

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Lecture 16

§ 7.4. Integration of Rational functions by Partial fractions.

Rational function :  $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  ,  $p(x), q(x)$ : polynomials.

Long division  $\Rightarrow f(x) = s(x) + \frac{r(x)}{q(x)}$  ,  $r(x)$ : polynomial  
 $\downarrow$   
polynomial

such that  $\deg r(x) < \deg q(x)$ .

Example:  $f(x) = 2x+2 + \frac{2x}{3x^2+5}$   
 $\uparrow$   $s(x)$        $\leftarrow r(x)$   
 $\leftarrow q(x)$

We consider  $f(x) = \frac{r(x)}{q(x)}$  with  $\deg r(x) < \deg q(x)$

Evaluate  $\int f(x) dx = \int \frac{r(x)}{q(x)} dx$ .

Example:  $\int \frac{2x}{(x-1)(2x-3)} dx$  ,  $\int \frac{2x+5}{(x-3)^2(x+1)(2x-1)} dx$ .

Method: Partial fractions

Example:  $f(x) = \frac{2x}{(x-1)(2x-3)} = \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{B}{2x-3}$   
 $\uparrow$   
partial fraction

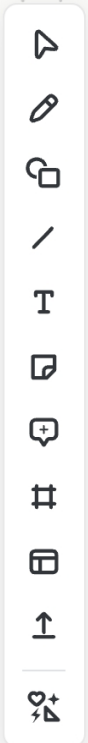
$\Rightarrow$  Goal: We want to write  $f(x)$  into sum of partial fractions.

why?

write.  $f(x) = \frac{2x}{(x-1)(2x-3)} = \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{B}{2x-3}$   $\otimes$

then

$\int \frac{2x}{(x-1)(2x-3)} dx = \int \left( \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{B}{2x-3} \right) dx$



why?

write.  $f(x) = \frac{2x}{(x-1)(2x-3)} = \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{B}{2x-3}$   $\otimes$

then

$$\int \frac{2x}{(x-1)(2x-3)} dx \stackrel{\otimes}{=} \int \left( \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{B}{2x-3} \right) dx$$

$\uparrow$  Hard to compute       $\leftarrow$  Easy to compute  
 $= A \int \frac{1}{x-1} dx + B \int \frac{1}{2x-3} dx$   
 $= A \ln|x-1| + \frac{B}{2} \ln|2x-3| + C$

Goal: How to write  $f(x)$  in terms of sum of partial fractions.

We have 4 cases.

Case I  $q(x) = (a_1x+b_1)(a_2x+b_2)\dots(a_nx+b_n)$

$q(x)$  is the product of distinct linear factors.

Example:  $q(x) = (x-1)(2x-3) \Rightarrow$  Case I.

$q(x) = (x-1)^2 = (x-1)(x-1) \Rightarrow$  Not case I

$q(x) = \underbrace{(x^2+2)}_{\text{not a linear factor}}(x-1)(2x-3) \Rightarrow$  not case I.

In case I: we write

$$\frac{r(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{A_1}{a_1x+b_1} + \frac{A_2}{a_2x+b_2} + \dots + \frac{A_n}{a_nx+b_n}$$

$\downarrow$  factors of  $q(x)$   
 $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$ : constants.

Ex:

$r(x) = 2x$

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 $r(x)$ 

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 $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$ : constants.

Ex:

$$a) \frac{r(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{2x}{(x-1)(2x-3)} = \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{B}{2x-3}$$

$\rightarrow$  case 1

$$b) \frac{r(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{2x^2+5}{(x-1)(x+2)(2x-5)(x+4)}$$

$\rightarrow$  case I

$$= \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{B}{x+2} + \frac{C}{2x-5} + \frac{D}{x+4}$$



How to find A, B, C, D?

Method to find constants.

Multiply both sides with the least common denominator and set the numerators equal.  $\Rightarrow$  solve for A, B, C, ...

