

§1 Trigonometric substitutions

Used to compute integrals involving 3 expressions:

(1)  $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$       (2)  $\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}$       (3)  $\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$

where  $a > 0$  is constant.

For each we use a different substitution of  $x$  as a trig function.

(1)  $x = a \sin(u) \implies \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} = \sqrt{a^2(1 - \sin^2 u)} = a \cos(u)$   
 $\cos^2 u + \sin^2 u = 1$

(2)  $x = a \tan(u) \implies \sqrt{a^2 + x^2} = \sqrt{a^2(1 + \tan^2 u)} = \sqrt{a^2 \sec^2 u} = a \sec(u)$   
 $1 + \tan^2 u = \sec^2 u$

(3)  $x = a \sec(u) \implies \sqrt{x^2 - a^2} = \sqrt{a^2(\sec^2 u - 1)} = \sqrt{a^2 \tan^2 u} = a \tan(u)$

Saw (1) & (2) when we did inverse trig functions ( $\arcsin(x)$  &  $\arctan(x)$ ).

Geometric interpretation = after examples.

3 Examples:

(1)  $\int \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{x} dx = \int \frac{a \cos u}{a \sin u} a \cos u du = a \int \frac{\cos^2 u}{\sin u} du = a \int \frac{1 - \sin^2 u}{\sin u} du$   
 $x = a \sin u$   
 $dx = a \cos u du$

$= a \int \frac{1}{\sin u} du - a \int \sin u du = -a \ln(\csc(u) + \cot(u)) + a \cos u + C$   
 (Note:  $\frac{1}{\sin u} = \csc(u)$ , and the integral of  $\csc(u)$  is  $-\ln|\csc(u) + \cot(u)|$ )

In terms of  $x$ ?  $\csc(u) = \frac{1}{\sin u} = \frac{a}{x}$  ;  $\cot(u) = \frac{\cos u}{\sin u} = \frac{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 u}}{\sin u} = \frac{\sqrt{1 - x^2/a^2}}{x/a} = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{x}$   
 $\cos(u) = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 u} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{x^2}{a^2}} = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{a}$

Conclusion:  $\int \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{x} dx = -a \ln\left(\frac{a}{x} + \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{x}\right) + \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} + C$

(2)  $\int \frac{dx}{x^2 \sqrt{a^2 + x^2}} = \int \frac{a \sec^2 u du}{a^2 \tan^2 u a \sec u} = \frac{1}{a^2} \int \frac{\sec u}{\tan^2 u} du = \frac{1}{a^2} \int \frac{\cos u}{\sin^2 u} du$   
 $x = a \tan u$   
 $dx = a \sec^2 u du$   
 $= \frac{1}{a^2} \int \frac{\cos u}{\sin^2 u} du = \frac{1}{a^2} \int y^{-2} dy = \frac{-1}{a^2 y} + C = \frac{-1}{a^2 \sin u} + C = \frac{-1}{a^2 \frac{x}{a}} + C = \frac{-1}{ax} + C$

Again, write it in terms of  $x$ :

$$a \sec u = \sqrt{a^2 + x^2} \quad \text{gives} \quad \cos u = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}}$$

$$\text{So } \sin u = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 u} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{a^2}{a^2 + x^2}} = \frac{x}{\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}}$$

Conclusion:  $\int \frac{dx}{x^2 \sqrt{a^2 + x^2}} = \frac{-\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}}{a^2 x} + C$

Verification:  $\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{-\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}}{a^2 x} \right) = \frac{-x a^2 x}{a^4 x^2} + \frac{a^2 \sqrt{a^2 + x^2}}{a^4 x^2} = \frac{-x^2 + a^2 + x^2}{a^2 x^2 \sqrt{a^2 + x^2}} = \frac{1}{x^2 \sqrt{a^2 + x^2}}$  ✓

(3)  $\int \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}}{x} dx = \int \frac{a \tan u \sec u \tan u du}{a \sec u} = \int a \tan^2 u du$

$x = a \sec(u)$   
 $dx = a \sec(u) \tan(u) du$

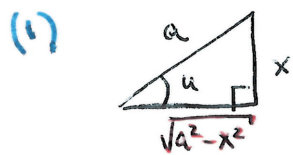
$\stackrel{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{Last time}}}{=} a \int (\sec^2 u - 1) du = a \int \underbrace{\sec^2 u}_{= d \tan u} du - a \int du = a \tan u - a u + C$

Again, write it in terms of  $x$ :

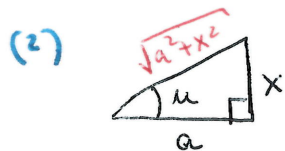
$$a \tan u = \sqrt{x^2 - a^2}, \quad u = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}}{a} \right)$$

Conclusion:  $\int \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}}{x} dx = a \sqrt{x^2 - a^2} - a \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}}{a} \right) + C$

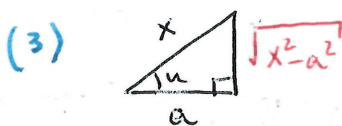
Geometric interpretation: sides of a right triangle. (2 given & complete 3<sup>rd</sup> one)



