

8.4 Trigonometric Substitutions

Expression	Substitution	θ
$\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$	$x = a \sin \theta$	$-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$
$\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}$	$x = a \tan \theta$	$-\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$
$\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$	$x = a \sec \theta$	$0 \leq \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$ if $x \geq a$ $\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta \leq \pi$ if $x \leq -a$

Example 1 Evaluate

a) $\int \frac{dx}{x^2 \sqrt{16 - x^2}}$

b) $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{4 + x^2}}$

c) $\int_3^6 \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - 9}}{x} dx$

Example 2 Evaluate

$$a) \int \sqrt{5 - 4x - x^2} \, dx$$

$$b) \int \frac{(1 - x^2)^{3/2}}{x^6} \, dx$$

$$c) \int \frac{x}{x^2 - 4x + 8} \, dx$$