

Calculus II

Homework

Partial fractions

1. Integrate. Some of the examples require partial fraction decomposition and some do not. Illustrate the steps of your solution.

(a) $\int \frac{1}{4x^2 + 4x + 1} dx$

ANSWER: $-\frac{1}{2} \ln |1 + x| + \frac{1}{2} \ln |2x + 1| + C$

(b) $\int \frac{1}{1 - x^2} dx$

ANSWER: $-\frac{1}{2} \ln |1 + x| + \frac{1}{2} \ln |1 - x| + C$

(c) $\int \frac{1}{5 - x^2} dx$

ANSWER: $-\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \ln \left| \frac{x - \sqrt{5}}{x + \sqrt{5}} \right| + C$

(d) $\int \frac{x}{4x^2 + x + \frac{1}{16}} dx$

ANSWER: $\frac{1}{8} \ln |8x + 1| - \frac{1}{4} \ln |4x + 1| + C$

(e) $\int \frac{x + 1}{2x^2 + x} dx$

ANSWER: $-\frac{1}{2} \ln |2x + 1| + \ln |x + 1| + C$

(f) $\int \frac{x}{4x^2 + x + 5} dx$

ANSWER: $\frac{1}{8} \ln \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{4}x + \frac{5}{4} \right) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{79}} \arctan \left(\frac{8x + \frac{1}{2}}{\frac{\sqrt{79}}{2}} \right) + C$

(g) $\int \frac{x}{4x^2 + x - 5} dx$

ANSWER: $\frac{9}{5} \ln \left| \frac{x + \frac{5}{4}}{x - 1} \right| + \frac{6}{5} \ln |x - 1| + C$

(h) $\int \frac{x}{3x^2 + x - 2} dx$

ANSWER: $\frac{1}{2} \ln \left| \frac{x - \frac{2}{3}}{x + 1} \right| + \frac{1}{2} \ln |x + 1| + C$

(i) $\int \frac{x}{3x^2 + x + 2} dx$

ANSWER: $\frac{9}{2} \ln \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{3}x + \frac{2}{3} \right) - \frac{6}{\sqrt{23}} \arctan \left(\frac{6x + \frac{2}{3}}{\frac{\sqrt{23}}{3}} \right) + C$

(j) $\int \frac{x}{2x^2 + x + 1} dx$

ANSWER: $\frac{1}{2} \ln \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2} \right) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \arctan \left(\frac{\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}} \right) + C$

(k) $\int \frac{x}{2x^2 + x - 1} dx$

ANSWER: $\frac{3}{1} \ln |x + 1| + \frac{9}{1} \ln \left| \frac{x - \frac{1}{2}}{x + 1} \right| + C$

(l) $\int \frac{1}{x^2 + x + 1} dx$

ANSWER: $\frac{2}{3} \arctan \left(\frac{\frac{2}{3}x + \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}} \right) + C$

(m) $\int \frac{1}{2x^2 + 5x + 1} dx$

ANSWER: $-\frac{1}{\sqrt{17}} \ln \left| \frac{x - \frac{1}{2}}{x + \frac{1}{2}} \right| + \frac{1}{\sqrt{17}} \ln \left| \frac{x + \frac{1}{2}}{2x + 1} \right| + C$

Solution. 1.k The quadratic in the denominator has real roots and therefore can be factored using real numbers. We therefore use partial fractions.

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{x}{2x^2 + x - 1} dx &= \int \frac{\frac{1}{2}x}{(x + 1)(x - \frac{1}{2})} dx && \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{partial fractions, see below} \end{array} \right. \\ &= \int \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{(x + 1)} dx + \int \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{(x - \frac{1}{2})} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \ln |x + 1| + \frac{1}{6} \ln \left| x - \frac{1}{2} \right| + C \end{aligned}$$

Except for showing how the partial fraction decomposition was obtained, our solution is complete. We proceed to compute the partial fraction decomposition used above.

We aim to decompose into partial fractions the following function (the denominator has been factored).

$$\frac{x}{2x^2 + x - 1} = \frac{x}{(x + 1)(2x - 1)} = \frac{A_1}{x + 1} + \frac{A_2}{2x - 1} \quad .$$

After clearing denominators, we get the following equality.

$$x = A_1(2x - 1) + A_2(x + 1) \quad . \tag{1}$$

Next, we need to find values for A_1 and A_2 such that the equality above becomes an identity. We show two variants to do that: the method of substitutions and the method of coefficient comparison.

