

Integrals 3

Simone Capodivento

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1 Integration Practice Problems

1.1 Basic Indefinite Integrals

1. $\int x^2 dx = \frac{x^3}{3} + C$
2. $\int e^x dx = e^x + C$
3. $\int \sin(x) dx = -\cos(x) + C$
4. $\int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln|x| + C$
5. $\int (3x^2 + 2x + 1) dx = x^3 + x^2 + x + C$

1.2 Definite Integrals

6. $\int_0^1 x^3 dx = \left[\frac{x^4}{4} \right]_0^1 = \frac{1^4}{4} - \frac{0^4}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$
7. $\int_0^\pi \cos(x) dx = [\sin(x)]_0^\pi = \sin(\pi) - \sin(0) = 0 - 0 = 0$
8. $\int_1^e \frac{1}{x} dx = [\ln|x|]_1^e = \ln(e) - \ln(1) = 1 - 0 = 1$
9. $\int_{-1}^1 x^2 dx = \left[\frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{-1}^1 = \frac{1^3}{3} - \frac{(-1)^3}{3} = \frac{1}{3} - \left(-\frac{1}{3} \right) = \frac{2}{3}$
10. $\int_0^2 (x^2 + 1) dx = \left[\frac{x^3}{3} + x \right]_0^2 = \left(\frac{2^3}{3} + 2 \right) - \left(\frac{0^3}{3} + 0 \right) = \frac{8}{3} + 2 = \frac{14}{3}$

1.3 More Advanced Integrals

11. $\int x e^x dx = x e^x - e^x + C$ (using integration by parts)
12. $\int_0^\infty e^{-x} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^b e^{-x} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} [-e^{-x}]_0^b = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} (-e^{-b} - (-e^0)) = 0 - (-1) = 1$
13. $\int_0^1 \sqrt{1-x^2} dx = \frac{\pi}{4}$ (This represents the area of a quarter of the unit circle)

2 Improper Integrals

2.1 Evaluating Improper Integrals with Infinite Limits

Example 2.1. Evaluate $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^2} dx$

Solution. Using the definition of an improper integral with an infinite upper limit:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2} dx &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^n \frac{1}{x^2} dx \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^n x^{-2} dx \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[-\frac{x^{-1}}{1} \right]_1^n \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[-\frac{1}{x} \right]_1^n \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(-\frac{1}{n} - \left(-\frac{1}{1} \right) \right) \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(-\frac{1}{n} + 1 \right) \\
 &= 0 + 1 = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

The integral converges to 1. □

2.2 Evaluating Integrals with Symmetric Limits

Example 2.2. Evaluate $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{250}{25+x^2} dx$

Solution. We can approach this by splitting the integral:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{250}{25+x^2} dx = \int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{250}{25+x^2} dx + \int_0^{\infty} \frac{250}{25+x^2} dx$$

Since the function $f(x) = \frac{250}{25+x^2}$ is even (i.e., $f(-x) = f(x)$), the integral is symmetric:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{250}{25+x^2} dx &= 2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{250}{25+x^2} dx \\
 &= 500 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{25+x^2} dx
 \end{aligned}$$

This is related to the arctangent integral $\int \frac{1}{a^2+x^2} dx = \frac{1}{a} \arctan(\frac{x}{a})$. Here $a = 5$.

$$\begin{aligned}
500 \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{5^2+x^2} dx &= 500 \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^b \frac{1}{5^2+x^2} dx \\
&= 500 \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{1}{5} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{5}\right) \right]_0^b \\
&= 500 \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{5} \arctan\left(\frac{b}{5}\right) - \frac{1}{5} \arctan\left(\frac{0}{5}\right) \right) \\
&= 500 \left(\frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{1}{5} \cdot 0 \right) \\
&= 500 \cdot \frac{\pi}{10} \\
&= 50\pi
\end{aligned}$$

Alternatively, using the substitution $x = 5 \tan \theta$ as in the original document:

$$\begin{aligned}
x = 5 \tan \theta &\implies dx = 5 \sec^2 \theta d\theta \\
25 + x^2 &= 25 + 25 \tan^2 \theta = 25(1 + \tan^2 \theta) = 25 \sec^2 \theta
\end{aligned}$$

