

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

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

## 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  $\theta$  by the substitution

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

$$a^2 - x^2 = a^2 - (a \sin \theta)^2 = a^2 - a^2 \sin^2 \theta = a^2 (1 - \sin^2 \theta)$$

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

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

$$= \int a \cos \theta \cdot a \cos \theta d\theta = a^2 \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta \text{ when } 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$$

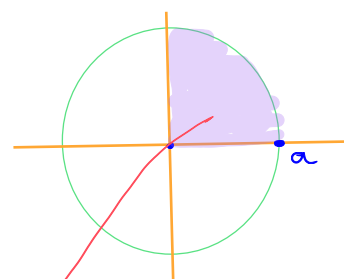
$$y = \sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$$

$$y^2 = a^2 - x^2$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = a^2 \text{ A circle}$$

$$\text{center} = (0, 0)$$

$$r = a$$



$$\int_0^a \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx = \frac{\pi r^2}{4}$$

$$= \frac{\pi a^2}{4}$$

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)  $\theta$ .

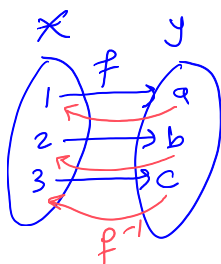
In general, to integrate  $\int f(x) dx$ , we can make a substitution of the form  $x = g(t)$  by using the Substitution Rule in reverse, called an **inverse substitution**. To make the calculations simpler, assume that  $g$  has an **inverse function**, that is,  $x = g(t)$  is a one-to-one function.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

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

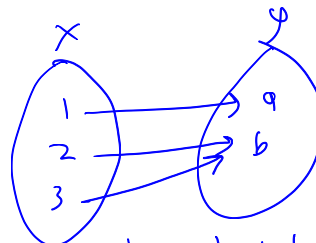


This is not a function

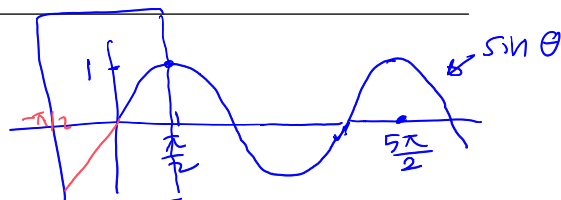
$(1, a), (2, b)$   
 $(3, b), (3, c)$



$f$  is one-to-one



is not 1-1 function



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

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

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

$$\cos \theta \geq 0$$



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$\sin 2x = 2 \sin x \cos x$$

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

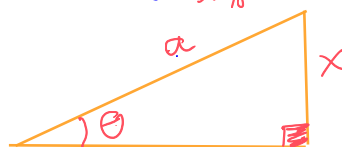
$$= \frac{a^2}{2} \left[ \theta + \sin \theta \cos \theta \right] + C$$

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

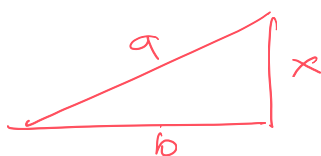
$$\sin^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{a} \right) = \theta$$

$$x = a \sin \theta$$

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



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



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



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

## 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  $\int_0^1 x^3 \sqrt{1-x^2} dx$ .

$$\boxed{x = \sin \theta} \rightarrow \boxed{dx = \cos \theta d\theta}$$

$$\boxed{1 - x^2 = 1 - \sin^2 \theta = \cos^2 \theta}$$

$$x=0 \Rightarrow \sin \theta = 0 \Rightarrow \theta = 0$$

$$x=1 \Rightarrow \sin \theta = 1 \Rightarrow \theta = \pi/2$$

$$\frac{\cos^5 \theta}{5} - \frac{\cos^3 \theta}{3} \Big|_0^{\pi/2}$$

$$= (0) - \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{3}\right)$$

$$-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$$

$$\int x^3 \sqrt{1-x^2} dx = \int (\sin \theta)^3 \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta} \cdot \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$= \int \sin^3 \theta \cdot \cos \theta \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$= \int \sin^3 \theta \cos^2 \theta d\theta$$

