

## Integrating Parametric Equations

### Starter

- (Review of last lesson)** Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for the curve  $x = \ln 5t, y = 3t^2 - t^3$ .
- (Review of A2 material)** Find  $\int_{\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\pi} x \sin 3x dx$ .

### Notes

Let  $y = f(x)$  be a curve that can be expressed parametrically in the form  $x = x(t)$  and  $y = y(t)$ . Let the corresponding  $t$ -values of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  be  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  respectively.

We need an expression for  $\int_{x_1}^{x_2} y dx$  with  $dx$  replaced by  $dt$ .

$$\begin{aligned} dx &= dx \times \frac{dt}{dt} && \text{since } \frac{dt}{dt} = 1 \\ &= \frac{dx}{dt} dt \end{aligned}$$

Then  $\int_{x_1}^{x_2} y dx = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} y \frac{dx}{dt} dt$

**N.B.** Remember to change the limits as you change from  $dx$  to  $dt$   
Given the nature of the formula, integration by parts may be required

**E.g. 1** Find an expression in parametric form that is equivalent to  $\int y dx$ :

(a)  $x = \frac{3}{t}, y = 4t^2$                       (b)  $x = \sqrt{t}, y = 3t^2 - 4$

**Working:** (a) From  $x = \frac{3}{t} = 3t^{-1}$ ,  $\frac{dx}{dt} = -3t^{-2} = -\frac{3}{t^2}$

$$\int y \frac{dx}{dt} dt = \int 4t^2 \times -\frac{3}{t^2} dt = -\int 12 dt$$

**E.g. 2** A curve has parametric equations  $x = 3t^2, y = \frac{5}{t}$ , where  $t > 0$ . Find the value of

$$\int_3^{75} y dx.$$

**E.g. 3** A curve has parametric equations  $x = 6t^2, y = e^{2t}$ , where  $t > 0$ . Find the value of

$$\int_0^6 y dx.$$

Video A: [Integrating parametric functions](#)  
Video B: [Integrating parametric functions](#)

[Solutions to Starter and E.g.s](#)

**Exercise**

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**Summary**

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} y dx = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} y \frac{dx}{dt} dt$$

