

Renert School: Integration Bee 2025–2026

Problem 1.

$$\int_1^{\text{mower}} \frac{1}{u} du$$

Solution:

$$\int_1^{\text{mower}} \frac{1}{u} du = \ln|u| \Big|_1^{\text{mower}} = \ln|\text{mower}|$$

Problems 2-17 are great review.

Problem 2.

$$\int_{-8}^{-1} \left(\frac{2}{x^{1/3}} + 4x \right) dx$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{-8}^{-1} \left(\frac{2}{x^{1/3}} + 4x \right) dx \\ &= (3x^{2/3} + 2x^2) \Big|_{-8}^{-1} \\ &= 3((-1)^{2/3} - (-8)^{2/3}) + 2((-1)^2 - (-8)^2) \\ &= 3(1 - 4) + 2(1 - 64) \\ &= -9 - 126 = -135 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 3.

$$\int \frac{\sqrt{r} - 5}{\sqrt{r}} dr$$

Solution: Divide to get

$$\int \frac{\sqrt{r} - 5}{\sqrt{r}} dr = \int (1 - 5r^{-1/2}) dr = r - 10\sqrt{r} + C$$

Problem 4.

$$\int s(\sqrt{s} + 1) ds$$

Solution: Expand to get

$$\int s(\sqrt{s} + 1) ds = \int (s^{3/2} + s) ds = \frac{2}{5}s^{5/2} + \frac{1}{2}s^2 + C$$

Problem 5.

$$\int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/3} \sin(2x) dx$$

Solution:

Method 1: Using $u = 2x$, $du = 2 dx$, $\pi/6 \mapsto \pi/3$, $\pi/3 \mapsto 2\pi/3$,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/3} \sin(2x) dx &= \int_{\pi/3}^{2\pi/3} \frac{1}{2} \sin u du \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \cos u \Big|_{\pi/3}^{2\pi/3} = -\frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Method 2: Integrating directly,

$$\int_{\pi/6}^{\pi/3} \sin(2x) dx = -\frac{1}{2} \cos(2x) \Big|_{\pi/6}^{\pi/3} = -\frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2}$$

Problem 6.

$$\int x^3 e^{x^4} dx$$

Solution: Using $u = x^4$,

$$\int x^3 e^{x^4} dx = \int \frac{1}{4} e^u du = \frac{1}{4} e^{x^4} + C$$

Problem 7.

$$\int (2x - 1) \sin(4x) dx$$

Solution: Use $f = 2x - 1$, $g' = \sin(4x)$, so $f' = 2$, $g = -\frac{1}{4} \cos(4x)$. By IBP,

$$\begin{aligned}\int (2x - 1) \sin(4x) dx &= -\frac{2x - 1}{4} \cos(4x) + \frac{1}{2} \int \cos(4x) dx \\ &= -\frac{2x - 1}{4} \cos(4x) + \frac{1}{8} \sin(4x) + C\end{aligned}$$

Problem 8.

$$\int \frac{\sec \theta \tan \theta}{\sqrt{\sec \theta + 1}} d\theta$$

Solution: Using $u = \sec \theta + 1$, $du = \sec \theta \tan \theta d\theta$, so

$$\int \frac{\sec \theta \tan \theta}{\sqrt{\sec \theta + 1}} d\theta = \int \frac{du}{\sqrt{u}} = 2u^{1/2} + C = 2\sqrt{\sec \theta + 1} + C$$

Problem 9.

$$\int \ln x^3 dx$$

Solution:

Method 1:

Use $f = \ln x^3$, $g' = 1$, so $f' = \frac{3x^2}{x^3} = \frac{3}{x}$, $g = x$. By IBP,

$$\int \ln x^3 dx = x \ln x^3 - \int 3 dx = x \ln x^3 - 3x + C$$

Method 2:

Simplify first, then

$$\int \ln x^3 dx = \int 3 \ln x dx = 3(x \ln x - x) + C$$

Problem 10.

$$\int \frac{1}{t^2 - 6t + 10} dt$$

Solution:

$$\int \frac{1}{t^2 - 6t + 10} dt = \int \frac{1}{(t-3)^2 + 1} dt = \arctan(t-3) + C$$

Problem 11.

$$\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{x^3} dx$$

Solution: This is an improper integral of type II - you cannot use FTC II or that this is an odd function over a symmetric interval. Instead, the discontinuity is at 0, so

$$\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{x^3} dx = \int_{-1}^0 \frac{1}{x^3} dx + \int_0^1 \frac{1}{x^3} dx$$

Considering the second integral,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{1}{x^3} dx &= \lim_{c \rightarrow 0^+} \int_c^1 \frac{1}{x^3} dx = \lim_{c \rightarrow 0^+} -\frac{1}{2x^2} \Big|_c^1 \\ &= \lim_{c \rightarrow 0^+} \left(\frac{1}{2c^2} - \frac{1}{2} \right) = \infty \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the integral diverges.

