W02 Notes

Trig power products

Videos

Videos, Math Dr. Bob:

- Trig power products: $\int \cos^m x \sin^n x \, dx$
- Trig differing frequencies: $\int \cos mx \sin nx \, dx$
- Trig tan and sec: $\int \tan^m x \sec^n x \, dx$
- Secant power: $\int \sec^5 x \, dx$

Videos, Organic Chemistry Tutor:

- Trig power product techniques
- Trig substitution

01 Theory

Review: trig identities

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

Trig power product: sin / cos

A sin / cos power product has this form:

$$\int \cos^m x \cdot \sin^n x \, dx$$

for some integers m and n (even negative!).

To compute these integrals, use a sequence of these techniques:

- **Swap an even bunch.**
- **u-sub for power-one.**
- **Power-to-frequency conversion.**

Memorize these three techniques!

Examples of trig power products:

- $\displaystyle\int \sin x \cdot \cos^7 x \, dx$
- $\displaystyle\int \sin^3 x \, dx$
- $\displaystyle\int \sin^2 x \cdot \cos^2 x \, dx$

Swap an even bunch

If *either* $\cos^m x$ or $\sin^n x$ is an *odd* power, use

$$\sin^2 x \quad \gg\gg \quad 1 - \cos^2 x$$

$$\text{OR} \quad \cos^2 x \quad \gg\gg \quad 1 - \sin^2 x$$

(maybe repeatedly) to convert an **even bunch** to the opposite trig type.

An **even bunch** is *all but one* from the odd power.

For example:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sin^5 x \cdot \cos^8 x \quad & \gg\gg \quad \sin x\,(\sin^2 x)^2 \cdot \cos^8 x \\
& \gg\gg \quad \sin x\,(1 - \cos^2 x)^2 \cdot \cos^8 x \\
& \gg\gg \quad \sin x\,\left(1 - 2\cos^2 x + \cos^4 x\right) \cdot \cos^8 x \\
& \gg\gg \quad \sin x\,\left(\cos^8 x - 2\cos^{10} x + \cos^{12} x\right) \\
& \gg\gg \quad \sin x \cos^8 x - 2 \sin x \cos^{10} x + \sin x \cos^{12} x
\end{aligned}$$

u-sub for power-one

If $m = 1$ or $n = 1$, *perform u-substitution* to do the integral.

The *other* trig power becomes a u power; the power-one becomes du.

For example, using $u = \cos x$ and thus $du = -\sin x\,dx$ we can do:

$$\int \sin x \cos^8 x\,dx \quad \gg\gg \quad \int -\cos^8 x(-\sin x\,dx) \quad \gg\gg \quad -\int u^8\,du$$

By combining these tricks you can do any power product with at least one odd power! Make sure to leave a power-one from the odd power when swapping an even bunch.

Notice

Even powers: $1 = \sin^0 x = \cos^0 x$. So the method works for $\int \sin^3 x\,dx$ and similar.

Power-to-frequency conversion

Using these 'power-to-frequency' identities (maybe repeatedly):

$$\sin^2 x = \tfrac{1}{2}(1 - \cos 2x), \qquad \cos^2 x = \tfrac{1}{2}(1 + \cos 2x)$$

change an even power (either type) into an odd power of cosine.

For example, consider the power product:

$$\sin^4 x \cdot \cos^6 x$$

You can substitute appropriate powers of $\sin^2 x = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos 2x)$ and $\cos^2 x = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos 2x)$:

$$\sin^4 x \cdot \cos^6 x \quad \gg\gg \quad \left(\sin^2 x\right)^2 \cdot \left(\cos^2 x\right)^3$$

$$\gg\gg \quad \left(\tfrac{1}{2}(1-\cos 2x)\right)^2 \cdot \left(\tfrac{1}{2}(1+\cos 2x)\right)^3$$

By doing some annoying algebra, this expression can be expanded as a sum of *smaller* powers of $\cos 2x$:

$$\left(\tfrac{1}{2}(1-\cos 2x)\right)^2 \cdot \left(\tfrac{1}{2}(1+\cos 2x)\right)^3$$

$$\gg\gg \quad \frac{1}{32}\Big(1+\cos(2x)-2\cos^2(2x)-2\cos^3(2x)+\cos^4(2x)+\cos^5(2x)\Big)$$

Each of these terms can be integrated by repeating the same techniques.

