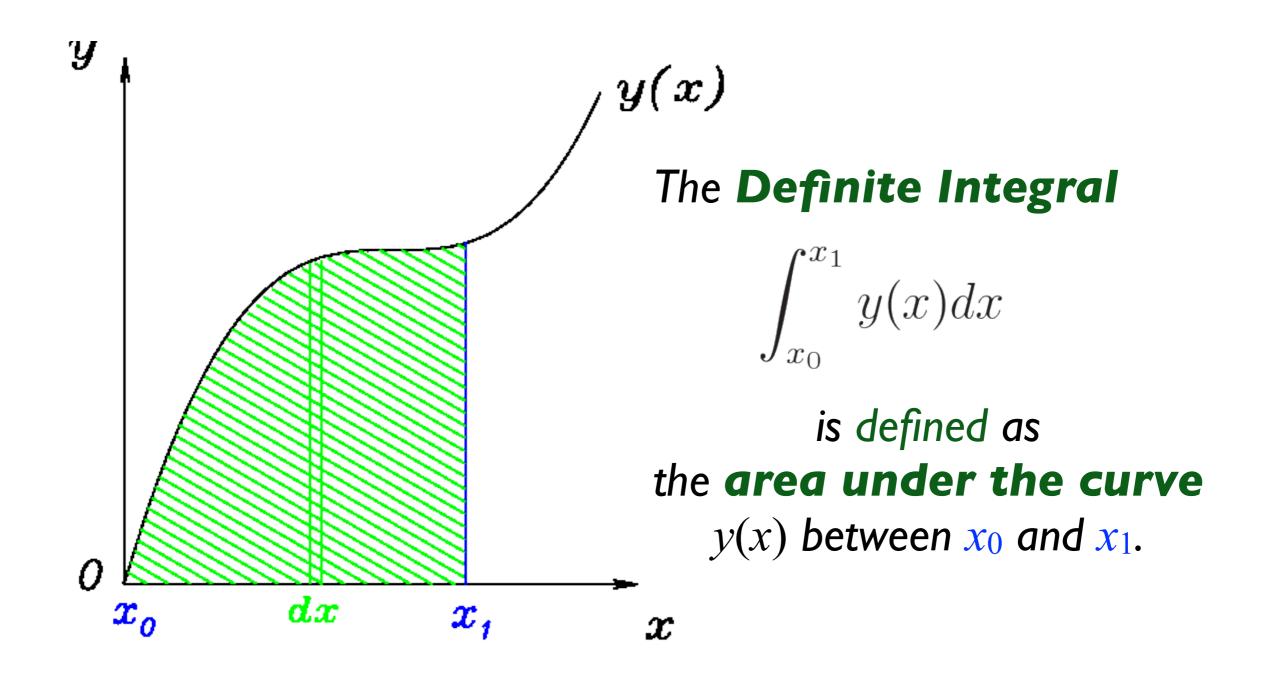
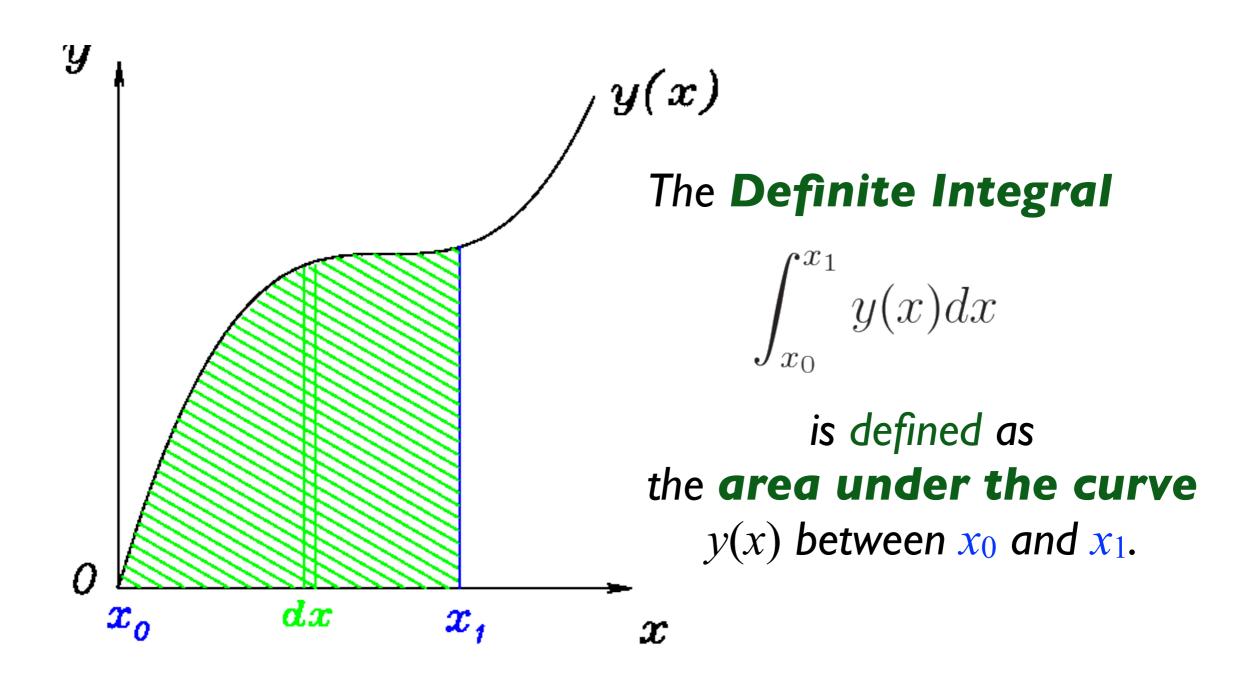
# More Integrals with Exponentials & Logarithms

Jess H. Brewer





It is described in terms of adding up many vertical "slices" of infinitesimal width dx and height y(x).

