

The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus

Why do we use such similar notation for antidifferentiation and computing definite integrals? The answer lies in our next theorem.

The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus I

If f is continuous on $[a, b]$ and $F(x)$ is any antiderivative of $f(x)$, then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = F(b) - F(a)$$

Proof Let $[a, b]$ be partitioned into n intervals $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$ with $x_i - x_{i-1} = \Delta x$ where $\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n}$ and $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$

Note that $x_0 = a$ and $x_n = b$.

$$F(b) - F(a) = F(x_n) - F(x_0)$$

$$= F(x_n) - F(x_{n-1}) + F(x_{n-1}) - F(x_{n-2}) + \dots - F(x_2) + F(x_2) - F(x_1) + F(x_1) - F(x_0)$$

$$= [F(x_n) - F(x_{n-1})] + [F(x_{n-1}) - F(x_{n-2})] + \dots + [F(x_2) - F(x_1)] + [F(x_1) - F(x_0)]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n [F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1})] \quad (\text{Reversing the order of summation})$$

Since $F(x)$ is an antiderivative of $f(x)$, we know that F is differentiable on (a, b) and continuous on $[a, b]$. We can apply the MVT to find

$$\frac{F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1})}{x_i - x_{i-1}} = F'(c_i) = f(c_i)$$

for some $c_i \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]$.

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Rearranging, and using $\Delta x = x_i - x_{i-1}$, we have

$$F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1}) = f(c_i) \Delta x$$

So

$$F(b) - F(a) = \sum_{i=1}^n [F(x_i) - F(x_{i-1})] = \sum_{i=1}^n f(c_i) \Delta x$$

Taking the limit as $n \rightarrow \infty$ we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(c_i) \Delta x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F(b) - F(a)$$

$$\int_a^b f(c_i) \Delta x = F(b) - F(a) \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{Ex } \int_1^2 2x \, dx = 2^2 - 1^2 \quad \text{since } \int 2x \, dx = x^2 + C$$

Note two things

1. Since $F(x)$ can be any antiderivative of f , we can choose $C=0$. In any event, any C will cancel when we form $F(b) - F(a)$.
2. We can use $F(x) \Big|_a^b = F(b) - F(a)$ to simplify our work.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ex } \int_0^{\pi} \sin x \, dx &= (-\cos x) \Big|_0^{\pi} = -\cos \pi - (-\cos 0) \\ &= -(-1) + 1 \\ &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

Be very careful with signs!

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Ex $\int_1^2 \frac{1}{x} dx$

$$\int_1^2 \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln|x| \Big|_1^2 = \ln 2 - \ln 1 = \ln 2 - 0 = \boxed{\ln 2}$$

Ex $\int_1^x t dt$

Note that this is a definite integral, but one of the limits is a variable - therefore this is a function of x - change x and the function value changes.

$$\int_1^x t dt = \frac{1}{2} t^2 \Big|_1^x = \frac{1}{2} x^2 - \frac{1}{2} (1)^2 = \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$$

Note 2 things:

- 1) The variable of integration, t , is a "dummy" variable and must be different from the variable appearing in the limits of integration
- 2) This is an antiderivative of the function x (the integrand expressed with a different variable).

In general

$$\int_a^x t dt = \frac{1}{2} t^2 \Big|_a^x = \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{a^2}{2}$$

So the constant $-\frac{a^2}{2}$ is added to $\frac{x^2}{2}$, an antiderivative of x .

The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus II

If f is continuous on $[a, b]$ and $F(x) = \int_a^x f(t) dt$, then $F'(x) = f(x)$ on $[a, b]$.

This can alternately be stated as

$$f(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \int_a^x f(t) dt$$

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Ex If $F(x) = \int_3^x t \sin(t^2) dt$, find $F'(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) = F'(x) &= \frac{d}{dx} \int_3^x t \sin(t^2) dt \\ &= \boxed{x \sin(x^2)} \end{aligned}$$

Just substitute x for t in the integrand!

Q: Why does the lower limit of integration not matter?

Ex $\frac{d}{dx} \int_x^5 (t^2 + t) dt$

Here x appears in the lower limit

Since $\int_a^b f(t) dt = - \int_b^a f(t) dt$ [See eg 4.2 on page 376]

We can write

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \int_x^5 (t^2 + t) dt &= \frac{d}{dx} \left[- \int_5^x (t^2 + t) dt \right] \\ &= \boxed{-(x^2 + x)} \end{aligned}$$

Ex $\frac{d}{dx} \int_0^{x^2} \sin t dt$

Let $u(x) = x^2$ so $\frac{du}{dx} = 2x$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^{x^2} \sin t dt &= \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^u \sin t dt \\ &= \left[\frac{d}{du} \int_0^u \sin t dt \right] \left[\frac{du}{dx} \right] \\ &= (\sin u)(2x) \\ &= \sin x^2 \cdot 2x = \boxed{2x \sin x^2} \end{aligned}$$