Math 104: Applications of Definite Integrals

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Math 104: Applications of Definite Integrals Thursday February 14, 2013 1 / 7

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Outline



- 2 The Definite Integral as a Tool
- 3 Arc Length
- 4 Area In Polar Coordinates

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Types of integrals

Indefinite Integrals represent families of antiderivatives

$$\int x dx = \frac{x^2}{2} + c$$

Indefinite integrals are useful for solving differential equations.

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Types of integrals

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Indefinite integrals are useful for solving differential equations.

Definite Integrals represent the area under the curve

$$\int_{0}^{2} x dx = 2$$

Definite integrals are useful for solving problems is Geometry, Physics and Statistics.

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Definition of Definite Integral

Definition

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx = \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{i=1}^{n} f\left(a + \frac{b-a}{n}i\right) \frac{b-a}{n}$$

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Math 104: Applications of Definite Integrals Thursday February 14, 2013 4 / 7

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Fundamental theorem of calculus

Theorem Let f(x) be a continuous function with antiderivative G(x) $\frac{d}{dx}(\int_{a}^{x} f(t)dt) = f(x)$ $\int_{a}^{b} f(x)dx = G(b) - G(a)$

The big idea:

$$\int d \ddot{\quad} = \ddot{\quad}$$

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The length of a curve

Lets find the length of a curve by approximating by line segments.

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If f is continuous on the interval [a, b], then the length of the graph of f from a to b is

$$L = \int_a^b \sqrt{1 + (f'(x))^2}$$

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Example: Find circumference of the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 4$.

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Calculating area in different coordinates

To calculate area in Cartesian coordinates we integrate a function of y with respect to dx (vertical bands) or we integrate a function of x with respect to dy (horizontal bands).

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To calculate area in Polar coordinates we integrate a function of $\frac{1}{2}r^2$ with respect to $d\theta$ (wedges) or we integrate a function of $2\pi r$ with respect to dr (circular bands).

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Exercise: Calculate the area of the disk in three different ways: using wedges, using circular bands and using vertical bands

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