

# Lecture XXXIII 59.5 The inverse trigonometric functions

GOAL: Find antiderivatives of the following 2 functions:

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

A: Use "trigonometric substitutions".

(1) Pick:  $x = \sin(u)$       so  $dx = \cos(u) du$

$$\sqrt{1-x^2} = \sqrt{1-\sin^2 u} = \sqrt{\cos^2 u} = \cos u.$$

So  $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} = \int \frac{\cos u du}{\cos u} = \int 1 du = u + C = \sin^{-1} x + C$

$\rightarrow$  need to find an inverse for  $\sin u$  function.

(2) Pick:  $x = \tan u$       so  $dx = \sec^2 u du$

$$1+x^2 = 1+\tan^2 u = \frac{\cos^2 u + \sin^2 u}{\cos^2 u} = \frac{1}{\cos^2 u} = \sec^2 u$$

So  $\int \frac{dx}{1+x^2} = \int \frac{\sec^2 u du}{\sec^2 u} = \int du = u + C = \tan^{-1} x + C$

$\rightarrow$  need to insert  $\tan u$ !

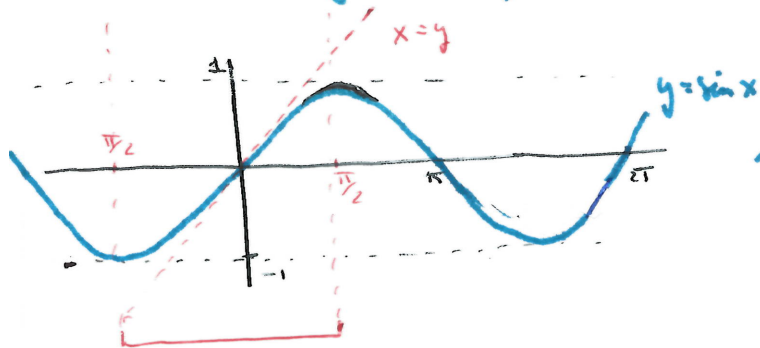
Finding inverses to  $\sin x$  &  $\tan x$  is forced on us!

## §1 Inverse sine = $\sin^{-1} x$ or $\arcsin x$ (2 notations)

Recall:  $\sin(x)$  is periodic with period  $2\pi$   $\rightarrow$  Q: How to invert?

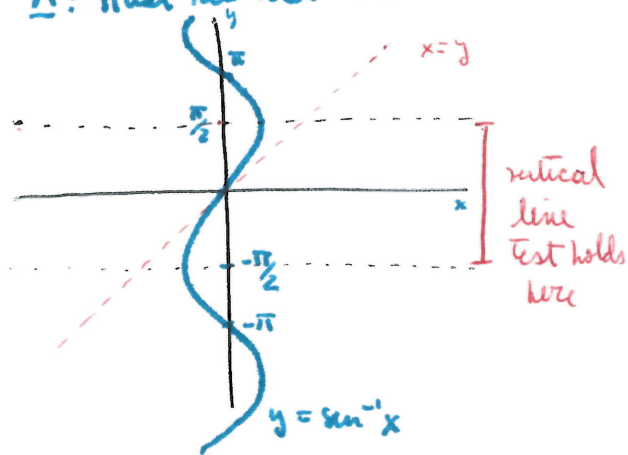
Image ( $\sin x$ ) =  $[-1, 1]$

A: Must restrict the domain!



injective & surjective here!  
(1-to-1)

$\rightarrow$   
reflect  
about  
 $x=y$  line



vertical  
line  
test holds  
here

Def:  $\arcsin: [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$        $\arcsin x = y$       if  $\sin y = x$ .

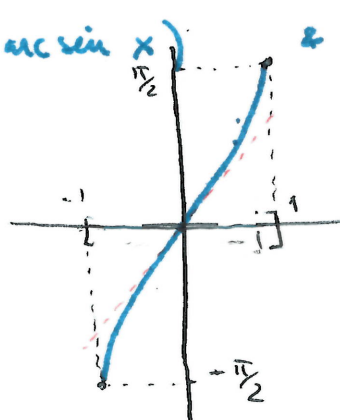
Image ( $\arcsin$ ) =  $[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$

Domain ( $\arcsin$ ) = Image of  $\sin$  =  $[-1, 1]$

Write  $\arcsin: [-1, 1] \rightarrow [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$

Properties  $x = \sin(\arcsin x)$  &  $x = \arcsin(\sin x)$

Graph of arcsin



Remark: By construction graph of arcsin is smooth (tan lines come from rotating tangents to  $\sin x$  about  $x=y$  line). Furthermore:

Prop: arcsin  $x$  is differentiable &  $\frac{d}{dx}(\arcsin x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$

Why? Use implicit differentiation.

