

# MATH 1230

## § 2.10 Antiderivatives + DE's.

Taking antiderivatives is the process of going backwards from a function  $f'(x)$  to the original function  $f(x)$ .

Definition: An antiderivative of a function  $f(x)$  on an interval  $I$  is a function  $F(x)$  satisfying  
 $F'(x) = f(x)$  for  $x \in I$ .

One way of thinking of antiderivatives is this:



Namely,  $\frac{d}{dx}$  (taking the derivative) is like a function which takes in a function  $f(x)$  and produces a new one,  $\frac{d}{dx}f(x)$ . Finding an antiderivative means to find a function  $F(x)$  which is sent to  $f(x)$  by  $\frac{d}{dx}$ .

Remark:  $\frac{d}{dx}$  is not onto! I.e there are plenty of functions that do not have antiderivatives.

Notation: If  $F(x)$  is an antiderivative of  $f(x)$ , we write

$$\int f(x) dx = F(x) + C \quad \text{constant}$$

the " $+C$ " is meant to indicate that every other function  $G(x) = F(x) + C$  is also an antiderivative of  $f(x)$ , because

$$\frac{d}{dx}(G(x)) = \frac{d}{dx}(F(x)+c) = \frac{d}{dx}F(x) + 0 = f(x).$$

In fact, we have:

Theorem: If  $F(x)$  is an antiderivative of  $f(x)$ , then any other antiderivative  $G(x)$  of  $f(x)$  is equal to  $F(x) + C$  for some constant  $C$ .

Proof: Requires the Mean Value Theorem and is beyond the scope of this class.

---

This ends our "theoretical" discussion on antiderivatives. What of the practical side? I.e., how to calculate  $F(x)$  given  $f(x)$ ? For each differentiation rule, there is a corresponding "antidifferentiation" rule:

(i)  $\int c_0 dx = c_0 x + C \quad (C_0 \text{ any constant})$

$$\text{(ii)} \int x^n dx = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} \quad (n \neq -1)$$

$$\text{(iii)} \int \sin x dx = -\cos x + C$$

$$\text{(iv)} \int \cos x dx = \sin x + C.$$

There are a few other rules, see page 150 for a list.

Remarks ① Note that since

$$\frac{d}{dx}(f(x) \pm g(x)) = \frac{df}{dx} \pm \frac{dg}{dx}$$

the same is true for antiderivatives:

$$\int f(x) \pm g(x) dx = \int f(x) dx \pm \int g(x) dx$$

also

$$\frac{d}{dx} cf(x) = c \frac{df}{dx} \text{ implies } \int cf(x) dx = c \int f(x) dx.$$

② There is not really an equivalent of the product, quotient or chain rule. This makes taking antiderivatives harder than taking derivatives.

Example:

Find the antiderivative of  $\frac{2x^{3/2} + \sqrt{x}}{x^2}$ .

Solution: We compute:

$$\int \frac{2x^{3/2} + \sqrt{x}}{x^2} dx = \int \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}} + x^{-3/2} dx$$

$$= 2 \int x^{1/2} dx + \int x^{-3/2} dx$$

$$= 2 \frac{x^{3/2}}{3/2} + \frac{x^{-1/2}}{-1/2} + C \quad \text{note:}$$

$$= 4\sqrt{x} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} + C \quad \begin{aligned} &\text{since } C \text{ is an} \\ &\text{arbitrary constant} \\ &\text{we only put one "C"} \\ &\text{here (ie. } C_1 + C_2 \text{ can} \\ &\text{be replaced with a single } C). \end{aligned}$$

## Applications of antiderivatives

Antiderivatives will turn out to be useful for many, many things (computing areas, for one). We will touch on a basic use: Solving differential equations.

A differential equation (DE) is an equation involving derivatives, e.g.

$$x^2 \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = \cos(x) + x^3$$

A solution to a DE is a formula for  $y(x)$  that

makes the given equation true. E.g. if we are asked to solve

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 1$$

then  $y(x) = x^3 - x + C$  is a solution for any value of  $C$ . If we leave  $C$  arbitrary, it's called the "general solution" to the given DE.

Example: Solve

$$y' = \frac{3+2x^2}{x^2}$$

Solution: If  $y' = \frac{3+2x^2}{x^2}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\int y' dx &= \int \frac{3+2x^2}{x^2} dx = \int \frac{3}{x^2} dx + \int 2 dx \\ &= -\frac{3}{x} + 2x + C\end{aligned}$$

is a solution.