Problem 12.

$$\int \frac{8x^2 - 2x + 3}{2x - 1} dx$$

Solution:

$$\begin{array}{r} 4x + 1 \\ 2x - 1) \overline{\quad} \\ 8x^2 - 2x + 3 \\ - 8x^2 + 4x \\ \hline 2x + 3 \\ - 2x + 1 \\ \hline 4 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{8x^2 - 2x + 3}{2x - 1} dx &= \int \left(4x + 1 + \frac{4}{2x - 1} \right) dx \\ &= 2x^2 + x + 2 \ln |2x - 1| + C \end{aligned}$$

Problem 13.

$$\int x^2 e^{2x} dx$$

Solution: Use $f = x^2, g' = e^{2x}$, so $f' = 2x, g = \frac{1}{2}e^{2x}$. By IBP,

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

Use $f = x, g' = e^{2x}$, so $f' = 1, g = \frac{1}{2}e^{2x}$. By IBP again,

$$\begin{aligned} \int x^2 e^{2x} dx &= \frac{1}{2}x^2 e^{2x} - \frac{1}{2}x e^{2x} + \frac{1}{2} \int e^{2x} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2}x^2 e^{2x} - \frac{1}{2}x e^{2x} + \frac{1}{4}e^{2x} + C \end{aligned}$$

Problem 14.

$$\int_e^{e^2} \frac{1}{x \ln x} dx$$

Solution: Method 1: Using $u = \ln x, du = \frac{1}{x} dx, e \mapsto 1, e^2 \mapsto 2$, so

$$\int_e^{e^2} \frac{1}{x \ln x} dx = \int_1^2 \frac{1}{u} du = \ln |u| \Big|_1^2 = \ln 2$$

Method 2: Integrating directly,

$$\int_e^{e^2} \frac{1}{x \ln x} dx = \ln \ln x \Big|_e^{e^2} = \ln \ln e^2 - \ln \ln e = \ln 2$$

Problem 15.

$$\int_0^4 \sqrt{3x+4} dx$$

Solution:

Method 1: Using $u = 3x + 4$, $du = 3 dx$, $0 \mapsto 4$, $4 \mapsto 16$, so

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^4 \sqrt{3x+4} dx &= \int_4^{16} \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{u} du = \frac{2}{9} u^{3/2} \Big|_4^{16} \\ &= \frac{2}{9} (16^{3/2} - 4^{3/2}) = \frac{2}{9} (4^3 - 2^3) = \frac{112}{9}\end{aligned}$$

Method 2: Integrating directly,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^4 \sqrt{3x+4} dx &= \frac{2}{9} \sqrt{3x+4} \Big|_0^4 = \frac{2}{9} (16^{3/2} - 4^{3/2}) \\ &= \frac{2}{9} (4^3 - 2^3) = \frac{112}{9}\end{aligned}$$

Problem 16.

$$\int \frac{x+1}{x(2x+1)} dx$$

Solution: If $\frac{x+1}{x(2x+1)} = \frac{A}{x} + \frac{B}{2x+1}$, the Heaviside cover-up method gives $A = \frac{0+1}{2(0)+1} = 1$ and $B = \frac{-\frac{1}{2}+1}{-\frac{1}{2}} = -1$, so

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{x+1}{x(2x+1)} dx &= \int \left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{-1}{2x+1} \right) dx \\ &= \ln|x| - \frac{1}{2} \ln|2x+1| + C\end{aligned}$$

Problem 17.

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

Solution: The upper limit is a discontinuity, so

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2-x}} dx &= \lim_{b \rightarrow 2^-} \int_0^b \frac{1}{\sqrt{2-x}} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow 2^-} (-2\sqrt{2-x}) \Big|_0^b \\ &= \lim_{b \rightarrow 2^-} (-2\sqrt{2-b} + 2\sqrt{2-0}) = 2\sqrt{2}\end{aligned}$$

Problems 18-30 are still good for review

Problem 18.

$$\int_0^3 \sqrt{9 - r^2} dr$$

Solution: The function is a quarter-circle of radius 3, so

$$\int_0^3 \sqrt{9 - r^2} dr = \frac{9\pi}{4}$$

Problem 19.

$$\int_{-2}^2 (x^2 + 1)(x - \sin x) dx$$

Solution: The integrand is odd and the interval is symmetric, so

$$\int_{-2}^2 (x^2 + 1)(x - \sin x) dx = 0$$

Problem 20.

$$\int_1^4 \frac{2 + 1/\sqrt{x}}{x + \sqrt{x}} dx$$

Solution: This is logarithmic differentiation:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^4 \frac{2 + 1/\sqrt{x}}{x + \sqrt{x}} dx &= 2 \ln |x + \sqrt{x}| \Big|_1^4 \\ &= 2 \ln |4 + 2| - 2 \ln |1 + 1| \\ &= 2 \ln 3 = \ln 9 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 21.

$$\int x(1 - x)^{2025} dx$$

Solution: Let $u = 1 - x$, so that $du = -dx$.

$$\begin{aligned} \int x(1 - x)^{2025} dx &= - \int (1 - u)u^{2025} du \\ &= \int (u^{2026} - u^{2025}) du \\ &= \frac{u^{2027}}{2027} - \frac{u^{2026}}{2026} + C \\ &= \frac{(1 - x)^{2027}}{2027} - \frac{(1 - x)^{2026}}{2026} + C \end{aligned}$$

Note: Wolfram Alpha cannot do this integral.

