

ADVANCED HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS

INTEGRATION

METHODS OF INTEGRATION: SUBSTITUTION

Integrals can often be evaluated by changing the integrand to a [standard form](#) by a suitable substitution in the variable. **Unfortunately, there are no general rules for making substitutions and one has to rely on experience and trial and error.** Therefore, the best way to master this topic is by doing many integration exercises.

Example 1 $I = \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{ax+b}}$

Substitution $u = ax + b \quad du/dx = a \quad dx = (1/a)du$

$$I = \left(\frac{1}{a}\right) \int \frac{du}{\sqrt{u}} = \left(\frac{1}{a}\right) \int u^{-1/2} du = \left(\frac{2}{a}\right) u^{1/2} + C$$

$$I = \left(\frac{2}{a}\right) \sqrt{ax+b} + C$$

Always check the answer by differentiation $dI / dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{ax+b}}$

Example 2 $I = \int \cos(5y + 99) dy$

Substitution $u = 5y + 99$ $du/dy = 5$ $dy = (1/5)du$

$$I = (1/5) \int \cos(u) du = (1/5) \sin(u) + C$$

$$I = (1/5) \sin(5y + 99) + C$$

Always check the answer by differentiation $dI/dy = \cos(5y + 99)$

Example 3 $I = \int \frac{dt}{a + bt}$

Substitution $u = a + bt$ $du/dt = b$ $dt = (1/b)du$

$$I = (1/b) \int \frac{du}{u} = (1/b) \ln(u)$$

$$I = (1/b) \ln(a + bt)$$

Always check the answer by differentiation $dI/dt = \frac{1}{a + bt}$

Integrals of the form

$$I = \int [f(x)]^n f'(x) dx$$

can be integrated by the substitution

$$u = f(x) \quad du = f'(x) dx$$

Example 4 $I = \int \frac{3x}{1+6x^2} dx$

Substitution $u = 1+6x^2 \quad du/dx = 12x \quad dx = (1/12x) du$

$$I = (1/4) \int \frac{du}{u} = (1/4) \ln(u)$$

$$I = (1/4) \ln(1+6x^2)$$

Always check the answer by differentiation $dI/dx = \frac{3}{1+6x^2}$

Example 5 $I = \int (x^3 + 2x^2 + 5x + 7)^{11} (6x^2 + 8x + 10) dx$

Substitution $u = x^3 + 2x^2 + 5x + 7$ $du/dx = 3x^2 + 4x + 5$ $dx = \frac{du}{3x^2 + 4x + 5}$

$$I = 2 \int u^{11} du = (2/12)u^{12} + C$$

$$I = (1/6)(x^3 + 2x^2 + 5x + 7)^{12} + C$$

Always check the answer by differentiation $dI/dx = (x^3 + 2x^2 + 5x + 7)^{11} (6x^2 + 8x + 10)$

Example 6 $I = \int \frac{dx}{(a-x)^2}$

Substitution $u = a - x$ $du/dx = -1$ $dx = -du$

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

$$I = \frac{1}{a-x} + C$$

Example 7 $I = \int x \sqrt{1+5x} dx$

Substitution $u = \sqrt{1+5x} = (1+5x)^{1/2} \quad x = (u^2 - 1)/5$

$$du/dx = (5/2)(1+5x)^{-1/2} \quad dx = (2/5)(1+5x)^{1/2} du$$

$$I = (1/5)(2/5) \int (u^2 - 1) u du = \left(\frac{2}{25}\right) \int (u^4 - u^2) du$$

$$I = \left(\frac{2}{25}\right) \left(\frac{u^5}{5} - \frac{u^3}{3}\right) + C = \frac{2u^5}{125} - \frac{2u^3}{75} + C$$

$$I = \left(\frac{2}{125}\right) (1+5x)^{5/2} - \left(\frac{2}{75}\right) (1+5x)^{3/2} + C$$

