

Section 4.9: Antiderivatives (Review)

Differentiation:

$f(x) \longrightarrow f'(x)$, the derivative of $f(x)$, which is unique.

Integration:

$f(x) \longrightarrow F(x)$, an antiderivative of $f(x)$ (i.e., $F'(x) = f(x)$), which is not unique.

However, $F(x) + C$ is the family of ALL antiderivatives of $f(x)$.

Definition. If $F(x)$ is an antiderivative of $f(x)$ on an interval, then $F(x) + C$ is called

- 1) the general antiderivative of f ;
- 2) the indefinite integral of f , written as $\int f(x) dx = F(x) + C$;
- 3) the general solution to the differential equation $y' = f(x)$.

Fact. Every derivative formula/property gives an integral formula/property.

E.g., we know that $\left(\frac{1}{3}x^3\right)' = x^2$. Then

$$f(x) = x^2 \implies F(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + C.$$

Simple Power Rule for Antiderivative. If $f(x) = x^n$, then

$$F(x) + C = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{n+1}x^{n+1} + C & \text{if } n \neq -1 \\ \ln|x| + C & \text{if } n = -1 \end{cases},$$

where for $n < 0$, the formula holds on the interval $(-\infty, 0)$ or $(0, \infty)$.

Some Other Formulas.

$$f(x) = e^x \implies F(x) + C = e^x + C.$$

$$f(x) = \sin x \implies F(x) + C = -\cos x + C.$$

$$f(x) = \cos x \implies F(x) + C = \sin x + C.$$

$$f(x) = \sec^2 x \implies F(x) + C = \tan x + C.$$

$$f(x) = \sec x \tan x \implies F(x) + C = \sec x + C.$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2} \implies F(x) + C = \tan^{-1}x + C.$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \implies F(x) + C = \sin^{-1}x + C.$$

We can add more formulas to this list.

We know that $\left(F(x) \pm G(x)\right)' = F'(x) \pm G'(x)$ and $\left(kF(x)\right)'(x) = kF'(x)$.

Linearity of Antiderivatives.

$$h(x) = f(x) \pm g(x) \implies H(x) + C = F(x) \pm G(x) + C.$$

$$h(x) = kf(x) \implies H(x) + C = kF(x) + C.$$

Examples.

i) If $f(x) = 3x^3 + \sqrt{x} - \sin x$, then the general antiderivative of f on $(0, \infty)$ is

$$F(x) + C = \frac{3}{4}x^4 + \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}+1}x^{\frac{3}{2}} + \cos x + C = \frac{3}{4}x^4 + \frac{2}{3}x^{\frac{3}{2}} + \cos x + C.$$

ii) If $f(x) = -2e^x + \frac{3}{x}$, then the general antiderivative of f on $(-\infty, 0)$ or $(0, \infty)$ is

$$F(x) + C = -2e^x + 3 \ln |x| + C.$$

iii) Let $f(x) = \frac{1+x^2}{x}$. Find an antiderivative F of f on $(0, \infty)$ such that $F(1) = 0$.

Solution. Now $f(x) = \frac{1}{x} + x$. Then the general antiderivative of f on $(0, \infty)$ is

$$F(x) + C = \ln |x| + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + C.$$

Thus

$$F(1) = 0 \implies \frac{1}{2} + C = 0 \implies C = -\frac{1}{2}.$$

Therefore, the antiderivative F of f on $(0, \infty)$ satisfying $F(1) = 0$ is $F(x) = \ln x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{2}$.

Sections 5.1 - 5.2: Area Problem and Definite Integral (Review)

Suppose $f \geq 0$ is a function defined on $[a, b]$. If f is “good enough” (e.g., f is continuous), then

$$A = \int_a^b f(x) dx;$$

that is, the area of the region under the graph of f is given by the definite integral of f .

In general, we consider a function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty)$. Let

$$P : a = x_0 < x_1 < \cdots < x_n = b$$

be a partition of $[a, b]$. We write

$$\Delta x_i = x_i - x_{i-1} \quad (1 \leq i \leq n) \quad \text{and} \quad \|P\| = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \Delta x_i.$$

For each i , pick any sample point $x_i^* \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]$ (say, the right end point, or the left end point, or the middle point, etc.). Then we form the Riemann sum of f under the partition P with the choice $\{x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*\}$ of sample points by

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*) \Delta x_i = f(x_1^*) \Delta x_1 + f(x_2^*) \Delta x_2 + \cdots + f(x_n^*) \Delta x_n.$$

In particular, for any partition P , we have the right Riemann sum $\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) \Delta x_i$ and the left Riemann sum $\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_{i-1}) \Delta x_i$.

When $f \geq 0$, each of these n terms in a Riemann sum stands for the area of a small rectangle. In this case, a Riemann sum can be considered as an approximation of the area A of the region under the graph of f .

Of course, under the same partition P , we have many Riemann sums. The definite integral $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ will be defined as a kind of limit of the Riemann sums.

Definition. Suppose there is $L \in (-\infty, \infty)$ is such that for any partition $P = \{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ of $[a, b]$, when $\|P\|$ is “small”, for any choice x_1^*, \dots, x_n^* of sample points, the Riemann sum $\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*)\Delta x_i$ is “close” to L (i.e., $\left| \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*)\Delta x_i - L \right|$ is “small”). Then we say that f is

integrable and write

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = L,$$

which is called the definite integral of f on $[a, b]$.