Problem 22.

$$\int_0^1 \frac{x}{1+x^4} dx$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 \frac{x}{1+x^4} dx &= \frac{1}{2} \arctan(x^2) \Big|_0^1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\arctan 1 - \arctan 0) = \frac{\pi}{8}\end{aligned}$$

Problem 23.

$$\int \frac{1}{2025^x} dx$$

Solution:

$$\int \frac{1}{2025^x} dx = \int 2025^{-x} dx = -\frac{2025^{-x}}{\ln 2025} + C$$

Problem 24.

$$\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x(x^2+1)} dx$$

Solution: Using partial fraction decomposition or inspection,

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{1}{x(x^2+1)} dx &= \int \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{x}{x^2+1} \right) dx \\ &= \ln|x| - \frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2+1| + C \\ &= \ln \left| \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} \right| + C\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x(x^2+1)} dx &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \ln \left| \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} \right| \Big|_1^b \\ &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left(\ln \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\frac{1}{b^2}}} \right| - \ln \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right| \right) \\ &= -\ln 2^{-1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Problem 25.

$$\int \frac{2^x + 3^x}{5^x} dx$$

Solution: Simplify first,

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{2^x + 3^x}{5^x} dx &= \int \left(\left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^x + \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^x \right) dx \\ &= \frac{(2/5)^x}{\ln(2/5)} + \frac{(3/5)^x}{\ln(3/5)} + C\end{aligned}$$

Problem 26.

$$\int \frac{1}{(x^2 - 1)^2} dx$$

Solution: By partial fractions,

$$\begin{aligned}&\int \frac{1}{(x^2 - 1)^2} dx \\ &= \int \frac{1}{(x+1)^2(x-1)^2} dx \\ &= \int \left(\frac{1/4}{x+1} + \frac{1/4}{(x+1)^2} + \frac{-1/4}{x-1} + \frac{1/4}{(x-1)^2} \right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left(\ln|x+1| - \frac{1}{x+1} - \ln|x-1| - \frac{1}{x-1} \right) + C \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left(-\frac{2x}{x^2-1} + \ln|x+1| - \ln|x-1| \right) + C \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left(-\frac{2x}{x^2-1} + \ln \left| \frac{x+1}{x-1} \right| \right) + C\end{aligned}$$

Any of the last three or their distributed forms are acceptable.

Problem 27.

$$\int_1^e \ln(x^5) dx$$

Solution: Using integration by parts,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_1^e \ln(x^5) dx &= 5 \int_1^e \ln x dx \\ &= 5(x \ln x - x) \Big|_1^e \\ &= 5(e - e - 0 + 1) = 5\end{aligned}$$

Problem 28.

$$\int_{-4}^0 \sqrt{-4x - x^2} dx$$

Solution: Completing the square, $-4x - x^2 = 4 - (x + 2)^2$. Then the integral is the area under the circle of radius 2 centred at $(-2, 0)$ and above the x -axis, so

$$\int_{-4}^0 \sqrt{-4x - x^2} dx = \frac{2^2\pi}{2} = 2\pi$$

Alternatively, upon completing the square use $x + 2 = 2 \sin \theta$, $-4 \mapsto -\pi/2$, $4 \mapsto \pi/2$, so

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-4}^0 \sqrt{-4x - x^2} dx &= \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \sqrt{4 - 4 \sin^2 \theta} \cdot 2 \cos \theta d\theta \\ &= \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} 4 \cos^2 \theta d\theta \\ &= 2 \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} (1 + \cos 2\theta) d\theta \\ &= (2\theta + \sin 2\theta) \Big|_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} = 2\pi \end{aligned}$$

Problem 29.

$$\int \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} dx$$

Solution: This is a logarithmic integral:

$$\int \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} dx = \int \frac{e^x}{e^x + 1} dx = \ln |e^x + 1| + C$$

Problem 30.

$$\int_{-2}^2 (x + 3)\sqrt{4 - x^2} dx$$

Solution: Breaking this integral into two parts,

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{-2}^2 (x + 3)\sqrt{4 - x^2} dx \\ &= \int_{-2}^2 x\sqrt{4 - x^2} dx + 3 \int_{-2}^2 \sqrt{4 - x^2} dx \end{aligned}$$

The first integral is an odd integrand over a symmetric interval, so gives 0. The second integral is a semi-circle of radius 2. Then

$$\int_{-2}^2 (x + 3)\sqrt{4 - x^2} dx = 3 \cdot \frac{1}{2}\pi(2^2) = 6\pi$$