

# DBLINT – Double Integrals

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## Abstract

*DBLINT* is a program written in 1979 for the HP-34C programmable calculator to compute the numeric value of a definite double integral of a user-specified  $f(x,y)$  between given limits. Four worked examples are included.

**Keywords:** double integral, definite integration, Gauss-Legendre quadrature, programmable calculator, RPN, HP-34C

## 1. Introduction

*DBLINT* is a short (67 steps) RPN program that I wrote in 1979 for the HP-34C calculator (will also run with minor modifications in some RPN models, such as the HP-15C) which can compute the numeric value of a definite double integral of a user-defined function  $f(x, y)$  between specified limits of integration.

The built-in integration functionality already allows for easy computation of arbitrary (definite) integrals like:

$$I = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

But this functionality *can't be nested*, so it can't be used to compute the integral of a function whose definition includes the computation of another integral. Computing double integrals like this is not possible out-of-the-box:

$$I = \int_{x_0}^{x_m} \int_{y_0}^{y_n} f(x, y) dy dx = \int_{x_0}^{x_m} \left( \int_{y_0}^{y_n} f(x, y) dy \right) dx$$

To overcome this limitation, this program uses the built-in integration functionality to compute the **inner** integral together with a Gaussian quadrature method to compute the **outer** one, namely the fast 3-point Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula applied over a given number of subintervals. The method is as follows: we want to compute:

$$I = \int_a^b g(x) \cdot dx \quad , \quad \text{where } g(x) = \int_{y_0}^{y_n} f(x, y) dy, \quad \text{which itself is computed via } \int_y^x$$

but first of all the change of variable  $x = (b + a)/2 + (b - a)t/2$ ,  $dx = (b - a)/2 \cdot dt$  transforms the interval  $(a, b)$  into the interval  $(-1, 1)$ . The 3-point Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula then gives:

$$\int_{-1}^1 g(x) dx = \frac{8}{9} g(0) + \frac{5}{9} \left( g(\sqrt{3/5}) + g(-\sqrt{3/5}) \right)$$

which is *exact* for polynomial  $g(x)$  up to the 5<sup>th</sup> degree and a 5<sup>th</sup>-order approximation otherwise, using just 3 evaluations per subinterval. This is far better than *Simpson's Rule*, which only gives 3<sup>rd</sup>-order accuracy.

## 2. Program Listing

01 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 1px;">♦LBL A</span>	15 RCL 6	29 +	43 STO+ 2	57 6	
02 STO 3	16 RCL 6	30 GSB 1 ▶	44 RCL 0	58 $\sqrt{x}$	- 67 steps
03 R↓	17 RCL 7	31 STO 2	45 STO× 2	59 ×	- uses registers R <sub>0</sub> - R <sub>8</sub> , R <sub>I</sub>
04 STO 4	18 STO+ 6	32 RCL 1	46 9	60 RTN	- uses labels A,B,0,1,2
05 R↓	19 +	33 GSB 0 ▶	47 STO÷ 2	61 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 1px;">♦LBL 1</span>	- define the function to integrate
06 X↔Y	20 STO 0	34 -	48 RCL 2	62 STO 5	under <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 1px;">♦LBL B</span>
07 STO 6	21 X↔Y	35 GSB 1 ▶	49 STO+ 8	63 RCL 4	
08 -	22 STO- 0	36 STO+ 2	50 DSE	64 RCL 3	- FIX 4 or SCI 4 recommended
09 RCL 1	23 +	37 5	51 GTO 2 ▶	65 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 1px;">∫ B</span>	- RAD mode recommended
10 ÷	24 2	38 STO× 2	52 RCL 8	66 RTN	
11 STO 7	25 STO÷ 0	39 RCL 1	53 RTN	67 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 1px;">♦LBL B</span>	
12 RCL 8	26 ÷	40 GSB 1 ▶	54 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 1px;">♦LBL 0</span>		- the symbols ♦ and ▶ are purely
13 STO- 8	27 STO 1	41 8	55 RCL 0		cosmetic, to indicate branching
14 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 1px;">♦LBL 2</span>	28 GSB 0 ▶	42 ×	56 .		

### 3. Usage Instructions

*Step 1:* In **PRGM** Mode, key in under  $67$  **♦LBL B** the sequence of steps which defines the function to integrate  $f(x, y)$ , where  $x$  is in register  $R_5$  and  $y$  is in stack register  $X$ , and end it with **RTN**.

Also, before keying in the function's definition do not forget to *delete* any previous definition from program memory, if there's one, except for  $67$  **♦LBL B** itself.

*Step 2:* In **RUN** Mode, store the number of subintervals  $m$ :  $m$  **STO I**

*Step 3:* Compute the integral:  $x_0$  **ENTER↑**  $x_m$  **ENTER↑**  $y_0$  **ENTER↑**  $y_n$  **A** *value of integral*

- To try different limits with the same  $f(x, y)$ , repeat *Step 2* above.

- To integrate another  $f(x, y)$ , go to *Step 1* above but don't forget to *delete* the previous  $f(x,y)$  first.