Limits: As $x \rightarrow 0$, $\tan \theta \rightarrow 0 \implies \theta \rightarrow 0$. As $x \rightarrow \infty$, $\tan \theta \rightarrow \infty \implies \theta \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
2 \int_0^\infty \frac{250}{25+x^2} dx &= 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{250}{25 \sec^2 \theta} \cdot (5 \sec^2 \theta d\theta) \\
&= 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{250 \cdot 5}{25} d\theta \\
&= 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} 50 d\theta \\
&= 2 \cdot [50\theta]_0^{\pi/2} \\
&= 2 \cdot \left(50 \cdot \frac{\pi}{2} - 50 \cdot 0 \right) \\
&= 2 \cdot 25\pi = 50\pi
\end{aligned}$$

□

Graph of $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

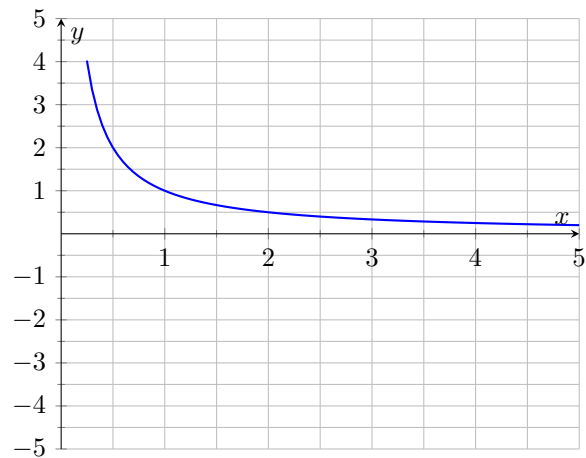


Figure 1: Graph of $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

3 Integration by Parts

3.1 The Product Rule and Integration by Parts Formula

The product rule for differentiation states:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [f(x)g(x)] = f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x)$$

Taking the integral of both sides with respect to x :

$$\int \frac{d}{dx} [f(x)g(x)] dx = \int f'(x)g(x) dx + \int f(x)g'(x) dx$$

The left-hand side simplifies by the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus:

$$f(x)g(x) = \int f'(x)g(x) dx + \int f(x)g'(x) dx$$

Rearranging to isolate $\int f(x)g'(x) dx$:

$$\boxed{\int f(x)g'(x) dx = f(x)g(x) - \int f'(x)g(x) dx}$$

This is the integration by parts formula. Using the common substitutions $u = f(x)$ (so $du = f'(x)dx$) and $dv = g'(x)dx$ (so $v = g(x)$), it is written as:

$$\boxed{\int u dv = uv - \int v du}$$

3.2 Examples of Integration by Parts

Example 3.1. Evaluate $\int x \cos x dx$

Solution. Let:

$$\begin{array}{ll} u = x & dv = \cos x dx \\ du = 1 dx & v = \sin x \end{array}$$

Substituting into the formula $\int u dv = uv - \int v du$:

$$\begin{aligned} \int x \cos x dx &= (x)(\sin x) - \int (\sin x)(1 dx) \\ &= x \sin x - \int \sin x dx \\ &= x \sin x - (-\cos x) + C \\ &= x \sin x + \cos x + C \end{aligned}$$

Result: $\int x \cos x dx = x \sin x + \cos x + C$

□

Example 3.2. Evaluate $\int \ln x \, dx$

Solution. Let:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \ln x & dv &= 1 \, dx \\ du &= \frac{1}{x} \, dx & v &= x \end{aligned}$$

Substituting into the formula $\int u \, dv = uv - \int v \, du$:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \ln x \, dx &= (\ln x)(x) - \int (x) \left(\frac{1}{x} \, dx \right) \\ &= x \ln x - \int 1 \, dx \\ &= x \ln x - x + C \end{aligned}$$

Result: $\int \ln x \, dx = x \ln x - x + C$

□

Example 3.3. Evaluate $\int x^2 e^x \, dx$

Solution. We need to apply integration by parts twice. First application: Let:

$$\begin{aligned} u_1 &= x^2 & dv_1 &= e^x \, dx \\ du_1 &= 2x \, dx & v_1 &= e^x \end{aligned}$$

Substituting into the formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \int x^2 e^x \, dx &= (x^2)(e^x) - \int (e^x)(2x \, dx) \\ &= x^2 e^x - 2 \int x e^x \, dx \end{aligned}$$

