

$$(ab)^2 = a^2 b^2$$

$$\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$$

$$\sqrt{x^2} = |x|$$



Section 7.3: Trigonometric substitution

Objective: In this lesson, you learn

- How to evaluate integrals of certain forms using trigonometric substitutions.

I. Trigonometric Substitution.

Problem: Find the area of a circle or an ellipse. i.e.

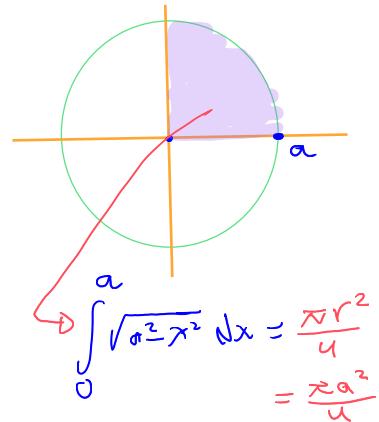
$$\int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx \text{ where } a > 0?$$

If we change the variable from x to θ by the substitution

$$\begin{aligned} x &= a \sin \theta \rightarrow dx = a \cos \theta d\theta \\ a^2 - x^2 &= a^2 - (a \sin \theta)^2 = a^2 - a^2 \sin^2 \theta = a^2(1 - \sin^2 \theta) \\ \text{so, } a^2 - x^2 &= a^2 \cos^2 \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx &= \int \sqrt{a^2 \cos^2 \theta} \cdot a \cos \theta d\theta \\ &= \int a \cos \theta \cdot a \cos \theta d\theta = a^2 \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta \quad \text{when } 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \\ y^2 &= a^2 - x^2 \\ x^2 + y^2 &= a^2 \text{ A circle} \\ \text{center} &= (0,0) \\ r &= a \end{aligned}$$

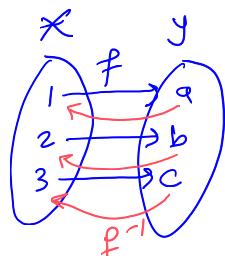


Note that the difference between the substitution $u = a^2 - x^2$ and $x = a \sin \theta$ is

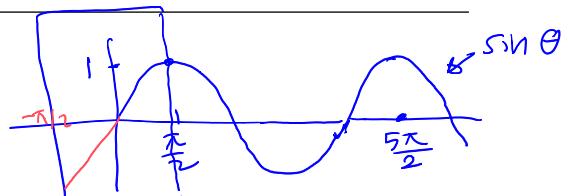
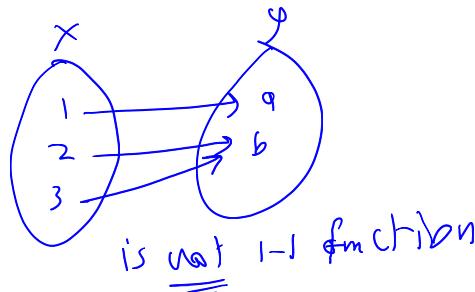
- $u = a^2 - x^2$, u (new) is a function of (old) x .
- $x = a \sin \theta$, x (old) is a function of (new) θ .

In general, to integrate $\int f(x)dx$, we can make a substitution of the form $x = g(t)$ by using the Substitution Rule in reverse, called an **inverse substitution**. To make the calculations simpler, assume that g has an **inverse function**, that is, $x = g(t)$ is a one-to-one function. So if $x = g(t)$, then

$$\int f(x) dx = \int f(g(t)) g'(t) dt.$$



$(1, a), (1, b)$
 $(2, b), (3, a)$



Example 1: Integrate $\int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx$

$$x = a \sin \theta \rightarrow dx = a \cos \theta d\theta$$

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

$\cos \theta > 0$



$0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$\int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx = \int \sqrt{a^2 \cos^2 \theta} \cdot a \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$= \int a \cos \theta \cdot a \cdot \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$= a^2 \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$\cos^2 \theta = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos 2\theta)$$

$$= a^2 \int \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos 2\theta) d\theta$$

$$= \frac{a^2}{2} \int 1 + \cos 2\theta d\theta$$

$$= \frac{a^2}{2} \cdot \left[\theta + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\theta \right] + C$$

$$\sin 2\theta = 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$= \frac{a^2}{2} \left[\theta + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta \right] + C$$

$$= \frac{a^2}{2} \left[\theta + \sin \theta \cos \theta \right] + C$$

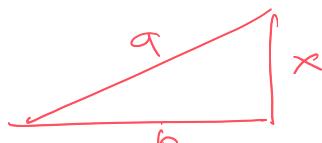
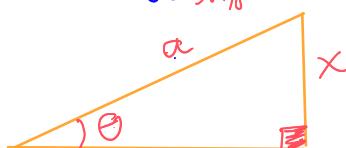
$$= \frac{a^2}{2} \left[\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{a}\right) + \frac{x}{a} \sqrt{\frac{a^2 - x^2}{a}} \right] + C$$

$$x = a \sin \theta$$

$$\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{a}\right) = \theta$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{\text{opp.}} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{hyp.}} \end{array}$$

