

Calculus 140, section 5.5 Indefinite Integrals and Integration Rules

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4.3 Example A redux: Given a function $f(x) = 5x^4$ find a function $F(x)$ such that $F'(x) = f(x)$.

answer: $F(x) = x^5 + C$

In the example above, the question was phrased, “Find a function $F(x)$ such that $F'(x) = f(x)$.” There are four other equivalent ways to ask the same thing:

Find all antiderivatives of $f(x)$. Integrate $f(x)$.

Find the integral of $f(x)$. Find $\int f(x) dx$.

These are called the **indefinite integral of f** [Definition 5.15].

Example B: Find all antiderivatives of $f(x) = x^4$. *answer:* $\frac{1}{5}x^5 + C$

From this example, we can generalize the process for integrating power functions:

$$\int x^r dx = \frac{1}{r+1} x^{r+1} + C, \quad r \neq -1.$$

Note the restriction on r . We have to avoid a 0 in the denominator since division by 0 is undefined.

We'll take a close look at $\int \frac{1}{x} dx$ in a later section. Until that time, we'll assume we are integrating $\frac{1}{x}$ only for positive values of x .

Example C: Evaluate $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx$. *answer:* $2\sqrt{x} + C$

Now is as good a time as any to point out the “ dx ” part of the integral $\int f(x) dx$. It is a necessary part of any integral, since we are finding the antiderivative “with respect to x : $f(x) = \frac{d}{dx}[F(x)] \Leftrightarrow \int f(x) dx = F(x) + C$.

Example D: Evaluate $\int e dx$. *answer: $ex + C$*

Note that in this example, as in all the others, we can easily check our answer by finding its derivative:

$$\frac{d}{dx}(ex + C) = e, \text{ which is correct.}$$

Checking your integration by finding the derivative is a good habit to develop.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Just like differentiation, integration has a sum rule [Theorem 5.16 and Corollary 5.18].

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x) + g(x)] = \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] + \frac{d}{dx}[g(x)] \Rightarrow$$

$$\int [f(x) + g(x)] dx = \int f(x) dx + \int g(x) dx \quad \int_a^b [f(x) + g(x)] dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx + \int_a^b g(x) dx$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x) - g(x)] = \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] - \frac{d}{dx}[g(x)] \Rightarrow$$

$$\int [f(x) - g(x)] dx = \int f(x) dx - \int g(x) dx \quad \int_a^b [f(x) - g(x)] dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx - \int_a^b g(x) dx$$

Example E: Find $\int (\cos t - \sin t) dt$. *answer: $\sin t + \cos t + C$*

Just like differentiation, integration has a constant multiple rule [Theorem 5.17].

$$\frac{d}{dx}[c * f(x)] = c * \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] \Rightarrow$$

$$\int c * f(x) dx = c * \int f(x) dx \quad \int_a^b c * f(x) dx = c * \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

Example F: Find the integral of $f(x) = \frac{7}{9}e^x$. *answer: $\frac{7}{9}e^x + C$*

Example G: Evaluate $\int_1^4 (x - \sqrt{x})^2 dx$. *answer:* $\frac{111}{30}$

Example H: Evaluate $\int_1^{\pi/2} \left(\sqrt[3]{x^2} + \frac{1}{4x} - 5e^x + 6\sin x + 7\cos x \right) dx$.

answer: $\frac{3}{5} \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \right)^{5/3} + \frac{1}{4} \ln \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \right) - 5e^{\pi/2} - 5e - 6\cos(1) + 7\sin(1) + \frac{32}{5}$

(Note that domain of $\ln x$ is not an issue, since the interval I over which we're integrating contains only positive values for x .)