

Integral Calculus

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1 Trigonometric Integrals (continue)

Sometimes the integrands are not explicitly of the forms $\int \sin^m x \cos^n x dx$ and $\int \tan^m x \sec^n x dx$ so we have to use some algebraic manipulations.

Example 1.1. Evaluate the following integral $I = \int \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}} \sin^6(\sqrt{x}) \cos^3(\sqrt{x}) dx$.

Solution:

- First substitution $u = \sqrt{x}$ and $du = \frac{dx}{2\sqrt{x}}$ to transform this integral into $\int \sin^m x \cos^n x dx$. So we have:

$$I = 2 \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \sin^6 u \cos^3 u 2\sqrt{x} du = 4 \int \sin^6 u \cos^3 u du = 4 \int \sin^6 u \underbrace{\cos^2 u}_{1 - \sin^2 u} \cos u du$$

- Second substitution $t = \sin u$ and $dt = \cos u du$. We have:

$$I = 4 \int t^6(1 - t^2) dt = 4 \int (t^6 - t^8) dt = 4 \left(\frac{t^7}{7} - \frac{t^9}{9} \right) + c$$

- Replace the new variables by their initial values

$$I = 4 \left(\frac{t^7}{7} - \frac{t^9}{9} \right) + c = 4 \left(\frac{\sin^7 u}{7} - \frac{\sin^9 u}{9} \right) + c = 4 \left(\frac{\sin^7(\sqrt{x})}{7} - \frac{\sin^9(\sqrt{x})}{9} \right) + c$$

2 Trigonometric Substitutions

2.1 Integral involving $a^2 - x^2$

We may deal with an integral whose integrand contains the term $a^2 - x^2$, where a is a positive constant. Observe what happens when x is replaced with $a \sin \theta$ so $dx = a \cos \theta d\theta$.

$$\begin{aligned} a^2 - x^2 &= a^2 - (a \sin \theta)^2 && \text{Replace } x \text{ with } a \sin \theta \\ &= a^2 - a^2 \sin^2 \theta && \text{Simplify} \\ &= a^2(1 - \sin^2 \theta) && \text{Factor} \\ &= a^2 \cos^2 \theta && 1 - \sin^2 \theta = \cos^2 \theta \end{aligned}$$

Example 2.1. Evaluate the following integral $\int_0^4 \sqrt{16 - x^2} dx$.

Solution:

Here, $a = 4$ so we use substitution $x = a \sin \theta = 4 \sin \theta$ then $dx = 4 \cos \theta d\theta$ and $\theta = \sin^{-1}(\frac{x}{4})$. So, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^4 \sqrt{16 - x^2} dx &= \int_{\sin^{-1}(0)}^{\sin^{-1}(1)} \sqrt{16 - (4 \sin \theta)^2} \underbrace{4 \cos \theta d\theta}_{dx} = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{16 - 16 \sin^2 \theta} 4 \cos \theta d\theta \\ &= 4 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{16} \sqrt{(1 - \sin^2 \theta)} \cos \theta d\theta = 16 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^2 \theta d\theta \\ &= 16 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{1 + \cos 2\theta}{2} d\theta = 16 \left(\frac{\theta}{2} + \frac{\sin 2\theta}{4} \right) \Big|_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} = 4\pi \end{aligned}$$

Example 2.2. Evaluate the following integral $\int_0^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{x dx}{\sqrt{9 - x^2}}$.

