

# Math 123: Trig Integrals and Trig Substitution

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# Outline

1 Trig Integrals

2 Trig Substitution

# How do we integrate Trigonometric functions?

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**Example:**  $\int \cos^5(x)dx$

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For  $\int \cos^{\text{even}}(x) dx$  or  $\int \sin^{\text{even}}(x) dx$  use

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

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

possibly multiple times



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**Example:**  $\int \sin^2(x)\cos^3(x)dx$ .

For  $\int \sin^{\text{anything}}(x)\cos^{\text{odd}}(x)dx$  or  $\int \cos^{\text{anything}}(x)\sin^{\text{odd}}(x)dx$  use

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**Question:** What about  $\int \sin^{\text{even}}(x)\cos^{\text{even}}(x)dx$

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**Example:**  $\int \tan(x)\sec^4(x)dx.$

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**Example:**  $\int \tan(x)\sec^4(x)dx.$

For integrals involving  $\tan(x)$  and  $\sec(x)$  use

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

and u-substitution.

# Some Challenges

**Example:** Find  $\int \sec(x) dx$ .

**Example:** Find  $\int \sec^3(x) dx$ .

# A Motivating Example

Find  $\int_{-1}^1 \sqrt{1-x^2} dx$  in two different ways.

**Method One:** Geometric.

**Method Two:** Using Trigonometric identities.



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**Method One:** Geometric. Since  $y = \sqrt{1-x^2}$  is the top half of the unit circle, use definition of integral as area under the curve.

**Method Two:** Using Trigonometric identities. Make the substitution  $x = \sin(\theta)$  and use  $\cos^2(\theta) + \sin^2(\theta) = 1$ .

# Trig Substitution

For integrals involving  $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$ ,  $\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$  or  $\sqrt{x^2 + a^2}$  where  $a$  is a constant, we can often integrate by constructing a right triangle with one of these values as a side length.

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**Method Three:** Find  $\int_{-1}^1 \sqrt{1 - x^2} dx$  by building the relevant right triangle and making a substitution.

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**Method Three:** Find  $\int_{-1}^1 \sqrt{1 - x^2} dx$  by building the relevant right triangle and making a substitution.

**Example:** Find  $\int \frac{1}{x^2 \sqrt{x^2 + 9}}$

**Example:** Find  $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 - 4}}$