
INTEGRATION BY SUBSTITUTION



January 23rd, 2019

Computation practice: integration by substitution

Use substitutions to compute:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \int \frac{\sin \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x}} dx$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \int e^x \cos(e^x) dx$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \int \cot x dx$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad \int xe^{-x^2} dx$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad \int \frac{e^{2x}}{\sqrt{e^x + 1}} dx$$

Definite integral via substitution

This final answer is right, but the write-up is WRONG. Why?

Compute $I = \int_0^2 \sqrt{x^3 + 1} x^2 dx$

Wrong answer

Substitution: $u = x^3 + 1, du = 3x^2 dx.$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \frac{1}{3} \int_0^2 \sqrt{x^3 + 1} (3x^2 dx) & &= \frac{1}{3} \int_0^2 u^{1/2} du \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \frac{2}{3} u^{3/2} \Big|_0^2 & &= \frac{1}{9} (x^3 + 1)^{2/3} \Big|_0^2 \\ &= \frac{2}{9} (2^3 + 1)^{3/2} - \frac{2}{9} (0 + 1)^{3/2} & &= \frac{52}{9} \end{aligned}$$

A different kind of substitution

Compute

$$\int_0^1 \sqrt{1 - x^2} \, dx$$

using the substitution $x = \sin \theta$.