Variant I. This variant relies on the fact that if substitute an arbitrary value for x in (??) we get a relationship that must be satisfied by the coefficients A_1 and A_2 . We immediately see that setting $x = \frac{1}{2}$ (notice $x = \frac{1}{2}$ is a root of the denominator) will annihilate the term $A_1(2x - 1)$ and we can immediately solve for A_2 . Similarly, setting $x = -1$ ($x = -1$ is the other root of the denominator) annihilates the term $A_2(x + 1)$ and we can immediately solve for A_1 .

- Set $x = \frac{1}{2}$. The equation (??) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{2} &= A_1 \cdot 0 + A_2 \left(\frac{1}{2} + 1 \right) \\ \frac{1}{2} &= \frac{3}{2} A_2 \\ A_2 &= \frac{1}{3}.\end{aligned}$$

- Set $x = -1$. The equation (??) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}-1 &= A_1(2 \cdot (-1) - 1) + A_2 \cdot 0 \\ -1 &= -3A_1 \\ A_1 &= \frac{1}{3}.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have the partial fraction decomposition

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{x}{2x^2 + x - 1} &= \frac{A_1}{x + 1} + \frac{A_2}{2x - 1} \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{x + 1} + \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{2x - 1} \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{x + 1} + \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{x - \frac{1}{2}}.\end{aligned}$$

Variant II. We show the most straightforward technique for finding a partial fraction decomposition - the method of coefficient comparison. Although this technique is completely doable in practice by hand, it is often the most laborious for a human. We note that techniques such as the one given in the preceding solution Variant are faster on many (but not all) problems. The present technique is also arguably the easiest to implement on a computer. The computations below were indeed carried out by a computer program written for the purpose.

After rearranging we get that the following polynomial must vanish. Here, by “vanish” we mean that the coefficients of the powers of x must be equal to zero.

$$(A_2 + 2A_1 - 1)x + (A_2 - A_1) = 0.$$

In other words, we need to solve the following system.

$$\begin{aligned}2A_1 + A_2 &= 1 \\ -A_1 + A_2 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

System status	Action
$2A_1 + A_2 = 1$ $-A_1 + A_2 = 0$	Sel. pivot column 2. Eliminate non-pivot entries.
$A_1 + \frac{A_2}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{2}A_2 = \frac{1}{2}$	
$A_1 = \frac{1}{3}$ $A_2 = \frac{1}{3}$	Final result.

Therefore, the final partial fraction decomposition is:

$$\frac{\frac{x}{2}}{x^2 + \frac{x}{2} - \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{(x + 1)} + \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{(2x - 1)}.$$

2. Evaluate the indefinite integral. Illustrate all steps of your solution.

$$(a) \int \frac{x^3 + 4}{x^2 + 4} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2 + 4| + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

$$(b) \int \frac{4x^2}{2x^2 - 1} dx$$

$$2x + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \ln\left|\frac{x + \sqrt{2}}{x - \sqrt{2}}\right| + C$$

$$(c) \int \frac{x^3}{x^2 + 2x - 3} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2 + 2x - 3| + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

$$(d) \int \frac{x^3}{x^2 + 3x - 4} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2 + 3x - 4| + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

$$(e) \int \frac{x^3}{2x^2 + 3x - 5} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2 + 3x - 5| + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

$$(f) \int \frac{x^2 + 1}{(x - 3)(x - 2)^2} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x - 3| + \frac{1}{2} \ln|x - 2| + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

$$(g) \int \frac{x^4}{(x + 1)^2(x + 2)} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x + 1| + \frac{1}{2} \ln|x + 2| + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

$$(h) \int \frac{15x^2 - 4x - 81}{(x - 3)(x + 4)(x - 1)} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x - 3| + \frac{1}{2} \ln|x + 4| + \frac{1}{2} \ln|x - 1| + C$$

$$(i) \int \frac{x^4 + 10x^3 + 18x^2 + 2x - 13}{x^4 + 4x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x - 4} dx$$

Check first that $(x - 1)(x + 2)^2(x + 1) = x^4 + 4x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x - 4$.

$$(j) \int \frac{x^4}{(x^2 + 2)(x + 2)} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2 + 2| + \frac{1}{2} \ln|x + 2| + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

$$(k) \int \frac{x^5}{x^3 - 1} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x^3 - 1| + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

$$(l) \int \frac{x^4}{(x^2 + 2)(x + 1)^2} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2 + 2| + \frac{1}{2} \ln|x + 1| + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

$$(m) \int \frac{3x^2 + 2x - 1}{(x - 1)(x^2 + 1)} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x - 1| + \frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2 + 1| + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

$$(n) \int \frac{x^2 - 1}{x(x^2 + 1)^2} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|x| + \frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2 + 1| + \frac{1}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$$

Solution. 2.1 To integrate a rational function, we need to decompose it into partial fractions.

