

7. [13 points] Household electricity in the United States is supplied in the form of an alternating current that varies sinusoidally with a frequency of 60 cycles per second (Hz). The voltage is given by the equation

$$E(t) = 170 \sin(120\pi t),$$

where t is given in seconds and E is in volts.

- a. [7 points] Using integration by parts, find $\int \sin^2 \theta d\theta$. Show all work to receive full credit. (Hint: $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$.)

Solution: We first note that $\int \sin^2 \theta d\theta = \int \sin \theta (\sin \theta) d\theta$, so that we may take $u = \sin \theta$, $dv = \sin \theta d\theta$ (and $du = \cos \theta d\theta$, $v = -\cos \theta$). Then integration by parts gives

$$\begin{aligned} \int \sin^2 \theta d\theta &= \sin \theta (-\cos \theta) - \int -\cos \theta (\cos \theta) d\theta \\ &= -\sin \theta \cos \theta + \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

Using the trig. identity given in the hint, we obtain

$$\int \sin^2 \theta d\theta = -\sin \theta \cos \theta + \int (1 - \sin^2 \theta) d\theta = -\sin \theta \cos \theta + \int d\theta - \int \sin^2 \theta.$$

The integral on the far right also appears on the left, so combining like terms, we get

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \int \sin^2 \theta d\theta &= -\sin \theta \cos \theta + \int d\theta \\ \int \sin^2 \theta d\theta &= \frac{1}{2} \left(-\sin \theta \cos \theta + \int d\theta \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \sin \theta \cos \theta + \frac{\theta}{2} + C. \end{aligned}$$

- b. [6 points] Voltmeters read the root-mean-square (RMS) voltage, which is defined to be the square root of the average value of $[E(t)]^2$ over one cycle. Find the exact RMS voltage of household current.

Solution: Since the frequency of the current is 60 cycles per second, one cycle is completed every $\frac{1}{60}$ seconds. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RMS voltage} &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{60} - 0} \int_0^{\frac{1}{60}} E(t)^2 dt} \\ &= \sqrt{60 \int_0^{\frac{1}{60}} 170^2 \sin^2(120\pi t) dt}. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting $w = 120\pi t$, $dw = 120\pi dt$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RMS voltage} &= \sqrt{60 \int_{w(0)}^{w(\frac{1}{60})} 170^2 \sin^2(w) \cdot \frac{1}{120\pi} dw} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{170^2}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \sin^2(w) dw}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the antiderivative we found in part (a) with $C = 0$, the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus gives

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RMS voltage} &= \sqrt{\frac{170^2}{2\pi} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \sin \theta \cos \theta + \frac{\theta}{2} \right) \Big|_0^{2\pi}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{170^2}{2\pi} \left(\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sin(2\pi) \cos(2\pi) + \frac{2\pi}{2} \right) - \left(-\frac{1}{2} \sin(0) \cos(0) + \frac{0}{2} \right) \right)} = \frac{170}{\sqrt{2}} \text{ Volts.} \end{aligned}$$

Note that due to the periodicity of the sine function, the average value over one cycle could also have been computed over $0 \leq t \leq 1$ (or any other number of periods).