**Note:** The accuracy of the result depends on both the display mode **FIX d** or **SCI d** selected and the number  $m$  of subintervals chosen. It is strongly recommended to use  $d = 4$  or less and  $m = 1$  or  $2$ . These choices will usually give about 4 correct places in moderate run times. If more accuracy is needed, first increase  $m$  and as a last resort set **FIX 6** or **SCI 6**. Keep in mind that going from  $m = 1$  to  $2$  more than *duplicates* the running time, while going from **FIX 4** to **FIX 6** increases the running time by a factor of 2-3. See the *Examples*.

### 4. Examples

The following examples can be useful to check that the program is correctly entered and to understand its usage.

#### 4.1 Example 1

Evaluate  $I = \int_0^1 \int_1^2 (x^2 + y^2) dy dx$

First of all, we define the function to integrate,  $f(x,y)$ :

In **PRGM** Mode, enter under  $67$  **♦LBL B** this 6-step program to define the function  $f(x,y)$  to be integrated:

$67$ ♦LBL B	$68$ $x^2$	$69$ RCL 5	$70$ $x^2$	$71$ +	$72$ RTN
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In **RUN** Mode, we'll specify just one subinterval and **FIX 4**: **FIX 4** 1 **STO I**

Finally, enter the limits of integration and compute the integral:

0 **ENTER↑** 1 **ENTER↑** 1 **ENTER↑** 2 **A** 2.6667 **FIX 7** 2.6666666 (*exact is 8/3 so we got 8 correct places*)

#### 4.2 Example 2

Evaluate  $I = \int_3^4 \int_1^2 \frac{dy dx}{(x+y)^2}$

First, we define the function to integrate,  $f(x,y)$ :

In **PRGM** Mode, enter under  $67$  **♦LBL B** this 6-step program to define the function  $f(x,y)$  to be integrated:

$67$ ♦LBL B	$68$ RCL 5	$69$ +	$70$ $x^2$	$71$ 1/x	$72$ RTN
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In **RUN** Mode, we'll specify just one subinterval and **FIX 4**: **FIX 4** 1 **STO I**

Next, enter the limits of integration and compute the integral:

3 **ENTER** 4 **ENTER** 1 **ENTER** 2 **A** 0.0408 **FIX** 6 0.040821 (exact is  $\ln(25/24)$  so we got 6 places)

#### 4.3 Example 3

Evaluate  $I = \int_{-2.3}^{1.6} \int_{3.9}^{6.1} (e^{-x^2} + x^3 - y^3x^2 + 7) \tan^{-1}(x - 2) \sin(y + 3) dy dx$

First, we define the function to integrate,  $f(x,y)$ :

In **PRGM** Mode, enter under 67 **LBL B** this 27-step program to define the function  $f(x,y)$  to be integrated:

67	<b>LBL B</b>	72	-	77	CHS	82	+	87	x	92	x
68	STO 9	73	RCL 5	78	$e^x$	83	RCL 5	88	RCL 9	93	RTN
69	3	74	$x^2$	79	X $\leftrightarrow$ Y	84	2	89	3		
70	$y^x$	75	x	80	-	85	-	90	+		
71	RCL 5	76	LSTx	81	7	86	TAN <sup>-1</sup>	91	SIN		

In **RUN** Mode, we'll specify **RAD** mode, 2 subintervals and **SCI** 4: **RAD** **SCI** 4 2 **STO I**

Now, enter the limits of integration and compute the integral:

-2.3 **ENTER** 1.6 **ENTER** 3.9 **ENTER** 6.1 **A** 1.3213e03 **FIX** 2 1321.27 (all 6 places are correct)

**Note:** This is a particularly difficult example. First,  $f(x,y)$  takes 6 sec. to evaluate, which greatly increases run time. Second, the interval of integration is quite wide, which affects accuracy. Still, we got 6 correct places in reasonable time.

#### 4.4 Example 4

Evaluate  $I = \int_0^\infty \int_1^\infty e^{-x^2-y^2} dy dx$

First of all, we define the function to integrate,  $f(x,y)$ :

In **PRGM** Mode, enter under 67 **LBL B** this 8-step program to define the function  $f(x,y)$  to be integrated:

67	<b>LBL B</b>	68	$x^2$	69	RCL 5	70	$x^2$	71	+	72	CHS	73	$e^x$	74	RTN
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In **RUN** Mode, we'll specify 3 subintervals and **FIX** 4: **FIX** 4 3 **STO I**

Last, enter the limits of integration (replacing  $\infty$  by 4, as  $f(4,4) < 1.27e-14$ ), and compute the integral:

0 **ENTER** 4 **ENTER** 0 **ENTER** 4 **A** 0.7853 (exact is  $\pi/4$  so we got 4 correct places despite the finite interval)

#### Notes

1. This program is included in *Hewlett-Packard's Solution Book "HP-34C Matemática Avanzada"* (Spanish)
2. This program is featured in my article "*HP Article VA023 - Long Live the HP-34C*"

#### References

Francis Scheid (1988). *Schaum's Outline of Theory and Problems of Numerical Analysis, 2nd Edition.*

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