---

A particular solution to a DE is when we are told a value of the derivatives that allows us to solve for  $C$ , as in the following example.

Example: Solve  $y' = x - 2$ ,  $y(0) = 3$ .

Solution: If  $y' = x - 2$  then

$\int y' dx = \int x - 2 dx = \frac{x^2}{2} - 2x + C$  is a general solution to the DE. But  $y(0) = 3$  means we must have  $3 = y(0) = \frac{0^2}{2} + 2(0) + C$   
 $\Rightarrow C = 3.$

So then  $y = \frac{x^2}{2} - 2x + 3$  is a particular solution to the given DE.

Example: Solve  $y' = \frac{3+2x^2}{x^2}$ ,  $y(-2) = 1$ .

Solution: We already found a general solution of  $y(x) = -\frac{3}{x} + 2x + C$ . Using  $y(-2) = 1$  we get

$$1 = -\frac{3}{-2} + 2(-2) + C$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = \frac{3}{2} + 4 + C \Rightarrow C = \frac{7}{2}.$$

So  $y(x) = -\frac{3}{x} + 2x + \frac{7}{2}$  is a particular solution.

§2.11 Velocity and Acceleration, applications.

We already saw that if  $x(t)$  denotes the position of an object at time  $t$  (along the  $x$ -axis, say) then

$$v(t) = \frac{dx}{dt} = x'(t) \text{ is velocity}$$

$$a(t) = \frac{dv}{dt} = v'(t) = x''(t) \text{ is acceleration.}$$

It turns out that with our knowledge of simple DEs and derivatives we can analyze many physical situations involving these quantities.

Example: An object is thrown upwards from the roof of a building 10m tall. It rises then falls back to the ground, with its height at time  $t$  given by  $y(t) = -4.9t^2 + 8t + 10$  (meters).

- (i) What is its maximum height?
- (ii) What is its speed when it strikes the ground?

Solution: (i) We compute the velocity and find

$$v(t) = -9.8t + 8 \text{ (meters/sec).}$$

The object rises when  $v(t) > 0$ , falls when  $v(t) < 0$ ,

and so is at a max when

$$\begin{aligned}-9.8t + 8 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow t &= \frac{8}{9.8}.\end{aligned}$$

(Alternatively: We look for a line tangent to the curve  $y(t)$  having zero slope, as we saw that these correspond to maxes/mins in many cases).

Thus the max height is

$$y\left(\frac{8}{9.8}\right) = -4.9\left(\frac{8}{9.8}\right)^2 + 8\left(\frac{8}{9.8}\right) + 10 \approx 13.3 \text{ m.}$$

(ii) We know the object strikes the ground when  $y(t)=0$ , so we solve

$$\begin{aligned}-4.9t^2 + 8t + 10 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow t &= \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{64+196}}{-9.8}\end{aligned}$$

producing two solutions, one positive and one negative.  
We only want the positive, ie.  $t \approx 2.462$ .

At this time,

$$\underline{\underline{v(2.462)}} = -9.8(2.462) + 8 = -16.1 \text{ m/s.}$$

In this last example we knew the position function and deduced properties of the ~~derivative~~ derivative.

We can also go the other way:

Example: A free falling object, with air resistance neglected, begins from a height  $y_0$  with an initial velocity of  $v_0$ . What is its equation of motion (i.e., its position function?)

Solution: Acceleration due to gravity is approximately  $-9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$  (negative because it's a downward acceleration). So if  $y(t)$  is the position function, this says:

$$y''(t) = -9.8.$$

If we take the "beginning" of the object's fall to be time  $t=0$ , we also have:

$$y'(0) = v_0, \quad y(0) = y_0.$$

Thus we have:

$$y'(t) = \int y''(t) dt = \int -9.8 dt = -9.8t + C_1.$$

Here, the constant  $C_1$  is determined by the condition  $y'(0) = v_0 \Rightarrow -9.8(0) + C_1 = v_0$   
 $\Rightarrow C_1 = v_0.$

$$\text{So } y'(t) = -9.8t + v_0.$$

$$\text{Then } y(t) = \int y'(t) dt = \int -9.8t + v_0 dt \\ = -4.9t^2 + v_0 t + C_2$$

And the condition  $y(0) = y_0$  gives us

$$y_0 = y(0) = -4.9(0) + v_0(0) + C_2 \\ \Rightarrow C_2 = y_0.$$

Therefore  $\underline{y(t) = -4.9t^2 + v_0 t + y_0.}$

This sort of scenario also applies whenever acceleration is constant.