Since the numerator of the function is of degree greater than or equal to the denominator, we start the partial fraction decomposition by polynomial division.

	Remainder
	$-2x^3 - 3x^2 - 4x - 2$
Divisor(s)	Quotient(s)
$x^4 + 2x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x + 2$	1
	Dividend
	x^4
	$x^4 + 2x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x + 2$
	$-2x^3 - 3x^2 - 4x - 2$

Our next step is to factor the denominator:

$$x^4 + 2x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x + 2 = (x + 1)^2(x^2 + 2).$$

Next, we combine the two steps:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x^4}{x^4 + 2x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x + 2} &= 1 + \frac{-2x^3 - 3x^2 - 4x - 2}{x^4 + 2x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x + 2} \\ &= \frac{-2x^3 - 3x^2 - 4x - 2}{(x + 1)^2(x^2 + 2)} \\ &= \frac{A_1}{(x + 1)} + \frac{A_2}{(x + 1)^2} + \frac{A_3 + A_4x}{(x^2 + 2)}. \end{aligned}$$

We seek to find A_i 's that turn the above expression into an identity. Just as in the solution of Problem 1.k, we will use the method of coefficient comparison. We note that the solutions of Problems 2.m and 1.k provide a shortcut method.

After clearing denominators, we get the following equality.

$$\begin{aligned}
-2x^3 - 3x^2 - 4x - 2 &= A_1(x+1)(x^2+2) + A_2(x^2+2) \\
&\quad + (A_3 + A_4x)(x+1)^2 \\
0 &= (A_4 + A_1 + 2)x^3 \\
&\quad + (2A_4 + A_3 + A_2 + A_1 + 3)x^2 \\
&\quad + (A_4 + 2A_3 + 2A_1 + 4)x \\
&\quad + (A_3 + 2A_2 + 2A_1 + 2) \quad .
\end{aligned}$$

In order to turn the above into an identity we need to select A_i 's such that the coefficients of all powers of x become zero. In other words, we need to solve the following system.

$$\begin{aligned}
A_1 &\quad \quad \quad + A_4 &= -2 \\
A_1 &\quad + A_2 &\quad + A_3 &\quad + 2A_4 &= -3 \\
2A_1 &\quad \quad \quad + 2A_3 &\quad + A_4 &= -4 \\
2A_1 &\quad + 2A_2 &\quad + A_3 &\quad &= -2 \quad .
\end{aligned}$$

This is a system of linear equations. There exists a standard method for solving such systems called Gaussian Elimination (this method is also known as the row-echelon form reduction method). This method is very well suited for computer implementation. We illustrate it on this particular example; for a description of the method in full generality we direct the reader to a standard course in Linear algebra.

System status					Action
A_1			$+A_4$	$= -2$	Sel. pivot column 2. Eliminate non-pivot entries.
A_1	$+A_2$	$+A_3$	$+2A_4$	$= -3$	
$2A_1$		$+2A_3$	$+A_4$	$= -4$	
$2A_1$	$+2A_2$	$+A_3$		$= -2$	
A_1			$+A_4$	$= -2$	Sel. pivot column 3. Eliminate non-pivot entries.
	A_2	$+A_3$	$+A_4$	$= -1$	
		$2A_3$	$-A_4$	$= 0$	
	$2A_2$	$+A_3$	$-2A_4$	$= 2$	
A_1			$+A_4$	$= -2$	Sel. pivot column 4. Eliminate non-pivot entries.
	A_2	$+A_3$	$+A_4$	$= -1$	
		$2A_3$	$-A_4$	$= 0$	
		$-A_3$	$-4A_4$	$= 4$	
A_1			$+A_4$	$= -2$	Sel. pivot column 5. Eliminate non-pivot entries.
	A_2		$+\frac{3}{2}A_4$	$= -1$	
		A_3	$-\frac{A_4}{2}$	$= 0$	
			$-\frac{9}{2}A_4$	$= 4$	
A_1				$= -\frac{10}{9}$	Final result.
	A_2			$= \frac{1}{3}$	
		A_3		$= -\frac{4}{9}$	
			A_4	$= -\frac{8}{9}$	

Therefore, the final partial fraction decomposition is the following.