Now we need to evaluate $\int x e^x \, dx$. Second application: Let:

$$\begin{aligned} u_2 &= x & dv_2 &= e^x \, dx \\ du_2 &= 1 \, dx & v_2 &= e^x \end{aligned}$$

Substituting into the formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \int x e^x \, dx &= (x)(e^x) - \int (e^x)(1 \, dx) \\ &= x e^x - \int e^x \, dx \\ &= x e^x - e^x \end{aligned}$$

Returning to the original integral:

$$\begin{aligned}\int x^2 e^x dx &= x^2 e^x - 2 \int x e^x dx \\ &= x^2 e^x - 2(x e^x - e^x) + C \\ &= x^2 e^x - 2x e^x + 2e^x + C\end{aligned}$$

Result: $\int x^2 e^x dx = x^2 e^x - 2x e^x + 2e^x + C$ □

Example 3.4. Evaluate $\int (3x^2 + 2x)e^{x^3+x^2} dx$

Solution. This integral is best solved using u-substitution, not integration by parts. Let $u = x^3 + x^2$. Then the differential is $du = (3x^2 + 2x) dx$. Notice that the integrand is exactly $e^u du$.

$$\begin{aligned}\int (3x^2 + 2x)e^{x^3+x^2} dx &= \int e^u du \\ &= e^u + C\end{aligned}$$

Substituting back $u = x^3 + x^2$:

$$\int (3x^2 + 2x)e^{x^3+x^2} dx = e^{x^3+x^2} + C$$

Result: $\int (3x^2 + 2x)e^{x^3+x^2} dx = e^{x^3+x^2} + C$ □

4 Substitution Methods

4.1 Basic Logarithmic Substitution

Example 4.1. Evaluate $\int \frac{1}{x \ln x} dx$

Solution. We use the substitution $u = \ln x$.

$$\begin{aligned}u &= \ln x \\ du &= \frac{1}{x} dx\end{aligned}$$

This transforms our integral:

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{1}{x \ln x} dx &= \int \frac{1}{\ln x} \cdot \frac{1}{x} dx \\ &= \int \frac{1}{u} du \\ &= \ln |u| + C\end{aligned}$$

Substituting back $u = \ln x$:

$$\ln |\ln x| + C$$

Result: $\int \frac{1}{x \ln x} dx = \ln |\ln x| + C$

□

4.2 Exponential Substitution

Example 4.2. Evaluate $\int \frac{2^{\ln x}}{x} dx$

Solution. We use the substitution $u = \ln x$.

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \ln x \\ du &= \frac{1}{x} dx \end{aligned}$$

This transforms our integral:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{2^{\ln x}}{x} dx &= \int 2^{\ln x} \cdot \frac{1}{x} dx \\ &= \int 2^u du \\ &= \frac{2^u}{\ln 2} + C \quad (\text{since } \int a^u du = \frac{a^u}{\ln a} + C) \end{aligned}$$

Substituting back $u = \ln x$:

$$\frac{2^{\ln x}}{\ln 2} + C$$

We can also use the property $a^{\ln b} = b^{\ln a}$, so $2^{\ln x} = x^{\ln 2}$.

$$\frac{x^{\ln 2}}{\ln 2} + C$$

Result: $\int \frac{2^{\ln x}}{x} dx = \frac{2^{\ln x}}{\ln 2} + C = \frac{x^{\ln 2}}{\ln 2} + C$

□

4.3 Polynomial Substitution

Example 4.3. Evaluate $\int (x+3)(x-1)^5 dx$

Solution. We use the substitution $u = x - 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} u &= x - 1 \implies x = u + 1 \\ du &= dx \end{aligned}$$

Also, $x + 3 = (u + 1) + 3 = u + 4$. This transforms our integral:

$$\begin{aligned}\int (x + 3)(x - 1)^5 dx &= \int (u + 4)u^5 du \\ &= \int (u^6 + 4u^5) du \\ &= \frac{u^7}{7} + 4\frac{u^6}{6} + C \\ &= \frac{u^7}{7} + \frac{2u^6}{3} + C\end{aligned}$$

Substituting back $u = x - 1$:

$$\frac{(x - 1)^7}{7} + \frac{2(x - 1)^6}{3} + C$$

Result: $\int (x + 3)(x - 1)^5 dx = \frac{(x - 1)^7}{7} + \frac{2(x - 1)^6}{3} + C$