02 Illustration

Example - Power product - odd power

Compute the integral:

$$\int \cos^2 x \cdot \sin^5 x \, dx$$

Solution

(1) Swap over the even bunch:

Max even bunch leaving power-one is $\sin^4 x$.

$$\sin^5 x \quad \gg\gg \quad \sin x \left(\sin^2 x\right)^2 \quad \gg\gg \quad \sin x \left(1-\cos^2 x\right)^2$$

Apply to $\sin^5 x$ in the integrand:

$$\int \cos^2 x \cdot \sin^5 x \, dx \quad \gg\gg \quad \int \cos^2 x \cdot \sin x \left(1-\cos^2 x\right)^2 dx$$

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(2) Perform u-substitution on the power-one integrand:

Set $u = \cos x$. Hence $du = \sin x \, dx$. Recognize this in the integrand and convert:

$$\int \cos^2 x \cdot \sin x \left(1-\cos^2 x\right)^2 dx \quad \gg\gg \quad \int \cos^2 x \cdot \left(1 \cos^2 x\right)^2 \left(\sin x \, dx\right)$$

$$\gg\gg \quad \int u^2 \cdot (1-u^2)^2 \, du$$

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(3) Integrate using power rule:

$$\int u^2 \cdot (1-u^2)^2 \, du = \frac{1}{3}u^3 - \frac{2}{5}u^5 + \frac{1}{7}u^7 + C$$

Insert definition $u = \cos x$:

$$\ggg \quad \int \cos^2 x \cdot \sin^5 x \, dx \quad \ggg \quad \int u^2 \cdot (1-u^2)^2 \, du$$

$$\ggg \quad \boxed{\frac{1}{3}\cos^3 x - \frac{2}{5}\cos^5 x + \frac{1}{7}\cos^7 x + C}$$

03 Theory

Trig power product: tan / sec **or** cot / csc

A tan / sec power product has this form:

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

A cot / csc power product has this form:

$$\int \cot^m x \cdot \csc^n x \, dx$$

To integrate these, **swap an even bunch** using:

- $\tan^2 x + 1 = \sec^2 x$

OR:

- $\cot^2 x + 1 = \csc^2 x$

Or do **u-substitution** using:

- $u = \tan x \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad du = \sec^2 x \, dx$
- $u = \sec x \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad du = \sec x \, \tan x \, dx$

OR:

- $u = \cot x \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad du = -\csc^2 x \, dx$
- $u = \csc x \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad du = -\csc u \, \cot u \, dx$

Note

There is no simple "power-to-frequency conversion" for tan / sec !

We can modify the power-one technique to solve some of these. We need to swap over an even bunch *from the odd power* so that exactly the du factor is left behind.

Considering all the possibilities, one sees that this method works when:

- $\tan^m x$ is an *odd* power (with some secants present!)
- $\sec^n x$ is an *even* power

Quite a few cases escape this method:

- Any $\int \tan^m x \, dx$ with no power of $\sec x$
- Any $\int \tan^m x \cdot \sec^n x \, dx$ for m even and n odd

These tricks don't work for $\int \tan x\, dx$ or $\int \sec x\, dx$ or $\int \tan^4 x \sec^5 x\, dx$, among others.

Special integrals: tan and sec

We have:

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

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

Note

These integrals should be memorized individually.

Extra - Deriving special integrals: tan and sec

The first formula can be found by u-substitution, considering that $\tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$.

The second formula can be derived by multiplying $\sec x$ by a special "1", computing instead $\int \frac{\sec x(\sec x + \tan x)}{\sec x + \tan x}\, dx$ by expanding the numerator and doing u-sub on the denominator.

04 Illustration

Example - Power product - tan and sec

Compute the integral:

$$\int \tan^5 x \cdot \sec^3 x\, dx$$

Solution

(1) Try $du = \sec^2 x\, dx$:

Factor du out of the integrand:

$$\int \tan^5 x \cdot \sec^3 x\, dx \quad \ggg \quad \int \tan^5 x \cdot \sec x \left(\sec^2 x\, dx\right)$$

We then must swap over remaining $\sec x$ into the $\tan x$ type.

