

HL Math Integration:
Study Guide for IB May 2004

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1 ‘Anti-Differentiation’

Integration can be seen as the inverse operation of differentiation. However, it only determines a function up to an additive constant.

$$\int x dx = \sin x + c$$

1.1 Some Rules

$$\int (f(x) + g(x)) dx = \int f(x) dx + \int g(x) dx$$

$$\int k \cdot f(x) dx = k \cdot \int f(x) dx$$

$$\int x^n dx = \frac{1}{n+1} x^{n+1} + c$$

$$\int \sin x dx = \cos x + c$$

$$\int e^x = e^x + c$$

$$\int x^{-1} = \frac{1}{x} + c \quad (= \ln x + c)$$

$$\int f(ax + b) dx = \frac{1}{a} \cdot F(ax + b) + c$$

2 Definite Integral

The definite integral gives us the area between the limits, meaning:

if $y = x^2$ and A = the area below the graph between $x = 1$ and $x = 2$, then:

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

The usual way of writing this:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= \int_1^2 x^2 dx \quad \leftarrow \text{definite integral} \\ &= \left[\frac{x^3}{3} \right]_1^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{2^3}{3} \right) - \left(\frac{1^3}{3} \right) \\ &= \frac{7}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Note: The definite integral of areas below the x-axis is negative:

$$\int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^0 \sin \theta d\theta = -1$$

3 Methods of Integration

It is important to note that:

1. finding the right method is not automatic but requires invention.
2. most integrals cannot be integrated, *e.g.*

$$\int e^{x^2} dx$$

3.1 Substitution

e.g.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} e^{x^2} &= e^{x^2} \cdot 2x \\ \int e^{x^2} \cdot 2x dx &= ? \\ \text{let } u &= x^2 \\ \frac{du}{dx} &= 2x \\ du &= 2x dx \\ &= \int e^u du \\ &= e^u + c \\ &= e^{x^2} + c \end{aligned}$$

3.1.1 Patterns

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} &= \ln f(x) + c \\ &\downarrow \\ \text{e.g. } \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{3x^2}{x^3 - 1} dx &= \frac{1}{3} \ln(x^3 - 1) + c \\ \int f'(x) \cdot e^{f(x)} dx &= e^{f(x)} + c \end{aligned}$$

3.2 Integration by Parts

$$\begin{aligned}y &= \int u'v \, dx \\ &= uv - \int uv' \, dx\end{aligned}$$

e.g.

$$\begin{aligned}y &= \int x \cdot e^{2x} \, dx \\ &= x \cdot \frac{e^{2x}}{2} - \int 1 \cdot \frac{e^{2x}}{2} \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2}xe^{2x} - \frac{1}{4}e^{2x} + c \\ &= \frac{1}{4}e^{2x}(2x - 1) + c\end{aligned}$$

3.2.1 The 'neatest' Trick

$$\begin{aligned}y &= \int \frac{1}{x} \cdot \ln x \, dx \quad (= I) \\ &= \ln x \cdot \ln x - \int \ln x \cdot \frac{1}{x} \, dx \\ I &= (\ln x)^2 - I \\ 2I &= (\ln x)^2 \\ I &= \frac{1}{2}(\ln x)^2 + c\end{aligned}$$

4 Partial Fractions

4.1 Definition

e.g.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{x^2 - 1} &= \frac{2}{(x + 1)(x - 1)} \\ &= \frac{A}{x + 1} + \frac{B}{x - 1} \\ &= \frac{A(x - 1) + B(x + 1)}{(x + 1)(x - 1)} \\ 2 &= A(x - 1) + B(x + 1), \quad \text{for all } x\end{aligned}$$

4.2 Methods and Shortcut

In order to find A and B:

1. Find A and B

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x = 1 : & 2 = 2B & B = 1 \\ x = -1 : & 2 = -2A & A = -1 \\ \text{or } x = 3 : & 2 = 2A + 4B & A = -1 \\ & 2 = -A + B & B = 1 \end{array}$$

2. Compare Coefficients

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x : \quad 0 = A + B \\ 1 : \quad 2 = -A + B \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} B = 1 \\ A = -1 \end{array}$$

$$\text{hence, } \frac{2}{x^2-1} = \frac{-1}{x+1} + \frac{1}{x-1}$$

3. The 'Cover-Up' Method

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{x^2-1} &= \frac{2}{(x+1)(x-1)} \\ &= \frac{-1}{x+1} + \frac{1}{x-1} \end{aligned}$$

4.3 Quadratic Factor

e.g.

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \frac{2x+1}{(x-2)(x^2+1)} \\ &= \frac{A}{x-2} + \frac{Bx+C}{x^2+1} \\ &= \frac{A(x^2+1) + (Bx+C)(x-2)}{(x-2)(x^2+1)} \end{aligned}$$

$$2x + 1 = A(x^2 + 1) + (Bx + C)(x - 2) \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x = 2 : & 5 = 5A & A = 1 \\ x = 0 : & 1 = A - 2C & C = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Coefficient of } x^2: \quad 0 = A + B \quad \rightarrow B = -1 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \downarrow \\ y = \frac{1}{x-2} - \frac{x}{x^2+1} \end{array}$$

4.4 Repeated Factor

e.g.

$$\begin{aligned}
 y &= \frac{2x+1}{(x-2)(x+1)^2} \\
 &= \frac{A}{x-2} + \frac{B}{x+1} + \frac{C}{(x+1)^2} \\
 &= \frac{A(x+1)^2 + B(x+1)(x-2) + C(x-2)}{(x-2)(x+1)^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$2x + 1 = A(x + 1)^2 + B(x + 1)(x - 2) + C(x - 2) \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 x = 2 : & 5 = 9A & A = \frac{5}{9} \\
 x = -1 : & -11 = -3C & C = \frac{11}{3}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 \text{Coefficient of } x^2: & 0 = A + B & \rightarrow B = -\frac{5}{9} \\
 & \Downarrow & \\
 & y = \frac{5}{x-2} - \frac{5}{x+1} + \frac{1}{(x+1)^2}
 \end{array}$$

4.5 Degree of Top Greater than Degree at Bottom

In order to simplify a fraction with a higher degree (power) on the top than on the bottom, you should do polynomial division, which will simplify the fraction sufficiently so you can employ partial fraction methods.

5 Summary

Product:	Substitution	\rightarrow	$\int \cos x \cdot \sin^3 x \, dx$
	By Parts	\rightarrow	$\int x \cdot e^{2x} \, dx$
	Multiply Out	\rightarrow	$\int x(\sqrt{x} - 1) \, dx$
Quotient:	Divide Out	\rightarrow	$\int \frac{\sqrt{x}-1}{x} \, dx$
	Turn Into Product	\rightarrow	$\int \frac{\ln x}{x^3} \, dx$
	Partial Fractions	\rightarrow	$\int \frac{x+1}{x(x-1)} \, dx$
	Substitution	\rightarrow	$\int \frac{x}{x^2-3} \, dx$