Example: Suppose a car is travelling at  $x_0 \text{ km/h}$  and is capable of decelerating at  $2.5 \text{ m/s}^2$ .

How far, in terms of the initial speed  $x_0$ , does the car need to stop?

Solution: Let  $t=0$  be the time when the brakes are first applied, and let  $s(t)$  denote the position of the car at time  $t$ . We know

$$s''(t) = -2.5 \text{ m/s}^2$$

and therefore velocity is

$$s'(t) = \int -2.5 dt = -2.5t + C_1$$

where  $C_1$  is determined by the fact that the car starts at  $x_0 \text{ km/h} \approx 0.28x_0 \text{ m/s}$ .

$$\Rightarrow 0.28x_0 = s'(0) = -2.5(0) + C_1$$

$$\Rightarrow C_1 = 0.28x_0.$$

Therefore  $s'(t) = -2.5t + 0.28x_0$ .

From this, we can see that the car will stop after:

$$0 = -2.5t + 0.28x_0$$

$$\Rightarrow t = \frac{0.28x_0}{2.5} \text{ seconds.}$$

The distance it will have travelled is found by computing  $s(t)$  and plugging in this value.

$$\begin{aligned} s(t) &= \int -2.5t + 0.28x_0 \, dt \\ &= -1.25t^2 + (0.28x_0)t + C_2. \end{aligned}$$

If we choose the spot where the car initially applies its brakes to be distance 0, we have  $s(0) = 0$  and so  $s(t) = -1.25t^2 + (0.28x_0)t$ .

Thus the car stops a distance of

$$s\left(\frac{0.28x_0}{2.5}\right) = -1.25\left(\frac{0.28x_0}{2.5}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{0.28x_0}{2.5}\right).(0.28x_0)$$

$$= 0.01568 x_0^2.$$

So, for example, a car going 50 km/hr will stop in 39.2 m (a bit far, I admit). A car going 100 km/hr will stop in 156.8 m.

Note: Stopping distance depends on the square of the initial velocity  $x_0$ .

§3.1 Inverse functions

This lecture is largely review and prep for logs/exponentials.

Recall that a function is one-to-one if  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$  implies  $x_1 = x_2$ , meaning  $f(x) = y$  has a unique solution for  $x$ .

Example: The function  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$  is one-to-one.

If  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$  then  $\sqrt{x_1} = \sqrt{x_2}$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 \text{ (square both sides)}$$

On the other hand,  $f(x) = x^2$  is not one-to-one since  $(-1)^2 = 1^2 = 1$ .

Definition: If  $f(x)$  is a function, its inverse function is a function  $g(x)$  satisfying

$$g(f(x)) = x \text{ and } f(g(x)) = x.$$

Instead of  $g(x)$ , we usually denote it by  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

Remark: If  $f(x)$  is one-to-one, then it has an inverse.

Whenever  $f(x) = y$ , we define the inverse by the formula  $f^{-1}(y) = x$

This formula "makes sense", because if  $f$  is one-to-one then there's a unique  $x$  with  $f(x) = y$ .

Recall the following method for finding inverse functions:

If  $f(x)$  is given, you:

- ① Replace  $f(x)$  with  $y$
- ② Replace every  $x$  with a  $y$  and  $y$  with an  $x$ .
- ③ Solve for  $y$ , replace  $y$  with  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

Example: Find the inverse of  $f(x) = \sqrt{6x+5}$ .

Solution ① Write  $y = \sqrt{6x+5}$ .

② Change to  $x = \sqrt{6y+5}$

③ Solve:  $x^2 = 6y + 5$   
 $\Rightarrow y = \frac{x^2 - 5}{6}$ .

Therefore  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x^2 - 5}{6}$ .

