

CALCULUS

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Trigonometric Integrals



- Trigonometric integrals involve algebraic combinations of the six basic trigonometric functions. The general idea is to use identities to transform the integrals we have to find into integrals that are easier to work with.

① Products of Powers of Sines and Cosines

We begin with integrals of the form

$$\int \sin^m x \cos^n x dx$$

where m and n are nonnegative integers (positive or zero). We can divide the appropriate substitution into four cases according to m and n being odd or even.

8.3 Trigonometric Integrals

Case 1 If m is odd and n is even, we write m as $2k + 1$ and use the identity

$$\sin^2 x = 1 - \cos^2 x$$

to obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\int \sin^m x \cos^n x \, dx &= \int \sin^{2k+1} x \cos^n x \, dx = \int (\sin^2 x)^k \cos^n x (\sin x) dx \\ &= \int (1 - \cos^2 x)^k \cos^n x (-d \cos x) \\ &\stackrel{u=\cos x}{=} - \int (1 - u^2)^k u^n du.\end{aligned}$$

Example 1 Evaluate

$$\int \sin^3 x \cos^2 x dx$$

8.3 Trigonometric Integrals

Case 2 If n is odd and m is even, we write n as $2k + 1$ and use the identity

$$\cos^2 x = 1 - \sin^2 x$$

to obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\int \sin^m x \cos^n x \, dx &= \int \sin^m x \cos^{2k+1} x \, dx = \int \sin^m x \cos^{2k} x \cos x \, dx \\ &= \int \sin^m x (\cos^2 x)^k \, d(\sin x) = \int (\sin x)^m (1 - \sin^2 x)^k \, d(\sin x) \\ &= \int u^m (1 - u^2)^k \, du\end{aligned}$$

Example 2 Evaluate

$$\int \sin^2 x \cos^5 x \, dx$$

8.3 Trigonometric Integrals

Case 3 If **both m and n are even**, we substitute

$$\sin^2 x = \frac{1 - \cos 2x}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \cos^2 x = \frac{1 + \cos 2x}{2}$$

to reduce the integrand to one in lower powers of $\cos 2x$.

Case 4 If **both m and n are odd**,

we can choose either $\sin x$ or $\cos x$ as the substitution function.

Example 3 Evaluate

$$(a) \int \sin^2 x \cos^2 x dx \qquad (b) \int \sin^5 x \cos^3 x dx$$

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② Eliminating Square Roots

Use the identities:

$$\sin^2 x = \frac{1 - \cos 2x}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \cos^2 x = \frac{1 + \cos 2x}{2}$$

to eliminate a square root.

Example 4 Evaluate

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \sqrt{1 + \cos 4x} dx$$

Example 5 Evaluate

$$\int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \sqrt{1 - \cos 2x} dx$$

8.3 Trigonometric Integrals

③ Integrals of Powers of $\tan x$ and $\sec x$

- We know how to integrate the tangent and secant functions and their squares. To integrate higher powers, we use the identities $\tan^2 x = \sec^2 x - 1$ and $\sec^2 x = \tan^2 x + 1$, and integrate by parts when necessary to reduce the higher powers to lower powers.
- Some derivatives to recall:

$$(\tan x)' = \sec^2 x \quad \text{and} \quad (\sec x)' = \sec x \tan x$$

Example 6 Evaluate

$$(a) \int \tan^4 x \sec^4 x dx \qquad (b) \int \tan^3 x \sec^5 x dx$$

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Example 7 Evaluate

(a) $\int \tan^3 x dx$

(b) $\int \tan^4 x dx$

Example 8 Evaluate

(a) $\int \sec^3 x dx$

(b) $\int \sec^4 x dx$

8.3 Trigonometric Integrals

④ Products of Sines and Cosines

The integrals

$$\int \sin mx \sin nx dx, \quad \int \sin mx \cos nx dx, \quad \int \cos mx \cos nx dx$$

arise in many applications involving periodic functions. It is simpler to use the identities

$$\sin mx \sin nx = \frac{1}{2} [\cos(m - n)x - \cos(m + n)x],$$

$$\sin mx \cos nx = \frac{1}{2} [\sin(m - n)x + \sin(m + n)x],$$

$$\cos mx \cos nx = \frac{1}{2} [\cos(m - n)x + \cos(m + n)x].$$

8.3 Trigonometric Integrals

Example 9 Evaluate

$$\int \sin 3x \cos 5x dx$$

Example 10 Evaluate

$$\int \cos x \cos 3x dx$$

8.3 Trigonometric Integrals

Skill Practice 1 Evaluate

$$\int \cos^3 4x dx$$

Skill Practice 2 Evaluate

$$\int \frac{\sec^3 x}{\tan x} dx$$

Skill Practice 3 Average Function Value

Find the average value of the function on $[0, \pi/3]$:

$$f(\theta) = \frac{1}{1 - \sin \theta}$$