



FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Department Of Mathematics & Statistics

Section 5.2: Integration by substitution.

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Lecture 17



Example

$$\int \frac{3x^2 + 5}{x^3 + 5x + 1} dx =$$

Solution. Let $u = x^3 + 5x + 1$, then $\frac{du}{dx} = 3x^2 + 5 \rightarrow du = (3x^2 + 5)dx$

$$= \int \frac{du}{u} = \ln|u| + C$$

$$\int \frac{1}{u} du = \ln|x^3 + 5x + 1| + C$$

Dealing with extra constants.

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

Solution.

$$\text{Let } u = x^2 + 1$$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 2x \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad du = 2x dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} du = x dx$$

$$= \int \frac{\frac{1}{2} du}{u} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{1}{u} du = \frac{1}{2} \ln|u| + C$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \ln(|x^2+1|) + C = \frac{1}{2} \ln(x^2+1) + C$$

$x^2+1 > 0$

Example

$$\int x^3(36 - 22x^4)^2 dx =$$

Solution.

$$\text{Let } u = 36 - 22x^4 \rightsquigarrow \frac{du}{dx} = -22 \cdot 4 \cdot x^3 = -88x^3$$

$$\left(\text{Alternatively: } \frac{du}{-88x^3} = dx \right) \quad \frac{1}{-88} du = x^3 dx$$

$$= \int u^2 \left(-\frac{1}{88} du \right) = -\frac{1}{88} \int u^2 du = -\frac{1}{88} \cdot \frac{1}{3} u^3 + C$$

$$= -\frac{1}{264} (36 - 22x^4)^3 + C$$



Additional practice problems for integration by u -substitution
(simpler examples).

Ex. 1, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17 in Section 5.2.



Take a minute to digest!

Take a minute to jot down what you can remember from these examples. For example, what did we look for that indicated that the problem was solvable by u -substitution?



More involved examples I

Sometimes, it's harder to recognize the $u'(x)$ in the integrand. If the integral is still not solvable by basic formulas, try to look for a composition of functions (a function with layers) in the integral, and try to pick $u(x)$ as the middle layer.

Example. $\int \underbrace{(7x+8)}_{\text{degree 1}}^9 dx = ?$

$x \quad \underbrace{7x+8}_u \quad (7x+8)^9$

Let $u = 7x + 8$ then $\frac{du}{dx} = 7 \quad \leadsto \quad \frac{1}{7} du = dx$

$$= \int u^9 \cdot \frac{1}{7} du = \frac{1}{7} \int u^9 du = \frac{1}{7} \cdot \frac{1}{10} u^{10} + C$$

$$= \frac{1}{70} (7x+8)^{10} + C$$

Example

$$\int \sqrt{6x+2} dx =$$

$$= \int (6x+2)^{1/2} dx$$

let $u = 6x+2$ } no dx here

$$= \int u^{1/2} \cdot \frac{1}{6} du$$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 6 \text{ so } \frac{1}{6} du = dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \int u^{1/2} du = \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}+1} u^{\frac{1}{2}+1} + C$$

$$= \frac{1}{9} u^{3/2} + C = \frac{1}{9} (6x+2)^{3/2} + C$$



More involved examples II

Recall that we don't know $\int \ln(x) dx$. So if there is a natural logarithm in the integral, first try to set u equal to the logarithm.

Example. $\int \frac{\ln(x^2)}{x} dx = ?$

$$\text{Let } u = \ln(x^2) = 2 \ln(x)$$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{x} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \frac{1}{2} du = \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$= \int u \cdot \frac{1}{2} du = \frac{1}{2} \int u du = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} u^2 + C$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} u^2 + C = \frac{1}{4} (2 \ln(x))^2 + C = (\ln(x))^2 + C$$

$$\frac{1}{4} \cdot 2 \ln(x) \cdot 2 \ln(x) + C$$