

Definite Integration by Substitution

Starter

1. **(Review of last lesson)** Use a suitable substitution to integrate $\int \frac{2x + 1}{(x - 3)^6} dx$.

Working: Let $u = x - 3 \Rightarrow \frac{du}{dx} = 1 \Rightarrow dx = du$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{2x + 1}{(x - 3)^6} dx &= \int \frac{2x + 1}{u^6} du && \text{replace } x - 3 \text{ and } dx \\ &= \int \frac{2(u + 3) + 1}{u^6} du && \text{since } x = u + 3 \\ &= \int \frac{2u + 7}{u^6} du \\ &= \int (2u^{-5} + 7u^{-6}) du && \text{form 2 fractions} \\ &= \frac{2u^{-4}}{(-4)} + \frac{7u^{-5}}{(-5)} + c && \text{integrate with respect to } u \\ &= -\frac{2u^4}{1} - \frac{5u^5}{7} + c \\ &= -\frac{1}{10u^5} (5u + 14) + c \\ &= -\frac{1}{10(x - 3)^5} (5(x - 3) + 14) + c && \text{replace } u \\ &= -\frac{1}{10(x - 3)^5} (5x - 1) + c \\ &= \frac{1 - 5x}{10(x - 3)^5} + c \end{aligned}$$

E.g. 1 Use the substitution $u = x + 3$ to find $\int_{-2}^1 2x(x + 3)^4 dx$.

Working: Let $u = x + 3$ so $x = u - 3$
 $\frac{du}{dx} = 1 \Rightarrow du = dx$

Table of changed values:

When $x = 1$, $u = 1 + 3 = 4$

When $x = -2$, $u = -2 + 3 = 1$

x	u
1	4
-2	1

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-2}^1 2x(x + 3)^4 dx &= \int_1^4 2(u - 3)u^4 du && \text{replace } x + 3, dx \text{ and limits} \\ &= \int_1^4 2u^5 - 6u^4 du && \text{expand brackets} \\ &= \left[\frac{u^6}{3} - \frac{6u^5}{5} \right]_1^4 && \text{integrate with respect to } u \\ &= \left(\frac{4^6}{3} - \frac{6 \times 4^5}{5} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{6}{5} \right) && \text{substitute} \\ &= \frac{687}{5} = 137.4 \end{aligned}$$

E.g. 2 Find: (a) $\int_0^1 \frac{e^x}{(1+e^x)^2} dx$ (b) $\int_1^5 \frac{x}{\sqrt{3x+1}} dx$

Working: (a) Let $u = 1 + e^x \Rightarrow \frac{du}{dx} = e^x \Rightarrow \frac{du}{e^x} = dx$

Table of changed values:

When $x = 1, u = 1 + e^1 = 1 + e$

When $x = 0, u = 1 + e^0 = 2$ *since $e^0 = 1$*

x	u
1	$1 + e$
0	2

$$\int_0^1 \frac{e^x}{(1+e^x)^2} dx = \int_2^{1+e} \frac{e^x}{u^2} \frac{du}{e^x} \quad \text{replace } 1 + e^x, dx \text{ and limits}$$

$$= \int_2^{1+e} u^{-2} du \quad \text{cancel } e^x \text{ and transform}$$

$$= \left[\frac{u^{-1}}{(-1)} \right]_2^{1+e} \quad \text{integrate with respect to } u$$

$$= \left[-\frac{1}{u} \right]_2^{1+e} \quad \text{*** simplify}$$

$$= \left(-\frac{1}{1+e} \right) - \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right) \quad \text{substitute}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{1+e} = \frac{e-1}{2(1+e)}$$

N.B. *** = $\left[\frac{1}{u} \right]_{1+e}^2$ also possible. Remember: changing the limits around changes the sign of the integral.

(b) Let $u = 3x + 1 \Rightarrow \frac{du}{dx} = 3 \Rightarrow \frac{du}{3} = dx$

Table of changed values:

When $x = 5, u = 3 \times 5 + 1 = 16$

When $x = 1, u = 3 \times 1 + 1 = 4$

x	u
5	16
1	4

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^5 \frac{x}{\sqrt{3x+1}} dx &= \int_4^{16} \frac{x}{3\sqrt{u}} du \quad \text{replace } 3x+1, dx \text{ and limits} \\ &= \int_4^{16} \frac{u-1}{9\sqrt{u}} du \quad \text{since } x = \frac{u-1}{3} \\ &= \frac{1}{9} \int_4^{16} (u^{\frac{1}{2}} - u^{-\frac{1}{2}}) du \quad \text{form 2 fractions} \\ &= \frac{1}{9} \left[\frac{2u^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} - 2u^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]_4^{16} \quad \text{integrate with respect to } u \\ &= \frac{1}{9} \left(\frac{2 \times 16^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} - 2 \times 16^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) - \frac{1}{9} \left(\frac{2 \times 4^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} - 2 \times 4^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \\ &= \frac{100}{27} = 3\frac{19}{27} = 3.703703\dots \end{aligned}$$

Video: [Integration by substitution](#)

Video: [Integration by substitution involving square roots](#)

Integration by substitution EQ

[Solutions to Starter and E.g.s](#)

Exercise

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