

Antiderivatives:

Antiderivative of a function f is a function F such that

$$F' = f$$

Find antiderivatives of the following functions:

① $f(x) = x^2$

Note: In the power rule, the power gets reduced by 1.

Let, $F(x) = Ax^3$, then $F'(x) = A(x^3)' = 3Ax^2$

$$F'(x) = f(x) \Rightarrow 3Ax^2 = x^2$$

↓ Equating coefficients we get

$$3A = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\text{Hence, } F(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3$$

But $F(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + 100$ also has $f(x)$ as derivative.

So, our general antiderivative is $F(x) = \frac{x^3}{3} + c$, where c is any constant.

* In general the antiderivative of $f(x) = x^n$, $n \neq -1$, is given by $F(x) = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} + c$, c is any constant.

① For $n = -1$, $F(x) = \ln x + c$, as $F'(x) = \frac{1}{x} = x^{-1}$.

② $f(x) = 5 \cos 3x$

Note:- Since the derivative of trigonometric function is again trigonometric.

Let $F(x) = A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x$

Then, $F'(x) = A \cos 3x \cdot 3 + B (-\sin 3x) \cdot 3$
 $= 3A \cos 3x - 3B \sin 3x$

Since, $F'(x) = f(x)$

$\Rightarrow 3A \cos 3x - 3B \sin 3x = 5 \cos 3x + 0 \sin 3x$

$\Rightarrow 3A = 5 \quad \& \quad -3B = 0$

$\Rightarrow A = \frac{5}{3} \quad \& \quad B = 0$

Then $F(x) = \frac{5}{3} \sin 3x + 0 \cos 3x$
 $= \frac{5}{3} \sin 3x.$

Hence our general Antiderivative is $F(x) = \frac{5}{3} \sin 3x + c.$

③ $f(x) = e^{mx}$, where m is a fixed constant.

Note:- Since the derivative of an exponential function is again exponential,

Let $F(x) = A e^{mx}$. Then $F'(x) = A e^{mx} \cdot m.$

Since $F'(x) = f(x) \Rightarrow A e^{mx} \cdot m = e^{mx}$

Comparing coefficients we get, $Am = 1 \Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{m}.$

Then $F(x) = \frac{1}{m} e^{mx}$.

So, the general antiderivative is $F(x) = \frac{e^{mx}}{m} + C$.

Ex. Suppose $F'(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$ & $F(1) = 5$. Find $F(x)$.

Here, $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} = x^{-1/2}$, i.e., $n = -1/2$. ($\neq -1$)

Then, $F(x) = \frac{x^{-1/2+1}}{-1/2+1} + C$

$$= \frac{x^{1/2}}{1/2} + C$$

$$= 2\sqrt{x} + C$$

Given $F(1) = 5 \Rightarrow 2\sqrt{1} + C = 5$

$$\Rightarrow 2 + C = 5 \Rightarrow C = 3$$

Hence $F(x) = 2\sqrt{x} + 3$.