

Definite integrals

If $f(x)$ is a continuous function defined on a closed interval $[a, b]$, and if $F(x)$ is the ant-derivative of $f(x)$ i.e. $\frac{d}{dx} [F(x)] = f(x)$, then the definite integral of $f(x)$ over $[a, b]$ is denoted by

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx$$

and is equal to

$$[F(b) - F(a)]$$

i.e.

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = [F(x)]_a^b = [F(b) - F(a)]$$

where " a " is the lower limit and " b " is the upper limit.

Note:

Taking $F(x) + C$ instead of $F(x)$ as the anti-derivative of $f(x)$, we have;

$$\begin{aligned}\int_a^b f(x) dx &= [F(x) + c]_a^b \\ &= [F(b) + c] - [F(a) + c] \\ &= F(b) - F(a)\end{aligned}$$

As the constant of integration disappears, so

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx$$

has a definite value, which is:

$$[F(b) - F(a)].$$

Examples

Evaluate the following integrals:

a) $\int_{-4}^{-1} \frac{1}{x} dx$

b) $\int_2^5 (x^3 + x)dx$

c) $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{2x-3} dx$

Solution

$$\text{a) } \int_{-4}^{-1} \frac{1}{x} dx = - \int_{-4}^{-1} x^{-1} dx$$

$$= \ln x \Big|_{-4}^{-1}$$

$$= (\ln|-1| - \ln|(-4)|)$$

$$= 0 - \ln|(-4)|$$

$$= -\ln 4$$

$$\text{b) } \int_2^5 (x^3 + x) dx$$

$$= \int_2^5 x^3 dx + \int_2^5 x dx$$

$$= \left. \frac{x^4}{4} \right|_2^5 + \left. \frac{x^2}{2} \right|_2^5$$

$$= \left(\frac{5^4}{4} - \frac{2^4}{4} \right) + \left(\frac{5^2}{2} - \frac{2^2}{2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{651}{4}$$

$$\text{c) } \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2x-3} dx$$

$$= \int_0^1 (2x-3)^{-1} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \ln(2x-3) \Big|_0^1$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\ln|-1| - \ln|-3|]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\ln 1 - \ln 3]$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \ln 3$$

$$\text{d) } \int_0^4 \left(x + x^{\frac{3}{2}} \right) dx$$

$$\text{e) } \int_1^2 \frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^4} dx$$

$$f) \int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x}+\sqrt{x}} dx$$

$$g) \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos 2x dx$$

$$h) \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^2 x dx$$

$$i) \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin x}{\sqrt{1+\cos x}} dx \quad (\text{hint: use half angle identities})$$

$$j) \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^2 \frac{x}{(1+\cos x)^2} dx \quad \text{hint: } \Rightarrow \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \left(\frac{\sin x}{1+\cos x} \right)^2 dx$$

$$k) \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^4 x dx$$

Integration by substitution

Indefinite integrals of the form $\int f(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) dx$ can sometimes be evaluated by making the u – substitution;

$$u = g(x) \quad du = g'(x) dx \rightarrow \text{Substitution (1),}$$

Which converts the integral to the form

$$\int f(u).$$

To apply this method for the effect that the substitution has on the x –limits of integration. We can do this in two ways:

Method 1

First evaluate the indefinite integral

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

By substitution, and then use the relationship

$$\int_a^b f(g(x)) g'(x) dx = \left[\int f(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) dx \right]_a^b$$

To evaluate the definite integral. This procedure does not require any modification of the x – limits of integration.

Method 2

Make substitution (1) directly in the definite integral, and then use the relationship $u = g(x)$ to replace x – limits, $x = a$ and $x = b$ by corresponding u –limits, $u = g(a)$ and $u = g(b)$. This produces a new definite integral

$$\int_{g(a)}^{g(b)} f(u) du$$

That is expressed entirely in terms of u . This method is sometimes referred to as the *change of limits* method.

Examples

Use the two methods above to evaluate

$$\int_0^2 x(x^2 + 1)^3 dx$$

Method 1:

Let

$$u = x^2 + 1 \text{ so that}$$

$$du = 2x dx$$

Then replacing we have;

$$\begin{aligned} \int x(x^2 + 1)^3 dx &= \int x \cdot u^3 \cdot \frac{du}{2x} \\ &= \int \frac{1}{2} \cdot u^3 du \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int u^3 \cdot du \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{u^4}{4} + c \\ &= \frac{u^4}{8} + c = \frac{(x^2+1)^4}{8} + c \end{aligned}$$

Thus;

$$\int_0^2 x(x^2 + 1)^3 dx = \left[\int x(x^2 + 1)^3 dx \right]_0^2 = \frac{x^2+1}{8} \Big|_0^2$$

$$= \frac{625}{8} - \frac{1}{8} = 78$$

Method 2

If we make the substitution

$$u = x^2 + 1$$

In (1), then

$$u = 1 \text{ if } x = 0$$

$$u = 5 \text{ if } x = 2$$

Thus;

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^2 x(x^2 + 1)^3 dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int_1^5 u^3 du = \frac{u^4}{8} \Big|_{u=1}^5 \\ &= \frac{625}{8} - \frac{1}{8} \\ &= 78 \text{ (same as the result for method 1)} \end{aligned}$$

Example

Evaluate:

$$\text{a) } \int_0^{\frac{3}{4}} \frac{dx}{1-x} \qquad \text{b) } \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{8}} \sin^5 2x \cos 2x dx$$

Solutions

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) Let } u &= 1 - x \text{ so that } du = -dx \\ \Rightarrow u &= 1 \text{ if } x = 0 \\ u &= 1/4 \text{ if } x = \frac{3}{4} \end{aligned}$$

Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\frac{3}{4}} \frac{dx}{1-x} &= \int_1^{\frac{1}{4}} -\frac{du}{u} = -\int_1^{\frac{1}{4}} \frac{1}{u} du \\ &= -\ln|u| \Big|_1^{\frac{1}{4}} \\ &= -\left[\ln\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) - \ln(1) \right] \\ &= -\ln\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \\ &= \ln 4 \end{aligned}$$

b) Let $u = \sin 2x$

So that $du = 2 \cos 2x \, dx$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} du = \cos 2x \, dx$$

$$\Rightarrow u = \sin(0) = 0 \text{ if } x = 0$$

$$u = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \text{ if } x = \frac{\pi}{8}$$

Therefore;

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{8}} \sin^5 2x \cos 2x \, dx &= \int_0^{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}} u^5 \cdot \cos 2x \cdot \frac{du}{2 \cos 2x} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}} u^5 \, du = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{u^6}{6} \Big|_0^{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}} = \frac{1}{96} \end{aligned}$$

Determine:

a) $\int 6x(5x^2 + 1)^5 \, dx$

$$\text{Let } u = 5x^2 + 1$$

$$\text{So that } du = 10x \, dx$$

Thus;

$$\begin{aligned} \int 6x(5x^2 + 1)^5 \, dx &= \int 6x \cdot u^5 \cdot \frac{du}{10x} \\ &= \frac{3}{5} \int u^5 \, du \\ &= \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{u^6}{6} + c \\ &= \frac{1}{10} (5x^2 + 1)^6 + c \end{aligned}$$

b) Evaluate $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{6}}} 24 \sin^5 \theta \cos \theta \, d\theta$

$$\text{Let } u = \sin \theta \text{ then}$$

$$du = \cos \theta \, d\theta$$

Thus;

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{6}} 24 \sin^5 \theta \cos \theta d\theta &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{6}} 24 \cdot u^5 \cos \theta \cdot \frac{du}{\cos \theta} \\
 &= 24 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{6}} u^5 du \\
 &= 24 \cdot \left[\frac{u^6}{6} \right]_0^{\frac{\pi}{6}} \quad \left(\sin \left(\frac{\pi}{6} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{16}
 \end{aligned}$$

c) $\int \frac{\cos \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x}} dx$

d) $\int \frac{\cos x}{\sin^4 x} dx$

e) $x^2 \cot \int x^3 dx$

f) $\int_{\pi^2}^{4\pi^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \cdot \sin \sqrt{x} dx$

g) $\int_{\frac{\pi}{3}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin \theta \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \theta} d\theta \quad (u = 2 \cos \theta)$

Integration by trigonometric substitution

Example

Integrate $\int \sqrt{1 - x^2} dx$

Solution

Let $x = \sin \theta$, $dx = \cos \theta d\theta$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 = \sin^2 \theta$

Therefore,

$$1 - x^2 = 1 - \sin^2 \theta = \cos^2 \theta$$

Thus;

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int \sqrt{1 - x^2} dx &= \int \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta} d\theta \cdot \cos \theta d\theta \\
 &= \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int \frac{1}{2} (\cos 2\theta + 1) d\theta \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \sin 2\theta + \frac{1}{2} \theta + c \quad \dots (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

But $x = \sin \theta$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \sin^{-1}(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \sin 2\theta = 2 \cos \theta \sin \theta = 2\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \theta} \cdot \sin \theta$$

Replacing in (1) we have

$$\frac{1}{4} \cdot 2 \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \theta} \cdot \sin \theta + \frac{1}{2} \sin^{-1} x + c$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1 - x^2} \cdot x + \frac{1}{2} \sin^{-1} x + c$$

$$= \frac{x}{2} \sqrt{1 - x^2} + \frac{\sin^{-1} x}{2} + c$$

Summary table of integrals that require use of trigonometric substitution

$f(x)$	$\int f(x) dx$	Method
1. $\cos^2 x$	$\frac{1}{2} \left(x + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x \right) + c$	use $\cos 2x = 2 \cos^2 x - 1$
2. $\sin^2 x$	$\frac{1}{2} \left(x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x \right) + c$	use $\cos 2x = 1 - 2 \sin^2 x$
3. $\tan^2 x$	$\tan x - x + c$	use $1 + \tan^2 x = \sec^2 x$
4. $\cot^2 x$	$-\cot x - x + c$	use $\cot^2 x + 1 = \operatorname{cosec}^2 x$
5. $\cos^m x \sin^n x$	when m or n is odd but not both	use $\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x = 1$
	When m and n are both even	use either $\cos 2x =$
	$2 \cos^2 x - 1$	or
		$\cos 2x = 1 - \sin^2 x$
6. $\sin A \cos B$		use $\frac{1}{2} [\sin(A + B) + \sin(A - B)]$

$$7. \cos A \sin B$$

$$\text{use } \frac{1}{2} [\sin(A + B) - \sin(A - B)]$$

$$8. \cos A \cos B$$

$$\text{use } \frac{1}{2} [\cos(A + B) + \cos(A - B)]$$

$$9. \sin A \sin B$$

$$\text{use } -\frac{1}{2} [\cos(A + B) - \cos(A - B)]$$

$$10. \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}$$

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

use $x = a \sin \theta$ substitution

$$11. \sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$$

$$\frac{x}{2} \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} + \frac{a^2}{2} \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{x}{a} \right) + c$$

use $x = a \sin \theta$ substitution

$$12. \frac{1}{a^2 + x^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{a} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x}{a} \right) + c$$

use $x = \tan \theta$ substitution