

WORKSHEET XXI

PARTIAL FRACTION DECOMPOSITION

1. Find the *partial fraction decomposition* of each of the following rational functions. (To check your answers in Mathematica, use the *Apart* command.)

$$(a) \frac{x+3}{(x+1)(x+2)}$$

$$(b) \frac{x^4+1}{x(x-2)}$$

$$(c) \frac{1}{(x+5)(x-2)(x-3)}$$

$$(d) \frac{x^2+1}{(x+4)^2(x-2)}$$

$$(e) \frac{x+3}{(x+5)(x-2)(x-3)}$$

2. Find the *form* of the partial fraction decomposition of each of the following. You need not solve for the constants.

$$(a) \frac{x+8}{(x+5)^3(x-2)^2(x-3)}$$

$$(b) \frac{3x}{(x^2+5)(x^2-7x+10)}$$

$$(c) \frac{x^5 + x + 1}{(x^2 + x + 5)^2(x + 2010)}$$

$$(d) \frac{x^{11} + 4x^4 + 1}{(x^2 + 1)^3(x - 1)(x + 2)^4}$$

3. Compute the *indefinite integral* of each of the following functions.
(Warning: *first convert to a rational function!*)

$$(a) \frac{1}{e^{2x} - 2e^x - 35}$$

$$(b) \frac{\sin x}{\cos^2 x + \cos x - 20}$$

$$(c) \frac{1}{x(\ln x)(1 + (\ln x)^2)}$$

We live but a fraction of our lives.

- [Henry David Thoreau](#)

This is a tricky domain because, unlike simple arithmetic, to solve a calculus problem - and in particular to perform integration - you have to be smart about which integration technique should be used: integration by partial fractions, integration by parts, and so on.

- [Marvin Minsky](#)

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