□

4.4 Composite Function Substitution

Example 4.4. Evaluate $\int x^2 2^{x^3} dx$

Solution. We use the substitution $u = x^3$.

$$\begin{aligned}u &= x^3 \\ du &= 3x^2 dx \implies x^2 dx = \frac{du}{3}\end{aligned}$$

This transforms our integral:

$$\begin{aligned}\int x^2 2^{x^3} dx &= \int 2^{x^3} (x^2 dx) \\ &= \int 2^u \cdot \frac{du}{3} \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \int 2^u du \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{2^u}{\ln 2} + C\end{aligned}$$

Substituting back $u = x^3$:

$$\frac{2^{x^3}}{3 \ln 2} + C$$

Result: $\int x^2 2^{x^3} dx = \frac{2^{x^3}}{3 \ln 2} + C$

□

4.5 Constant Logarithm Integration

Example 4.5. Evaluate $\int x^2 \ln 2^3 dx$

Solution. First, simplify the logarithm. $\ln 2^3 = 3 \ln 2$. This is a constant.

$$\begin{aligned}\int x^2 \ln 2^3 dx &= \int x^2 (3 \ln 2) dx \\ &= 3 \ln 2 \int x^2 dx \quad (\text{Constant factor pulled out}) \\ &= 3 \ln 2 \cdot \left(\frac{x^3}{3}\right) + C \\ &= (x^3)(\ln 2) + C\end{aligned}$$

Result: $\int x^2 \ln 2^3 dx = x^3 \ln 2 + C$

□

5 Nested Substitutions

When dealing with nested substitutions, we substitute step-by-step and then reverse the substitutions carefully in the reverse order.

Example 5.1. Evaluate $\frac{1}{5} \int \frac{\cos(5x)}{e^{\sin(5x)}} dx$

Solution. We can rewrite the integral as $\frac{1}{5} \int e^{-\sin(5x)} \cos(5x) dx$. Let's use nested substitutions.

First substitution: Let $u = \sin(5x)$.

$$\begin{aligned}u &= \sin(5x) \\ du &= \cos(5x) \cdot 5 dx \implies \cos(5x) dx = \frac{du}{5}\end{aligned}$$

This transforms our integral:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{5} \int e^{-\sin(5x)} \cos(5x) dx &= \frac{1}{5} \int e^{-u} \cdot \frac{du}{5} \\ &= \frac{1}{25} \int e^{-u} du\end{aligned}$$

Second substitution (or direct integration): Let $w = -u$.

$$\begin{aligned}w &= -u \\ dw &= -du \implies du = -dw\end{aligned}$$

Continuing:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{25} \int e^{-u} du &= \frac{1}{25} \int e^w \cdot (-dw) \\ &= -\frac{1}{25} \int e^w dw \\ &= -\frac{1}{25} e^w + C\end{aligned}$$

Reversing the substitutions: First reverse $w = -u$:

$$-\frac{1}{25} e^{-u} + C$$

Then reverse $u = \sin(5x)$:

$$-\frac{1}{25} e^{-\sin(5x)} + C$$

Result: $\frac{1}{5} \int \frac{\cos(5x)}{e^{\sin(5x)}} dx = -\frac{1}{25} e^{-\sin(5x)} + C$ □

6 Reverse Chain Rule (Substitution)

The method often called "reverse chain rule" is essentially u-substitution, recognizing the pattern $\int g'(f(x))f'(x) dx = g(f(x)) + C$.

6.1 General Form

Example 6.1. Evaluate $\int (\sin x)^2 \cos x dx$

Solution. Let $u = \sin x$. Then $du = \cos x dx$. This fits the pattern $\int u^2 du$.

$$\begin{aligned}\int (\sin x)^2 \cos x dx &= \int u^2 du \\ &= \frac{u^3}{3} + C\end{aligned}$$

