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1 (10 pts). Integrate:  $\int \frac{7x^2 + 3x - 4}{(x + 3)(x^2 + 1)} dx$

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1.(Source: 7.4.23)

Find the partial fraction decomposition of the integrand.

The degree of the numerator is strictly less than that of the denominator, so long division is not necessary. Look for constants  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  for which

$$\frac{7x^2 + 3x - 4}{(x + 3)(x^2 + 1)} = \frac{A}{x + 3} + \frac{Bx + C}{x^2 + 1}.$$

Multiply both sides by  $(x + 3)(x^2 + 1)$ :

$$7x^2 + 3x - 4 = A(x^2 + 1) + (Bx + C)(x + 3).$$

Now do the same things to both sides to obtain three equations in the three unknowns  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ . The easiest thing to do first is to evaluate at  $x = -3$ . After that, I chose to evaluate at  $x = 0$ , and then equate the  $x^2$  coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} x = -3: & \quad 50 = A \cdot 10 & \implies & \quad A = 5 \\ x = 0: & \quad -4 = A + C \cdot 3 & \implies & \quad C = -3 \\ x^2\text{-coefficient:} & \quad 7 = A + B & \implies & \quad B = 2. \end{aligned}$$

So, the PFD is

$$\frac{7x^2 + 3x - 4}{(x + 3)(x^2 + 1)} = \frac{5}{x + 3} + \frac{2x - 3}{x^2 + 1}$$

and the integral is

$$\begin{aligned} \int \left( \frac{5}{x + 3} + \frac{2x - 3}{x^2 + 1} \right) dx &= 5 \int \frac{1}{x + 3} dx + \int \frac{2x}{x^2 + 1} dx - 3 \int \frac{1}{x^2 + 1} dx \\ &= 5 \int \frac{d(x + 3)}{x + 3} + \int \frac{d(x^2 + 1)}{x^2 + 1} - 3 \int \frac{1}{x^2 + 1} dx \\ &= 5 \ln |x + 3| + \ln(x^2 + 1) - 3 \tan^{-1} x + C. \end{aligned}$$

(done)

*Comment:* If you equated the coefficients of  $x^2$ ,  $x$ , and 1, you'd end up with the more difficult system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} x = 0: & \quad -4 = A + 3C \\ x\text{-coefficient:} & \quad 3 = 3B + C \\ x^2\text{-coefficient:} & \quad 7 = A + B \end{aligned}$$