolving R₁ about the line $y = y_0$ minus the volume of the solid formed by revolving R₂ about the line $y = y_0$ and is given by

$$\pi \int_{a}^{b} \left[(f(x) - y_0)^2 - (g(x) - y_0)^2 \right] dx \, .$$

Similarly, if R is given by

$$\mathbf{R} = \left\{ (x, y) \, \big| \, c \leqslant y \leqslant d \,, x_0 \leqslant g(y) \leqslant x \leqslant f(y) \right\},\$$

where $f, g : [c, d] \to \mathbb{R}$ are continuous functions with $\max_{y \in [c,d]} g(y) \leq \min_{y \in [c,d]} f(y)$. Then the volume of the solid formed by revolving R about the line $x = x_0$ is given by

$$\pi \int_{c}^{d} \left[(f(y) - x_0)^2 - (g(y) - x_0)^2 \right] dy.$$

Example 7.5. Find the volume of the solid formed by revolving the region bounded by the graphs of $y = \sqrt{x}$ and $y = x^2$ about the x-axis.

The points of intersection of the graphs of the two functions are x = 0 and x = 1, and $0 \le x^2 \le x$ on [0, 1]. Therefore, the volume of the solid described above is given by

$$\pi \int_0^1 \left[\sqrt{x^2} - (x^2)^2 \right] dx = \pi \int_0^1 \left(x - x^4 \right) dx = \pi \left(\frac{1}{2} x^2 - \frac{1}{5} x^4 \right) \Big|_{x=0}^{x=1} = \frac{3\pi}{10}$$

Example 7.6. The volume of the solid torus given in Example 7.2 is given by

$$\pi \int_{-r}^{r} \left[(a + \sqrt{r^2 - y^2} - 0)^2 - (a - \sqrt{r^2 - y^2} - 0)^2 \right] dy$$
$$= 4a\pi \int_{-r}^{r} \sqrt{r^2 - y^2} \, dy = 4a\pi \cdot \frac{\pi r^2}{2} = 2\pi^2 ar^2 \, .$$

Example 7.7. Find the volume of the solid formed by a ball with 5 inch radius having a cylindrical hole as shown in the following figure.



The volume of the solid described above is given by

$$\pi \int_{-4}^{4} \left[(\sqrt{25 - x^2} - 0)^2 - (3 - 0)^2 \right] dx = \frac{256\pi}{3}.$$

In general, the disk method can be used to compute a solid whose area of cross sections along a particular axis is known. Let D be a solid lies between two planes x = a and x = b(a < b), and the area of the cross section of D taken perpendicular to the x-axis is A(x), then

the volume of
$$D = \int_{a}^{b} A(x) dx$$

Similarly, if D lies between y = c and y = d (c < d), and the area of the cross section of D taken perpendicular to the y-axis is A(y), then

the volume of
$$D = \int_{c}^{d} A(y) \, dy$$



(a) Cross sections perpendicular to x-axis

(b) Cross sections perpendicular to y-axis

 $\Delta \mathbf{j}$

y = d

Example 7.8. The volume of a cone with height h and base area A is given by

$$\int_0^h \frac{A(h-y)^2}{h^2} \, dy = -\frac{A}{h^2} \frac{1}{3} (h-y)^3 \Big|_{y=0}^{y=h} = \frac{1}{3} Ah \, .$$

Example 7.9. Find the volume of the solid of intersection of the two right circular cylinders of radius r whose axes meet at right angles.



The area of cross sections taken perpendicular to the z-axis is given by

$$A(z) = (2\sqrt{r^2 - z^2})^2 = 4(r^2 - z^2).$$

Therefore, the volume of the solid of intersection is given by

$$\int_{-r}^{r} 4(r^2 - z^2) \, dz = \frac{16}{3}r^3 \, .$$