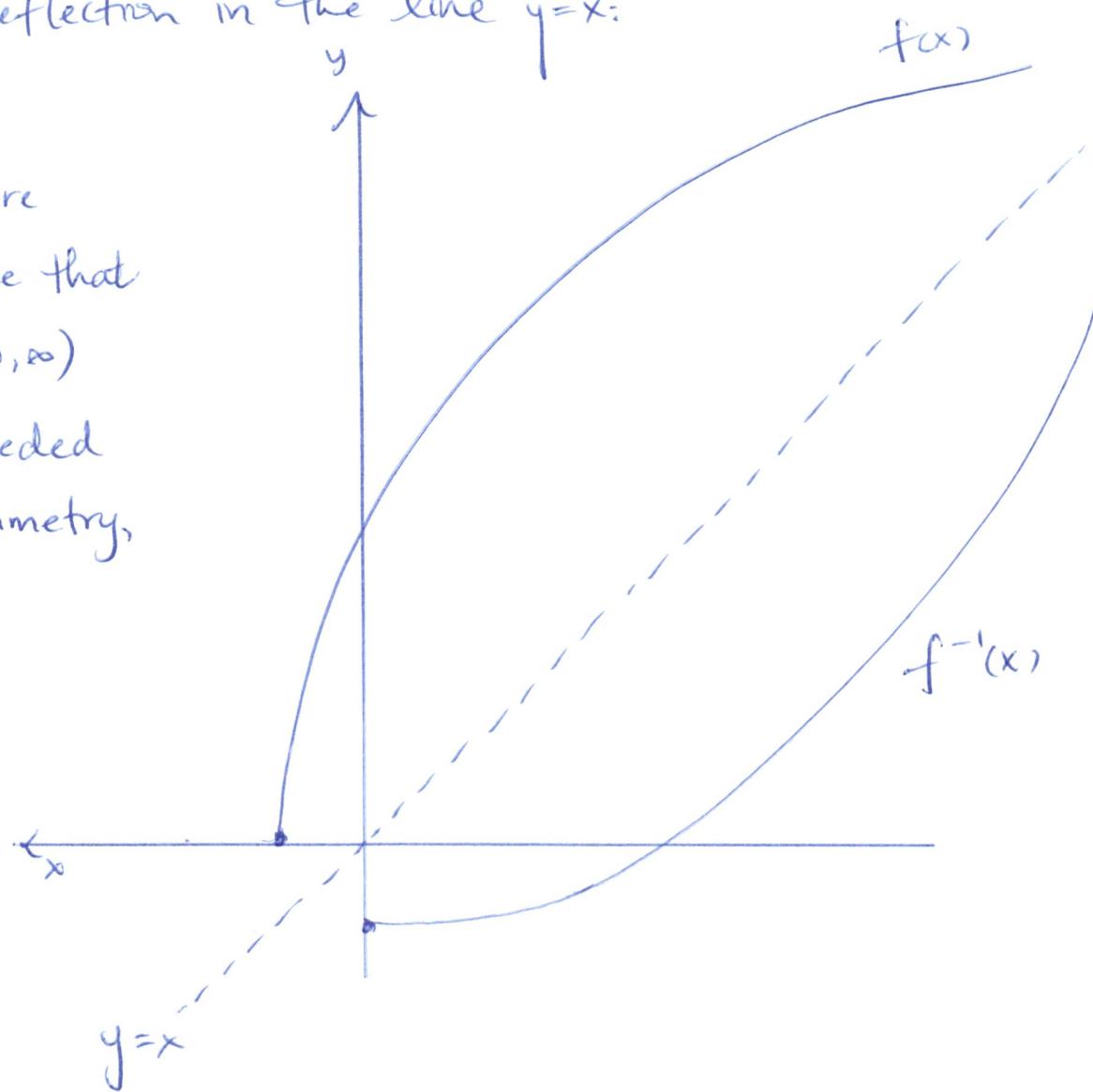
There is one final step in this case: Since the range of  $f(x)$  is  $x \geq 0$ , we should point out that the domain of  $f^{-1}(x)$  is only  $[0, \infty)$ , even though every real number works in the formula  $\frac{x^2 - 5}{6}$ .

This domain restriction is necessary! Suppose we allow an  $x$  outside of  $[0, \infty)$ , say  $x = -1$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Then } f(f^{-1}(-1)) &= f\left(\frac{(-1)^2 - 5}{6}\right) \\
 &= f\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) \\
 &= \sqrt{6\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) + 5} = \sqrt{5 - 4} = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

So the defining identity of  $f(f^{-1}(x)) = x$  fails for points outside of  $[0, \infty)$ . Hence the restricted domain.