Always check the answer by differentiation $dI/dx = x \sqrt{1+5x}$

Example 8 $I = \int x^3 \sqrt{1-x^2} dx$

$$u = \sqrt{1-x^2} = (1-x^2)^{1/2} \quad x = (1-u^2)^{1/2}$$

Substitution

$$du/dx = -x(1-x^2)^{-1/2} \quad dx = \frac{-(1-x^2)^{1/2} du}{x} = \frac{-u du}{(1-u^2)^{1/2}}$$

$$I = -\int (1-u^2)^{3/2} u \frac{u du}{(1-u^2)^{1/2}} = -\int (1-u^2) u^2 du$$

$$I = \frac{u^5}{5} - \frac{u^3}{3} + C$$

$$I = (1/5)(1-x^2)^{5/2} - (1/3)(1-x^2)^{3/2} + C$$

Always check the answer by differentiation $dI/dx = x^3 \sqrt{1-x^2}$

Example 9 $I = \int \frac{dx}{2 + \sqrt{x}}$

Substitution $u = \sqrt{x} = x^{1/2} \quad x = u^2$
 $dx = 2u du$

$$I = \int \frac{2u du}{u+2} = 2 \int \frac{u+2-2}{u+2} du = 2 \left[\int \frac{u+2}{u+2} du + \int \frac{-2}{u+2} du \right]$$

$$I = 2[u - 2 \ln(u+2)] + C$$

$$I = 2\sqrt{x} - 4 \ln(\sqrt{x} + 2) + C$$

Always check the answer by differentiation $dI/dx = \frac{1}{2 + x^{1/2}}$

Trigonometric substitution

Trigonometry Review

Often the substitution of a trigonometric function reduces the integral to standard form.

Example 10 $I = \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}$

$$x = a \sin(u) \quad dx = a \cos(u) du$$

$$I = \int \frac{a \cos(u) du}{\sqrt{a^2 - a^2 \sin^2(u)}} = \int \frac{\cos(u) du}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2(u)}} = u + C$$

$$I = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{a}\right) + C$$

Example 11 Find the area A of a semicircle of radius a

Equation of a circle of radius a $x^2 + y^2 = a^2$

Equation of semicircle $y = \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \quad -a \leq x \leq +a$

Area of semicircle $A = \int_{-a}^a \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \, dx$

$$x = a \sin(u) \quad dx = a \cos(u) \, du$$

$$x = -a \rightarrow u = -\pi/2$$

$$x = a \rightarrow u = \pi/2$$

$$A = \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \sqrt{a^2 - a^2 \sin^2(u)} \, a \cos(u) \, du$$

$$A = a^2 \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \cos^2(u) \, du$$

$$\cos(2u) = \cos^2(u) - \sin^2(u)$$

$$\cos^2(u) + \sin^2(u) = 1$$

$$\cos^2(u) = (1/2)(1 + \cos(2u))$$

$$A = \left(\frac{a^2}{2}\right) \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} [1 + \cos(2u)] \, du$$

$$A = \left(\frac{a^2}{2}\right) \left[u + \frac{1}{2} \sin(2u) \right]_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2}$$

$$A = \left(\frac{a^2}{2}\right) [\pi + 0]$$

$$A = \frac{\pi a^2}{2}$$

If the integrand involves terms such as $\sqrt{1+x^2}$ then the substitution $u = \tan(x)$ may be useful.

Example 12 $I = \int \frac{dx}{x^2 \sqrt{1+x^2}}$

$$x = \tan(u) \quad dx = \sec^2(u) du$$

$$\sec^2(u) = 1 + \tan^2(u) \quad \tan(u) = \frac{\sin(u)}{\cos(u)}$$

$$I = \int \left[\frac{\sec^2(u)}{\tan^2(u) \sqrt{1 + \tan^2(u)}} \right] du$$

$$I = \int \left[\frac{\sec(u)}{\tan^2(u)} \right] du$$

$$I = \int \left[\frac{\cos(u)}{\sin^2(u)} \right] du$$

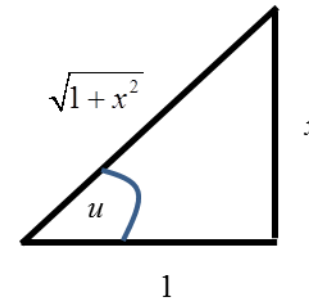
$$I = \frac{-1}{\sin(u)} + C$$

$$\sin(u) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}$$

$$I = \frac{-\sqrt{1+x^2}}{x} + C$$

$$\tan(u) = \frac{x}{1}$$

$$\sin(u) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}$$



Some useful trigonometric relations needed for evaluating many types of integrals

$$\sin^2(x) + \cos^2(x) = 1 \quad \sin(x) = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2(x)} \quad \cos(x) = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2(x)}$$

$$\tan^2(x) + 1 = \frac{\sin^2(x)}{\cos^2(x)} + 1 = \frac{\sin^2(x) + \cos^2(x)}{\cos^2(x)} = \frac{1}{\cos^2(x)}$$

$$\sec^2(x) = \tan^2(x) + 1$$

$$\cos(2x) = \cos^2(x) - \sin^2(x) = 2\cos^2(x) - 1 \quad \cos^2(x) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos(2x))$$

