

Ex1: Use trigonometric substitution to evaluate

$$a) \int \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+x+1}} dx, \quad b) \int x\sqrt{1-x^4} dx$$

Ex2 Use partial fraction decomposition to evaluate

$$a) \int \frac{1}{x^3-1} dx, \quad b) \int \frac{dx}{x^4-x^2}$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ex1: a) } x^2+x+1 &= \left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{4} \left[\frac{\left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2}{\frac{3}{4}} + 1\right] \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left[\frac{(2x+1)^2}{\sqrt{3}} + 1\right]. \quad \text{Thus} \end{aligned}$$

$$I = \int \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+x+1}} dx = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \int \frac{x}{\sqrt{\frac{(2x+1)^2}{\sqrt{3}} + 1}} dx. \quad \text{Let } \frac{2x+1}{\sqrt{3}} = \tan \theta$$

$$\text{with } -\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}. \quad \text{So } x = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \sqrt{3} \tan \theta - 1 \right]$$

$$\text{and } dx = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sec^2 \theta d\theta. \quad \text{Hence:}$$

$$I = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \int \frac{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left[ \sqrt{3} \tan \theta - 1 \right] \right] \sec^2 \theta d\theta}{\sqrt{\tan^2 \theta + 1}} = \int \frac{1}{2} (\sqrt{3} \tan \theta - 1) \sec \theta d\theta$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \int \tan \theta \sec \theta d\theta - \frac{1}{2} \int \sec \theta d\theta$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sec \theta - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\sec \theta + \tan \theta| + C$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sec \left[ \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2x+1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \right] - \frac{1}{2} \ln \left| \sec \left[ \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2x+1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \right] + \frac{2x+1}{\sqrt{3}} \right| + C$$

b) Let  $u = x^2$ ,  $du = 2x dx$ . Thus  $\int x \sqrt{1-x^4} dx = \int \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1-u^2} du$

Let  $u = \sin \theta$ , with  $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Then

$$\frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{1-u^2} du = \frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta} \cos \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{1 + \cos 2\theta}{2} d\theta = \frac{1}{4} \left[ \theta + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\theta \right] + C$$

Ex2. a)  $x^3 - 1 = (x-1)(x^2+x+1)$ . So  $\frac{1}{x^3-1} = \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{Bx+C}{x^2+x+1}$

To find A, we multiply each side by  $(x-1)$  and we take  $x=1$ :

$$\left. \frac{1}{x^2+x+1} \right|_{x=1} = A + (x-1) \left. \frac{Bx+C}{x^2+x+1} \right|_{x=1} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \boxed{A = \frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\frac{1}{x^3-1} = \frac{1}{3(x-1)} + \frac{Bx+C}{x^2+x+1} \Leftrightarrow \frac{3}{x^3-1} = \frac{x^2+x+1 + 3(x-1)(Bx+C)}{x^3-1}$$

$$= \frac{x^2+x+1 + 3Bx^2 + 3Cx - 3Bx - 3C}{x^3-1} = \frac{(3B+1)x^2 + (1+3C-3B)x + (1-3C)}{x^3-1}$$

By identification, we have:  $1-3C=3$  i.e.  $C = -\frac{2}{3}$   
and  $3B+1=0$  i.e.  $B = -\frac{1}{3}$ . Hence

$$\int \frac{dx}{x^3-1} = \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{1}{x-1} dx - \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{x+2}{x^2+x+1} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \ln|x-1| - \frac{1}{6} \int \frac{2x+4}{x^2+x+1} dx = \frac{1}{3} \ln|x-1| - \frac{1}{6} \int \left( \frac{2x+1}{x^2+x+1} + \frac{3}{x^2+x+1} \right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \ln|x-1| - \frac{1}{6} \ln(x^2+x+1) - \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{dx}{x^2+x+1}$$

Since  $\int \frac{dx}{x^2+x+1} = \int \frac{dx}{\left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}} = \frac{2}{3} \int \frac{dx}{\left(\frac{2x+1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)^2 + 1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2x+1}{\sqrt{3}}\right) + C$

Hence  $\int \frac{dx}{x^3-1} = \frac{1}{3} \ln|x-1| - \frac{1}{6} \ln(x^2+x+1) - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2x+1}{\sqrt{3}}\right) + C$

$$b) \int \frac{dx}{x^4 - x^2} = \int \frac{dx}{x^2(x^2 - 1)} = \int \frac{dx}{x^2(x-1)(x+1)}$$

$$\frac{1}{x^2(x-1)(x+1)} = \frac{A}{x} + \frac{B}{x^2} + \frac{C}{x-1} + \frac{D}{x+1}$$

•) To find C, we multiply both sides by  $(x-1)$  and we take  $x=1$ , we

$$\text{find that } C = \frac{1}{2}.$$

•) To find D, we multiply both sides by  $(x+1)$  and we take  $x=-1$ , we find:

$$D = -\frac{1}{2}.$$

•) To find B, we multiply both sides by  $x^2$  and we take  $x=0$ , we find:

$$B = -1$$

•) To find A, we multiply both sides by  $x$  and we take the limit

$$\text{when } x \text{ goes to } +\infty: \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{x(x-1)(x+1)} = A + \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left( \frac{B}{x} + \frac{Cx}{x-1} + \frac{Dx}{x+1} \right)$$

$$\text{Thus } 0 = A + C + D, \text{ hence } A = -C - D = 0$$

$$\text{Therefore } \frac{1}{x^2(x-1)(x+1)} = -\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{2(x-1)} - \frac{1}{2(x+1)}. \text{ Thus}$$

$$\int \frac{dx}{x^4 - x^2} = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{2} \ln|x-1| - \frac{1}{2} \ln|x+1| + C$$