

A Table For Trigonometric Substitution

| Recall the Pythagorean trigonometric identities: | So if an integrand involves: $I(x)$ | We may make the inverse substitution: | Along with the differential | In this case | Also note | So that the integrand now involves: $I(x)$ |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| $\cos^2 \mathbf{q} = 1 - \sin^2 \mathbf{q}$ | $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$ | $x = a \sin \mathbf{q}$ | $dx = a \cos \mathbf{q} \cdot d\mathbf{q}$ | $\mathbf{q} = \sin^{-1} \frac{x}{a}$ | $\mathbf{q} \in \frac{-p}{2}, \frac{p}{2}$ $\mathbf{q}\hat{\mathbf{I}}$ QI or QIV | $\sqrt{a^2 - (a \sin \mathbf{q})^2}$ $= \sqrt{a^2 - a^2 \sin^2 \mathbf{q}}$ $= \sqrt{a^2 (1 - \sin^2 \mathbf{q})}$ $= \sqrt{a^2 \cos^2 \mathbf{q}}$ $= a \cos \mathbf{q}$ |
| $\sec^2 \mathbf{q} = 1 + \tan^2 \mathbf{q}$ | $\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}$ | $x = a \tan \mathbf{q}$ | $dx = a \sec^2 \mathbf{q} \cdot d\mathbf{q}$ | $\mathbf{q} = \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{a}$ | $\mathbf{q} \in \frac{-p}{2}, \frac{p}{2}$ $\mathbf{q}\hat{\mathbf{I}}$ QI or QIV | $\sqrt{a^2 + (a \tan \mathbf{q})^2}$ $= \sqrt{a^2 + a^2 \tan^2 \mathbf{q}}$ $= \sqrt{a^2 (1 + \tan^2 \mathbf{q})}$ $= \sqrt{a^2 \sec^2 \mathbf{q}}$ $= a \sec \mathbf{q}$ |
| $\tan^2 \mathbf{q} = \sec^2 \mathbf{q} - 1$ | $\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$ | $x = a \sec \mathbf{q}$ | $dx = a \sec \mathbf{q} \cdot \tan \mathbf{q} \cdot d\mathbf{q}$ | $\mathbf{q} = \sec^{-1} \frac{x}{a}$ | $\mathbf{q} \in 0, \frac{p}{2}$ $\cup p, \frac{3p}{2}$ $\mathbf{q}\hat{\mathbf{I}}$ QI or QIII | $\sqrt{(a \sec \mathbf{q})^2 - a^2}$ $= \sqrt{a^2 \sec^2 \mathbf{q} - a^2}$ $= \sqrt{a^2 (\sec^2 \mathbf{q} - 1)}$ $= \sqrt{a^2 \tan^2 \mathbf{q}}$ $= a \tan \mathbf{q}$ |

Here we assume $a > 0$ is a positive, real constant. Furthermore, we should first consider the effectiveness of a straight forward substitution, such as $u = a^2 - x^2$, $u = a^2 + x^2$ or $u = x^2 - a^2$. We might also consider the use of a hyperbolic substitution, based on the hyperbolic identities, $\tanh^2 x = 1 - \operatorname{sech}^2 x$, $\cosh^2 x = 1 + \sinh^2 x$ and $\sinh^2 x = \cosh^2 x - 1$.