

§ 5.9 Evaluating Definite Integrals by Substitution

Suppose we have a fn $g(x)$ whose derivative $g'(x)$ is continuous (cts.) on a closed interval $[a, b]$ and that we have another fn f which is cts. on an interval I containing the values of $g(x)$ for $a \leq x \leq b$. (i.e. $g([a, b]) \subset I$).

This setup allows us to say that the fn. $f(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$ is cts on $[a, b]$.

Also, since f is cts on I ,
 f has an antider. F on I .

If we then let $u = g(x)$ and
apply the chain rule,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx} (F(g(x))) &= F'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) \\ &= f(g(x)) \cdot g'(x), \quad a \leq x \leq b.\end{aligned}$$

i.e. $F(g(x))$ is an antider of
 $f(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$ on $[a, b]$.

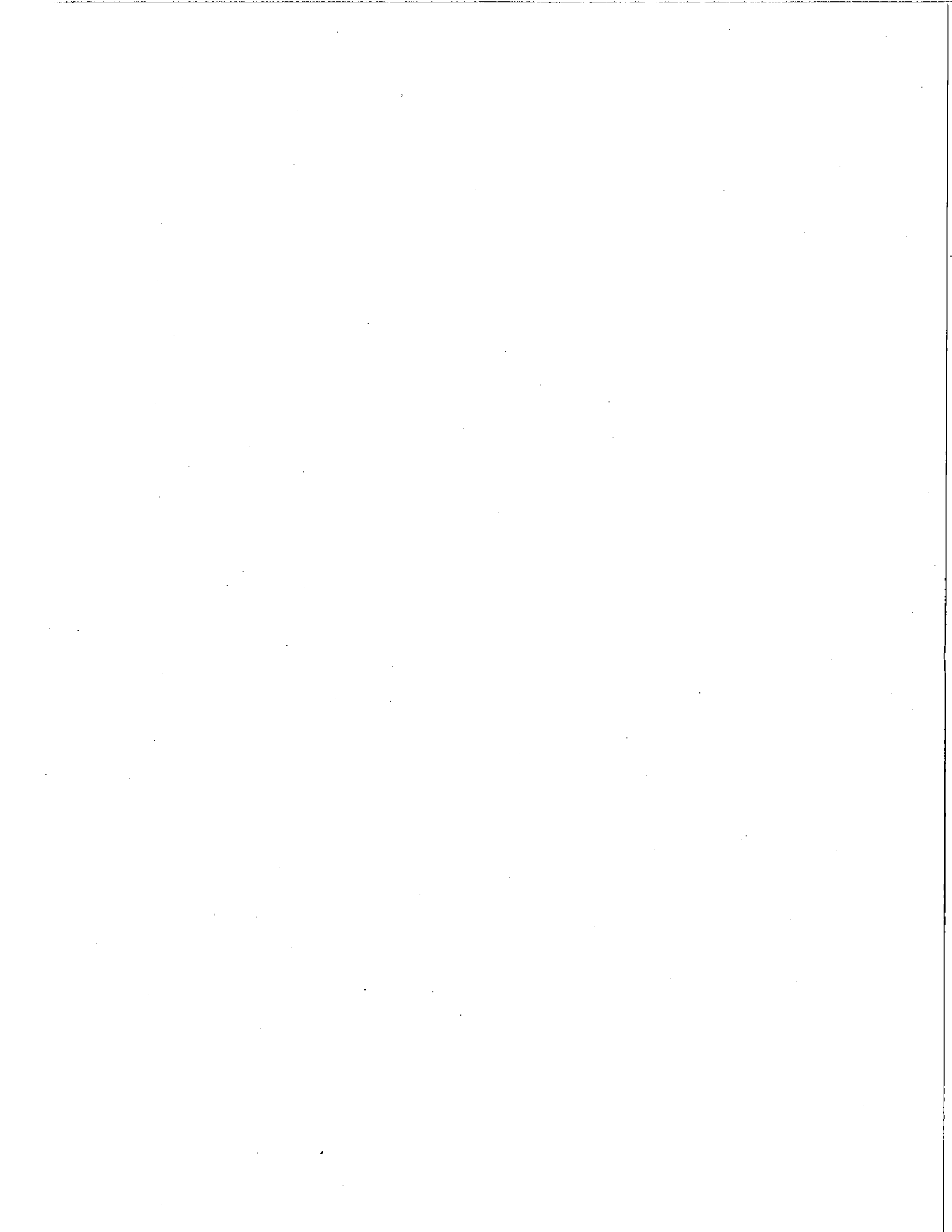
Then, by the first part of the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus (FTOC), we get.

$$\begin{aligned}\int_a^b f(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) dx &= \left[F(g(x)) \right]_a^b \\ &= F(g(b)) - F(g(a)) \\ &= \int_{g(a)}^{g(b)} f(u) du.\end{aligned}$$

We have proved.