Example:  $\frac{r(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{2x}{(x-1)(2x-3)} = \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{B}{2x-3}$

Multiply both side  $\rightarrow$ 

$$\Rightarrow 2x = A(2x-3) + B(x-1)$$

Expand  $\Rightarrow 2x = 2Ax - 3A + Bx - B$

$$\Rightarrow 2x + 0 = x(2A+B) + (-3A-B)$$

Since RHS = LHS

 $\Rightarrow$  coefficients must be equal.

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2 = 2A+B \\ 0 = -3A-B \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2A+B = 2 \\ 3A+B = 0 \end{cases}$$



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$$2x + 0 = x(2A+B) + (-3A-B)$$

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→ coefficients must be equal.

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2 = 2A+B \\ 0 = -3A-B \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2A+B=2 & (1) \\ 3A+B=0 & (2) \end{cases}$$

\* → Solve the system of equations to get A, B

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} B = -3A & (\text{from the second line}) \\ 2x + (-3A) = 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} B = -3A \\ -A = 2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} B = -3A \\ A = -2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} B = 6 \\ A = -2 \end{cases}$$

Conclusion.

$$f(x) = \frac{r(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{2x}{(x-1)(2x-3)} = \frac{-2}{x-1} + \frac{6}{2x-3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hence } \int f(x) dx &= \int \frac{-2}{x-1} dx + \int \frac{6}{2x-3} dx \\ &= -2 \ln|x-1| + \frac{6}{2} \ln|2x-3| + C \end{aligned}$$

Case II:  $q(x) = (a_1x+b_1)^{r_1} (a_2x+b_2)^{r_2} \dots (a_nx+b_n)^{r_n}$

$q(x)$  is the product of linear factors, some of them repeated.

Example:  $q(x) = (x-1)^2 (2x-3) \rightarrow \text{case II}$   
 $= (x-1)(x-1)(2x-3)$

Write  $f(x) = \frac{r(x)}{q(x)}$  in terms of sum of partial fractions.

$$f(x) = \frac{r(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{A_1}{(a_1x+b_1)} + \frac{A_2}{(a_1x+b_1)^2} + \dots + \frac{A_{r_1}}{(a_1x+b_1)^{r_1}} + \frac{B_1}{(a_2x+b_2)} + \dots + \frac{B_{r_2}}{(a_2x+b_2)^{r_2}} + \dots$$

Example:

$$f(x) = \frac{2x}{(x-1)}$$

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Example:

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

$$b) f(x) = \frac{2x^2 + 5x + 5}{(x-1)^3(2x-1)^2 x^5}$$

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

$$+ \frac{D}{(2x-1)} + \frac{E}{(2x-1)^2} +$$

$$+ \frac{F}{x} + \frac{G}{x^2} + \frac{H}{x^3} + \frac{K}{x^4} + \frac{L}{x^5}$$

Solve a):

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

Multiply with least common denominator:

$$2x = A(x-1)(2x-3) + B(2x-3) + C(x-1)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x = A(2x^2 - 5x + 3) + 2Bx - 3B + C(x^2 - 2x + 1)$$

$$= \underline{2Ax^2} - \underline{5Ax} + \underline{3A} + \underline{2Bx} - \underline{3B} + \underline{Cx^2} - \underline{2Cx} + \underline{C}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{0x^2} + \underline{2x} + \underline{0.1} = \underline{x^2(2A+C)} + \underline{x(-5A+2B-2C)} + \underline{1(3A-3B+C)}$$

$$LHS = RHS$$

\(\Rightarrow\) coefficients are equal

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2A + C = 0 & \textcircled{1} \\ -5A + 2B - 2C = 2 & \textcircled{2} \\ 3A - 3B + C = 0 & \textcircled{3} \end{cases}$$

Solve the system

from \textcircled{1} \(\Rightarrow\)

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 $\Rightarrow$  coefficients are equal

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2A + C = 0 & \textcircled{1} \\ -5A + 2B - 2C = 2 & \textcircled{2} \\ 3A - 3B + C = 0 & \textcircled{3} \end{cases}$$