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{x^4}{x^4 + 2x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x + 2} &= 1 + \frac{-2x^3 - 3x^2 - 4x - 2}{x^4 + 2x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x + 2} \\
&= 1 + \frac{-\frac{10}{9}}{(x+1)} + \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{(x+1)^2} + \frac{-\frac{8}{9}x - \frac{4}{9}}{(x^2+2)}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore we can integrate as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int \frac{x^4}{(x^2+2)(x+1)^2} dx &= \int \left(1 + \frac{-\frac{10}{9}}{(x+1)} + \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{(x+1)^2} + \frac{-\frac{8}{9}x - \frac{4}{9}}{(x^2+2)} \right) dx \\
 &= \int dx - \frac{10}{9} \int \frac{1}{(x+1)} dx + \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{1}{(x+1)^2} dx \\
 &\quad - \frac{8}{9} \int \frac{x}{x^2+2} dx - \frac{4}{9} \int \frac{1}{x^2+2} dx \\
 &= x - \frac{1}{3}(x+1)^{-1} - \frac{10}{9} \log(x+1) \\
 &\quad - \frac{4}{9} \log(x^2+2) - \frac{2}{9} \sqrt{2} \arctan\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}x\right) + C
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution. 2.k This problem can be solved directly with a substitution shortcut, or by the standard method.

Variant I (standard method).

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int \frac{x^5}{x^3-1} dx &= \int \left(x^2 + \frac{x^2}{x^3-1} \right) dx && \text{Polyn. long div.} \\
 &= \frac{x^3}{3} + \int \frac{x^2}{(x-1)(x^2+x+1)} dx && \text{part. frac.} \\
 &= \frac{x^3}{3} + \int \left(\frac{\frac{1}{3}}{x-1} + \frac{\frac{2}{3}x + \frac{1}{3}}{x^2+x+1} \right) dx && \text{complete square} \\
 &= \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \ln|x-1| + \frac{2}{3} \int \frac{x + \frac{1}{2}}{\left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}} dx && \text{Set } \begin{matrix} u = \left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4} \\ \frac{1}{2} du = \left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right) dx \end{matrix} \\
 &= \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \ln|x-1| + \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{du}{u} \\
 &= \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \ln|x-1| + \frac{1}{3} \ln|u| + C \\
 &= \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \ln|x-1| + \frac{1}{3} \ln|x^2+x+1| + C
 \end{aligned}$$

Variant II (shortcut method).

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int \frac{x^5}{x^3-1} dx &= \int \frac{x^5 - x^2 + x^2}{x^3-1} dx \\
 &= \int \frac{x^2(x^3-1) + x^2}{x^3-1} dx \\
 &= \int x^2 dx + \int \frac{x^2}{x^3-1} dx \\
 &= \frac{x^3}{3} + \int \frac{d\left(\frac{x^3}{3}\right)}{x^3-1} \\
 &= \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{d(x^3-1)}{x^3-1} && \text{Set } u = x^3-1 \\
 &= \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{du}{u} \\
 &= \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \ln|u| + C \\
 &= \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \ln|x^3-1| + C
 \end{aligned}$$

The answers obtained in the two solution variants are of course equal since

$$\ln|x-1| + \ln|x^2+x+1| = \ln|(x-1)(x^2+x+1)| = \ln|x^3-1|$$

Solution. 2.m. This is a concise solution written in a form suitable for exam taking. To make this solution as short as possible we have omitted many details. On an exam, the student would be expected to carry out those omitted computations on the side. We set up the partial fraction decomposition as follows.

$$\frac{3x^2+2x-1}{(x-1)(x^2+1)} = \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{Bx+C}{x^2+1}$$

Therefore $3x^2+2x-1 = A(x^2+1) + (Bx+C)(x-1)$.

- We set $x = 1$ to get $4 = 2A$, so $A = 2$.
- We set $x = 0$ to get $-1 = A - C$, so $C = 3$.
- Finally, set $x = 2$ to get $15 = 5A + 2B + C$, so $B = 1$.

We can now compute the integral as follows.

$$\int \left(\frac{2}{x-1} + \frac{x+3}{x^2+1} \right) dx = 2 \ln(|x-1|) + \frac{1}{2} \ln(x^2+1) + 3 \arctan x + K \quad .$$

3. Integrate

$$\int \frac{x^6 - x^5 + \frac{9}{2}x^4 - 4x^3 + \frac{13}{2}x^2 - \frac{7}{2}x + \frac{11}{4}}{x^5 - x^4 + 3x^3 - 3x^2 + \frac{9}{4}x - \frac{9}{4}} dx \quad .$$

Solution. 3.

