

PROOF. Let $F(x) = \int_a^x f(t) dt$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} F(x+h) - F(x) &= \int_a^{x+h} f(t) dt - \int_a^x f(t) dt \\ &= \int_a^{x+h} f(t) dt + \int_x^a f(t) dt \\ &= \int_x^{x+h} f(t) dt \\ &= \left((x+h) - x \right) f(c), \quad x < c < x+h \end{aligned}$$

by the MVT for integral. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{F(x+h) - F(x)}{h} &= f(c) = f(x + \theta h), \quad 0 < \theta < 1 \\ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{F(x+h) - F(x)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(x + \theta h) = f(x). \end{aligned}$$

□

THEOREM 0.1 (F.T. of integral calculus). *If $f(x) \in C(a, b)$ and $F(x)$ is a primitive of $f(x)$, then*

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

PROOF. Since $D \int_a^x f(t) dt = f(x)$ by previous theorem and $DF(x) = f(x)$, then $\int_a^x f(t) dt$ differs from $F(x)$ by a constant:

$$\int_a^x f(t) dt = F(x) + c$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} x = a &\implies 0 = F(a) + c \implies c = -F(a), \\ x = b &\implies \int_a^b f(t) dt = F(b) + c = F(b) - F(a). \end{aligned}$$

□

NOTATION. $\int_a^b f(t) dt = F(b) - F(a) = F(x) \bigg|_{x=a}^{x=b} = F(x) \bigg|_a^b$

In view of this theorem, evaluation of a definite integral reduces to that of an indefinite integral. It is to be noted that if the evaluation is done by substitution, the new limits