$$\sin(2x) = 2\sin(x)\cos(x)$$

$$\tan(2x) = \frac{\sin(2x)}{\cos(2x)} = \frac{2\sin(x)\cos(x)}{\cos^2(x) - \sin^2(x)} \quad \div \frac{\cos^2(x)}{\cos^2(x)}$$

$$\tan(2x) = \frac{2\tan(x)}{1 - \tan^2(x)}$$

$$\cos(2x) = \cos^2(x) - \sin^2(x) = \cos^2(x) \left(1 - \frac{\sin^2(x)}{\cos^2(x)}\right) = \left(\frac{1}{\sec^2(x)}\right) (1 - \tan^2(x))$$

$$\cos(2x) = \frac{1 - \tan^2(x)}{1 + \tan^2(x)}$$

$$\sin(2x) = 2\sin(x)\cos(x) = \frac{2\sin(x)\cos^2(x)}{\cos(x)} = \frac{2\tan x}{\sec^2(x)}$$

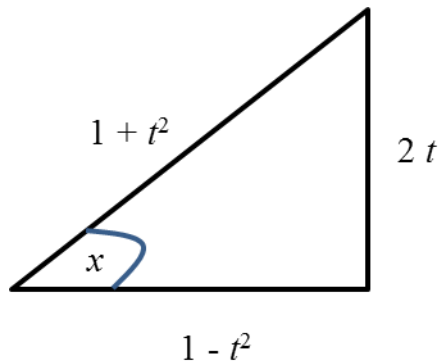
$$\sin(2x) = \frac{2\tan x}{1 + \tan^2(x)}$$

The substitution $t = \tan(x/2)$ is often a useful one for integration of trigonometric functions because we can express

$$\sin(x) = \frac{2t}{1+t^2} \quad \cos(x) = \frac{1-t^2}{1+t^2} \quad dx = \frac{2 dt}{1+t^2}$$

$$t = \tan(x/2) \quad dt = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \tan^2(x/2))dx = \frac{1}{2}(1+t^2)dx \quad dx = \frac{2}{1+t^2}dt$$

$$\cos(x) = \frac{1-t^2}{1+t^2} \quad \cos(x)1+t^2 = 1-t^2 \Rightarrow t^2 = \frac{1-\cos(x)}{1+\cos(x)}$$



$$t = \tan(x/2)$$

$$\sin x = \frac{2t}{1+t^2} \quad \cos x = \frac{1-t^2}{1+t^2} \quad \tan x = \frac{2t}{1-t^2}$$

$$dx = \frac{2}{1+t^2} dt \quad t^2 = \frac{1-\cos x}{1+\cos x}$$

Example 13 $I = \int \operatorname{cosec}(x) dx$

$$I = \int \operatorname{cosec}(x) dx = \int \frac{dx}{\sin(x)} = \int \left(\frac{1+t^2}{2t} \right) \frac{2 dt}{1+t^2} = \int \frac{dt}{t}$$

$$I = \ln(t) + C = \ln \left(\tan \left(\frac{x}{2} \right) \right) + C$$

Example 14 $I = \int \frac{d\theta}{2 + \sin \theta}$

$$I = \int \frac{d\theta}{2 + \sin \theta} \quad \sin \theta = \frac{2t}{1+t^2} \quad d\theta = \frac{2}{1+t^2} dt$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{2 + \sin \theta} = \left(\frac{2}{1+t^2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2 + \frac{2t}{1+t^2}} \right) dt = \frac{dt}{t^2 + t + 1}$$

$$t^2 + t + 1 = (t + A)^2 + B^2 = t^2 + 2At + A^2 + B^2$$

$$A = 1/2 \quad B^2 = 3/4 \quad B = \sqrt{3}/2$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{2 + \sin \theta} = \frac{dt}{(t + A)^2 + B^2} \quad \text{substitute numerical values for } A \text{ and } B \text{ later is best}$$

$$I = \int \frac{dt}{(t + A)^2 + B^2} \quad \int \frac{dx}{a^2 + x^2} = \left(\frac{1}{a} \right) \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x}{a} \right)$$

$$I = \frac{1}{B} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{t + A}{B} \right) + K$$

$$I = \left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \tan^{-1} \left(\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \right) (\tan(\theta/2) + 1/2) \right) + K$$

$$I = \left(\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} \right) \tan^{-1} \left(\left(\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} \right) (\tan(\theta/2) + 1/2) \right) + K$$