Cannot do this because $\sec x$ has odd power. Need *even* to swap.

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(2) Try again: $du = \sec x\, \tan x\, dx$:

Factor du out of the integrand:

$$\int \tan^5 x \cdot \sec^3 x\, dx \quad \ggg \quad \int \tan^4 x \cdot \sec^2 x \left(\sec x\, \tan x\, dx\right)$$

Swap remaining $\tan x$ into $\sec x$ type:

$$\gg\!\gg \quad \int (\tan^2 x)^2 \cdot \sec^2 x\,(\sec x\,\tan x\,dx)$$

$$\gg\!\gg \quad \int \left(\sec^2 x - 1\right)^2 \cdot \sec^2 x\,(\sec x\,\tan x\,dx)$$

Substitute $u = \sec x$ and $du = \sec x\,\tan x\,dx$:

$$\gg\!\gg \quad \int (u^2-1)^2 \cdot u^2\,du$$

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(3) Integrate in u and convert back to x:

$$\gg\!\gg \quad \int u^6 - 2u^4 + u^2\,du$$

$$\gg\!\gg \quad \frac{u^7}{7} - 2\frac{u^5}{5} + \frac{u^3}{3} + C$$

$$\gg\!\gg \quad \frac{\sec^7 x}{7} - 2\frac{\sec^5 x}{5} + \frac{\sec^3 x}{3} + C$$

Trig substitution

Videos

Videos, Math Dr. Bob:

- Trig sub 1: Basics and $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{36-x^2}}\,dx$ and $\int \frac{x}{36+x^2}\,dx$ and $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2-36}}\,dx$
- Trig sub 2: $\int \frac{dx}{(1+x^2)^{5/2}}$
- Trig sub 3: $\int \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{1-4x^2}}\,dx$
- Trig sub 4: $\int \sqrt{e^{2x}-1}\,dx$
- Trig sub 5: $\int \frac{\sqrt{4-36x^2}}{x^2}\,dx$

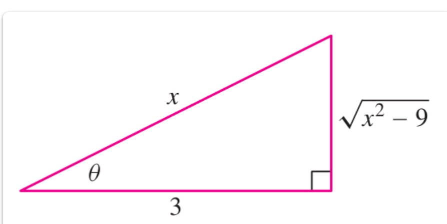
05 Theory

Certain algebraic expressions have a secret meaning that comes from the Pythagorean Theorem. This meaning has a very simple expression in terms of trig functions of a certain angle.

For example, consider the integral:

$$\int \frac{1}{x^2\sqrt{x^2-9}}\,dx$$

Now consider this triangle:



The triangle determines the relation $x = 3\sec\theta$, and it implies $\sqrt{x^2-9} = 3\tan\theta$.

Now plug these into the integrand above:

$$\frac{1}{x^2\sqrt{x^2-9^2}} \quad \gg\!\!\gg \quad \frac{1}{9\sec^2\theta \cdot 3\tan\theta}$$

Considering that $dx = 3\sec\theta\,\tan\theta\,d\theta$, we obtain a very reasonable trig integral:

$$\int \frac{1}{x^2\sqrt{x^2-9^2}}\,dx \quad \gg\!\!\gg \quad \int \frac{3\sec\theta\,\tan\theta}{27\sec^2\theta\,\tan\theta}\,d\theta$$

$$\gg\!\!\gg \quad \frac{1}{9}\int \cos\theta\,d\theta \quad \gg\!\!\gg \quad \frac{1}{9}\sin\theta + C$$

We must rewrite this in terms of x using $x = 3\sec\theta$ to finish the problem. We need to find $\sin\theta$ assuming that $\sec\theta = \frac{x}{3}$. To do this, refer back to the triangle to see that $\sin\theta = \frac{\sqrt{x^2-9}}{x}$. Plug this in for our final value of the integral:

$$\frac{1}{9}\sin\theta + C \quad \gg\!\!\gg \quad \frac{\sqrt{x^2-9}}{9x} + C$$

Here is the moral of the story:

Pythagorean expressions

Re-express the Pythagorean expression using a triangle and a trig substitution.

