MATH 201 Integration by Substitution

You learned the **Substitution Rule** in Calculus I, but it is so important in Calculus II that we are going to spend some time reviewing it.

The **substitution rule** is an integration rule that is the chain rule in reverse. Think of it as the *chain rule for integration*. To apply it, you must first have command of the basic integration formulas.

Basic Integration Formulas

$$\int c du = cu + C$$

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

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

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

$$\int b^{u} du = \frac{1}{\ln(b)}b^{u} + C$$

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

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

$$\int \frac{1}{u} du = -\cos(u) + C$$

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

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

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

Substitution Rule

If
$$u = g(x)$$
, then $\int f(g(x)) g'(x) dx = \int f(u) du$.

Substitution Rule for Definite Integrals

If
$$u = g(x)$$
, then $\int_a^b f(g(x)) g'(x) dx = \int_{g(a)}^{g(b)} f(u) du$.

EXAMPLES

1.
$$\int \sin(x^2) 2x \, dx = \int \sin(u) \, du = -\cos(u) + c = \left[-\cos(x^2) + c\right]$$

$$\begin{cases} du = 2x \\ dx \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} du = 2x \, dx \end{cases}$$

2.
$$\int x \sin(x^{2}) dx = \int \sin(x^{2}) x dx = \int \sin(u) \frac{1}{2} du$$

$$\begin{cases} u = x^{2} \\ du = 2x \end{cases}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int \sin(u) du$$

$$du = 2x dx \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} du = x dx \end{cases}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(-\cos(u)\right) + C$$

$$= \left(-\frac{1}{2} \cos(x^{2})\right) + C$$

3.
$$\int \frac{\sec(\ln(x))\tan(\ln(x))}{x} dx = \int \sec(\ln(x))\tan(\ln(x)) \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$\begin{cases} du = \ln(x) \\ dx = \frac{1}{x} \end{cases} = \int \sec(u)\tan(u) \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$\begin{cases} du = \frac{1}{x} dx \end{cases} = \sec(u) + c = \int \sec(\ln(x)) + c$$

4.
$$\int \sqrt{e^{x}} e^{x} dx = \int \sqrt{u} du$$

 $\begin{cases} u = e^{x} \end{cases} = \int u^{2} du = \frac{u^{\frac{1}{2}+1}}{\frac{1}{2}+1} + C = \frac{u^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\frac{3}{2}} + C$
 $\begin{cases} du = e^{x} dx \end{cases} = \frac{2}{3} \sqrt{u^{3}} + C = \left[\frac{2}{3} \sqrt{e^{x}} + C\right]$
 $\begin{cases} du = e^{x} dx \end{cases} = \frac{2}{3} \sqrt{u^{3}} + C = \left[\frac{2}{3} \sqrt{e^{x}} + C\right]$

5.
$$\int \frac{3x^2 + 8x - 1}{x^3 + 4x^2 - x + 1} dx = \int \frac{1}{\chi^3 + 4\chi^2 - \chi + 1} \left(3 \chi^2 + 8\chi - 1 \right) d\chi$$

$$u = x^{3} + 4x^{2} - x + 1$$

$$u = x^{3} + 4x^{2} - x + 1$$

$$= \int u \, du = \ln|u| + C$$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 3x^{2} + 8x - 1$$

$$= \left[\ln \left| x^{3} + 4x^{2} - x + 1 \right| \right]$$

$$du = (3x^{2} - 8x - 1) dx$$

6.
$$\int \frac{5x+2}{25x^2+20x+4} dx = \int \frac{1}{25x^2+20x+4} (5x+2) dx = \int \frac{1}{11} \frac{1}{10} dx$$

$$(3x+2) dx = \int \frac{1}{10} dx = \int \frac{1}{1$$

Some Useful Integration Rules

Next we are going to derive some integration formulas that will be useful in Calculus II. In these exercises, $a \neq 0$ is a constant. Use the substitution u = ax to get the answers on the right.

