

$$I = \int_0^{\theta} \frac{1}{1 - a \cos x} dx$$

$$\text{Let } t = \tan \frac{1}{2} x \rightarrow \frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} \sec^2 \frac{1}{2} x = \frac{1}{2} (1 + t^2)$$

$$dx = \frac{2}{1 + t^2}$$

$$\text{Also, } \cos x = \frac{1 - t^2}{1 + t^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^{\tan \frac{1}{2} \theta} \frac{1}{1 - a \left(\frac{1 - t^2}{1 + t^2} \right)} \left(\frac{2}{1 + t^2} \right) dt \\ &= 2 \int_0^{\tan \frac{1}{2} \theta} \frac{1}{1 + t^2 - a(1 - t^2)} dt = 2 \int_0^{\tan \frac{1}{2} \theta} \frac{1}{1 + t^2 - a + a t^2} dt \\ &= 2 \int_0^{\tan \frac{1}{2} \theta} \frac{1}{(1 + a)t^2 + (1 - a)} dt \end{aligned}$$

Remembering *cough checking* the integral of $\frac{1}{x^2 + a^2}$ as $\frac{1}{a} \arctan \frac{x}{a}$ and using the un-chain rule to account for the coefficient of the variable:

$$I = 2 \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - a} \sqrt{1 + a}} \right) \left[\arctan \sqrt{\left(\frac{1 + a}{1 - a} \right)} t \right]_0^{\tan \frac{1}{2} \theta} = \text{etc etc don't wanna type it out}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1}{2 - a \cos x} dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{a}{2} \cos x} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(2 \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (\frac{1}{2} a)^2}} \right) \right) \left[\arctan \sqrt{\left(\frac{1 + \frac{1}{2} a}{1 - \frac{1}{2} a} \right)} t \right]_0^{\tan \frac{1}{2} (\pi/2)} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - a^2/4}} \arctan \sqrt{\left(\frac{2 + a}{2 - a} \right)} \quad (\text{The } t \text{ inside the last bracket} = \tan \pi/4 = 1) \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{4 - a^2}} \arctan \sqrt{\left(\frac{2 + a}{2 - a} \right)} \quad (\text{Just multiplying the fraction in front by } 2/2) \end{aligned}$$