

Antiderivatives

Recall the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus (FTC):

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = F(x) \Big|_a^b = F(b) - F(a),$$

where $F(x)$ is any antiderivative of $f(x)$, meaning $F'(x) = f(x)$.

Example 1.

(a) Find two antiderivatives $F(x)$ and $G(x)$ of $f(x) = x^2$.

(b) Evaluate $\int_1^4 x^2 dx$ in two ways.

Solution.

(a) $F(x) = \frac{x^3}{3}$ works, since $F'(x) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 3x^2 = x^2 = f(x)$. But so does $G(x) = \frac{x^3}{3} + 5$, since $G'(x) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 3x^2 + 0 = x^2 = f(x)$.

(b) By FTC,

$$\int_1^4 x^2 dx = \left. \frac{x^3}{3} \right|_1^4 = \frac{4^3}{3} - \frac{1^3}{3} = \frac{64-1}{3} = \frac{63}{3} = 21.$$

OR

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^4 x^2 dx &= \left(\frac{x^3}{3} + 5 \right) \Big|_1^4 = \left(\frac{4^3}{3} + 5 \right) - \left(\frac{1^3}{3} + 5 \right) \\ &= \frac{4^3}{3} - \frac{1^3}{3} = \frac{64-1}{3} = \frac{63}{3} = 21. \end{aligned}$$

COOL FACT:

in general, if $F(x)$ is one antiderivative of $f(x)$, then any antiderivative of $f(x)$ is of the form

$$F(x) + C$$

for some constant C .

Let's write

$$\int f(x) dx$$

"the indefinite integral of $f(x) dx$ "

for the set of all antiderivatives of $f(x)$.

Examples: find these indefinite integrals and check your work.

$$2) \int \cos(x) dx = \sin(x) + C.$$

The COOL FACT says: to find $\int f(x) dx$,

a) first find some (any) antiderivative of $f(x)$;

b) then tack on the arbitrary constant "+C."

DON'T FORGET THIS STEP!!

Check:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [\sin(x) + C] = \cos(x) + 0 = \cos(x) \checkmark$$

$$3) \int \sin(x) dx = -\cos(x) + C.$$

Check:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [-\cos(x) + C] = -(-\sin(x)) + 0 = \sin(x).$$

$$4) \int \sin(2x) dx = \frac{-\cos(2x)}{2} + C.$$

Check:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{-\cos(2x)}{2} + C \right] = \frac{-1}{2} (-\sin(2x) \cdot 2) + 0 = \sin(2x). \checkmark$$

$$5) \int e^{7y} dy = \frac{e^{7y}}{7} + C.$$

$$\text{Check: } \frac{d}{dy} \left[\frac{e^{7y}}{7} + C \right] = \frac{1}{7} \cdot e^{7y} \cdot 7 + 0 = e^{7y} \checkmark$$

$$6) \text{ For any } b > 0, \int b^x dx = \frac{b^x}{\ln(b)} + C.$$

$$\text{Check: } \frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{b^x}{\ln(b)} + C \right] = \frac{1}{\ln(b)} \cdot \ln(b) b^x + 0 = b^x \checkmark$$

$$7) \int (3t^2 - 7t + 2) dt = t^3 - \frac{7}{2}t^2 + 2t + C.$$

Check: D/Y.

Remark. Recall that the FTC says: for definite integrals, proceed essentially as above, but replace the "+C" with " $\frac{1}{b}$ ".

For example:

$$8) \int_0^{\pi/4} \sin(2x) dx = \frac{-\cos(2x)}{2} \Big|_0^{\pi/4} = \frac{-\cos(2 \cdot \pi/4)}{2} - \left(\frac{-\cos(2 \cdot 0)}{2} \right) = \frac{-0}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$9) \int_0^1 e^{7y} dy = \frac{e^{7y}}{7} \Big|_0^1 = \frac{e^{7 \cdot 1}}{7} - \frac{e^{7 \cdot 0}}{7} = \frac{e^7 - e^0}{7} = \frac{e^7 - 1}{7}.$$

Finally, an IVP:

10) Find a function $F(z)$ with $F'(z) = 4z+1$ and $F(1) = -4$.

Solution.

First, to find $F(z)$ given $F'(z)$, we antidifferentiate (do an indefinite integral):

$$F(z) = \int F'(z) dz = \int (4z+1) dz = 2z^2 + z + C. \quad (*)$$

Next, to find C , we plug the IC $F(1) = -4$ into $(*)$:

$$-4 = F(1) = 2(1)^2 + 1 + C = 3 + C$$

Solve for C :

$$C = -4 - 3 = -7.$$

Plug this back into $(*)$, to finish:

$$F(z) = 2z^2 + z - 7.$$