$x = a \sin u \implies \cos u = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{a} \quad \& \quad \tan u = \frac{x}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}$



$x = a \tan u \implies \cos u = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}} \quad \& \quad \sin u = \frac{x}{\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}}$



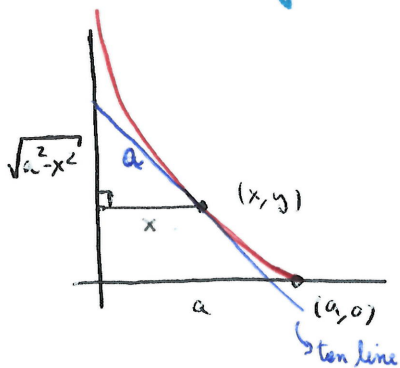
$a = x \cos u \implies \cos u = \frac{a}{x}; \quad \sin u = \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}}{x}$   
 $x = \frac{a}{\cos u} = a \sec u$   
 $\tan u = \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}}{a}$

## Application: tractrix curve

Path of an object dragged along a horizontal plane by a string of fixed length when the other end of the string moves along a straight line in the plane

- Fix string of length  $a > 0$
- Start w/ object on  $(a, 0)$  & other end of string at  $(0, 0)$
- Move one end along  $y$ -axis & other along the tractrix (to the left).

The string is always tangent to the curve.



$$\text{Slope of tangent} = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{-x}$$

$$\text{Sep of variables gives } dy = -\frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{x} dx$$

$$y = \int dy = -\int \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{x} dx = a \ln\left(\frac{a}{x} + \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{x}\right)$$

$$\text{example: } -\sqrt{a^2 - x^2} + C$$

$$\text{But } y(a) = 0 \quad \text{so} \quad 0 = a \ln\left(\frac{a}{a} + 0\right) - 0 + C = a \ln 1 + C = C$$

$$\text{Eqn of tractrix} = \boxed{y = a \ln\left(\frac{a}{x} + \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{x}\right) - \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \quad (0 < x \leq a)}$$

## § 2. Completing the square:

Why? Want to integrate expressions involving

$$(1) \quad ax^2 + bx + c \quad \text{or} \quad (2) \quad \sqrt{ax^2 + bx + c}$$

↳  $a, b, c$  fixed constants,  $a \neq 0$ .

To use trig subst, need to write this as  $\pm(A^2 \pm u^2)$

IDEA: Reverse process of squaring a sum.

$$(x+A)^2 = x^2 + 2Ax + A^2$$

$$\text{Example 1: } 5 + 4x - x^2 = -(x^2 - 4x - 5) = -(x^2 - 4x + 4 - 4 - 5)$$

$$= -(x-2)^2 - 9 = 9 - (x-2)^2$$

$$\text{So } \int \frac{x+2}{\sqrt{5+4x-x^2}} dx = \int \frac{x+2}{\sqrt{9-(x-2)^2}} dx = \int \frac{u+4}{\sqrt{9-u^2}} du \quad \text{Trig subs. (1)}$$

$a=3$   
 $u=3 \sin y$

Example 2  $\int \frac{dx}{x^2+2x+10} = \int \frac{dx}{9+(x+1)^2} \stackrel{u=x+1}{=} \int \frac{du}{9+u^2} \stackrel{u=\frac{v}{3}}{=} \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{dv}{1+v^2} = \frac{1}{9} \arctan\left(\frac{x+1}{3}\right) + C$

$$x^2+2x+10 = x^2+2x+1-1+10 = (x+1)^2+9$$

$$= \frac{1}{9} \arctan\left(\frac{x+1}{3}\right) + C$$

Example 3  $\int \frac{x dx}{\sqrt{x^2-2x+5}} = \int \frac{x dx}{\sqrt{4+(x-1)^2}} \stackrel{u=x-1}{=} \int \frac{u+1}{\sqrt{4+u^2}} du = \int \frac{u du}{\sqrt{4+u^2}} + \int \frac{du}{\sqrt{4+u^2}}$

$$x^2-2x+5 = x^2-2x+1-1+5 = (x-1)^2+4$$

Trig subs (2)  
a=2  
u = a tan(y)

Example 4  $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2-4x+3}} = \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{(x-2)^2-1}} \stackrel{u=x-2}{=} \int \frac{du}{\sqrt{u^2-1}} \rightsquigarrow$  Trig subs (3)  
a=1  
u = a sec(y)

$$x^2-4x+3 = x^2-4x+4-4+3 = (x-2)^2-1$$

In general:  $ax^2+bx+c = a\left(x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \frac{c}{a}\right)$   
a ≠ 0

$$= a\left(x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \left(\frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 + \frac{c}{a}\right)$$

$$= a\left(\left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 + \frac{4c-ab^2}{4a^2}\right)$$

The sign of  $4c-ab^2$  determines which substitution to do. 3 options  $> 0$   $< 0$   $= 0$