

## Differentiation and integration of simple functions

### Differentiation:

You differentiate a quantity to see how an infinitesimally small change in one quantity will affect the other. (For example, see how much y will change due to a small change in x)

Begin with an expression:  $y = x^n$

Differentiate one quantity (y) with respect to the other (x):  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = n(x^{n-1})$

Note: *Differentiating a constant results in zero.*

This is valid for any function that contains a power of a single quantity, or a sum (difference) of terms which each contain a power of a single quantity.

Examples:

$$y = x^4 \qquad \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx}(x^4) = 4x^3$$

$$y = x^{12} + x^{-2} - x + 5 \qquad \frac{dy}{dx} = 12x^{11} - 2x^{-3} - 1 + 0$$

## Integration:

You integrate a quantity to determine how all of the infinitesimally small changes in a quantity (due to changes in another quantity) relate to the whole quantity you started with. (For example, you look at how all of the  $dy$ 's relate to  $y$ , where all of the  $dy$ 's are the result of an infinitesimally small change in  $x$  ( $dx$ ).  $y = dy + dy + dy + \dots$  ( $y(x) = dy/dx + dy/dx + dy/dx + \dots$ )) (*area under the curve described by the expression for  $y$* )

Begin with an expression:  $y = x^n$

Integrate one quantity ( $y$ ) with respect to the other ( $x$ ):

$\int y dx = \int (x^n) dx = \frac{1}{n+1} (x^{n+1}) + c$ , where  $c$  is a constant that must be identified. (*Indefinite integral*)

Integrate one quantity ( $y$ ) with respect to the other ( $x$ ) from some initial value of  $x$  ( $x_i$ ) to some final value of  $x$  ( $x_f$ ):

$$\int_{x_i}^{x_f} y dx = \int_{x_i}^{x_f} (x^n) dx = \frac{1}{n+1} (x^{n+1}) \Big|_{x_i}^{x_f} = \frac{1}{n+1} [(x_f^{n+1}) - (x_i^{n+1})] \text{ (Definite integral)}$$

Examples:

$y = x^4$  from  $x_i = 2$  to  $x_f = 6$

$$\int_2^6 y dx = \int_2^6 (x^4) dx = \frac{1}{5} (x^5) \Big|_2^6 = \frac{1}{5} [(6^5) - (2^5)] = \frac{1}{5} [7776 - 32] = 1548.8$$

$y = x^3 + x^{-2} - x + 5$  from  $x_i = 2$  to  $x_f = 6$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_2^6 y dx &= \int_2^6 (x^3 + x^{-2} - x + 5) dx = \left( \frac{1}{4} x^4 - x^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} x^2 + 5x \right) \Big|_2^6 \\ &= \left[ \left( \frac{1}{4} 6^4 - 6^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} 6^2 + 5(6) \right) - \left( \frac{1}{4} 2^4 - 2^{-1} - \frac{1}{2} 2^2 + 5(2) \right) \right] \\ &= [(324 - 0.1667 - 18 + 30) - (4 - 0.5 - 2 + 10)] \\ &= [(335.83) - (11.5)] = 324.3 \end{aligned}$$