Solution:

Here $a = 3$ so $x = 3 \sin \theta$, $dx = 3 \cos \theta d\theta$ and $\theta = \sin^{-1}(\frac{x}{3})$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{x dx}{\sqrt{9 - x^2}} &= \int_{\sin^{-1}(0)}^{\sin^{-1}(\frac{1}{2})} \frac{3 \sin \theta}{\sqrt{9 - 9 \sin^2 \theta}} 3 \cos \theta d\theta = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{6}} \frac{9 \cos \theta \sin \theta d\theta}{\sqrt{9(1 - \sin^2 \theta)}} = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{6}} \frac{9 \cos \theta \sin \theta d\theta}{3 \cos \theta} \\ &= 3 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{6}} \sin \theta d\theta = -3(\cos \theta) \Big|_0^{\frac{\pi}{6}} = -3\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - 1\right) = 3 - \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

2.2 Integral involving $a^2 + x^2$

We may deal with an integral whose integrand contains the term $a^2 + x^2$, where a is a positive constant. Observe what happens when x is replaced with $a \tan \theta$ so $dx = a(1 + \tan^2 \theta) d\theta = a \sec^2 \theta d\theta$.

Note that

$$a^2 + x^2 = a^2 + a^2 \tan^2 \theta = a^2(1 + \tan^2 \theta) = a^2 \sec^2 \theta$$

Example 2.3. Evaluate the following integral $\int_0^1 \frac{2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 36}} dx$

Solution:

Substitution: $a = 6$, $x = 6 \tan \theta$, $\theta = \tan^{-1}(\frac{x}{6})$ and $dx = 6 \sec^2 \theta d\theta$. So we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{2}{\sqrt{x^2 + 36}} dx &= \int_{\tan^{-1}(0)}^{\tan^{-1}(\frac{1}{6})} \frac{2}{\sqrt{(6 \tan \theta)^2 + 36}} 6 \sec^2 \theta d\theta = \int_0^{\tan^{-1}(\frac{1}{6})} \frac{12 \sec^2 \theta}{\sqrt{36(1 + \tan^2 \theta)}} d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{\tan^{-1}(\frac{1}{6})} \frac{12 \sec^2 \theta}{6 \sec \theta} d\theta = 2 \int_0^{\tan^{-1}(\frac{1}{6})} \sec \theta d\theta = 2 \ln |\sec \theta + \tan \theta| \Big|_0^{\tan^{-1}(\frac{1}{6})} \\ &= 2 \ln |\sec(\tan^{-1}(\frac{1}{6})) + \tan(\tan^{-1}(\frac{1}{6}))| - 2 \ln |\sec(0) + \tan(0)| \\ &= 2 \ln |\sec(\tan^{-1}(\frac{1}{6})) + \frac{1}{6}| \end{aligned}$$

Example 2.4. Evaluate the integral $\int \frac{dx}{x^2 \sqrt{9 + x^2}}$

Here $a = 3$ so $x = 3 \tan \theta$, $dx = 3 \sec^2 \theta d\theta$ and $\theta = \tan^{-1}(\frac{x}{3})$. So we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{dx}{x^2 \sqrt{9+x^2}} &= \int \frac{3 \sec^2 \theta d\theta}{(3 \tan \theta)^2 \sqrt{9+(3 \tan \theta)^2}} = \int \frac{3 \sec^2 \theta d\theta}{(3 \tan \theta)^2 \cdot 3 \sec \theta} = \frac{1}{9} \int \frac{\sec \theta d\theta}{\tan^2 \theta} \\ &= \frac{1}{9} \int \frac{\frac{1}{\cos \theta}}{\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta}} d\theta = \frac{1}{9} \int \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} d\theta \end{aligned}$$

Now let $u = \sin \theta \implies du = \cos \theta d\theta$. Then,

$$\int \frac{dx}{x^2 \sqrt{9+x^2}} = \frac{1}{9} \int \frac{du}{u^2} = -\frac{1}{9u} + c = -\frac{1}{9 \sin \theta} + c = -\frac{1}{9 \sin(\tan^{-1}(\frac{x}{3}))} + c$$

2.3 Integral involving $x^2 - a^2$

We may deal with an integral whose integrand contains the term $x^2 - a^2$, where a is a positive constant. Observe what happens when x is replaced with $a \sec \theta$ so $dx = a \sec \theta \tan \theta d\theta$:

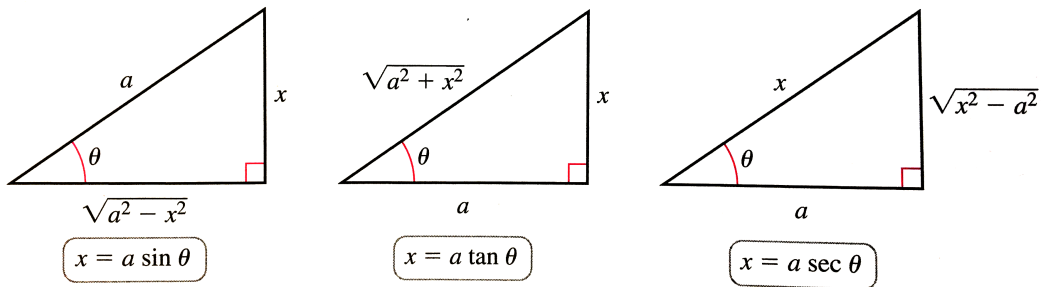
$$x^2 - a^2 = (a \sec \theta)^2 - a^2 = a^2 \sec^2 \theta - a^2 = a^2(\sec^2 \theta - 1) = a^2 \tan^2 \theta$$

Example 2.5. Evaluate the following integral $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 - 49}}$.

Here $a = 7$, so $x = 7 \sec \theta \implies dx = 7 \sec \theta \tan \theta d\theta$. So we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 - 49}} &= \int \frac{7 \sec \theta \tan \theta d\theta}{\sqrt{(7 \sec \theta)^2 - 49}} = \int \frac{7 \sec \theta \tan \theta d\theta}{7 \sqrt{\sec^2 \theta - 1}} = \int \sec \theta d\theta = \ln |\sec \theta + \tan \theta| + c \\ &= \ln |\sec(\sec^{-1}(\frac{x}{7})) + \tan(\sec^{-1}(\frac{x}{7}))| + c \end{aligned}$$

Summary



The Integral

Contains ...

$$a^2 - x^2$$

$$a^2 + x^2$$

$$x^2 - a^2$$

Corresponding Substitution

$$x = a \sin \theta, -\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, \text{ for } |x| \leq a$$

$$x = a \tan \theta, -\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$x = a \sec \theta, \begin{cases} 0 \leq \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}, \text{ for } x \geq a \\ \frac{\pi}{2} < \theta \leq \pi, \text{ for } x \leq -a \end{cases}$$

Useful Identity

$$a^2 - a^2 \sin^2 \theta = a^2 \cos^2 \theta$$

$$a^2 + a^2 \tan^2 \theta = a^2 \sec^2 \theta$$

$$a^2 \sec^2 \theta - a^2 = a^2 \tan^2 \theta$$

2.4 Algebraic manipulation

Sometimes, the integrand is not explicitly of the forms $a^2 \pm x^2$ and $x^2 - a^2$

Example 2.6. Evaluate the integral $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{4x^2 + 25}}$.

Solution:

We make the coefficient of x^2 to be 1. We have $4x^2 + 25 = 4(x^2 + \frac{25}{4}) = 4(x^2 + (\frac{5}{2})^2)$. Then we use $x = \frac{5}{2} \tan \theta$, $dx = \frac{5}{2} \sec^2 \theta d\theta$ and $\theta = \tan^{-1}(\frac{2x}{5})$. Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{4x^2 + 25}} &= \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{4(x^2 + (\frac{5}{2})^2)}} = \int \frac{dx}{2\sqrt{x^2 + (\frac{5}{2})^2}} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{\frac{5}{2} \sec^2 \theta d\theta}{\sqrt{(\frac{5}{2} \sec \theta)^2 + (\frac{5}{2})^2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{\frac{5}{2} \sec^2 \theta d\theta}{\sqrt{\frac{25}{4}(\tan^2 \theta + 1)}} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{\sec^2 \theta d\theta}{\sec \theta} = \frac{1}{2} \ln |\sec \theta + \tan \theta| + c \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \ln \left| \sec\left(\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2x}{5}\right)\right) + \frac{2x}{5} \right| + c \end{aligned}$$