In each case your substitution will work like this:

$$u = ax$$
 $\frac{du}{dx} = a$ $du = a dx$ $dx = \frac{1}{a}du$

1.
$$\int e^{ax} dx = \int e^{u} \frac{1}{a} du = \frac{1}{a} \int e^{u} du = \frac{1}{a} e^{u} + C = \frac{1}{a} e^{ax} + C$$

2.
$$\int \sin(ax) dx = \int \sin(u) \frac{1}{a} du = \frac{1}{a} \int \sin(u) du = \frac{1}{a} (-\cos(u) + c) = -\frac{1}{a} \cos(ax) + c$$

3.
$$\int \cos(ax) dx = \int \cos(u) \frac{1}{a} du = \frac{1}{a} \int \cos(u) du = \frac{1}{a} \sin(u) + C = \frac{1}{a} \sin(ax) + C$$

4.
$$\int \sec^2(ax) dx = \int \sec^2(u) \frac{1}{a} du = \frac{1}{a} \int \sec^2(u) du = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{a} \tan(ax) + C$$

5.
$$\int \csc^2(ax) dx = \int \csc^2(u) \frac{1}{a} du = \frac{1}{a} \int \csc^2(u) du = \frac{1}{a} \left(-\cot(u) + C \right) = -\frac{1}{a} \cot(ax) + C$$

6.
$$\int \sec(ax)\tan(ax) dx = \int \sec(u)\tan(u) \frac{1}{a} du = \frac{1}{a}\sec(u) + C = \frac{1}{a}\sec(ax) + C$$

7.
$$\int \csc(ax)\cot(ax) dx = \int csc(u)\cot(u) \frac{1}{a}du = \frac{1}{a}\left(-csc(u)+C\right) = -\frac{1}{a}\csc(ax) + C$$

For the examples on this page, use the substitution $u = \frac{1}{a}x$, as follows.

$$u = \frac{1}{a}x \qquad \frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{a} \qquad dx = adu$$

$$(so x = au)$$

$$8. \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} dx = \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - (au)^2}} = \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - a^2 u^2}} = \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2(1 - u^2)}} dx$$

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

$$\frac{a}{|a|} = 1 \text{ if } a > 0$$

$$9. \int \frac{1}{a^2 + x^2} dx = \int \frac{1}{a^2 + (au)^2} a du = \int \frac{1}{a^2 + a^2 u^2} a du$$

$$= \int \frac{1}{(1+u^2)a^2} a \, du = \frac{1}{a} \int \frac{1}{1+u^2} \, du = \frac{1}{a} + a n'(u) + C = \left[\frac{1}{a} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x}{a} \right) + C \right]$$

10.
$$\int \frac{1}{x\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}} dx = \int \frac{1}{au\sqrt{(au)^2 - a^2}} du = \int \frac{1}{|a|} \frac{du}{a^2(u^2 - 1)} du$$

$$= \int \frac{1}{|a|\sqrt{u^2 - 1}} du = \frac{1}{|a|} \int \frac{1}{|a|} \frac{du}{u^2 - 1} du = \frac{1}{|a|} \int \frac{1}{|a|} \int \frac{1}{|a|} du = \frac{1}{|a|} \int \frac{1}{|a|} du =$$

You should regard the examples on this page as giving **new formulas** for integrals that you will see often. For instance, we will apply # 9 above in the next example.

Example:
$$\int \frac{1}{7+x^2} dx = \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{7^2+x^2}} dx = \boxed{\frac{1}{\sqrt{7}} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{7}}\right) + C}$$
 (using #9 above)

Example:
$$\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{16-x^2}} dx = \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{4^2-x^2}} dx = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{4}\right) + C$$
 (using #8 above)

TAKEAWAY

Remember these general integration formulas. Use them in applying the Substitution Rule.

General Integration Formulas

$$\int c \, du = cu + C \qquad \int \sec^2(u) \, du = \tan(u) + C$$

$$\int u^n \, du = \frac{u^{n+1}}{n+1} + C \qquad \int \csc^2(u) \, du = -\cot(u) + C$$

$$\int \frac{1}{u} \, du = \ln|u| + C \qquad \int \sec(u) \tan(u) \, du = \sec(u) + C$$

$$\int e^u \, du = e^u + C \qquad \int \csc(u) \cot(u) \, du = -\csc(u) + C$$

$$\int b^u \, du = \frac{1}{\ln(b)} b^u + C \qquad \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 - u^2}} \, du = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{u}{a}\right) + C \qquad (a > 0)$$

$$\int \sin(u) \, du = -\cos(au) + C \qquad \int \frac{1}{a^2 + u^2} \, du = \frac{1}{a} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{u}{a}\right) + C$$

$$\int \cos(u) \, du = \sin(au) + C \qquad \int \frac{1}{u\sqrt{u^2 - a^2}} \, du = \frac{1}{a} \sec^{-1}\left|\frac{u}{a}\right| + C \qquad (a > 0)$$

Substitution Rule

If
$$u = g(x)$$
, then $\int f(g(x)) g'(x) dx = \int f(u) du$.

Substitution Rule for Definite Integrals

If
$$u = g(x)$$
, then $\int_a^b f(g(x)) g'(x) dx = \int_{g(a)}^{g(b)} f(u) du$.