

7.4 Rationalizing Substitutions

we first focus on integrands involving $\sqrt{ax+b}$:

- take $u = (ax+b)^{1/n}$
- then $u^n = ax+b \Rightarrow \frac{u^n - b}{a} = x \Rightarrow \frac{n}{a} u^{n-1} du = dx$

for example:

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

Integrands involving $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$, $\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}$, & $\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$

- we consider the following substitutions

1. $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \Rightarrow x = a \sin t \quad t \in (-\pi/2, \pi/2]$
2. $\sqrt{a^2 + x^2} \Rightarrow x = a \tan t \quad t \in (-\pi/2, \pi/2)$
3. $\sqrt{x^2 - a^2} \Rightarrow x = a \sec t \quad t \in [0, \pi], t \neq \pi/2$


applying the subs:

1. $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2} = \sqrt{a^2 - a^2 \sin^2 t} = a \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 t} = a \sqrt{\cos^2 t} = a \cos t$
2. $\sqrt{a^2 + x^2} = \sqrt{a^2 + a^2 \tan^2 t} = a \sqrt{1 + \tan^2 t} = a \sqrt{\sec^2 t} = a \sec t$
3. $\sqrt{x^2 - a^2} = \sqrt{a^2 \sec^2 t - a^2} = a \sqrt{\sec^2 t - 1} = a \tan t$


for example:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{1}{x^2 \sqrt{x^2 - 4}} dx & \quad \text{this is \#3 so our } a=2 \text{ and } x=2 \sec t \\ & \quad dx = 2 \sec t \tan t dt \\ & = \int \frac{1}{4 \sec^2 t \cdot \sqrt{4 \sec^2 t - 4}} \cdot 2 \sec t \tan t dt \\ & = \int \frac{2 \sec t \tan t dt}{4 \sec^2 t \cdot 2 \sqrt{\sec^2 t - 1}} = \int \frac{\sec t \tan t dt}{4 \sec^2 t \cdot \tan t} \\ & = \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{dt}{\sec t} = \frac{1}{4} \int \cos t dt = \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{\sqrt{x^2 - 4}}{x} \right) + C \end{aligned}$$

but... $t = ?$ from $x = 2 \sec t$

$$\frac{x}{2} = \sec t \Rightarrow t = \sec^{-1} \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)$$


for example:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{4/3} \sqrt{16 - 9x^2} dx & = \int_0^{4/3} \sqrt{4^2 - (3x)^2} dx = \int_0^{4/3} \sqrt{4^2 - \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^2 x^2} dx \\ & = \int_0^{4/3} 3 \cdot \sqrt{\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^2 - x^2} dx \quad x = \frac{4}{3} \sin t \\ & \quad dx = \frac{4}{3} \cos t dt \\ & = \int 3 \cdot \sqrt{\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^2 \sin^2 t} \cdot \frac{4}{3} \cos t dt \\ & = \int 3 \cdot \frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{4}{3} \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 t} \cdot \cos t dt \\ & = \int 3 \cdot \frac{16}{9} \cos^2 t dt = \frac{16 \cdot 3}{9} \int \cos^2 t dt \\ & = \frac{16 \cdot 3}{9} \int \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \cos(2t) dt \quad t = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{3x}{4} \right) \\ & = \frac{16 \cdot 3}{9} \left(\frac{1}{2} t + \frac{1}{4} \sin(2t) \right) \Big|_0^{4/3} \\ & = \frac{16 \cdot 3}{9} \left(\frac{1}{2} \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{3x}{4} \right) + \frac{1}{4} \sin(2 \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{3x}{4} \right)) \right) \Big|_0^{4/3} \\ & = \frac{16 \cdot 3}{9} \left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\pi}{2} + 0 - 0 \right] = \frac{\pi}{4} \cdot \frac{16 \cdot 3}{9} = \frac{4\pi}{3} \end{aligned}$$


one last example:

$$\int \frac{x^3}{\sqrt{x^2+100}} dx \quad x = 10 + \tan t \quad dx = 10 \sec^2 t$$

$$= \int \frac{1000 + \tan^3 t}{\sqrt{100(1 + \tan^2 t)}} \cdot 10 \sec^2 t dt$$

$$= \int \frac{1000 + \tan^3 t}{10 \cdot \sec t} \cdot 10 \sec^2 t dt$$

$$= \int 1000 + \tan^3 t \sec t dt = 1000 \int + \tan t \cdot \tan^2 t \cdot \sec t dt$$

$$= 1000 \int + \tan t (-1 + \sec^2 t) \sec t dt \quad \begin{array}{l} u = \sec t \\ du = \sec t \tan t dt \end{array}$$

$$= 1000 \int -1 + u^2 du = 1000 \left[-u + \frac{1}{3} u^3 \right] + C$$

$$= 1000 \left[-\sec t + \frac{1}{3} \sec^3 t \right] + C$$

$$= 1000 \left[-\frac{x}{10} + \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{x}{10} \right)^3 \right] + C$$

$$= -100x + \frac{x^3}{3} + C$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 10 \sec t \\ t &= \sec^{-1} \left(\frac{x}{10} \right) \end{aligned}$$