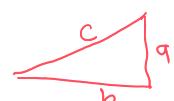
$$\frac{x}{a} = \sin \theta$$



$$\begin{aligned} b^2 + x^2 &= a^2 \\ b^2 &= a^2 - x^2 \\ b &= \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$$

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$$



Trigonometric substitution:

Here are trigonometric substitutions:

- For the expression $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$, make a substitution $x = a \sin \theta$ defined on $[-\pi/2, \pi/2]$, and use the identity $1 - \sin^2 \theta = \cos^2 \theta$.
- For the expression $\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}$, make a substitution $x = a \tan \theta$ defined on $(-\pi/2, \pi/2)$, and use the identity $1 + \tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta$.
- For the expression $\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$, make a substitution $x = a \sec \theta$ defined on $[0, \pi/2)$ or $[\pi, 3\pi/2)$, and use the identity $\sec^2 \theta - 1 = \tan^2 \theta$.

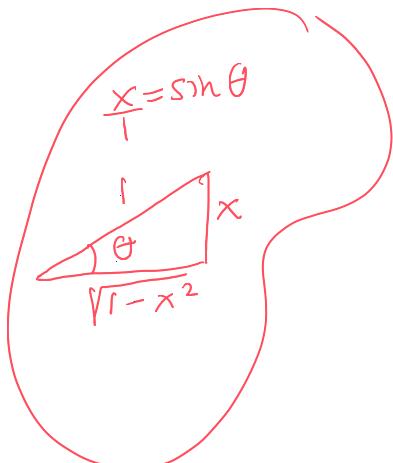
Example 2: Evaluate $\int_0^1 x^3 \sqrt{1-x^2} dx$.

$$\begin{aligned} x = \sin \theta &\rightarrow dx = \cos \theta d\theta \\ 1-x^2 &= 1-\sin^2 \theta = \cos^2 \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x=0 &\Rightarrow \sin \theta = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow \theta = 0 \\ x=1 &\Rightarrow \sin \theta = 1 \\ &\Rightarrow \theta = \pi/2 \\ \frac{\cos^5 \theta}{5} - \frac{\cos^3 \theta}{3} &\Big|_0^{\pi/2} \\ &= (0) - (\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{3}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int x^3 \sqrt{1-x^2} dx &= \int (\sin \theta)^3 \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta} \cdot \cos \theta \sqrt{\theta} d\theta & -\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \pi/2 \\ &= \int \sin^3 \theta \cdot \cos \theta \cos \theta \sqrt{\theta} d\theta \\ &= \int \sin^3 \theta \cos^2 \theta \sqrt{\theta} d\theta \\ &= \int \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta \sqrt{\theta} d\theta \\ &= \int (1-\cos^2 \theta) \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta \sqrt{\theta} d\theta \\ u = \cos \theta &\rightarrow du = -\sin \theta \sqrt{\theta} d\theta \\ &= - \int (1-u^2) u^2 \cdot du = - \int u^2 - u^4 du \\ &= \frac{u^5}{5} - \frac{u^3}{3} + C = \frac{\cos^5 \theta}{5} - \frac{\cos^3 \theta}{3} + C \\ &= \frac{(\sqrt{1-x^2})^5}{5} - \frac{(\sqrt{1-x^2})^3}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_0^1 x^3 \sqrt{1-x^2} dx = \left[\frac{(\sqrt{1-x^2})^5}{5} - \frac{(\sqrt{1-x^2})^3}{3} \right]_0^1 = (0) - \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{3} \right) = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{5} = \frac{2}{15}$$



$$(\tan^{-1}x)^1 = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$$

Example 3: Evaluate $\int \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$.

$$x = \tan \theta \rightarrow dx = \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$1+x^2 = 1+\tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta$$

$$x = \tan \theta \\ \theta = \tan^{-1}(x)$$

$$\int \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \int \frac{1}{\sec^2 \theta} \cdot \cancel{\sec^2 \theta} d\theta$$

$$= \int 1 \cdot d\theta = \theta = \tan^{-1}(x) + C .$$

Example 4: Evaluate $\int \frac{1}{x^2\sqrt{x^2+4}} dx$

$$a^2 = u = 2^2 \Rightarrow a = 2$$

$$x = 2 + \tan \theta \rightarrow \boxed{\downarrow x = 2 \sec^2 \theta}$$

$$x^2 = 4 \cdot \tan^2 \theta$$

$$x^2 + 4 = (2 \tan \theta)^2 + 4 = 4 \tan^2 \theta + 4 = 4(1 + \tan^2 \theta) = 4 \sec^2 \theta$$

$$\text{so, } \sqrt{x^2 + 4} = \sqrt{4 \sec^2 \theta} = 2 \sec \theta$$

$$\int \frac{1}{x^2 \sqrt{x^2+4}} dx = \int \frac{1}{4 \tan^2 \theta \cdot 2 \sec \theta} \cdot 2 \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{\sec \theta}{\tan^2 \theta} d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{\frac{1}{\cos \theta}}{\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta}} d\theta$$

