

Lessons 51

Integration by Guessing

1) Guess an antiderivative

2) Check by differentiating

Ex. $\int 5(x+2)^4 dx = (x+2)^5 + C$

Guess: $(x+2)^5$ Check: $\frac{d}{dx}(x+2)^5 = 5(x+2)^4$ ✓

Ex. $\int 6 \cos^5 t \sin t dt = -\cos^6 t + C$

Guess: $-\cos^6 t$ Check: $\frac{d}{dt}(-\cos^6 t) = +6 \cos^5 t \cdot \sin t$ ✓
Fix

Ex. 51.5 $\int 8x(e^{4x^2}) dx = e^{4x^2} + C$

Guess: e^{4x^2} Check: $\frac{d}{dx}(e^{4x^2}) = e^{4x^2} \cdot (8x)$ ✓

Ex. $\int 24x(2x^2+7)^5 dx = (2x^2+7)^6 + C$

Guess: $(2x^2+7)^6$ Check: $\frac{d}{dx}(2x^2+7)^6 = 6(2x^2+7)^5 \cdot (4x)$ ✓

Ex. 51.4 $\int \frac{3x^2}{2\sqrt{x^3+4}} dx = (x^3+4)^{1/2} + C$

Guess: $(x^3+4)^{1/2}$ Check: $\frac{1}{2}(x^3+4)^{-1/2} \cdot (3x^2)$ ✓