Step 1. The first step of our algorithm is to reduce the fraction so that numerator has smaller degree than the denominator. This is done using polynomial long division as follows.

Variable name(s): x 1 division steps total.

	Remainder
	$\frac{3}{2}x^4 - x^3 + \frac{17}{4}x^2 - \frac{5}{4}x + \frac{11}{4}$
Divisor(s)	Quotient(s)
$x^5 - x^4 + 3x^3 - 3x^2 + \frac{9}{4}x - \frac{9}{4}$	x
	Dividend
-	$x^6 - x^5 + \frac{9}{2}x^4 - 4x^3 + \frac{13}{2}x^2 - \frac{7}{2}x + \frac{11}{4}$
	$x^6 - x^5 + 3x^4 - 3x^3 + \frac{9}{4}x^2 - \frac{9}{4}x$
	$\frac{3}{2}x^4 - x^3 + \frac{17}{4}x^2 - \frac{5}{4}x + \frac{11}{4}$

In other words,

$$x^6 - x^5 + \frac{9}{2}x^4 - 4x^3 + \frac{13}{2}x^2 - \frac{7}{2}x + \frac{11}{4} = (x^5 - x^4 + 3x^3 - 3x^2 + \frac{9}{4}x - \frac{9}{4})x + \frac{3}{2}x^4 - x^3 + \frac{17}{4}x^2 - \frac{5}{4}x + \frac{11}{4} \quad ,$$

and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x^6 - x^5 + \frac{9}{2}x^4 - 4x^3 + \frac{13}{2}x^2 - \frac{7}{2}x + \frac{11}{4}}{x^5 - x^4 + 3x^3 - 3x^2 + \frac{9}{4}x - \frac{9}{4}} &= x + \frac{\frac{3}{2}x^4 - x^3 + \frac{17}{4}x^2 - \frac{5}{4}x + \frac{11}{4}}{x^5 - x^4 + 3x^3 - 3x^2 + \frac{9}{4}x - \frac{9}{4}} \\ &= x + \frac{6x^4 - 4x^3 + 17x^2 - 5x + 11}{4x^5 - 4x^4 + 12x^3 - 12x^2 + 9x - 9} \end{aligned}$$

Set

$$N(x) = 6x^4 - 4x^3 + 17x^2 - 5x + 11$$

and

$$D(x) = 4x^5 - 4x^4 + 12x^3 - 12x^2 + 9x - 9 \quad .$$

Step 2. (Split into partial fractions). Factor the denominator $D(x) = 4x^5 - 4x^4 + 12x^3 - 12x^2 + 9x - 9$.

We recall from elementary algebra that there is a trick to find all rational roots of $D(x)$ on condition $D(x)$ has integer coefficients. It is well known that when $\frac{p}{q}$ is a rational number, then $\pm \frac{p}{q}$ may be a root of the integer coefficient polynomial $D(x)$ only if p is a divisor of the constant term of $D(x)$, and q is a divisor of the leading coefficient of $D(x)$. Since in our case the leading coefficient is 4 and the constant term is -9, the only possible rational roots of $D(x)$ are $\pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 9, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{3}{2}, \pm \frac{9}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{4}, \pm \frac{3}{4}, \pm \frac{9}{4}$. A rational number r is a root of $D(x)$ if and only if substituting $x = r$ yields 0. Direct check shows that, for example, $D(-1) = -50$. However, $D(1) = 0$ and therefore using polynomial division we get that $D(x) = (x-1)(4x^4 + 12x^2 + 9)$. We recognize that the second multiplicand is an exact square and therefore $D(x) = (x-1)(2x^2 + 3)^2$.

So far we got

$$\frac{N(x)}{D(x)} = \frac{6x^4 - 4x^3 + 17x^2 - 5x + 11}{(x-1)(2x^2 + 3)^2} \quad .$$

In order to split $\frac{N(x)}{D(x)}$ into partial fractions, we need to find numbers A, B, C, D, E such that

$$\frac{6x^4 - 4x^3 + 17x^2 - 5x + 11}{(x-1)(2x^2+3)^2} = \frac{A}{(x-1)} + \frac{Bx+C}{(2x^2+3)} + \frac{Dx+E}{(2x^2+3)^2} .$$

After clearing denominators, we see that this amounts to finding A, B, C, D, E such that

$$6x^4 - 4x^3 + 17x^2 - 5x + 11 = A(2x^2+3)^2 + (Bx+C)(2x^2+3)(x-1) + (Dx+E)(x-1) .$$

