

Section 5.5 Substitution Rule

Goal Run the chain rule in reverse.

Recall the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = F(b) - F(a), \text{ where } F(x) \text{ is any antiderivative of } f(x)$$

This means that computing a definite integral reduces to finding an indefinite integral or antiderivative. We thus return to the problem of finding antiderivatives. So far we have the following formulas for doing this.

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

$$\int \sin u du = -\cos u + C$$

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

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

$$\int \cos u du = \sin u + C$$

$$\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} du = \sin^{-1} u + C$$

$$\int e^u du = e + C$$

$$\int \sec^2 u du = \tan u + C$$

$$\int \frac{1}{u\sqrt{u^2-1}} du = \sec^{-1}|u| + C$$

$$\int a^u du = \frac{1}{\ln a} a + C$$

$$\int \csc^2 u du = -\cot u + C$$

$$\int \sec u \tan u du = \sec u + C$$

$$\int \csc u \cot u du = \csc u + C$$

This is an impressive list, but its by no means complete. Today we investigate a technique called integration by substitution that gives the list greater versatility. Basically it's the chain rule in reverse, so let's start there.

Suppose $F'(x) = f(x)$, i.e. $F(x)$ is an antiderivative of $f(x)$.

Chain Rule $\frac{d}{dx} [F(g(x))] = f(g(x)) g'(x)$

Chain rule in reverse: $\int \underbrace{f(g(x))}_{\downarrow} \underbrace{g'(x)}_{\downarrow} dx = \underbrace{F(g(x))}_{\downarrow} + C$

Let $u = g(x)$
 $\frac{du}{dx} = g'(x)$
 $du = g'(x) dx$

$$\int f(u) du = F(u) + C$$

In summary: Theorem 5.6

Substitution Rule If $u = g(x)$, then $\int \underbrace{f(g(x))g'(x)}_{\text{complex integral}} dx = \int \underbrace{f(u)du}_{\text{simple integral}}$

This rule can reduce a complex integral to a simple integral. To use it, you must look for the structure $f(g(x))g'(x)$ in the original integral. Then you simplify it by making the substitutions $g(x) = u$ and $g'(x)dx = du$. Some examples are in order.

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\text{Ex}} \quad & \int \cos(x^2+3) 2x \, dx \\ &= \int \cos(u) \, du \\ &= \sin(u) + C = \boxed{\sin(x^2+3) + C} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= x^2+3 \\ \frac{du}{dx} &= 2x \\ du &= 2x \, dx \end{aligned}$$

Check:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [\sin(x^2+3)] = \cos(x^2+3) 2x$$



$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\text{Ex}} \quad & \int e^{\sin x} \cos x \, dx \\ &= \int e^u \, du \\ &= e^u + C = \boxed{e^{\sin x} + C} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \sin x \\ \frac{du}{dx} &= \cos x \\ du &= \cos x \, dx \end{aligned}$$

Check:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [e^{\sin x}] = e^{\sin x} \cos x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\text{Ex}} \quad & \int \tan^5 x \sec^2 x \, dx \\ &= \int u^5 \, du \\ &= \frac{u^6}{6} + C = \boxed{\frac{\tan^6 x}{6} + C} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \tan x \\ \frac{du}{dx} &= \sec^2 x \\ du &= \sec^2 x \, dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\text{Ex}} \quad & \int \cos(x^2+3) x \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int \cos(x^2+3) 2x \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int \cos u \, du = \frac{1}{2} \sin u + C = \boxed{\frac{1}{2} \sin(x^2+3) + C} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= x^2+3 \\ du &= 2x \, dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\text{Ex}} \quad & \int \sin(\pi x) \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int \sin(\pi x) \pi \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int \sin(u) \, du = -\frac{1}{\pi} \cos u + C \\ &= \boxed{-\frac{1}{\pi} \cos(\pi x) + C} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \pi x \\ \frac{du}{dx} &= \pi \\ du &= \pi \, dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\text{Ex}} \quad & \int \frac{4x^3+1}{5x^4+5x-3} \, dx = \int \frac{1}{5x^4+5x-1} (4x^3+1) \, dx = \frac{1}{5} \int \frac{1}{5x^4+5x-1} 5(5x^3+1) \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{5} \int \frac{1}{u} \, du \\ &= \frac{1}{5} \ln|u| + C \\ &= \boxed{\frac{1}{5} \ln|5x^4+5x-3| + C} \end{aligned}$$

$$u = 5x^4+5x-3$$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 20x^3+5$$

$$du = (20x^3+5) \, dx$$

$$= 5(5x^3+1) \, dx$$

Note Expression such as $\int \frac{1}{u} du$ often written $\int \frac{du}{u}$

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\text{Ex}} \int \frac{e^x}{\sqrt{1-e^{2x}}} dx &= \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(e^x)^2}} e^x dx \\ &= \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} du = \sin^{-1} u + C \\ &= \boxed{\sin^{-1}(e^x) + C}\end{aligned}$$

← Similar to $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} du = \sin^{-1} u + C$

Thus: $u = e^x$
 $\frac{du}{dx} = e^x$
 $du = e^x dx$

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\text{Ex}} \int \frac{\sec^2(\sqrt{x})}{\sqrt{x}} dx &= \int \sec^2(\sqrt{x}) \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx \\ &= 2 \int \sec^2(\sqrt{x}) \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} dx = 2 \int \sec^2 u du \\ &= 2 \tan u + C = \boxed{2 \tan \sqrt{x} + C}\end{aligned}$$

$u = \sqrt{x} = x^{1/2}$
 $\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} x^{-1/2} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$
 $du = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} dx$

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\text{Ex}} \int \cot x dx &= \int \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} dx = \int \frac{1}{\sin x} \cos x dx \\ &= \int \frac{1}{u} du = \ln|u| + C = \boxed{\ln|\sin x| + C}\end{aligned}$$

$u = \sin x$
 $du = \cos x dx$

It's essential that you work lots of exercises for practice
You will get very good at this technique with practice.
Guaranteed.

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