Graphically, the function  $f(x)$  is related to its inverse  $f^{-1}(x)$  by reflection in the line  $y=x$ :



From the picture we can also see that the domain  $[0, \infty)$  for  $f^{-1}(x)$  is needed to preserve symmetry, since  $f(x) \geq 0$

Sometimes we also need to restrict the domain of our original function  $f(x)$  (not just its inverse), to ensure that  $f(x)$  is one-to-one.

Example: Consider  $f(x) = x^2$ . It is not one-to-one so it cannot have an inverse. Yet we know that  $\sqrt{x^2}$  and  $x^2$  should "cancel" in some sense. Precisely:

If  $x \geq 0$  then

$$\sqrt{x^2} = |x| = x$$

$$\text{and } (\sqrt{x})^2 = x$$

So on  $[0, \infty)$  the function  $f(x) = x^2$  has  $f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt{x}$  as an inverse.

The derivative of  $f^{-1}(x)$  can be calculated from the defining identities using the chain rule.

$$f(f^{-1}(x)) = x$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx}(f(f^{-1}(x))) = \frac{d}{dx}x$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(f^{-1}(x)) \cdot \frac{d}{dx}f^{-1}(x) = 1$$

$$\boxed{\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx}f^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(x))}}$$

as long as  $f'(x)$  is never zero.

For example, if  $f(x)$  is an increasing ( $f'(x) > 0$ ) or decreasing ( $f'(x) < 0$ ) function then this formula holds.

Example: Consider  $f(x) = 3x^5 + x^3 + 1$ . Does  $f^{-1}(x)$  exist? If yes, what is  $(f^{-1})'(5)$ ?

Solution: Note that since  $f'(x)$  is an even function:

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} f'(x) = 15x^4 + 3x^2 + 1 \\ \text{and } f'(-x) = 15(-x)^4 + 3(-x)^2 + 1 \text{ are equal} \end{array} \right)$$

we know that  $f'(x) > 0$  for all  $x$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , since  $f'(x) = 15x^4 + 3x^2 + 1$  is certainly positive for all positive  $x$ .

Therefore  $f(x)$  is increasing, so it must be one-to-one (why?), and therefore  $f^{-1}(x)$  exists.

We can't find a formula for  $f^{-1}(x)$ , but since  $f(1) = 3(1)^5 + 1^3 + 1 = 5$ , we know  $f^{-1}(5) = 1$ . Therefore

$$(f^{-1})'(x) = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(x))}, \text{ with } x=5 \text{ gives}$$

$$(f^{-1})'(5) = \frac{1}{15(1)^4 + 3(1)^2 + 1} = \frac{1}{19}.$$

(Difficult).

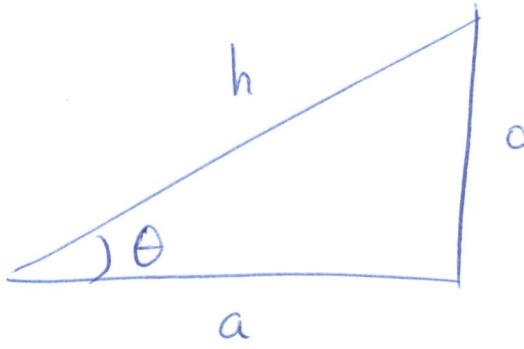
Example: We will eventually introduce and study inverse trig functions, but we can already use this rule to say what their derivatives must be!

For example, if  $\sin^{-1}(x)$  is a function with

$\sin(\sin^{-1}(x)) = x$  and  $\sin^{-1}(\sin(x))$  on some domain, then

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sin^{-1}(x)) = \frac{1}{\cos(\sin^{-1}(x))} \quad (\text{since } \frac{d}{dx} \sin x = \cos x),$$

From the triangle, observe that:



$$\begin{aligned}\sin \theta &= \frac{o}{h} = x \\ \Rightarrow \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{o}{h}\right) &= \theta \\ \Rightarrow \cos\left(\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{o}{h}\right)\right) &= \cos(\theta) \\ &= \frac{a}{h}.\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} \sin^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{\frac{a}{h}}$$

But from the fact that  $h^2 = o^2 + a^2$ , we can check that

$$\frac{a}{h} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{o^2}{h^2}} = \sqrt{1 - x^2}, \text{ so}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(\sin^{-1}(x)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}.$$