

## 7.4 | Partial Fractions :

Rational Function:  $f(x) = \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)}$ , where  $P, Q$  are polynomials.

$f$  = "proper" if  $\deg(P) < \deg(Q)$ . To integrate proper rational functions  $f$ , do the partial fraction decomposition of  $f$ :

1).  $Q(x) = (a_1x+b_1)\dots(a_nx+b_n)$   $Q =$  Product of linear factors, none repeated.

$\Rightarrow$  Partial fraction decomposition:

$$f(x) = \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} = \frac{A_1}{a_1x+b_1} + \dots + \frac{A_n}{a_nx+b_n}$$

Example:  $\int \frac{x-8}{x^2-7x+10} dx$

$$\frac{x-8}{x^2-7x+10} = \frac{x-8}{(x-2)(x-5)} = \frac{A}{x-2} + \frac{B}{x-5}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{x-8 = A(x-5) + B(x-2)} \quad \text{Find A \& B.}$$

Method 1: Give some values to  $x$ :

$$x=5 \Rightarrow -3 = 3B \Rightarrow \boxed{B=-1}$$

$$x=2 \Rightarrow -6 = -3A \Rightarrow \boxed{A=2}$$

Method 2: Match coefficients of the polynomials:

$$x-8 = Ax-5A+Bx-2B$$

$$x-8 = (A+B)x - (5A+2B)$$

$$\begin{cases} A+B=1 \\ 5A+2B=8 \\ 2A+2B=2 \end{cases} \quad \text{Solve linear system:}$$

$$\ominus \quad 3A=6 \quad \boxed{A=2} \quad \boxed{B=-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{x-8}{x^2-7x+10} dx = \int \left( \frac{2}{x-2} - \frac{1}{x-5} \right) dx = \boxed{2 \ln|x-2| - \ln|x-5| + C}$$

2).  $Q =$  Product of linear factors, some of which are repeated :

For every repeated linear factor  $(ax+b)^k$  in  $Q$ , add:  
to the partial frac. decoup.

$$\frac{A_1}{ax+b} + \frac{A_2}{(ax+b)^2} + \dots + \frac{A_k}{(ax+b)^k}$$

Example:  $\int \frac{x^2+1}{(x+8)(x-2)^2} dx = \int \left( \frac{13}{20} \frac{1}{x+8} + \frac{7}{20} \frac{1}{x-2} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(x-2)^2} \right) dx$

$$\frac{x^2+1}{(x+8)(x-2)^2} = \frac{A}{x+8} + \frac{B}{x-2} + \frac{C}{(x-2)^2}$$

$$x^2+1 = A(x-2)^2 + B(x+8)(x-2) + C(x+8)$$

$$x=-8: 65 = 100A \quad \boxed{A = \frac{13}{20}} \quad ; \quad x=2: 5 = 10C \quad \boxed{C = \frac{1}{2}}$$

$$x=0: 1 = \frac{13}{5} - 16B + 4 \Rightarrow \boxed{B = \frac{7}{20}}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{13}{20} \ln|x+8| + \frac{7}{20} \ln|x-2| - \frac{1}{2(x-2)} + C}$$

3). Q contains irreducible quadratic factors (none repeated):

For every irreducible factor  $(ax^2+bx+c)$  in Q, add:  $\frac{Ax+B}{ax^2+bx+c}$  to the partial frac. decomp.

Example:  $\int \frac{5x^2+3x+5}{(x-5)(x^2+4)} dx = \int \left( \frac{5}{x-5} + \frac{3}{x^2+4} \right) dx = 5 \ln|x-5| + \frac{3}{2} \arctan\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C$

$$\frac{5x^2+3x+5}{(x-5)(x^2+4)} = \frac{A}{x-5} + \frac{Bx+C}{x^2+4}$$

$$5x^2+3x+5 = A(x^2+4) + (Bx+C)(x-5)$$

$$x=5: 145 = 29A \Rightarrow A=5$$

$$x=0: 5 = 20-5C \Rightarrow C=3$$

$$x=1: 13 = 25 + (B+3)(-4) \\ = 13 - 4B \Rightarrow B=0$$

4). Q contains repeated irreducible quadratic factors:

For every repeated irreducible quadratic  $(ax^2+bx+c)^k$  in Q, add: to the partial fraction decomp.

$$\frac{A_1x+B_1}{(ax^2+bx+c)} + \frac{A_2x+B_2}{(ax^2+bx+c)^2} + \dots + \frac{A_kx+B_k}{(ax^2+bx+c)^k}$$

Example:  $\int \frac{7x^2+9x+7}{(x^2+1)^2} dx$

$$\frac{7x^2+9x+7}{(x^2+1)^2} = \frac{Ax+B}{x^2+1} + \frac{Cx+D}{(x^2+1)^2}$$

$$7x^2+9x+7 = (Ax+B)(x^2+1) + Cx+D \\ = Ax^3+Ax+ Bx^2+B+Cx+D \\ = Ax^3+Bx^2+(A+C)x+(B+D)$$

$$\begin{cases} A=0 \\ B=7 \\ A+C=9 \Rightarrow C=9 \\ B+D=7 \Rightarrow D=0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{7x^2+9x+7}{(x^2+1)^2} dx = \int \frac{7}{x^2+1} dx + \int \frac{9x}{(x^2+1)^2} dx = 7 \arctan(x) - \frac{9}{2} \frac{1}{x^2+1} + C$$