

Problem 1. Find

$$\int x^5 \sqrt{1+x^2} dx$$

Solution. Our intention is to get rid of the radical, so we apply the change of variables

$$u = 1 + x^2$$

which means that $du = 2x dx$ or equivalently

$$x dx = \frac{1}{2} du$$

Now we have to express x as function of the new variable u . We obtain $x^2 = u - 1$, which implies $x^4 = (u - 1)^2$. We use all this to solve our integral in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} \int x^5 \sqrt{1+x^2} dx &= \int x^4 \sqrt{1+x^2} x dx \\ &= \int \sqrt{u} (u-1)^2 \frac{du}{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{u} (u^2 - 2u + 1) du \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int (u^{5/2} - 2u^{3/2} + u^{1/2}) du \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2}{7} u^{7/2} - 2 \cdot \frac{2}{5} u^{5/2} + \frac{2}{3} u^{3/2} \right) + C \\ &= \frac{1}{7} (1+x^2)^{7/2} - \frac{2}{5} (1+x^2)^{5/2} + \frac{1}{3} (1+x^2)^{3/2} + C \end{aligned}$$

which is the final answer. □