

Differentiating Inverse Functions

Starter

1. (Review of last lesson)

The curve shown is $y = 3x^8 + 5$. Find the shaded area.

Working: Rearrange $y = 3x^8 + 5$ to make x the subject:

$$x = \sqrt[8]{\frac{y-5}{3}}$$

$$\text{Required area} = 2 \int_5^8 \sqrt[8]{\frac{y-5}{3}} dy$$

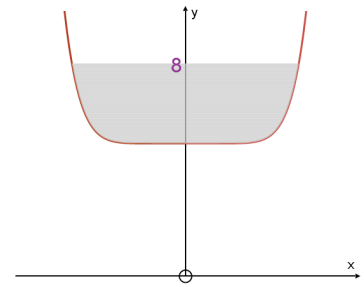
$$= 2 \int_5^8 \left(\frac{y-5}{3}\right)^{\frac{1}{8}} dy$$

$$= 2 \left[\frac{8}{9} \times 3 \left(\frac{y-5}{3}\right)^{\frac{9}{8}} \right]_5^8$$

$$= 2 \left[\left(\frac{8}{9} \times 3 \left(\frac{8-5}{3}\right)^{\frac{9}{8}}\right) - \left(\frac{8}{9} \times 3 \left(\frac{5-5}{3}\right)^{\frac{9}{8}}\right) \right]$$

$$= \frac{48}{9}$$

$$= 5\frac{1}{3}$$



N.B. The integral needs to be multiplied by 2 so that the areas to the left and right of the y -axis are counted.

The area could also be found by taking the area between the curve and the x -axis away from rectangle

$$\text{i.e.} \quad 2 \int_5^8 \sqrt[8]{\frac{y-5}{3}} dy = 1 \times 8 - \int_0^1 (3x^8 + 5) dx$$

2. Let $y = \frac{5x-3}{2}$. Find:

(a) $\frac{dy}{dx}$

(b) the inverse function

(c) the derivative of the inverse function.

Write down what you notice.

Working: (a) $y = \frac{5x-3}{2} = \frac{5x}{2} - \frac{3}{2}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{5}{2}$$

(b) To find the inverse: swap x and y over to get $x = \frac{5y - 3}{2}$
Rearrange $x = \frac{5y - 3}{2}$ to make y the subject: $2x = 5y - 3$
 $2x + 3 = 5y$
 $y = \frac{2x + 3}{5}$
Inverse function is $\frac{2x + 3}{5}$

(c) The derivative of the inverse function is $\frac{2}{5}$.

The derivative of the inverse function is the reciprocal of the derivative of the function.

E.g. 1 Use the derivative of e^x to prove that the derivative of $\ln x$ is $\frac{1}{x}$.

Working: Let $y = \ln x$ then $x = e^y$
 $\frac{dx}{dy} = e^y = e^{\ln x} = x$
So $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x}$

E.g. 2 The deceleration of a parachute is proportional to the square of its velocity, so that $a = \frac{dv}{dt} = -0.05v^2$. When $t = 0$ the velocity is 12 m/s. Find an expression for the velocity in terms of time.

Hint: $\frac{dt}{dv} = -\frac{1}{0.05v^2}$ so $t = \int \dots$

Working: $\frac{dt}{dv} = -\frac{1}{0.05v^2} \Rightarrow t = \int -\frac{1}{0.05v^2} dt = \int -20v^{-2} dt$
 $t = 20v^{-1} + c = \frac{20}{v} + c$
When $t = 0, v = 12$: $0 = \frac{20}{12} + c \Rightarrow c = -\frac{5}{3}$
 $t = \frac{20}{v} - \frac{5}{3} \Rightarrow 3t + 5 = \frac{60}{v}$
 $v = \frac{60}{3t + 5}$

Video A:

[Differentiating inverse functions](#)

Video B:

[Differentiating inverse functions](#)

[Solutions to Starter and E.g.s](#)

Exercise

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