+ Solve the system of equations.

$$\text{From } \textcircled{1} \Rightarrow C = -2A.$$

$$\textcircled{2}, \textcircled{3} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} -5A + 2B - 2(-2A) = 2 \\ 3A - 3B + (-2A) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} -A + 2B = 2 \\ A - 3B = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} -3B + 2B = 2 \\ A = 3B \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} B = -2 \\ A = -6 \\ L = -2A = 12. \end{cases}$$

Conclusion:

$$f(x) = \frac{r(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{2x}{(x-1)^2(2x-3)} = \frac{-6}{x-1} + \frac{-2}{(x-1)^2} + \frac{12}{2x-3}$$

$$\text{Thus } \int f(x) dx = \int \frac{-6}{x-1} dx + \int \frac{-2}{(x-1)^2} dx + \int \frac{12}{2x-3} dx$$

$$= -6 \ln|x-1| + 2 \frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{12}{2} \ln|2x-3| + C.$$



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Case III.  $q(x)$  contains irreducible quadratic factors none of which is repeated.

or:  $q(x)$  contains  $(ax^2 + bx + c)$ .

$$\text{Example: } f(x) = \frac{r(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{(2x+5)(x-1)}{(x^2+1)(x^2+2)(x-2)}$$

$$q(x) = \underbrace{(x^2+1)(x^2+2)}_{\text{quadratic factors}}(x-2) \Rightarrow \text{Case III}$$

\* In case III, we write  $f(x)$  as sum of terms where the term has the form

$$\frac{Ax+B}{ax^2+bx+c}$$

Example..

$$f(x) = \frac{(2x+5)(x-1)}{(x^2+1)(x^2+2)(x-2)} = \frac{A}{x-2} + \frac{Bx+C}{x^2+1} + \frac{Dx+E}{x^2+2}$$

↑ linear. ↑ quadratic factors.

\* Solve for constants  $A, B, C, \dots$



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Example

$$\int \frac{x^2 + 5x + 1}{(x^2 + 1)(x - 2)} dx, \quad q(x) = (x^2 + 1)(x - 2)$$

quadratic factor.  
↓

is in case III

Write  $\frac{x^2 + 5x + 1}{(x^2 + 1)(x - 2)} = \frac{Ax + B}{x^2 + 1} + \frac{C}{x - 2}$

Multiply with common denominator, we have

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + 5x + 1 &= (Ax + B)(x - 2) + C(x^2 + 1) \\ &= Ax^2 - 2Ax + Bx - 2B + Cx^2 + C \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{1x^2} + 5x + 1 = x^2(A + C) + x(-2A + B) + (-2B + C)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} A + C = 1 & \textcircled{1} \\ -2A + B = 5 \\ -2B + C = 1 \end{cases}$$

We can not write  
 $A + C = 1 = -2B + C$   
(wrong)!

$$\textcircled{1} \Rightarrow A = 1 - C$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} -2(1 - C) + B = 5 \\ -2B + C = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} -2B = 1 - C \\ -2(1 - C) + \frac{1}{2}(1 - C) = 5 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} B = \frac{1 - C}{-2} \\ -2 + 2C - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}C = 5 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} B = \frac{1 - C}{-2} \\ \frac{5}{2}C = 5 + \frac{5}{2} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} B = \frac{1 - C}{-2} \\ C = 3 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} B = 1 \\ C = 3 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} A = 1 - C = -2 \\ B = 1 \\ C = 3 \end{cases}$$

Conclusion:



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$A = 1 - C = -2$

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Conclusion:

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 5x + 1}{(x^2 + 1)(x - 2)} = \frac{-2x + 1}{x^2 + 1} + \frac{3}{x - 2}$$

Thus  $\int f(x) dx = \int \frac{-2x + 1}{x^2 + 1} dx + \int \frac{3}{x - 2} dx$   
 $= 3 \ln|x - 2| + C$

Compute  $\int \frac{-2x + 1}{x^2 + 1} dx = -\int \frac{2x}{x^2 + 1} dx + \int \frac{1}{x^2 + 1} dx$

