

5.5. Integration by Substitution (u-substitution)

This is a method to find integrals of the form

$$\int f(g(x)) g'(x) dx$$

both $g(x)$ and $g'(x)$ appear in the integrand.

E.g. $\int \sin(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 dx$

u-substitution: $\int f(g(x)) g'(x) dx \rightarrow \int f(u) du$

let $u = g(x)$. $\frac{du}{dx} = g'(x)$; $du = g'(x) dx$

$$\int \sin(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 dx$$

let $u = x^3$. Then $du = 3x^2 dx$

original integral in terms of x becomes

$$\int \sin(u) du = -\cos(u) + C.$$

$$= -\cos(x^3) + C.$$

$$\int \sin(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 dx = -\cos(x^3) + C$$

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$$\int \sin(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 dx$$

let $u = x^3$. $du = 3x^2 dx$

$$\int \sin(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 dx = 3 \int \sin(u) du$$

$$= 3 \cdot \int \sin(u) du = -3 \cos(u) + C.$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \int \sin(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 dx = \frac{1}{3} \int \sin(u) du = -\frac{1}{3} \cos(u) + C.$$

let $u = x^3$. $du = 3x^2 dx$

More examples of Integration by Substitution

E.g. 1. $\frac{1}{3} \int \frac{3x^2}{x^3+5} dx$

let $u = x^3+5$. $du = 3x^2 dx$

$$\frac{1}{3} \int \frac{du}{u} = \frac{1}{3} \ln|u| + C.$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \ln|x^3+5| + C.$$

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$$-\int \cos(x) \sin(x) dx$$

let $u = \cos x$; $du = -\sin x dx$

$$-\int u^2 du = -\frac{u^3}{3} + C = -\frac{\cos^3 x}{3} + C.$$

E.g. $\int 2z \sqrt{z^2-5} dz = \frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{z^2-5} dz$

let $u = z^2-5$. $du = 2z dz$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{u} du = \frac{1}{2} \int u^{\frac{1}{2}} du = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{u^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\frac{3}{2}} + C$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} u^{\frac{3}{2}} + C = \frac{1}{3} (z^2-5)^{\frac{3}{2}} + C.$$

E.g. $-\int \frac{\sin t}{\cos^3 t} dt$

let $u = \cos t$. $du = -\sin t dt$

$$-\int \frac{du}{u^3} = -\int u^{-3} du = -\frac{u^{-2}}{-2} + C = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{u^2} + C$$

$$= \frac{1}{2 \cos^2 t} + C = \frac{1}{2} \sec^2 t + C.$$

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