

Trig integration review cheat sheet

REMEMBER THESE THREE IDENTITIES!

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

Then, for a general integral $\int \sin^n(x) \cos^m(x) dx$ where m, n are positive integers:

- If n is **odd**, rewrite $\sin^n(x) = \sin(x) \sin^{n-1}(x)$ and then use the first identity above to rewrite $\sin^{n-1}(x)$ in terms of $\cos(x)$ and use a u -substitution to complete the integration.

EXAMPLE

$$\int \sin^3(x) \cos^4(x) dx = \int \sin(x) (\sin^2(x) \cos^4(x)) dx = \int \sin(x) [(1 - \cos^2(x)) \cos^4(x)] dx$$

Now let $u = \cos(x)$ so $du = -\sin(x) dx$. Then the integral becomes

$$\int -[(1 - u^2)u^4] du = -\int u^4 - u^6 du = -(1/5 u^5 - 1/7 u^7) + C = -1/5 \cos^5(x) + 1/7 \cos^7(x) + C.$$

NOTE: The same process works if instead m is odd.

- If **both** n and m are even, then use the identities above to change the integrand to be in terms of $\cos(2x)$.

EXAMPLE

$$\begin{aligned} \int \sin^4(x) \cos^2(x) dx &= \int \left[\frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos(2x)) \right]^2 \left[\frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos(2x)) \right] dx \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \int (1 - 2\cos(2x) + \cos^2(2x))(1 + \cos(2x)) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \int 1 - \cos(2x) - \cos^2(2x) + \cos^3(2x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \int 1 - \cos(2x) - \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos(4x)) + \cos(2x)(1 - \sin^2(2x)) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \left[\int 1 - \cos(2x) - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cos(4x) dx + \int \cos(2x)(1 - \sin^2(2x)) dx \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \left[x - 1/2 \sin(2x) - 1/2x - 1/8 \sin(4x) + C + \int 1/2(1 - u^2) du \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{8} [1/2x - 1/2 \sin(2x) - 1/8 \sin(4x) + 1/2 \sin(2x) - 1/6 \sin^3(2x)] + C \\ &= \frac{1}{8} [1/2x - 1/8 \sin(4x) - 1/6 \sin^3(2x)] + C \end{aligned}$$