

Example:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 \int_0^z \int_0^{x+z} 6xz \, dy \, dx \, dz &= \int_0^1 \int_0^z [6xzy]_{y=0}^{y=x+z} \, dx \, dz \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^z (6x^2z + 6xz^2) \, dx \, dz \\ &= \int_0^1 [2x^3z + 3x^2z^2]_{x=0}^{x=z} \, dz \\ &= \int_0^1 5z^4 \, dz = [z^5]_0^1 = 1 .\end{aligned}$$

Thus, if $6xz$ is the density (mass per unit volume — say, grams per cubic centimeter, where the variables are all measured in centimeters) of a solid as in the graphical example from this section, then the total mass of the solid is 1 (gram, say). Now suppose that we want the y -coordinate of the center of mass of the solid. By the formula in class (or in the text's problem set for Section 15.3), it is

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{y} &= \frac{1}{1} \int_0^1 \int_0^z \int_0^{x+z} y6xz \, dy \, dx \, dz \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^z [3xzy^2]_{y=0}^{y=x+z} \, dx \, dz \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_0^z (3x^3z + 6x^2z^2 + 3xz^3) \, dx \, dz \\ &= \int_0^1 \left[\frac{3}{4}x^4z + 2x^3z^2 + \frac{3}{2}x^2z^3 \right]_{x=0}^{x=z} \, dz \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{17}{4}z^5 \, dz = \left[\frac{17}{24}z^6 \right]_0^1 = \frac{17}{24} ;\end{aligned}$$

i.e., the center of mass is $\frac{17}{24}$ cm (if that is the unit of length) on the positive side of the xz -plane.