



Chapter 7 Techniques of Integration

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7.2 Trigonometric Integrals

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Trigonometric Integrals (1 of 11)

In this section we use trigonometric identities to integrate certain combinations of trigonometric functions.
We start with powers of sine and cosine.

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Example 2

Find $\int \sin^5 x \cos^2 x \, dx$.

Solution:

We could convert $\cos^2 x$ to $1 - \sin^2 x$, but we would be left with an expression in terms of $\sin x$ with no extra $\cos x$ factor.

Instead, we separate a single sine factor and rewrite the remaining $\sin^4 x$ factor in terms of $\cos x$:

$$\begin{aligned}\sin^5 x \cos^2 x &= (\sin^2 x)^2 \cos^2 x \sin x \\ &= (1 - \cos^2 x)^2 \cos^2 x \sin x\end{aligned}$$



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Example 2 – Solution

Substituting $u = \cos x$, we have $du = -\sin x \, dx$ and so

$$\begin{aligned}\int \sin^5 x \cos^2 x \, dx &= \int (\sin^2 x)^2 \cos^2 x \sin x \, dx \\ &= \int (1 - \cos^2 x)^2 \cos^2 x \sin x \, dx \\ &= \int (1 - u^2)^2 u^2 (-du) = -\int (u^2 - 2u^4 + u^6) \, du \\ &= -\left(\frac{u^3}{3} - 2\frac{u^5}{5} + \frac{u^7}{7}\right) + C \\ &= -\frac{1}{3}\cos^3 x + \frac{2}{5}\cos^5 x - \frac{1}{7}\cos^7 x + C\end{aligned}$$



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Example 3

Evaluate $\int_0^{\pi} \sin^2 x \, dx$.

Solution:

If we write $\sin^2 x = 1 - \cos^2 x$, the integral is no simpler to evaluate. Using the half-angle formula for $\sin^2 x$, however, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^{\pi} \sin^2 x \, dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi} (1 - \cos 2x) \, dx \\ &= \left[\frac{1}{2}\left(x - \frac{1}{2}\sin 2x\right)\right]_0^{\pi}\end{aligned}$$



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Example 3 – Solution

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(\pi - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\pi \right) - \frac{1}{2} \left(0 - \frac{1}{2} \sin 0 \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \pi$$

Notice that we mentally made the substitution $u = 2x$ when integrating $\cos 2x$.



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Trigonometric Integrals (2 of 11)

To summarize, we list guidelines to follow when evaluating integrals of the form $\int \sin^m x \cos^n x \, dx$, where $m \geq 0$ and $n \geq 0$ are integers.



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Trigonometric Integrals (3 of 11)**Strategy for Evaluating $\int \sin^m x \cos^n x \, dx$**

- (a) If the power of cosine is odd ($n = 2k + 1$), save one cosine factor and use $\cos^2 x = 1 - \sin^2 x$ to express the remaining factors in terms of sine:

$$\int \sin^m x \cos^{2k+1} x \, dx = \int \sin^m x (\cos^2 x)^k \cos x \, dx$$

$$= \int \sin^m x (1 - \sin^2 x)^k \cos x \, dx$$

Then substitute $u = \sin x$.

- (b) If the power of sine is odd ($m = 2k + 1$), save one sine factor and use $\sin^2 x = 1 - \cos^2 x$ to express the remaining factors in terms of cosine:

$$\int \sin^{2k+1} x \cos^n x \, dx = \int (\sin^2 x)^k \cos^n x \sin x \, dx$$

$$= \int (1 - \cos^2 x)^k \cos^n x \sin x \, dx$$



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Trigonometric Integrals (4 of 11)

Then substitute $u = \cos x$. [Note that if the powers of both sine and cosine are odd, either (a) or (b) can be used.]

(c) If the powers of both sine and cosine are even, use the half-angle identities

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

It is sometimes helpful to use the identity

$$\sin x \cos x = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x$$



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Trigonometric Integrals (5 of 11)

We can use a similar strategy to evaluate integrals of the form $\int \tan^m x \sec^n x \, dx$.

Since $\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right) \tan x = \sec^2 x$, we can separate a $\sec^2 x$ factor and convert the remaining (even) power of secant to an expression involving tangent using the identity $\sec^2 x = 1 + \tan^2 x$.

Or, since $\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right) \sec x = \sec x \tan x$, we can separate a $\sec x \tan x$ factor and convert the remaining (even) power of tangent to secant.



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Example 5

Evaluate $\int \tan^6 x \sec^4 x \, dx$.

Solution:

If we separate one $\sec^2 x$ factor, we can express the remaining $\sec^2 x$ factor in terms of tangent using the identity $\sec^2 x = 1 + \tan^2 x$.

