

Let f be a function of two variables, and ϕ and ψ be functions of a single variable. The integral

$$I(y) := \int_{\phi(y)}^{\psi(y)} f(x, y) \, dx$$

is a function of a single variable, namely, y .

The following formula for the derivative of I holds:

$$I'(y) = f(\psi(y), y) \psi'(y) - f(\phi(y), y) \phi'(y) + \int_{\phi(y)}^{\psi(y)} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x, y) \, dx \quad (1)$$

Here is an example of using this formula to find the derivative of a function defined as a complicated integral:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dy} \int_{\sqrt{y}}^{y^4} \frac{e^{xy}}{x} \, dx &= \left. \frac{e^{xy}}{x} \right|_{x=y^4} \frac{d}{dy} (y^4) - \left. \frac{e^{xy}}{x} \right|_{x=\sqrt{y}} \frac{d}{dy} (\sqrt{y}) + \int_{\sqrt{y}}^{y^4} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{e^{xy}}{x} \right) \, dx \\ &= \frac{e^{y^5}}{y^4} 4y^3 - \frac{e^{y^{3/2}}}{\sqrt{y}} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} + \int_{\sqrt{y}}^{y^4} e^{xy} \, dx \\ &= \frac{4e^{y^5}}{y} - \frac{e^{y^{3/2}}}{2y} + \frac{1}{y} e^{xy} \Big|_{x=\sqrt{y}}^{y^4} \\ &= \frac{4e^{y^5}}{y} - \frac{e^{y^{3/2}}}{2y} + \frac{e^{y^5} - e^{y^{3/2}}}{y} \\ &= \frac{5e^{y^5}}{y} - \frac{3e^{y^{3/2}}}{2y} \end{aligned}$$

One can use this formula to solve some tricky definite integrals, as you will do in the problems below.

Additional problem 1. Find

$$\frac{d}{dy} \int_{\sqrt{y}}^{y^4} \arctan(e^x) \, dx$$

Additional problem 2. Use equation (1) and the fact that, for any $y > 0$,

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{dx}{x^2 + y^2} = \frac{1}{y} \arctan \frac{x}{y} \Big|_{x=0}^\infty = \frac{\pi}{2y}$$

to prove that

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{dx}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} = \frac{\pi}{4y^3} .$$

Additional problem 3.

(a) Find the partial derivative

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{x^y - 1}{\ln x} \right) .$$

(b) If the function $F(y)$ is defined as

$$F(y) := \int_0^1 \frac{x^y - 1}{\ln x} dx ,$$

use equation (1) to show that

$$F'(y) = \frac{1}{y+1} .$$

(c) Use your result from part (b) to compute

$$\int_0^1 \frac{x^4 - 1}{\ln x} dx .$$