

# Trigonometric Substitution

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Lecture 3

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- **The problem:** evaluate integrals of the form  $\int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx$ .
- *The inverse substitution:*

$$\int f(x) dx = \int f(g(t))g'(t) dt \quad \text{if } x = g(t)$$

- For  $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$  use the substitution  $x = a \sin \theta$ ,  $-\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$  and the identity  $1 - \sin^2 \theta = \cos^2 \theta$ .
- **Example:**  $\int x^3 \sqrt{9 - x^2} dx$ .

- For  $\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}$  use the substitution  $x = a \tan \theta$ ,  $-\pi/2 < \theta < \pi/2$  and the identity  $1 + \tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta$ .
- **Example:**

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

Trigonometric substitutions ...

$$\int_0^{3\sqrt{3}/2} \frac{x^3}{(4x^2 + 9)^{3/2}} dx$$

- For  $\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$  use the substitution  $x = a \sec \theta$ ,  $0 \leq \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$  or  $\pi \leq \theta < \frac{3\pi}{2}$  and the identity  $\sec^2 \theta - 1 = \tan^2 \theta$ .

- **Example:**

$$\int \frac{dt}{\sqrt{t^2 - 6t + 5}}$$