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

$$= \int (1 - \cos^2 \theta) \cos^2 \theta \sin \theta d\theta$$

$$u = \cos \theta \rightarrow du = -\sin \theta d\theta$$

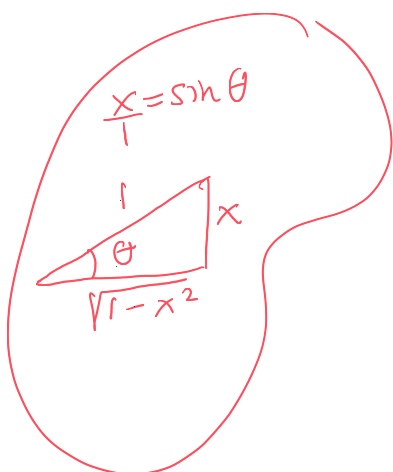
$$= -\int (1 - u^2) u^2 du = -\int u^2 - u^4 du$$

$$= \frac{u^5}{5} - \frac{u^3}{3} + C = \frac{\cos^5 \theta}{5} - \frac{\cos^3 \theta}{3} + C$$

$$= \frac{(\sqrt{1-x^2})^5}{5} - \frac{(\sqrt{1-x^2})^3}{3}$$

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

$$= \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{5} = \frac{2}{15}$$



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

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

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

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

$$x = \tan \theta$$

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

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

$$= \int 1 \cdot d\theta = \theta$$

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

**Example 4:** Evaluate  $\int \frac{1}{x^2 \sqrt{x^2+4}} dx$   $\rightarrow a^2 = 4 = 2^2 \Rightarrow a=2$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$\underline{\underline{Q2}} \quad = \frac{1}{4} \int \cot \theta \cdot \csc \theta d\theta = -\frac{1}{4} \csc \theta + C$$

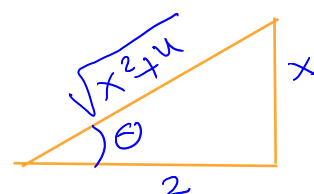
$$= -\frac{1}{4} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+4}}{x} + C$$

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

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

$$x = 2 \tan \theta$$

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



$ax^2+bx+c=0$   
to complete a square

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

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

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

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

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

$$t = x-1 \Rightarrow dt = dx$$

$$= \int \frac{(t+1)^2+1}{(t^2+1)^2} dt$$

$$\text{ie } t = \tan \theta \rightarrow \boxed{t^2+1 = \tan^2 \theta + 1 = \sec^2 \theta}$$

$$\boxed{t^2 = \tan^2 \theta} \quad \boxed{2t = 2 \tan \theta}$$

$$\boxed{dt = \sec^2 \theta d\theta}$$

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

$$\frac{\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta}}{\frac{1}{\cos^2 \theta}}$$

$$\frac{\tan \theta}{\sec \theta} = \frac{\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta}}{\frac{1}{\cos \theta}}$$

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

$$= \int \sin^2 \theta d\theta + 2 \int \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta + 2 \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$= \int \underbrace{\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta}_1 d\theta + 2 \int \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta + \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta$$

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

$$= \theta + \sin^2 \theta + \frac{1}{2} \left( \theta + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\theta \right)$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{3}{2} \theta + \sin^2 \theta + \frac{1}{4} \sin \theta \cos \theta + C}$$

$$\tan \theta = t$$



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

$$= \frac{3}{2} \tan^{-1}(t) + \frac{t^2}{1+t^2} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{t}{\sqrt{1+t^2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+t^2}}$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \tan^{-1}(x-1) + \frac{(x-1)^2}{1+(x-1)^2} + \frac{(x-1)}{4(1+(x-1)^2)}$$

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

$x = 3 \sec \theta \Rightarrow dx = 3 \sec \theta \tan \theta d\theta$   
 $x^2 = 9 \sec^2 \theta$   
 $x^2 - 9 = 9 \sec^2 \theta - 9 = 9(\sec^2 \theta - 1) = 9 \tan^2 \theta$

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$x = 3 \sec \theta$$

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

