

Lecture 26 Activity: u -Substitution

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math.dartmouth.edu/~blogsdon/activity26.pdf

1. Calculate the following integrals with u -substitution using the given u .

1.1 $\int 2x \cos(x^2) dx, u = x^2$

1.2 $\int x^2 e^{(x^3)} dx, u = x^3$

1.3 $\int \frac{x^3}{1+(x^4-1)^2} dx, u = x^4 - 1$

1.4 $\int_0^2 (5x - 10)^{10} dx, u = 5x - 10$

1.5 $\int_6^9 (x + 1)\sqrt{x - 5} dx, u = x - 5$

2. Calculate the following integrals.

2.1 $\int \cos x e^{\sin x} dx$

2.2 $\int_0^1 x\sqrt{1-x^2} dx$

2.3 $\int \cos x (\sin(\sin x)) dx$

2.4 $\int_0^{\pi/4} \sec x \tan x dx$

Solution 1.1

We have $u = x^2$, so $du = 2x dx$ and $dx = du/2x$. So

$$\begin{aligned}\int 2x \cos(x^2) dx &= \int 2x \cos(u) \frac{du}{2x} && \text{(substitute)} \\ &= \int \cos u du && \text{(cancel out the } 2x\text{)} \\ &= \sin u + C && \text{(integral of } \cos \text{ is } \sin\text{)} \\ &= \sin(x^2) + C && \text{(plug } u \text{ back in).}\end{aligned}$$

Solution 1.2

Since $u = x^3$, we have $du = 3x^2 dx$ and $dx = du/(3x^2)$. So

$$\begin{aligned}\int x^2 e^{x^3} dx &= \int x^2 e^u \frac{du}{3x^2} && \text{(substitute)} \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \int e^u du && \text{(cancel } x^2, \text{ move } 1/3 \text{ to front)} \\ &= \frac{1}{3} e^u + C && \text{(integral of } e^u \text{ is } e^u) \\ &= \frac{e^{x^3}}{3} + C && \text{(plug } u \text{ back in)}\end{aligned}$$

Solution 1.3

Since $u = x^4 - 1$, we have $du = 4x^3 dx$ and $dx = du/(4x^3)$. So

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{x^3}{1 + (x^4 - 1)^2} dx &= \int \frac{x^3}{1 + u^2} \frac{du}{4x^3} && \text{(substitute)} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{1}{1 + u^2} du && \text{(cancel } x^3, \text{ move } 1/4 \text{ to front)} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \arctan u + C && \text{(integral of } 1/(1 + u^2) \text{ is } \arctan u) \\ &= \frac{\arctan(x^4 - 1)}{4} + C && \text{(plug } u \text{ back in)}\end{aligned}$$

Solution 1.4

Since $u = 5x - 10$, we have $du = 5 dx$ and $dx = du/5$. When $t = 0$, $u = -10$, and when $t = 2$, $u = 0$, so So

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 (5x - 10)^{10} dx &= \int_{-10}^0 u^{10} \frac{du}{5} && \text{(substitute)} \\ &= \frac{1}{5} \int_{-10}^0 u^{10} du && \text{(move 1/5 to front)} \\ &= \frac{1}{5} \left(\frac{u^{11}}{11} \Big|_{-10}^0 \right) && \text{(take antiderivative)} \\ &= \frac{1}{5} \left(\frac{0^{11}}{11} - \frac{(-10)^{11}}{11} \right) \\ &= -\frac{10^{11}}{55}.\end{aligned}$$

Solution 1.5

Since $u = x - 5$, we have $du = dx$. When $t = 6$, $u = 1$, and when $t = 9$, $u = 4$. So

$$\begin{aligned}\int_6^9 (x+1)\sqrt{x-5} dx &= \int_1^4 ((u+5)+1)\sqrt{u} du \\ &= \int_1^4 (u+6)\sqrt{u} du \\ &= \int_1^4 (u^{3/2} + 6u^{1/2}) du \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{5} \cdot u^{5/2} + \frac{2}{3} \cdot 6u^{3/2} \right) \Big|_1^4 \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{5} \cdot 4^{5/2} + \frac{2}{3} \cdot 6 \cdot 4^{3/2} \right) - \left(\frac{2}{5} \cdot 0^{5/2} + \frac{2}{3} \cdot 6 \cdot 0^{3/2} \right) \\ &= \frac{2}{5} \cdot 2^5 + \frac{12}{3} \cdot 2^3 \\ &= \frac{64}{5} + \frac{32}{3}.\end{aligned}$$

Solution 2.1

We pick $u = \sin x$, so $du = \cos x dx$. So

$$\begin{aligned}\int \cos x e^{\sin x} dx &= \int e^{\sin x} (\cos x dx) \\ &= \int e^u du && \text{(substitute } u = \sin x \text{ and } du = \cos x dx) \\ &= e^u + C \\ &= e^{\sin x} + C.\end{aligned}$$

Solution 2.2

We pick $u = 1 - x^2$, so $du = -2x dx$ and $du/(-2) = x dx$. When $x = 0$, $u = 1$, and when $x = 1$, $u = 0$. So

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 x\sqrt{1-x^2} dx &= \int_0^1 \sqrt{1-x^2} (x dx) \\ &= \int_1^0 \sqrt{u} \frac{du}{-2} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \int_1^0 \sqrt{u} du \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2}{3} u^{3/2} \Big|_1^0 \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2}{3} (0)^{3/2} - \frac{2}{3} (1)^{3/2} \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{2}{3} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{3}.\end{aligned}$$

Solution 2.3

We pick $u = \sin x$, so $du = \cos x \, dx$. So

$$\begin{aligned}\int \cos x (\sin(\sin x)) \, dx &= \int (\sin(\sin x)) (\cos x \, dx) \\ &= \int \sin u \, du \\ &= -\cos u + C \\ &= -\cos(\sin x) + C.\end{aligned}$$

Solution 2.4

This problem does not require u -substitution. The antiderivative of $\sec x \tan x$ is $\sec x$. (You can check this by confirming that the derivative of $\sec x$ is $\sec x \tan x$.) So

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^{\pi/4} \sec x \tan x \, dx &= \sec x \Big|_0^{\pi/4} \\ &= \sec \frac{\pi}{4} - \sec 0 \\ &= \sqrt{2} - 1.\end{aligned}$$