Put  $u = x^2 + 1 \Rightarrow du = 2x dx$

Thus (1)  $-\int \frac{2x dx}{x^2 + 1} = -\int \frac{du}{u} = -\ln|u| + C = -\ln|x^2 + 1| + C$

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

Hence  $\int f(x) dx = \int \frac{x^2 + 5x + 1}{(x^2 + 1)(x - 2)} dx = 3 \ln|x - 2| + \tan^{-1}(x) - \ln|x^2 + 1| + C$

\* Rationalizing substitutions.

In some case, you can use substitution  $\Rightarrow$  rational function

Example: Evaluate  $\int \frac{\sqrt{x+4}}{x} dx$

Use substitution:

$$u = \sqrt{x+4} \Rightarrow du = \frac{1}{2} (x+4)^{-1/2} dx$$

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

$$\Rightarrow dx = 2u du$$

$u = \sqrt{x+4} \Rightarrow u^2 - 4 = x$

Then  $I = \int \frac{\sqrt{x+4}}{x} dx = 2 \int \frac{u^2}{u^2 - 4} du$

We need  $\deg r(x) < \deg q(x)$

long division:  $\frac{u^2}{u^2 - 4} = 1 + \frac{4}{u^2 - 4} = \frac{u^2 - 4}{u^2 - 4} + \frac{4}{u^2 - 4} = \frac{u^2}{u^2 - 4}$

$\Rightarrow I = 2 \int \left(1 + \frac{4}{u^2 - 4}\right) du = 2 \int du + 8 \int \frac{1}{u^2 - 4} du$   
 $= 2u + 8 \int \frac{1}{u^2 - 4} du$

Compute  $\int \frac{1}{u^2 - 4} du = \int \frac{1}{(u-2)(u+2)} du$

distinct linear factors



$\frac{1}{(u-2)(u+2)} = \frac{A}{u-2} + \frac{B}{u+2}$

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no need dea  $r(x) < \deg a(x)$ 

$$\frac{1}{u^2-4} = \frac{u^2-4}{u^2-4} + \frac{A}{u^2-4} = \frac{u^2}{u^2-4}$$

$$\Rightarrow I = 2 \int \left(1 + \frac{4}{u^2-4}\right) du = 2 \int du + 8 \int \frac{1}{u^2-4} du$$

$$= 2u + 8 \int \frac{1}{u^2-4} du$$

Compute  $\int \frac{1}{u^2-4} du = \int \frac{1}{(u-2)(u+2)} du$

distinct linear factors  $\Rightarrow$  case 1.

Write  $\frac{1}{(u-2)(u+2)} = \frac{A}{u-2} + \frac{B}{u+2}$

Multiply with common denominator, we have

$$1 = \frac{A}{u-2} (u-2)(u+2) + \frac{B}{u+2} (u-2)(u+2)$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = A(u+2) + B(u-2)$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = Au + 2A + Bu - 2B$$

$$\Rightarrow 0u + 1 = u(A+B) + 2A - 2B$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} A+B=0 \\ 2A-2B=1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} A=-B \\ 2(-B)-2B=1 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} A=-B \\ -4B=1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} A=\frac{1}{4} \\ B=-\frac{1}{4} \end{cases}$$

$$\int \frac{1}{(u-2)(u+2)} du = \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{1}{u-2} du - \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{1}{u+2} du$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \ln|u-2| - \frac{1}{4} \ln|u+2| + C$$

Conclusion

$$\int \frac{\sqrt{x+4}}{x} dx = 2u + \frac{8}{4} \ln|u-2| - \frac{8}{4} \ln|u+2| + C$$

$$= 2u + 2 \ln|u-2| - 2 \ln|u+2| + C$$

$$u = \sqrt{x+4}$$

$$= 2\sqrt{x+4} + 2 \ln|\sqrt{x+4}-2| - 2 \ln|\sqrt{x+4}+2| + C$$



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