

Section 1.4: Integration by Parts

The Product Rule states that

$$[f(x)g(x)]' = f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x)$$

This means that

$$\int [f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x)] dx = f(x)g(x) + C$$

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

$$\int f'(x)g(x) dx = f(x)g(x) - \int f(x)g'(x) dx$$

Let $v = f(x)$ and $w = g(x)$. Then $dw = f'(x) dx$ and $dv = g'(x) dx$. Then we have

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

$$\int w dv = vw - \int v dw$$

which is the integration by parts formula.

$$\text{eg } \int x \ln(x) dx$$

One approach to integration by parts is to let

$$w = x$$

$$dw = dx$$

$$dv = \ln(x) dx$$

$$v = \int \ln(x) dx$$

which we cannot evaluate

Instead, we will try

$$w = \ln(x)$$

$$dw = \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$dv = x dx$$

$$v = \int x dx = \frac{1}{2} x^2$$

By the integration by parts formula, we can write

$$\int x \ln(x) dx = \frac{1}{2} x^2 \ln(x) - \int \frac{1}{2} x^2 \cdot \frac{1}{x} dx$$

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

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

$$\boxed{= \frac{1}{2} x^2 \ln(x) - \frac{1}{4} x^2 + C}$$

When choosing dv , we need an expression that we can integrate, ideally an elementary integral. For w , we would like an expression that becomes simpler when it's differentiated, such as x^n (for n a natural number), a logarithmic function or an inverse trigonometric function.

eg $\int x e^x dx$

We use integration by parts with

$$w = x \quad dw = 1 \cdot dx = dx$$
$$dv = e^x dx \quad v = e^x$$

$$\text{so } \int x e^x dx = x e^x - \int e^x dx$$

$$\boxed{= x e^x - e^x + C}$$

Note that v need only be an antiderivative of dv because if we include a constant of integration, we would get

$$\begin{aligned} \int w dv &= (v+C)w - \int (v+C) dw \\ &= vw + Cw - \int v dw - C \int dw \\ &= vw + Cw - \int v dw - Cw \\ &= vw - \int v dw \end{aligned}$$

In some cases, integration by parts must be applied several times in order to evaluate a given integral.

$$\text{eg } \int x^2 e^{6x} dx$$

We use integration by parts with

$$w = x^2 \quad dw = 2x dx$$

$$dv = e^{6x} dx \quad v = \frac{1}{6} e^{6x}$$

so we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int x^2 e^{6x} dx &= \frac{1}{6} x^2 e^{6x} - \int \left(\frac{1}{6} e^{6x}\right) \cdot 2x dx \\ &= \frac{1}{6} x^2 e^{6x} - \frac{1}{3} \int x e^{6x} dx \end{aligned}$$

Now we use integration by parts again with

$$w = x \quad dw = 1 \cdot dx = dx$$

$$dv = e^{6x} dx \quad v = \frac{1}{6} e^{6x}$$

which gives

$$\begin{aligned} \int x^2 e^{6x} dx &= \frac{1}{6} x^2 e^{6x} - \frac{1}{3} \left[\frac{1}{6} x e^{6x} - \int \frac{1}{6} e^{6x} dx \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{6} x^2 e^{6x} - \frac{1}{18} x e^{6x} + \frac{1}{18} \int e^{6x} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{6} x^2 e^{6x} - \frac{1}{18} x e^{6x} + \frac{1}{18} \left[\frac{1}{6} e^{6x} \right] + C \\ &= \frac{1}{6} x^2 e^{6x} - \frac{1}{18} x e^{6x} + \frac{1}{108} e^{6x} + C \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{eg } \int e^x \cos(x) dx$$

We use integration by parts with

$$w = \cos(x)$$

$$dw = -\sin(x) dx$$

$$dv = e^x dx$$

$$v = e^x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{so } \int e^x \cos(x) dx &= e^x \cos(x) - \int e^x \cdot [-\sin(x) dx] \\ &= e^x \cos(x) + \int e^x \sin(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

We use integration by parts again, with

$$w = \sin(x)$$

$$dw = \cos(x) dx$$

$$dv = e^x dx$$

$$v = e^x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{so } \int e^x \cos(x) dx &= e^x \cos(x) + \left[e^x \sin(x) - \int e^x \cos(x) dx \right] \\ &= e^x \cos(x) + e^x \sin(x) - \int e^x \cos(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

$$2 \int e^x \cos(x) dx = e^x \cos(x) + e^x \sin(x)$$

$$\int e^x \cos(x) dx = \frac{1}{2} e^x \cos(x) + \frac{1}{2} e^x \sin(x) + C$$

Sometimes we will apply integration by parts to $\int f(x) dx$ by treating as $\int f(x) \cdot 1 dx$ and setting

$$w = f(x) \quad \text{and} \quad dv = 1 \cdot dx = dx$$

eg $\int \ln(x) dx$

Let $w = \ln(x)$ $dw = \frac{1}{x} dx$

$dv = dx$ $v = x$

so, using integration by parts,

$$\int \ln(x) dx = x \ln(x) - \int x \cdot \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$= x \ln(x) - \int dx$$

$$\boxed{= x \ln(x) - x + C}$$

We often need to combine u-substitution and integration by parts.

