

Section 7.3: Trigonometric Substitution

Identities commonly used in this section:

a.) $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$

b.) $\tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta - 1$

c.) $\sin(2x) = 2 \sin x \cos x$

A few integrals you must know:

1. $\int \sec \theta \, d\theta = \ln |\sec \theta + \tan \theta| + C$

Proof: $\int \sec \theta \, d\theta = \int \sec \theta \left(\frac{\sec(\theta) + \tan(\theta)}{\sec(\theta) + \tan(\theta)} \right) d\theta = \int \left(\frac{\sec^2(\theta) + \sec(\theta) \tan(\theta)}{\sec(\theta) + \tan(\theta)} \right) d\theta.$

If we let $u = \sec(\theta) + \tan(\theta)$, then $du = (\sec^2(\theta) + \sec(\theta) \tan(\theta)) d\theta$, which gives

$$\int \frac{1}{u} du = \ln |u| = \ln |\sec(\theta) + \tan(\theta)|.$$

2. $\int \sec^3 \theta \, d\theta = \frac{1}{2} (\sec \theta \tan \theta + \ln |\sec \theta + \tan \theta|) + C$

The general idea of integration by trigonometric substitution is to transform an algebraic integral that involves one of the general forms in the table below into a trig integral that can be integrated using the techniques of section 7.2.

Form	Substitution	Identity Used	Domain
$\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$	$x = a \sin \theta$	$\cos^2 \theta = 1 - \sin^2 \theta$	$-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$
$\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}$	$x = a \tan \theta$	$\sec^2 \theta = \tan^2 \theta + 1$	$0 \leq \theta \leq \pi, \theta \neq \frac{\pi}{2}$
$\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$	$x = a \sec \theta$	$\tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta - 1$	$-\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$

1. $\int \frac{dx}{x^2 \sqrt{1-x^2}}$

2. $\int \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 9}}{x^4} dx$

3. $\int \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 - 4}}{x} dx$

4. $\int \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{1-9x^2}} dx$

5. $\int_{5\sqrt{2}}^{10} \frac{dx}{x^3 \sqrt{x^2 - 25}}$

6. $\int_0^{2/3} \frac{1}{(4+9x^2)^{5/2}} dx$

7. $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 - 8x}}$

8. $\int \frac{1}{(x^2 + 6x + 13)^{3/2}} dx$