Substituting back $u = \sin x$:

$$\frac{(\sin x)^3}{3} + C$$

Result: $\int (\sin x)^2 \cos x dx = \frac{(\sin x)^3}{3} + C$ □

Example 6.2. Evaluate $\int \frac{x}{2} \sin(2x^2 + 2) dx$

Solution. Let $u = 2x^2 + 2$. Then $du = 4x dx$. We have an $x dx$ term in the integral. We can write $x dx = \frac{du}{4}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{x}{2} \sin(2x^2 + 2) dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int \sin(2x^2 + 2) \cdot x dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int \sin(u) \cdot \frac{du}{4} \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \int \sin(u) du \\ &= \frac{1}{8} (-\cos(u)) + C \\ &= -\frac{1}{8} \cos(u) + C\end{aligned}$$

Substituting back $u = 2x^2 + 2$:

$$-\frac{1}{8} \cos(2x^2 + 2) + C$$

Result: $\int \frac{x}{2} \sin(2x^2 + 2) dx = -\frac{1}{8} \cos(2x^2 + 2) + C$ □

6.2 Logarithmic Form

A common pattern is $\int \frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} dx$, which results from substituting $u = f(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned}u = f(x) &\implies du = f'(x) dx \\ \int \frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} dx &= \int \frac{1}{u} du = \ln |u| + C = \ln |f(x)| + C\end{aligned}$$

Example 6.3. Evaluate $\int \tan x dx$

Solution. First, rewrite $\tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$.

$$\int \tan x dx = \int \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} dx$$

Let $u = \cos x$. Then $f'(x) = -\sin x$. So $du = -\sin x dx$. We have $\sin x dx = -du$.

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} dx &= \int \frac{1}{\cos x} (\sin x dx) \\ &= \int \frac{1}{u} (-du) \\ &= -\int \frac{1}{u} du \\ &= -\ln |u| + C\end{aligned}$$

Substituting back $u = \cos x$:

$$-\ln |\cos x| + C$$

This can also be written using logarithm properties:

$$\ln |(\cos x)^{-1}| + C = \ln |\sec x| + C$$

Result: $\int \tan x \, dx = -\ln |\cos x| + C = \ln |\sec x| + C$ \square

7 Partial Fractions

Example 7.1. Evaluate $\int \frac{x^2 + x - 5}{x^2 - 1} \, dx$

Solution. The degree of the numerator is equal to the degree of the denomi-

nator, so we perform polynomial long division first.
$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ x^2 - 1 \overline{) x^2 + x - 5} \\ \underline{-(x^2 \quad - 1)} \\ x - 4 \end{array}$$
 So,

$$\frac{x^2 + x - 5}{x^2 - 1} = 1 + \frac{x - 4}{x^2 - 1}.$$

Now we apply partial fractions to the remainder term $\frac{x-4}{x^2-1}$. Factor the denominator: $x^2 - 1 = (x+1)(x-1)$.

$$\frac{x-4}{(x+1)(x-1)} = \frac{A}{x+1} + \frac{B}{x-1}$$

Multiply by the common denominator $(x+1)(x-1)$:

$$x - 4 = A(x-1) + B(x+1)$$

To find A and B, we can use the cover-up method or compare coefficients.
Method 1: Cover-up Set $x = 1$: $1 - 4 = A(0) + B(1+1) \implies -3 = 2B \implies B = -\frac{3}{2}$. Set $x = -1$: $-1 - 4 = A(-1-1) + B(0) \implies -5 = -2A \implies A = \frac{5}{2}$.

Method 2: Compare coefficients $x - 4 = Ax - A + Bx + B = (A+B)x + (-A+B)$ Comparing coefficients of x : $A+B=1$ Comparing constant terms: $-A+B=-4$ Adding the two equations: $2B=-3 \implies B=-\frac{3}{2}$. Substituting B into the first equation: $A-\frac{3}{2}=1 \implies A=1+\frac{3}{2}=\frac{5}{2}$.

So the decomposition is $\frac{5/2}{x+1} - \frac{3/2}{x-1}$. Now integrate the full expression:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{x^2 + x - 5}{x^2 - 1} \, dx &= \int \left(1 + \frac{5/2}{x+1} - \frac{3/2}{x-1} \right) \, dx \\ &= \int 1 \, dx + \frac{5}{2} \int \frac{1}{x+1} \, dx - \frac{3}{2} \int \frac{1}{x-1} \, dx \\ &= x + \frac{5}{2} \ln |x+1| - \frac{3}{2} \ln |x-1| + C \end{aligned}$$

Result: $\int \frac{x^2 + x - 5}{x^2 - 1} \, dx = x + \frac{5}{2} \ln |x+1| - \frac{3}{2} \ln |x-1| + C$ \square

8 Trigonometric Substitution

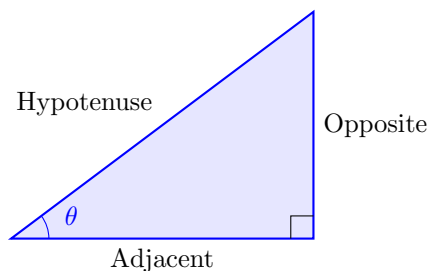


Figure 2: Right triangle illustrating sides relative to θ for trigonometric substitutions.