eg $\int \arctan(x) dx$

Let $w = \arctan(x)$ $dw = \frac{1}{x^2+1} dx$

$dv = dx$ $v = x$

so we have, by integration by parts,

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

To evaluate the remaining integral, we use u-substitution with

$$u = x^2 + 1$$

$$du = 2x dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} du = x dx$$

Now we have

$$\int \arctan(x) dx = x \arctan(x) - \int \frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{1}{2} du$$

$$= x \arctan(x) - \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{1}{u} du$$

$$= x \arctan(x) - \frac{1}{2} \ln|u| + C$$

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

$$\text{eg } \int x^3 \cosh(x^2) dx$$

$$\text{Let } u = x^2 \quad \text{so } du = 2x dx$$
$$\frac{1}{2} du = x dx$$

The integral becomes

$$\int x^3 \cosh(x^2) dx = \int x^2 \cosh(x^2) \cdot x dx$$
$$= \int u \cosh(u) \cdot \frac{1}{2} du$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \int u \cosh(u) du$$

Now we apply integration by parts with

$$w = u \quad dw = 1 \cdot du = du$$
$$dv = \cosh(u) du \quad v = \sinh(u)$$

so we have

$$\int x^3 \cosh(x^2) dx = \frac{1}{2} \left[u \sinh(u) - \int \sinh(u) du \right]$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} u \sinh(u) - \frac{1}{2} \int \sinh(u) du$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} u \sinh(u) - \frac{1}{2} \cosh(u) + C$$

$$\boxed{= \frac{1}{2} x^2 \sinh(x^2) - \frac{1}{2} \cosh(x^2) + C}$$

Guidelines for indefinite integration (a work in progress...)

Given an integral $\int f(x) dx$, we consider the following in deciding how to evaluate the integral:

- ① Is this an elementary integral? This includes common integrals, inverse trigonometric integrals, and any combination of them for which the Basic Properties apply, as well as instances of linear composition.
- ② Can it be rewritten in terms of elementary integrals? We could do this algebraically, using trigonometric identities, using long division, by completing the square, etc.
- ③ Is u -substitution appropriate?
- ④ Is integration by parts appropriate?
- ⑤ Does the integral require a combination of techniques?

eg $\int \sin(\sqrt{x+2}) dx$

Let $u = \sqrt{x+2}$

$$du = \frac{1}{2} (x+2)^{-1/2} dx = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x+2}} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2u} dx \rightarrow dx = 2u du$$

The integral becomes

$$\begin{aligned}\int \sin(\sqrt{x+2}) dx &= \int \sin(u) \cdot 2u du \\ &= 2 \int u \sin(u) du\end{aligned}$$

Now we use integration by parts with

$$\begin{aligned}w &= u & dw &= 1 \cdot du = du \\ dv &= \sin(u) du & v &= -\cos(u)\end{aligned}$$

so then

$$\begin{aligned}\int \sin(\sqrt{x+2}) dx &= 2 \left[-u \cos(u) + \int \cos(u) du \right] \\ &= 2 \left[-u \cos(u) + \sin(u) \right] + C\end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{= -2\sqrt{x+2} \cos(\sqrt{x+2}) + 2\sin(\sqrt{x+2}) + C}$$

In some cases, we can use integration by parts to derive a reduction formula, which gives the result of applying this method to integrals of a certain form any number of times.

eg Derive the reduction formula

$$\int x^n e^x dx = x^n e^x - n \int x^{n-1} e^x dx$$

where n is any natural number. Use it to evaluate $\int x^3 e^x dx$.

We use integration by parts with

$$w = x^n$$

$$dw = nx^{n-1} dx$$

$$dv = e^x dx$$

$$v = e^x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{so } \int x^n e^x dx &= x^n e^x - \int e^x \cdot nx^{n-1} dx \\ &= x^n e^x - n \int x^{n-1} e^x dx. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Next, } \int x^3 e^x dx &= x^3 e^x - 3 \int x^2 e^x dx \\ &= x^3 e^x - 3 \left[x^2 e^x - 2 \int x e^x dx \right] \\ &= x^3 e^x - 3x^2 e^x + 6 \int x e^x dx \\ &= x^3 e^x - 3x^2 e^x + 6 \left[x e^x - \int e^x dx \right] \\ &= x^3 e^x - 3x^2 e^x + 6x e^x - 6 \int e^x dx \\ &= x^3 e^x - 3x^2 e^x + 6x e^x - 6e^x + C \end{aligned}$$