

Section 7.3: Trig Integrals

Group work:

Problem 1 Evaluate the following integrals

(a) $\int \sin^3(4\theta) \cos^6(4\theta) d\theta$

Solution: If we try choosing $u = \sin 4\theta$, note that $du = 4 \cos 4\theta d\theta$, which would leave us with a $\cos^5 4\theta$ term. This would NOT be easy to convert into powers of $\sin 4\theta$! Hence:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \cos 4\theta \\ du &= -4 \sin 4\theta d\theta \\ d\theta &= -\frac{du}{4 \sin 4\theta} \end{aligned}$$

Making the substitution into the integral gives:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \sin^3(4\theta) \cos^6 4\theta d\theta &= \int \sin^2 4\theta \cdot u^6 \left[-\frac{du}{4 \sin 4\theta} \right] \\ &= -\frac{1}{4} \int \sin^2 4\theta \cdot u^6 du \\ &= -\frac{1}{4} \int (1 - \cos^2 4\theta) u^6 du \\ &= -\frac{1}{4} \int (1 - u^2) u^6 du \\ &= -\frac{1}{4} \int (u^6 - u^8) du \\ &= -\frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{1}{7} u^7 - \frac{1}{9} u^9 \right] + C \\ &= \boxed{-\frac{1}{28} \cos^7 4\theta + \frac{1}{36} \cos^9 4\theta + C} \end{aligned}$$

(b) $\int \tan^{23} x \sec^6 x dx$

Learning outcomes:

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan^{23} x \sec^6 x \, dx &= \int \tan^{23} x \sec^4 x \sec^2 x \, dx \\ &= \int \tan^{23} x (1 + \tan^2 x)^2 \sec^2 x \, dx.\end{aligned}$$

We now substitute

$$u = \tan x \quad \implies \quad du = \sec^2 x \, dx.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan^{23} x (1 + \tan^2 x)^2 \sec^2 x \, dx &= \int u^{23} (1 + u^2)^2 \, du \\ &= \int u^{23} (1 + 2u^2 + u^4) \, du \\ &= \int (u^{23} + 2u^{25} + u^{27}) \, du \\ &= \frac{1}{24} u^{24} + \frac{1}{13} u^{26} + \frac{1}{28} u^{28} + C \\ &= \frac{1}{24} \tan^{24} x + \frac{1}{13} \tan^{26} x + \frac{1}{28} \tan^{28} x + C.\end{aligned}$$

$$(c) \int \tan^2 x \sec x \, dx \quad \text{Hint: } \int \sec x \, dx = \ln |\sec x + \tan x| + C$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan^2 x \sec x \, dx &= \int (\sec^2 x - 1) \sec x \, dx \\ &= \int \sec^3 x \, dx - \int \sec x \, dx \\ &= \int \sec^3 x \, dx - \ln |\sec x + \tan x| \quad \text{from the hint} \quad (1)\end{aligned}$$

Now, in an attempt to evaluate $\int \sec^3 x \, dx$, we use integration by parts with

$$\begin{aligned}u &= \sec x & dv &= \sec^2 x \, dx \\ du &= \sec x \tan x \, dx & v &= \tan x.\end{aligned}$$

So

$$\int \sec^3 x \, dx = \sec x \tan x - \int \tan^2 x \sec x \, dx. \quad (2)$$

Combining equations (??) and (??) yields

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan^2 x \sec x \, dx &= \int \sec^3 x \, dx - \ln |\sec x + \tan x| \\ \int \tan^2 x \sec x \, dx &= \sec x \tan x - \int \tan^2 x \sec x \, dx - \ln |\sec x + \tan x| \\ 2 \int \tan^2 x \sec x \, dx &= \sec x \tan x - \ln |\sec x + \tan x| + C \\ \int \tan^2 x \sec x \, dx &= \frac{1}{2} (\sec x \tan x - \ln |\sec x + \tan x|) + C.\end{aligned}$$

(d) $\int \tan^2 x \sin x \, dx$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan^2 x \sin x \, dx &= \int \frac{\sin^2 x}{\cos^2 x} \sin x \, dx \\ &= \int \frac{1 - \cos^2 x}{\cos^2 x} \sin x \, dx.\end{aligned}$$

Now we substitute

$$u = \cos x \quad \implies \quad du = -\sin x \, dx, \quad -du = \sin x \, dx.$$

This gives us that

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan^2 x \sin x \, dx &= \int \frac{1 - u^2}{u^2} (-1) \, du \\ &= \int \frac{u^2 - 1}{u^2} \, du \\ &= \int (1 - u^{-2}) \, du \\ &= u + \frac{1}{u} + C \\ &= \cos x + \sec x + C.\end{aligned}$$

Problem 2 Evaluate

$$\int_{-\pi}^0 \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 x} \, dx.$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-\pi}^0 \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 x} \, dx &= \int_{-\pi}^0 \sqrt{\sin^2 x} \, dx \\ &= \int_{-\pi}^0 |\sin x| \, dx.\end{aligned}$$

Now, when $-\pi \leq x \leq 0$, $\sin x \leq 0$. Thus, on this region, $|\sin x| = -\sin x$. So we continue

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-\pi}^0 \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 x} \, dx &= \int_{-\pi}^0 -\sin x \, dx \\ &= \left[\cos x \right]_{-\pi}^0 \\ &= \cos(0) - \cos(-\pi) = 1 - (-1) = 2.\end{aligned}$$
