

Integrate by Partial Fractions

Use the method of partial fractions to compute the integral:

$$\frac{x^2 + 2x + 3}{(x + 1)(x + 2)(x + 3)} dx.$$

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$$\frac{x^2 + 2x + 3}{(x+1)(x+2)(x+3)} = \frac{A}{x+1} + \frac{B}{x+2} + \frac{C}{x+3}$$

$$x = -1:$$

$$\frac{(-1)^2 + 2(-1) + 3}{(-1+2)(-1+3)} = A$$

$$A = \frac{1 - 2 + 3}{2}$$

$$= 1$$

$$x = -2:$$

$$B = \frac{4 - 4 + 3}{(-1)(1)}$$

$$= -3$$

$$x = -3:$$

$$C = \frac{9 - 6 + 3}{(-2)(-1)}$$

$$= 3$$

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