8.1 Form $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$: Inverse Sine Substitution

Example 8.1. Evaluate $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{4 - x^2}} dx$

Solution. This integral has the form $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$ with $a = 2$. We use the substitution $x = a \sin \theta = 2 \sin \theta$.

$$\begin{aligned} x = 2 \sin \theta &\implies \sin \theta = \frac{x}{2} \\ dx &= 2 \cos \theta d\theta \\ \sqrt{4 - x^2} &= \sqrt{4 - (2 \sin \theta)^2} = \sqrt{4 - 4 \sin^2 \theta} \\ &= \sqrt{4(1 - \sin^2 \theta)} = \sqrt{4 \cos^2 \theta} \\ &= 2|\cos \theta| \end{aligned}$$

Assuming θ is chosen such that $\cos \theta \geq 0$ (e.g., $-\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$, which corresponds to the range of \arcsin), we have $\sqrt{4 - x^2} = 2 \cos \theta$. This transforms our integral:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{4 - x^2}} dx &= \int \frac{1}{2 \cos \theta} \cdot (2 \cos \theta d\theta) \\ &= \int 1 d\theta \\ &= \theta + C \end{aligned}$$

Substituting back using $\theta = \arcsin\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)$:

$$\arcsin\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

Result: $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{4 - x^2}} dx = \arcsin\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$

□

Example 8.2. Evaluate $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{8-2x^2}} dx$

Solution. First, factor out the constant from the square root:

$$\sqrt{8-2x^2} = \sqrt{2(4-x^2)} = \sqrt{2}\sqrt{4-x^2}$$

The integral becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{8-2x^2}} dx &= \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{4-x^2}} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{4-x^2}} dx \end{aligned}$$

Using the result from the previous example:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{4-x^2}} dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \arcsin\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

Result: $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{8-2x^2}} dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \arcsin\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$ □

8.2 Form $\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$: Secant Substitution

Example 8.3. Evaluate $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{3x^2-1}} dx$

Solution. Rewrite the term inside the square root to match the pattern $\sqrt{(kx)^2 - a^2}$: $\sqrt{(\sqrt{3}x)^2 - 1^2}$. This suggests the substitution involving secant. Let $\sqrt{3}x = \sec \theta$.

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{3}x = \sec \theta &\implies x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sec \theta \\ dx &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sec \theta \tan \theta d\theta \\ \sqrt{3x^2-1} &= \sqrt{(\sqrt{3}x)^2-1} = \sqrt{\sec^2 \theta - 1} \\ &= \sqrt{\tan^2 \theta} = |\tan \theta| \end{aligned}$$

Assuming θ is chosen such that $\tan \theta \geq 0$ (e.g., $0 \leq \theta < \pi/2$ or $\pi \leq \theta < 3\pi/2$), we have $\sqrt{3x^2-1} = \tan \theta$. This transforms our integral:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{3x^2-1}} dx &= \int \frac{1}{\tan \theta} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sec \theta \tan \theta d\theta \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \int \sec \theta d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \ln |\sec \theta + \tan \theta| + C \end{aligned}$$

Now, substitute back to x . We know $\sec \theta = \sqrt{3}x$. From $\sec^2 \theta = \tan^2 \theta + 1$, we have $\tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta - 1 = (\sqrt{3}x)^2 - 1 = 3x^2 - 1$. So, $\tan \theta = \sqrt{3x^2 - 1}$ (consistent with our assumption $\tan \theta \geq 0$). Substituting these into the result:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \ln |\sqrt{3}x + \sqrt{3x^2 - 1}| + C$$

Result: $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{3x^2 - 1}} dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \ln |\sqrt{3}x + \sqrt{3x^2 - 1}| + C \quad \square$