In this way, we are able to *eliminate square roots of quadratics*.

There are always three steps for these trig sub problems:

- (1) Identify the trig sub: find the sides of a triangle and relevant angle θ.
- (2) Solve a trig integral (often a power product).
- (3) Refer back to the triangle to convert the answer back to x.

To speed up your solution process for these problems, *memorize* these three transformations:

(1)

$$\sqrt{a^2-x^2} \quad \overset{x=a\sin\theta}{\gg\!\!\gg} \quad \sqrt{a^2-a^2\sin^2\theta} = a\cos\theta \qquad \text{from} \quad 1-\sin^2\theta = \cos^2\theta$$

(2)

$$\sqrt{a^2+x^2} \quad \overset{x=a\tan\theta}{\gg\!\!\gg} \quad \sqrt{a^2+a^2\tan^2\theta} = a\sec\theta \qquad \text{from} \quad 1+\tan^2\theta = \sec^2\theta$$

(3)

$$\sqrt{x^2-a^2} \quad \overset{x=a\sec\theta}{\gg\!\!\gg} \quad \sqrt{a^2\sec^2\theta-a^2} = a\tan\theta \qquad \text{from} \quad \sec^2\theta - 1 = \tan^2\theta$$

For a more complex quadratic with linear and constant terms, you will need to first *complete the square* for the quadratic and then do the trig substitution.

06 Illustration

Example - Trig sub in quadratic: completing the square

Compute the integral:

$$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 11}}$$

Solution

(1) Complete the square to obtain Pythagorean form:

$$x^2 - 6x + \left(\frac{-6}{2}\right)^2 \quad \gg\gg \quad x^2 - 6x + 9 = (x-3)^2$$

Add and subtract to get desired constant term:

$$x^2 - 6x + 11 \quad \gg\gg \quad x^2 - 6x + 9 - 9 + 11$$

$$\gg\gg \quad (x-3)^2 + 2$$

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(2) Perform shift substitution:

Set $u = x - 3$ as inside the square:

$$(x-3)^2 + 2 = u^2 + 2$$

Infer $du = dx$. Plug into integrand:

$$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 11}} \quad \gg\gg \quad \int \frac{du}{\sqrt{u^2 + 2}}$$

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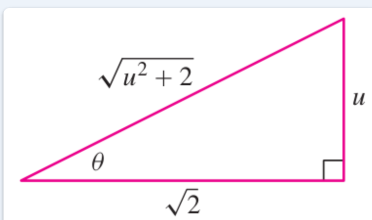
(3) Trig sub with $\tan\theta$:



Use substitution $u = \sqrt{2}\tan\theta$. (From triangle or memorized tip.)

Infer $du = \sqrt{2}\sec^2\theta\, d\theta$. Plug in data:

$$\int \frac{du}{\sqrt{u^2 + 2}} \quad \gg\gg \quad \int \frac{\sec^2\theta}{\sec\theta}\, d\theta = \int \sec\theta\, d\theta$$

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(4) Integrate using ad hoc memorized formula:

$$\int \sec\theta\, d\theta \quad \gg\gg \quad \ln|\tan\theta + \sec\theta| + C$$

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(5) Convert trig back to x:

First in terms of u, referring to the triangle:

$$\tan\theta = \frac{u}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad \sec\theta = \frac{\sqrt{u^2+2}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Then in terms of x using $u = x - 3$. Plug everything in:

$$\ln|\tan\theta + \sec\theta| + C \quad \ggg \quad \ln\left|\frac{x-3}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\sqrt{(x-3)^2+2}}{\sqrt{2}}\right| + C$$

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(6) Simplify using log rules:

$$\ln\frac{f(x)}{a} \quad \ggg \quad \ln f(x) - \ln a$$

The common denominator $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ can be pulled outside as $-\ln\sqrt{2}$.

The new term $-\ln\sqrt{2}$ can be “absorbed into the constant” (redefine C).

So we write our final answer thus:

$$\boxed{\ln\left|x - 3 + \sqrt{(x-3)^2+2}\right| + C}$$