

§ 5.6 : Integration by Parts

This is also known as "the backwards product rule".

Let $u(x)$ and $v(x)$ be two functions. By the product

rule,

$$\frac{d}{dx} (u(x)v(x)) = u'(x)v(x) + u(x)v'(x) \quad (1)$$

By (1),

$$\int \frac{d}{dx} (u(x)v(x)) dx = \int u'(x)v(x) dx + \int u(x)v'(x) dx$$

↖ subtract this

Hence, since

$$\int \frac{d}{dx} (u(x)v(x)) dx = \underline{u(x)v(x)}$$

we get that

$$\int u(x)v'(x) dx = u(x)v(x) - \int u'(x)v(x) dx$$

This is called the Integration by Parts formula. You

may also see the shorthand:

$$\int u dv = uv - \int v du$$

To apply integration by parts, the integrand must be a product of functions:

Example 1: Use IBP to compute

$$\int x e^x dx$$

↑ ↑
u v'

$$u = x$$

$$v' = e^x$$

$$u' = 1$$

$$v = e^x$$

By the formula,

$$\int x e^x dx = x e^x - \int 1 \cdot e^x dx$$

$$= x e^x - \int e^x dx$$

$$= x e^x - e^x + C$$

Note that our choice of $u = x$ and $v' = e^x$ is effective

because the $\int u' v dx$ term is $\int e^x dx$ which we know

how to integrate.

Example 2: Use IBP to find

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

Note that $\int \ln(x) dx = \int \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ v'}}{1} \cdot \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ u}}{\ln(x)} dx$

$$u = \ln(x) \quad v' = 1$$

$$u' = \frac{1}{x} \quad v = x$$

Here,

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

$$= x \ln(x) - \int 1 dx$$

$$= x \ln(x) - x + C$$

Example 3: Use IBP twice to find

$$\int t^2 \sin(t) dt$$

$$u = t^2 \quad v' = \sin(t)$$

$$u' = 2t \quad v = -\cos(t)$$

Hence,

$$\int t^2 \sin(t) dt = t^2 (-\cos t) - \int (-\cos(t)) \cdot 2t dt$$

$$= -t^2 \cos(t) + 2 \int t \cos t dt$$

(*)

Do another integration by parts on (*):

$$u = t \quad v' = \cos t$$

$$u' = 1 \quad v = \sin t$$

$$(*) = t \sin t - \int \sin t dt$$

$$= t \sin t - (-\cos t)$$

$$= t \sin t + \cos t$$

So

$$\int t^2 \sin t \, dt = -t^2 \cos t + 2(t \sin t + \cos t) + C$$
$$= -t^2 \cos t + 2t \sin t + 2 \cos t + C$$

Example 4: Definite integrals and IBP

Compute $\int_1^3 \frac{\ln(x)}{x^2} \, dx$

$$u = \ln(x) \quad v' = \frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$u' = \frac{1}{x} \quad v = -\frac{1}{x}$$

$$\text{So } \int_1^3 \frac{\ln(x)}{x^2} \, dx = \left. \ln(x) \left(-\frac{1}{x} \right) \right|_1^3 - \int_1^3 \left(\frac{1}{x} \right) \left(-\frac{1}{x} \right) \, dx$$

$$= \left. -\frac{\ln(x)}{x} \right|_1^3 + \int_1^3 \frac{1}{x^2} \, dx$$

$$= \left. -\frac{\ln(x)}{x} \right|_1^3 + \left. \left(-\frac{1}{x} \right) \right|_1^3$$

$$= -\frac{\ln(3)}{3} - \frac{-\ln(1)}{1} + \left(-\frac{1}{3} - -\frac{1}{1} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{\ln(3)}{3} + \frac{2}{3}$$

More examples of IBP!

Example 5: Find $\int (\cos \theta)^2 d\theta$.

Note that $\int (\cos \theta)^2 d\theta = \int \cos \theta \cos \theta d\theta$

$$u = \cos \theta \quad v' = \cos \theta$$

$$u' = -\sin \theta \quad v = \sin \theta$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta &= \cos \theta \sin \theta - \int (-\sin \theta) \sin \theta d\theta \\ &= \cos \theta \sin \theta + \int \sin^2 \theta d\theta \\ &= \cos \theta \sin \theta + \int (1 - \cos^2 \theta) d\theta \\ &= \cos \theta \sin \theta + \int 1 d\theta - \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta \\ &= \cos \theta \sin \theta + \theta - \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\int 2 \cos^2 \theta \, d\theta = \cos \theta \sin \theta + \theta$$

Therefore,

$$\int \cos^2 \theta \, d\theta = \frac{1}{2} (\cos \theta \sin \theta + \theta) + C.$$

Example 6: Indicate whether substitution or IBP is more appropriate.

(a) $\int x \sin x \, dx$ IBP $u = x \quad v' = \sin x$

(b) $\int \frac{x^2}{1+x^3} \, dx$ Sub $u = 1+x^3$
 $\frac{1}{3} \ln |1+x^3|$

(c) $\int x e^{x^2} \, dx$ Sub $u = x^2$
 $\frac{1}{2} e^{x^2}$

(d) $\int \arctan(x) \, dx$ IBP $u = \arctan(x) \quad v' = 1$

(e) $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{3x+1}} \, dx$ Sub $u = 3x+1$

Example 7: Use IBP twice to find

$$\int e^x \sin(x) dx$$

$$u = e^x \quad v' = \sin x$$

$$u' = e^x \quad v = -\cos x$$

$$\int e^x \sin(x) dx = -e^x \cos x + \underbrace{\int e^x \cos x dx}_{(*)}$$

Do IBP on (*):

$$u = e^x \quad v' = \cos x$$

$$u' = e^x \quad v = \sin x$$

$$(*) = e^x \sin(x) - \int e^x \sin x dx \quad \text{Hence,}$$

$$\int e^x \sin x dx = -e^x \cos x + e^x \sin x - \int e^x \sin x dx$$

So

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

which implies that

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