$$\frac{1}{\frac{a}{b}} = \frac{b}{a}$$

$$\frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} = \cot \theta$$

$$\frac{1}{\sin \theta} = \csc \theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} d\theta$$

$$1 \div \frac{a}{b} = 1 * \frac{b}{a}$$

$$u = \sin \theta \quad \downarrow u = \cos \theta d\theta$$

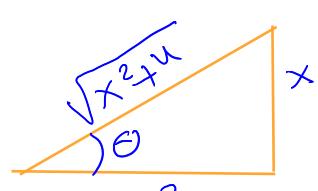
$$= \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{1}{u^2} du = \frac{1}{4} \frac{-1}{u} = \frac{-1}{4 \sin \theta} = -\frac{1}{4} \csc \theta + C$$

$$\underline{\underline{Q.E.D.}} \quad = \frac{1}{4} \int \cot \theta \cdot \csc \theta d\theta = -\frac{1}{4} \csc \theta + C$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+4}}{x} + C$$

$$x = 2 \tan \theta$$

$$\frac{x}{2} = \tan \theta$$



$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

to complete a square

$$\left(\frac{-b}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{b^2}{4}$$

Example 5: Evaluate $\int \frac{x^2 + 1}{(x^2 - 2x + 2)^2} dx$.

$$b = -2 \Rightarrow \left(\frac{-b}{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{2}{2}\right)^2 = 1$$

$$x^2 - 2x + 2 = (x^2 - 2x + 1) + 1 = (x-1)^2 + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{x^2 + 1}{(x^2 - 2x + 2)^2} dx &= \int \frac{x^2 + 1}{((x-1)^2 + 1)^2} dx \\ t = x-1 \Rightarrow dt = dx &\quad t^2 + 2t + 2 \\ &= \int \frac{(t+1)^2 + 1}{(t^2 + 1)^2} dt \\ \text{let } t = \tan \theta \rightarrow t^2 + 1 = \tan^2 \theta + 1 = \sec^2 \theta & \quad \boxed{t^2 + 1 = \tan^2 \theta + 1 = \sec^2 \theta} \\ t^2 = \tan^2 \theta & \quad \boxed{t^2 = \tan^2 \theta} \\ 2t = 2 \tan \theta & \quad \boxed{2t = 2 \tan \theta} \\ dt = \sec^2 \theta d\theta & \quad \boxed{dt = \sec^2 \theta d\theta} \end{aligned}$$

$$\int \frac{(t+1)^2 + 1}{(t^2 + 1)^2} dt = \int \frac{t^2 + 2t + 2}{(t^2 + 1)^2} dt = \int \frac{\tan^2 \theta + 2 \tan \theta + 2}{(\sec^2 \theta)^2} \cancel{\sec^2 \theta} d\theta$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int \frac{\tan^2 \theta}{\sec^2 \theta} d\theta + 2 \int \frac{\tan \theta}{\sec^2 \theta} d\theta + \int \frac{2}{\sec^2 \theta} d\theta \\ &= \int \sin^2 \theta d\theta + 2 \int \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta + 2 \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta \\ &= \int \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta d\theta + 2 \int \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta + \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta \\ &= \theta + \frac{1}{2} \int 1 + \cos 2\theta d\theta \\ &= \theta + \sin^2 \theta + \frac{1}{2} (\theta + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\theta) \\ &= \boxed{\frac{3}{2} \theta + \sin^2 \theta + \frac{1}{4} \sin \theta \cos \theta + C} \\ \tan \theta = t & \quad \text{Let } \theta = \arctan t \\ \sqrt{1+t^2} & \quad \text{Let } \sqrt{1+t^2} = \sqrt{1+\tan^2 \theta} = \sec \theta \\ t & \quad \text{Let } \sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{3}{2} \tan^{-1}(t) + \frac{t^2}{1+t^2} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{t}{\sqrt{1+t^2}} - \frac{1}{4 \sqrt{1+t^2}} \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \tan^{-1}(x-1) + \frac{(x-1)^2}{1+(x-1)^2} + \frac{(x-1)}{4(1+(x-1)^2)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\cos^2 \theta = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos 2\theta)$$

Example 6: Evaluate $\int \frac{1}{x^2(x^2 - 9)^{1/2}} dx$.

$$x = 3 \sec \theta \Rightarrow dx = 3 \sec \theta \tan \theta d\theta$$

$$x^2 - 9 = 9 \sec^2 \theta - 9 = 9(\sec^2 \theta - 1) = 9 \tan^2 \theta$$

$$\int \frac{1}{x^2(x^2 - 9)^{1/2}} dx = \int \frac{1}{3^2 \sec^2 \theta \cdot (9 \tan^2 \theta)^{1/2}} 3 \sec \theta \tan \theta d\theta$$

$$= \int \frac{1}{3 \sec \theta \cdot 3 \tan \theta} \cancel{\tan \theta} d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{9} \int \frac{1}{\sec \theta} d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{9} \int \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{9} \sin \theta + C$$

$$= \frac{1}{9} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - 9}}{x} + C$$

$$x = 3 \sec \theta$$

$$\sec \theta = \frac{x}{3}$$