Here, the integral sign \int is stretched from the letter “S”, $f(x)$ is called the integrand, and a and b are called the lower and upper limits of the integral.

Example 1. Let $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty)$ be given by $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \text{ is rational,} \\ 1 & \text{if } x \text{ is irrational.} \end{cases}$

For any partition $P = \{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ of $[0, 1]$, we choose rational sample points $\{x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*\}$ and irrational sample points $\{z_1^*, \dots, z_n^*\}$. Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*)\Delta x_i = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n f(z_i^*)\Delta x_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta x_i = 1.$$

Now there is no number L such that these two Riemann sums both are close to L . Therefore, the definite integral $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ does not exist. ■

Question. Can we determine whether f is integrable without using the definition?

Fact 1. If f is continuous or has only finitely many jump discontinuity on $[a, b]$, then the definite integral $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ exists.

Fact 2. When f is integrable, we can “calculate” $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ via some special Riemann sums.

We consider below two special cases.

Let n be a positive integer. Partition $[a, b]$ into subintervals of equal length:

$$\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n}, \quad x_0 = a, \quad x_1 = a + \Delta x, \quad \dots, \quad x_n = a + n\Delta x.$$

Then the right and left Riemann sums of f are given by

$$R_n = \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) \Delta x = \frac{(b-a)}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(a + i\Delta x)$$

and

$$L_n = \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_{i-1}) \Delta x = \frac{(b-a)}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(a + (i-1)\Delta x).$$

Fact 3. If f is integrable on $[a, b]$, then $\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_n$.

The above denotes limit of a sequence of real numbers, which is discussed in Chapter 11.

Some Useful Formulas (which can be proved by using Mathematical Induction).

$$(1) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n i = 1 + 2 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}.$$

$$(2) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}.$$

$$(3) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = 1^3 + 2^3 + \dots + n^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)^2.$$

Example 2. Use right Riemann sums to find the following definite integrals.

$$\text{i) } \int_0^1 (x^2 + x) dx.$$

Solution. For any positive integer n , we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_n &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{i^2}{n^2} + \frac{i}{n} \right) = \frac{1}{n^3} \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n i \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) \left(2 + \frac{1}{n} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) \longrightarrow \frac{2}{6} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{5}{6} \quad (\text{as } n \rightarrow \infty). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\int_0^1 (x^2 + x) dx = \frac{5}{6}$. ■

ii) $\int_0^2 x^3 dx$.

Solution. For any positive integer n , we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_n &= \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f\left(\frac{2i}{n}\right) = \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{8i^3}{n^3}\right) = \frac{16}{n^4} \sum_{i=1}^n i^3 \\ &= \frac{16}{n^4} \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right)^2 = 4\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 \longrightarrow 4 \text{ (as } n \rightarrow \infty). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\int_0^2 x^3 dx = 4$. ■

The properties below on definite integrals follows from Fact 3.

Some Properties of Definite Integrals. Assume that f and g are integrable.

(1) $\int_a^b k dx = k(b-a)$.

(2) $\int_a^b (f(x) \pm g(x)) dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx \pm \int_a^b g(x) dx$.

(3) $\int_a^b kf(x) dx = k \int_a^b f(x) dx$.

(4) If $a < c < b$, then $\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^c f(x) dx + \int_c^b f(x) dx$.

Example 3. Suppose $\int_0^{10} f(x) dx = 5$ and $\int_2^{10} f(x) dx = 7$. Find $\int_0^2 f(x) dx$.

Solution. We have $\int_0^2 f(x) dx = \int_0^{10} f(x) dx - \int_2^{10} f(x) dx = -2$. ■

If $g(x) \geq f(x) \geq 0$, then clearly the area under the graph of g is greater than or equal to the area under the graph of f .

This can be generalized to the general situation in terms of definite integrals and can be obtained from Fact 3.

Comparison Property of Definite Integrals.

Assume that f and g are integrable and $g(x) \leq f(x)$ for all $x \in [a, b]$. Then

$$\int_a^b g(x) dx \leq \int_a^b f(x) dx.$$

In particular, we have

(1) if $f \geq 0$, then $\int_a^b f(x) dx \geq 0$;

(2) if $m \leq f \leq M$, then $m(b-a) \leq \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq M(b-a)$, or we can write

$$m \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq M.$$

Due to Fact 3, the above number $\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx$ is called the average value of f on $[a, b]$.

Example 4. Show that $1 \leq \int_0^1 \sqrt{1+x^2} dx \leq \int_0^1 \sqrt{1+x} dx \leq \sqrt{2}$.

Solution. When $0 \leq x \leq 1$, we have $0 \leq x^2 \leq x$ and hence $1 \leq 1+x^2 \leq 1+x \leq 2$. Therefore, if $0 \leq x \leq 1$, then

$$1 \leq \sqrt{1+x^2} \leq \sqrt{1+x} \leq \sqrt{2}.$$

It follows from the Comparison Property that

$$1 = \int_0^1 1 dx \leq \int_0^1 \sqrt{1+x^2} dx \leq \int_0^1 \sqrt{1+x} dx \leq \int_0^1 \sqrt{2} dx = \sqrt{2}. \quad \blacksquare$$