

## Substitution Rule

### Example

1. Find  $\int_0^{16} \sqrt{4 - \sqrt{x}} dx$ .

**Solution:** We guess that  $u = \sqrt{4 - \sqrt{x}}$  and hence  $u^2 = 4 - \sqrt{x}$  so  $\sqrt{x} = 4 - u^2$  and  $x = (4 - u^2)^2 = u^4 - 8u^2 + 16$ . Thus, we have that  $dx = (4u^3 - 16u)du$ . When  $x = 0$ , then  $u = \sqrt{4 - 0} = 2$  and when  $x = 16$ , then  $u = \sqrt{4 - \sqrt{16}} = 0$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{16} \sqrt{4 - \sqrt{x}} dx &= \int_2^0 u(4u^3 - 16u) du = \left. \frac{4}{5}u^5 - \frac{16}{3}u^3 \right|_2^0 = (0 - 0) - (4/5 \cdot 2^5 - 16/3 \cdot 2^3) \\ &= 0 - (-128/5 - 128/3) = \frac{256}{15}. \end{aligned}$$

2. Find  $\int \sin(x) \cos(x) dx$  using  $u = \sin(x)$  and then  $u = \cos(x)$ . Comment on the result.

**Solution:** If  $u = \sin(x)$ , we have  $du = \cos(x) dx$  and so

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

If  $u = \cos(x)$ , then  $du = -\sin(x) dx$  and so

$$\int \sin(x) \cos(x) dx = \int -u du = \frac{-u^2}{2} + C = \frac{-\cos^2(x)}{2} + C.$$

These look like different answers but they are actually the same because  $\sin^2(x) + \cos^2(x)$  and so the difference in notation is “hidden” in the constant.

### Problems

3. Find  $\int \frac{\ln x}{x} dx$ .

**Solution:** Let  $u = \ln x$ , then  $du = \frac{dx}{x}$ , so we have that

$$\int \frac{\ln x}{x} dx = \int u du = \frac{u^2}{2} + C = \frac{(\ln x)^2}{2} + C.$$

4. Find  $\int \frac{1}{x \ln x} dx$ .

**Solution:** Let  $u = \ln x$ , then  $du = \frac{1}{x} dx$  so

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

5. Find  $\int x \sqrt{1-x} dx$ .

**Solution:** Let  $u = 1 - x$  and so  $du = -dx$  and  $x = 1 - u$  so this is

$$\int x \sqrt{1-x} dx = \int (1-u) \sqrt{u} (-du) = \frac{2}{5} u^{5/2} - \frac{2}{3} u^{3/2} + C = \frac{2(1-x)^{5/2}}{5} - \frac{2(1-x)^{3/2}}{3} + C.$$

6. Find  $\int_0^{\sqrt{\pi}} x \cos(x^2) dx$ .

**Solution:** Let  $u = x^2$  and so  $du = 2x dx$  and when  $x = 0$ , then  $u = 0$  and when  $x = \sqrt{\pi}$ , then  $u = \pi$  so we have

$$\int_0^{\sqrt{\pi}} x \cos(x^2) dx = \int_0^{\pi} \frac{\cos(u) du}{2} = \frac{\sin u}{2} \Big|_0^{\pi} = 0.$$

7. Find  $\int \sin(x) \sec^2(x) dx$ .

**Solution:** We rewrite  $\sec^2(x) = \frac{1}{\cos^2(x)}$ . Let  $u = \cos(x)$  so that  $du = -\sin x dx$  and hence

$$\int \sin(x) \sec^2(x) dx = \int -u^{-2} du = \frac{1}{u} + C = \frac{1}{\cos(x)} + C = \sec(x) + C.$$

8. Find  $\int 2xe^{e^{x^2}} e^{x^2} dx$ .

**Solution:** We first try  $u = x^2$  so  $du = 2x dx$  and hence

$$\int 2xe^{e^{x^2}} e^{x^2} dx = \int e^{e^u} e^u du.$$

Now let  $v = e^u$  so  $dv = e^u du$  and hence

$$= \int e^v dv = e^v + C = e^{e^u} + C = e^{e^{x^2}} + C.$$