5.9.1 Theorem If g' is cts on $[a, b]$ and f is cts on an interval I containing the values of $g(x)$, $a \leq x \leq b$, then

$$\int_a^b f(g(x)) g'(x) dx = \int_{g(a)}^{g(b)} f(u) du,$$



This result gives us two basic ways to evaluate definite integrals using substitution.

The first method uses

$$\int_a^b f(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) dx = \left[\int f(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) dx \right]_a^b$$

ie use ordinary substitution (without limits) to first find an antiderivative — easier conceptually but usually more work.

The second method involves making the substitution $u = g(x)$ in the definite integral and then

This result gives us two basic ways to evaluate definite integrals using substitution.

1. Use substitution to find the indefinite integral

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

and then evaluate the definite integral using

$$\int_a^b f(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) dx = \left[\int f(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) dx \right]_a^b$$

This method is easier conceptually but is usually more work.

2. Let $u = g(x)$ in the definite integral, change the x -limits $x = a$, $x = b$ to u -limits $u = g(a)$, $u = g(b)$

and evaluate

$$\int_{g(a)}^{g(b)} f(u) du.$$

This method is usually quicker, but you have to remember to change the limits of integration.

Ex 1 $\int_1^3 \frac{\ln x}{x} dx$

Method 1

Let $u = \ln x$

$$\begin{aligned} du &= \frac{d}{dx} (\ln x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{x} dx \end{aligned}$$

So $\int \frac{\ln x}{x} dx = \int u du$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{u^2}{2} + C \\ &= \frac{(\ln x)^2}{2} + C. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $\frac{(\ln x)^2}{2}$ is an antiderivative of

$\frac{\ln x}{x}$ and so by FTOC

$$\int_1^3 \frac{\ln x}{x} dx = \left[\frac{(\ln x)^2}{2} \right]_1^3 = \frac{(\ln 3)^2}{2} - \frac{(\ln 1)^2}{2}$$

$$= \frac{(\ln 3)^2}{2} \quad (\text{as } \ln 1 = 0).$$

Method 2 Again let $u = \ln x$,
but this time change limits.

When $x = 1$, $u = \ln 1 = 0$

$x = 3$, $u = \ln 3$.

Again $du = \frac{dx}{x}$, so

$$\int_1^3 \frac{\ln x}{x} dx = \int_0^{\ln 3} u du = \left[\frac{u^2}{2} \right]_0^{\ln 3}$$

$$= \frac{(\ln 3)^2}{2} - \frac{0^2}{2}$$

$$= \frac{(\ln 3)^2}{2} \quad \text{as before.}$$

Ex 2

$$\int_{-1}^0 \frac{6x^2}{(2+x^3)^4} dx$$

Method 2

Let $u = 2 + x^3$, so

$$du = 3x^2 dx$$

and $6x^2 dx = 2du$.

Limits

When $x = -1$, $u = 2 + (-1)^3 = 1$

$x = 0$, $u = 2 + 0^3 = 2$.

Hence
$$\int_{-1}^0 \frac{6x^2}{(2+x^3)^4} dx = \int_1^2 \frac{2du}{u^4}$$

$$= 2 \int_1^2 u^{-4} du$$

$$= 2 \left[\frac{u^{-3}}{-3} \right]_1^2$$

$$= 2 \left[-\frac{1}{3u^3} \right]^2$$

$$= 2 \left[\frac{-1}{3 \times 8} - \left(\frac{-1}{3 \times 1} \right) \right]$$

$$= 2 \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{24} \right)$$

$$= 2 \left(\frac{8}{24} - \frac{1}{24} \right)$$

$$= \frac{2 \times 7}{24} = \frac{14}{24} = \frac{7}{12}$$

Method 1 ? Discuss in class.

Ex 3

$$\int_1^3 \frac{dx}{5-x}$$

Let $u = 5-x$, $du = -dx$
 $-du = dx$.

Limits when $x = 1$, $u = 4$
 $x = 3$, $u = 2$.

Get $\int_4^2 \frac{-du}{u} = - \int_4^2 \frac{du}{u}$

Limits wrong way round, but swapping the limits changes the sign of the integral and so allows us to get rid of the minus sign

$$= \int_2^4 du = \left[\ln|u| \right]_2^4$$

$$= \ln 4 - \ln 2$$

$$= \ln\left(\frac{4}{2}\right) = \ln 2 \approx 0.693$$

Ex 4: $\int_0^{\ln 3} e^x (1 + e^x)^{\frac{1}{2}} dx$

Suggests $u = 1 + e^x$
 $du = e^x dx$

Limits When $x = 0$, $u = 1 + e^0 = 2$
 $x = \ln 3$, $u = 1 + e^{\ln 3}$
 $= 1 + 3 = 4$

Integral then becomes

$$\int_2^4 u^{\frac{1}{2}} du = \left[\frac{2}{3} u^{\frac{3}{2}} \right]_2^4$$
$$= \left(\frac{2}{3} \cdot 4^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{2}{3} \cdot 2^{\frac{3}{2}} \right)$$
$$= \frac{2}{3} (8 - \sqrt{8}) = \frac{4}{3} (4 - \sqrt{2}).$$