$y = \arcsin x$  means  $\sin y = x$ .  $\frac{d}{dx} \sin y \cdot y' = 1$   
 $\frac{d}{dx} \sin y = \cos y \cdot y'$

But since  $y \in [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$ ,  $\cos y \geq 0$  so  $\cos y = \sqrt{1-\sin^2 y} = \sqrt{1-x^2}$

We get:  $y' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$  ✓

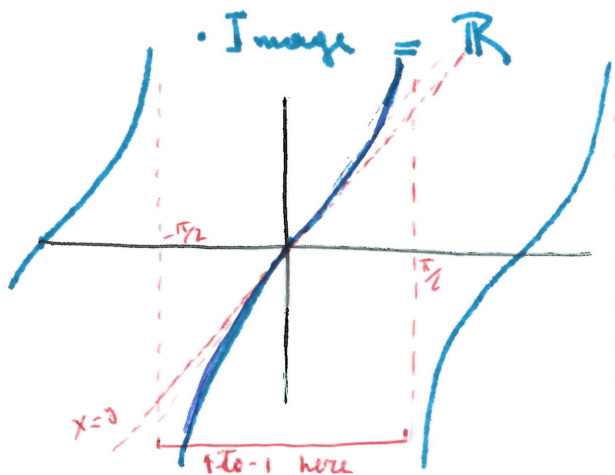
Consequence:  $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} = \arcsin x + C$

⚠ From  $y' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$  we see that  $|x| < 1$  is forced on us. So we don't consider derivatives at  $x = \pm 1$ .

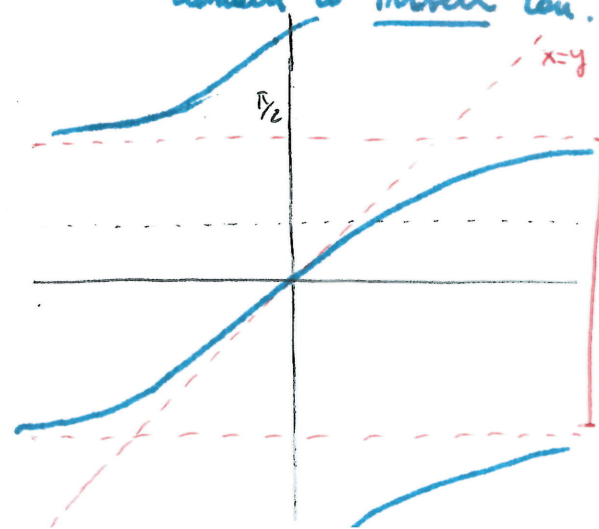
§2 Inverse tangent =  $\arctan x$  or  $\tan^{-1} x$  (2 notations)

Recall:  $\tan x$  is periodic with period  $\pi$   
 • vertical asymptotes at  $\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}, \dots$   
 $-\frac{\pi}{2}, -\frac{3\pi}{2}, \dots$

Need to restrict the domain to invert  $\tan$ .



reflect about  $x=y$



Conclusion: We need to pick a branch to define arctan, as we did with sin.

Def  $\tan^{-1}(x) = \arctan(x) : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$   $y = \arctan x$   
means  $x = \tan y$

$x \longmapsto \arctan(x)$

Properties:  $\tan x$  is increasing, so is  $\arctan(x)$

$\arctan(0) = 0$

- $x = \arctan(\tan x)$  &  $x = \tan(\arctan x)$
- $\tan x$  has well-defined tangent lines, then so does  $\arctan(x)$ .

Prop:  $\arctan x$  is differentiable &  $\frac{d}{dx}(\arctan x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$

Why? Use implicit differentiation  $y = \arctan x$  means  $\tan y = x$

$\frac{d}{dx} \sec^2 y \cdot y' = 1$  so  $y' = \frac{1}{\sec^2 y}$

But  $\sec^2 y = \frac{1}{\cos^2 y} = \frac{\cos^2 y + \sin^2 y}{\cos^2 y} = 1 + \tan^2 y$

So  $y' = \frac{1}{\sec^2 y} = \frac{1}{1 + \tan^2 y} = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$  ✓

Consequence  $\int \frac{dx}{1+x^2} = \arctan x + C$

§3 Examples:

①  $\frac{d}{dx} \left( \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{5} \right) \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^2}} \cdot \frac{1}{5} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{25 - x^2}}$

②  $\frac{d}{dx} \left( \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^2}} \cdot \left( -\frac{1}{x^2} \right) = \frac{-1}{x \sqrt{x^2 - 1}}$  (ok  $|\frac{1}{x}| < 1$  so  $|x| > 1$ )

③  $\frac{d}{dx} \left( \tan^{-1} \left( \sqrt{1+x^2} \right) \right) = \frac{1}{1 + (1+x^2)} \cdot \frac{2x}{2\sqrt{1+x^2}} = \frac{x}{(2+x^2)\sqrt{1+x^2}}$

④  $\int \frac{dx}{1+16x^2} \stackrel{u=4x}{=} \int \frac{1}{4(1+u^2)} du = \frac{1}{4} \arctan(u) + C = \frac{1}{4} \arctan(4x) + C$

⑤  $\int \frac{dx}{x \sqrt{x^2-1}} \stackrel{u=\frac{1}{x}}{=} \int \frac{-u^{-1} du}{\sqrt{u^{-2}-1}} = \int \frac{-du}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} = \arcsin(u) + C = \arcsin \frac{1}{x} + C$   
 $u = \frac{1}{x} \rightarrow x^2 = u^{-2}$   
 $dx = -\frac{dx}{x^2} = -u^2 dx$