Plugging in $x = 1$ we see that $25 = 25A$ and so $A = 1$. We may plug back $A = 1$ and regroup to get

$$2x^4 - 4x^3 + 5x^2 - 5x + 2 = (Bx+C)(2x^2+3)(x-1) + (Dx+E)(x-1) .$$

Dividing both sides by $(x-1)$ we get

$$2x^3 - 2x^2 + 3x - 2 = (Bx+C)(2x^2+3) + Dx + E .$$

Regrouping we get

$$x^3(2-2B) + x^2(-2-2C) + x(3-3B-D) + (-2-3C-E) = 0 .$$

As x is an indeterminate, the above expression may vanish only if all coefficients in the preceding expression vanish. Therefore we get the system

$$\begin{cases} 2-2B &= 0 \\ -2-2C &= 0 \\ 3-3B-D &= 0 \\ -2-3C-E &= 0 \end{cases} .$$

We may solve the above linear system using the standard algorithm for solving linear systems (the algorithm is called row reduction and is also known as Gaussian elimination). The latter algorithm is studied in any standard the Linear algebra course. Alternatively, we see from the first equations $B = 1, C = -1$, and substituting in the remaining equations we see $D = 0, E = 1$. Finally, we check that

$$\frac{x^6 - x^5 + \frac{9}{2}x^4 - 4x^3 + \frac{13}{2}x^2 - \frac{7}{2}x + \frac{11}{4}}{x^5 - x^4 + 3x^3 - 3x^2 + \frac{9}{4}x - \frac{9}{4}} = x + \frac{1}{(x-1)} + \frac{x-1}{(2x^2+3)} + \frac{1}{(2x^2+3)^2} .$$

Step 3. (Find the integral of each partial fraction).

$$\begin{aligned} \int x dx &= \frac{x^2}{2} + C \\ \int \frac{1}{x-1} dx &= \ln|x-1| + C \\ \int \frac{x-1}{2x^2+3} dx &= \int \frac{x}{2x^2+3} dx - \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{1}{\frac{2}{3}x^2+1} dx \\ &= \int \frac{d\left(\frac{x^2}{2}\right)}{2x^2+3} dx - \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{1}{\left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x\right)^2+1} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{d(2x^2+3)}{2x^2+3} dx - \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{\frac{d\left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x\right)}{\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}}}{\left(\left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x\right)^2+1\right)} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \ln(2x^2+3) - \frac{\sqrt{6}}{6} \arctan\left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x\right) + C . \end{aligned}$$

The last integral is

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{1}{(2x^2+3)^2} dx &= \frac{1}{9} \int \frac{\frac{d\left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x\right)}{\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}}}{\left(\left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x\right)^2+1\right)^2} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{6}}{18} \int \frac{d\left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x\right)}{\left(\left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x\right)^2+1\right)^2} \quad \left| \text{Set } y = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x \right. \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{6}}{18} \int \frac{dy}{(y^2+1)^2} . \end{aligned}$$

The general form of the integral $\int \frac{dy}{(y^2 + 1)^2}$ is solved in the theoretical discussion by integration by parts. As a review of the theory, we redo the computations directly.

$$\begin{aligned} C + \arctan y &= \int \frac{dy}{y^2 + 1} \\ &= \frac{y}{y^2 + 1} + \int \frac{2y^2 dy}{(y^2 + 1)^2} = \frac{y}{y^2 + 1} + \int \frac{2(y^2 + 1 - 1)dy}{(y^2 + 1)^2} \\ &= \frac{y}{y^2 + 1} + 2 \int \frac{dy}{(y^2 + 1)} - 2 \int \frac{dy}{(y^2 + 1)^2} \quad . \end{aligned}$$

Transferring summands we get

$$\int \frac{dy}{(y^2 + 1)^2} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y}{y^2 + 1} + \arctan y \right) + C \quad .$$

We recall that $y = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x$ and therefore

$$\int \frac{dx}{(2x^2 + 3)^2} = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{36} \left(\frac{\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x}{\left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x\right)^2 + 1} + \arctan \left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x \right) \right) + C.$$

To get the final answer we collect all terms:

$$\frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{x}{2x^2 + 3} \right) - \frac{5\sqrt{6}}{36} \arctan \left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x \right) + \frac{1}{4} \ln(2x^2 + 3) + \ln|x - 1| + \frac{x^2}{2} + C.$$