

Math 187: Section 2S.1: Antiderivatives

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10:33 AM

what's the derivative $f'(x)$ for $f(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3$?

$$f'(x) = x^2$$

so, reversing this process,

if function is now $f(x) = x^2$

the antiderivative $F(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3$

note: if $f(x) = x^2$,

couldn't $F(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + 2$ instead?

$$= \frac{1}{3}x^3 - 5$$

yes!

so $F(x) = \frac{x^3}{3} + \text{constant}$, really.

but you'll find in our notation later that a lot of the time we write $F(x)$ as the functional dependence (how it depends on x) and only worry about the constant elsewhere

examples:

Find $F(x)$ for:

$$f(x) = x^5$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{6} x^6$$

$$f(x) = x^2 + 2$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{3} x^3 + 2x$$

$$f(x) = \cos x$$

$$F(x) = \sin x$$

$$f(x) = e^x$$

$$F(x) = e^x$$

note: is $\frac{1}{3}(x+1)^3$ the antiderivative of $(x+1)^2$?

yes!

is $\frac{1}{3}(2x+1)^3$ the antiderivative of $(2x+1)^2$?

no! alt by a factor
of 2

is $\frac{1}{3}(x^2+1)^3$ the antiderivative of $(x^2+1)^2$?

really no!

wrong coeff \neq missing
 \equiv factor of
x