We can then evaluate the integral by substituting $u = \tan x$ so that $du = \sec^2 x \, dx$:

$$\int \tan^6 x \sec^4 x \, dx = \int \tan^6 x \sec^2 x \sec^2 x \, dx$$



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Example 5 – Solution

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int \tan^6 x (1 + \tan^2 x) \sec^2 x \, dx \\
 &= \int u^6 (1 + u^2) du = \int (u^6 + u^8) du \\
 &= \frac{u^7}{7} + \frac{u^9}{9} + C \\
 &= \frac{1}{7} \tan^7 x + \frac{1}{9} \tan^9 x + C
 \end{aligned}$$



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Trigonometric Integrals (6 of 11)

The preceding examples demonstrate strategies for evaluating integrals of the form $\int \tan^m x \sec^n x \, dx$ for two cases, which we summarize here.

Strategy for Evaluating $\int \tan^m x \sec^n x \, dx$

(a) If the power of secant is even ($n = 2k, k \geq 2$), save a factor of $\sec^2 x$ and use $\sec^2 x = 1 + \tan^2 x$ to express the remaining factors in terms of $\tan x$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int \tan^m x \sec^{2k} x \, dx &= \int \tan^m x (\sec^2 x)^{k-1} \sec^2 x \, dx \\
 &= \int \tan^m x (1 + \tan^2 x)^{k-1} \sec^2 x \, dx
 \end{aligned}$$

Then substitute $u = \tan x$.



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Trigonometric Integrals (7 of 11)

(b) If the power of tangent is odd ($m = 2k + 1$), save a factor of $\sec x \tan x$ and use $\tan^2 x = \sec^2 x - 1$ to express the remaining factors in terms of $\sec x$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int \tan^{2k+1} x \sec^n x \, dx &= \int (\tan^2 x)^k \sec^{n-1} x \sec x \tan x \, dx \\
 &= \int (\sec^2 x - 1)^k \sec^{n-1} x \sec x \tan x \, dx
 \end{aligned}$$

Then substitute $u = \sec x$.



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Trigonometric Integrals (8 of 11)

For other cases, the guidelines are not as clear-cut. We may need to use identities, integration by parts, and occasionally a little ingenuity.

We will sometimes need to be able to integrate $\tan x$ by using the formula given below:

$$\int \tan x \, dx = \ln|\sec x| + C$$



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Trigonometric Integrals (9 of 11)

We will also need the indefinite integral of secant:

$$1 \quad \int \sec x \, dx = \ln|\sec x + \tan x| + C$$

We could verify Formula 1 by differentiating the right side, or as follows. First we multiply numerator and denominator by $\sec x + \tan x$:

$$\int \sec x \, dx = \int \sec x \frac{\sec x + \tan x}{\sec x + \tan x} \, dx$$



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Trigonometric Integrals (10 of 11)

$$= \int \frac{\sec^2 x + \sec x \tan x}{\sec x + \tan x} \, dx$$

If we substitute $u = \sec x + \tan x$, then $du = (\sec x \tan x + \sec^2 x) \, dx$, so the integral becomes

$$\int \left(\frac{1}{u} \right) du = \ln|u| + C.$$

Thus we have

$$\int \sec x \, dx = \ln|\sec x + \tan x| + C$$



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Example 7

Find $\int \tan^3 x \, dx$.

Solution:

Here only $\tan x$ occurs, so we use $\tan^2 x = \sec^2 x - 1$ to rewrite a $\tan^2 x$ factor in terms of $\sec^2 x$:

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan^3 x \, dx &= \int \tan x \tan^2 x \, dx \\ &= \int \tan x (\sec^2 x - 1) \, dx \\ &= \int \tan x \sec^2 x \, dx - \int \tan x \, dx\end{aligned}$$



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Example 7 – Solution

$$= \frac{\tan^2 x}{2} - \ln|\sec x| + C$$

In the first integral we mentally substituted $u = \tan x$ so that $du = \sec^2 x \, dx$.



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Trigonometric Integrals (11 of 11)

Finally, we can make use of another set of trigonometric identities:

2 To evaluate the integrals (a) $\int \sin mx \cos nx \, dx$, (b) $\int \sin mx \sin nx \, dx$, or (c) $\int \cos mx \cos nx \, dx$, use the corresponding identity:

(a) $\sin A \cos B = \frac{1}{2}[\sin(A - B) + \sin(A + B)]$

(b) $\sin A \sin B = \frac{1}{2}[\cos(A - B) - \cos(A + B)]$

(c) $\cos A \cos B = \frac{1}{2}[\cos(A - B) + \cos(A + B)]$



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Example 9

Evaluate $\int \sin 4x \cos 5x \, dx$.

Solution:

This integral could be evaluated using integration by parts, but it's easier to use the identity in Equation 2(a) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\int \sin 4x \cos 5x \, dx &= \int \frac{1}{2} [\sin(-x) + \sin 9x] \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int (-\sin x + \sin 9x) \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\cos x - \frac{1}{9} \cos 9x) + C\end{aligned}$$



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