

A grayscale photograph of a large, classical-style building with a central arched entrance, multiple windows, and dormers, serving as the background for the text.

*Welcome  
from the  
Department of Mathematics  
at the  
University of New Haven*

# Volumes, surfaces, and integrals, the Title of the Presentation

Joseph Kolibal

The University of New Haven



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## **Abstract**

*The relationship of integrals on the surface of a region in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to integrals over the volume of the region is a fundamental part of calculus. We examine this relationship from the fundamental theorem of calculus and integration by parts, to the theorems of vector calculus, taking note of some interesting aspects of the technique and the diversity of results which can be obtained using these relationships.*

*In particular, the recursive nature of integration by parts is one of the building blocks of modern mathematics. It is a feature of so many problems that it deserves consideration for inclusion into Paul Halmos' table of the mathematical elements.*

► Accordingly,

*No doubt many mathematicians have noted that there are some basic ideas that keep cropping up in widely different parts of their subject, combining and re-combining with one another in a way faintly reminiscent of how all matter is made up of elements. A subconscious intuitive awareness of these “elements” of mathematics probably contributes to (possibly it constitutes) the research insight that distinguishes great mathematicians from ordinary mortals. – Paul Halmos<sup>1</sup>*

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We begin with a simple example, the circle and sphere

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- ▶ Let  $S_n$  denote the surface area of an  $n$ -sphere, and  $V_n$  denote the volume or the content of an  $n$ -sphere.<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ The 2-sphere, i.e., the circle of radius  $R$  has circumference, i.e., surface  $S_2 = 2\pi R$ , and its area, or content is  $V_2 = \pi R^2$ .
- ▶ The surface area of a 3-sphere radius  $R$  is  $S_3 = 4\pi R^2$ , and its volume is  $V_3 = (4/3)\pi R^3$ .

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- ▶ For the 2-sphere,  $S_2 = \frac{d}{dr}V_2(r)$  since  $\frac{d}{dr}\pi R^2 = 2\pi R$ ,
- ▶ For the 3-sphere,  $S_3 = \frac{d}{dr}V_3(r)$  since  $\frac{d}{dr}(4/3)\pi R^3 = 4\pi R^2$ .

Does it generalize?

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- ▶ If we assume that the volume of the  $n$ -sphere is proportional to the radius, then  $V_n = \alpha_n r^n$ , where  $\alpha_n$  is our constant of proportionality for each dimension.
- ▶ Then by using concentric shells,  $dV_n = S_n dr$ ,  
 $\implies$

$$\begin{aligned} S_n &= \frac{dV_n}{dr} \\ &= n\alpha_n r^{n-1}, \end{aligned}$$

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We can do more. Let's evaluate  $S_n$ .

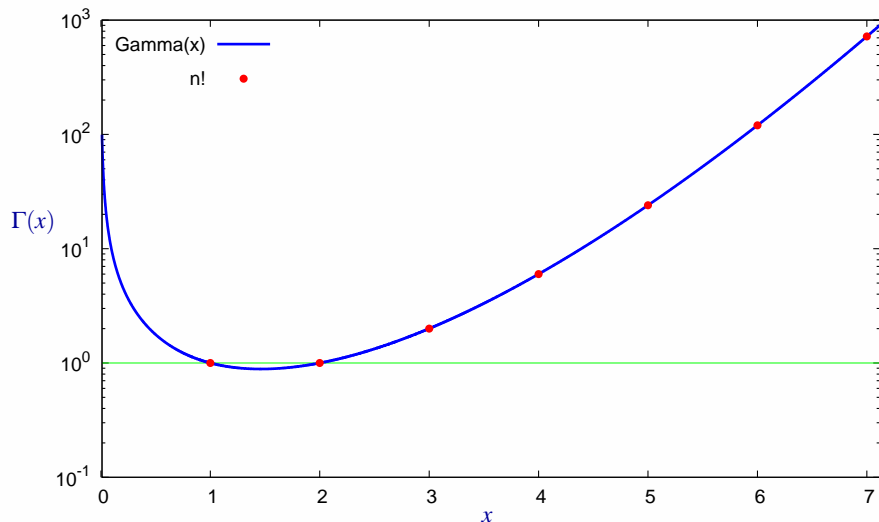


Figure: Plot of Gamma function,  $\Gamma(x)$ , showing factorials,  $n! = x - 1!$  for  $x = 1, 2, \dots$

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- ▶ For example, the Divergence Theorem has

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} dV = \int_{\partial\Omega} \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS,$$

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We develop integration by parts in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

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New Haven

JKolibal@newhaven.edu  
<http://www.newhaven.edu>



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