

Recall the method of  $u$ -substitution for evaluating integrals:

**$u$ -Substitution (Change of Variable Method):**

If  $u = g(x)$  is a differentiable function whose range is and interval  $I$  and  $f$  is continuous on  $I$ , then

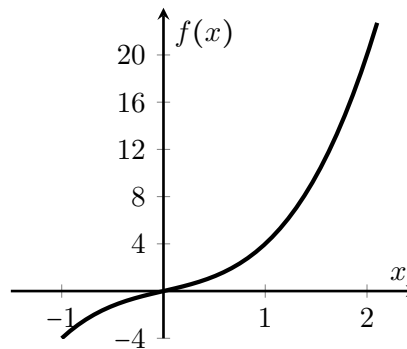
$$\int f(g(x))g'(x) dx = \int f(u) du$$

To get a better conceptual understanding of what  $u$ -substitution is doing to our integrals, we will examine the graphs of an original integral and its transformed  $u$ -substitution integral.

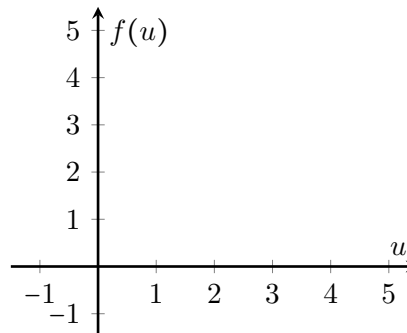
1. We will first examine the integral

$$\int_1^2 2x(1+x^2) dx.$$

- (a) Shade the area represented by the integral on the graph below:



- (b) Use technology to calculate the area of this region.
- (c) Transform the integral using  $u$ -substitution.
- (d) Graph the transformed integral on the axis below. *Pay attention to the axis labels!*



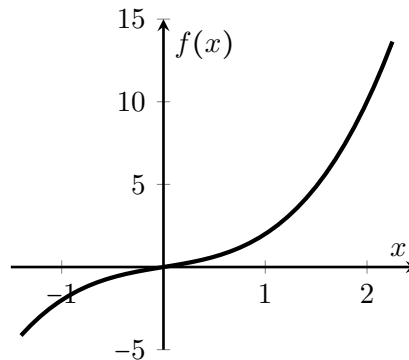
- (e) Calculate the area of this region. How does it compare to the area for  $\int_1^2 2x(1+x^2) dx$ ?

Now we will adjust our integral slightly to see if this impacts anything.

2. Now examine the integral

$$\int_1^2 x(1+x^2) dx$$

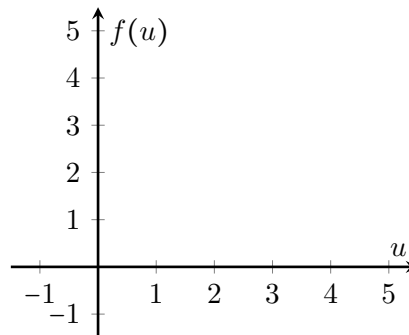
(a) Shade the area represented by the integral on the graph below:



(b) Use technology to calculate the area of this region.

(c) Transform the integral using  $u$ -substitution.

(d) Graph the transformed integral on the axis below. *Pay attention to the axis labels!*



(e) Calculate the area of this region. How does it compare to the area for  $\int_1^2 x(1+x^2) dx$ ?

3. Using full sentences, write a brief summary of the geometric transformation that occurs to the integral

$$\int_{-1}^1 2x^2(3+x^3)^2 dx$$

when you evaluate it using  $u$ -substitution.

