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1 Trigonometric integrals

Briggs-Cochran-Gillett-Schulz §8.3 pp. 532 - 536

Reduction formulas

Let n be a positive integer.

- $\int \sin^n x \, dx = -\frac{\sin^{n-1} x \cos x}{n} + \frac{n-1}{n} \int \sin^{n-2} x \, dx$
- $\int \cos^n x \, dx = \frac{\cos^{n-1} x \sin x}{n} + \frac{n-1}{n} \int \cos^{n-2} x \, dx$
- $\int \tan^n x \, dx = \frac{\tan^{n-1} x}{n-1} - \int \tan^{n-2} x \, dx, n \neq 1$
- $\int \sec^n x \, dx = \frac{\sec^{n-2} x \tan x}{n-1} + \frac{n-2}{n-1} \int \sec^{n-2} x \, dx, n \neq 1$

Integrals of $\tan x$, $\cot x$, $\sec x$, $\csc x$

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

$$\int \sec x \, dx = \ln |\sec x + \tan x| + C \quad \int \csc x \, dx = -\ln |\csc x + \cot x| + C$$

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

- If n is even: split off $\sec^2 x$, rewrite the remaining even power of $\sec x$ in terms of $\tan x$, and use $u = \tan x$.

- If m is odd: split off $\sec x \tan x$, rewrite the remaining even power of $\tan x$ in terms of $\sec x$, and use $u = \sec x$.
- If m is even and n is odd: rewrite the even power of $\tan x$ in terms of $\sec x$ to produce a polynomial in $\sec x$; apply reduction formula 4 to each term.

Example 1 (§8.3 Ex 38). Evaluate $\int \tan^5 \theta \sec^4 \theta d\theta$.

2 Trigonometric substitution

Briggs-Cochran-Gillett-Schulz §8.4 pp. 538 - 543

For integrals with an $a^2 - x^2$ term, we make the trigonometric substitution $x = a \sin \theta$; note that this gives $\theta = \sin^{-1}(x/a)$ for $-\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$.

Example 2 (§8.4 Ex. 10). Evaluate $\int_0^{\sqrt{2}} \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{4-x^2}} dx$.

Example 3 (§8.4 Ex 13). Evaluate $\int \frac{dx}{(16-x^2)^{1/2}}$.

3 Partial fractions

Briggs-Cochran-Gillett-Schulz §8.5 pp. 546 - 554

In this section, we use partial fraction decomposition to integrate certain rational functions. The idea behind it is that it is straightforward to integrate

$$\int \frac{1}{x-2} + \frac{2}{x+4} dx,$$

but it's not quite obvious how to integrate

$$\int \frac{3x}{x^2 + 2x - 8} dx.$$

However, it turns out that

$$\frac{3x}{x^2 + 2x - 8} = \frac{1}{x-2} + \frac{2}{x+4},$$

so if we are able to compute the decomposition on the RHS, we can integrate.

To get the decomposition, the first step is to factor the denominator on the LHS:

$$x^2 + 2x - 8 = (x-2)(x+4).$$

So our goal is to write

$$\frac{3x}{x^2 + 2x - 8} = \frac{A}{x-2} + \frac{B}{x+4},$$

and we need to solve for A and B .

Multiplying both sides of the above by $x^2 + 2x - 8$, we get

$$3x = A(x + 4) + B(x - 2),$$

and we compare the linear terms (terms with x) and constant terms (terms without x): we have

$$3x = Ax + Bx \Rightarrow 3 = A + B$$

and

$$0 = 4A - 2B.$$

Solving this system gives $A = 1$ and $B = 2$.

Example 4 (§8.5 Ex 24). Evaluate $\int \frac{8}{(x-2)(x+6)} dx$.

Example 5 (§8.5 Ex 35). Evaluate $\int \frac{x^2+12x-4}{x^3-4x} dx$.

Example 6 (§8.5 Ex 67). Find the area of the region bounded by the curve $y = \frac{10}{x^2-2x-24}$, the x -axis, and the lines $x = -2$ and $x = 2$.