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, what is  $f(x)$ ?

Answer: 
$$f(x) = \int a \, dx = a \, x + \text{const.}$$

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Answer: 
$$f(x) = \int_{0}^{2} \frac{b x}{x} dx = \frac{b^2 x^2}{x^2} + \text{const.}$$

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Wait... How do we **know** that?

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Answer: Substitution of Variables...

Suppose u(x) is a familiar function and u'(x) is its familiar derivative.<sup>1</sup> Then if y(x)dx can be expressed in the form f[u(x)]u'(x)dx, we can replace u'(x)dx by du so that<sup>2</sup>

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} y(x) \ dx = \int_{u(x_0)}^{u(x_1)} f(u) \ du$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Remember, u'(x) is Mathematician's notation for du/dx.

Note the use of the differential du ≡ u'(x) dx. It looks almost as if du and dx were regular quantities that we could do algebra with at will. We Physicists play fast and loose with differentials, while Real Mathematicians wince the way you might when observing someone riding a bicycle "no hands" down a busy street, blindfolded. (We're not really unable to see where we're going; our blindfolds are just translucent, not opaque. :-)

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Let 
$$u = -kx$$
 so that  $du/dx = -k$ 

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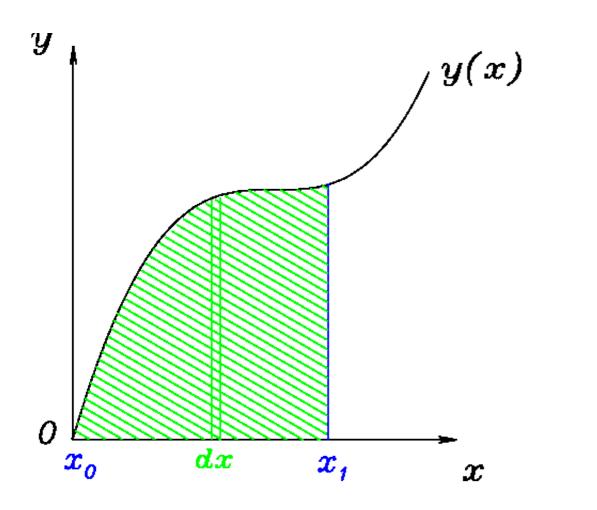
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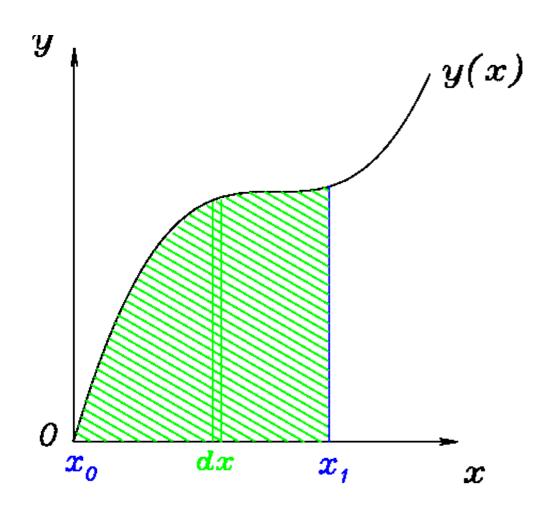
or 
$$f(x) = \int e^{-kx} dx = \frac{e^{-kx}}{-k} + \text{const.}$$
 (QED)



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is <u>defined</u> as the **area under the curve** y(x) between  $x_0$  and  $x_1$ .

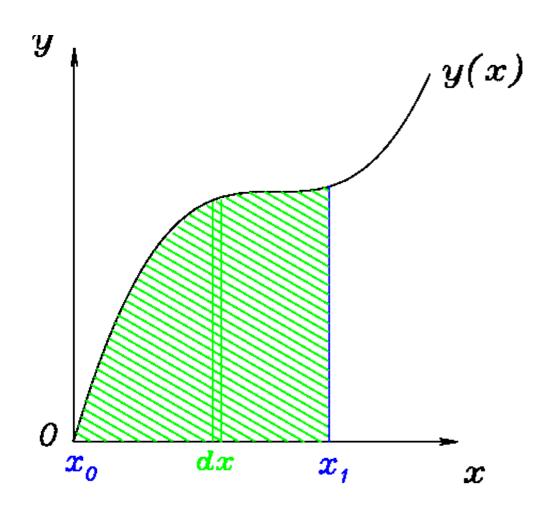


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$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} y(x) dx = f(x_1) - f(x_0)$$

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Answer: Integration by Parts...

Sometimes there are two functions of x, u(x) and v(x), with familiar derivatives such that  $\int f(x)dx$  can be expressed in the form  $\int u \ dv$  where  $dv \equiv v'(x) \ dx$ . Then

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} f(x)dx = [u \ v]_{x_0}^{x_1} - \int_{u(x_0)}^{u(x_1)} v \ du$$

where 
$$[u \ v]_{x_0}^{x_1} \equiv u(x_1)v(x_1) - u(x_0)v(x_0)$$
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$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} u \, dv = u(x_1) \, v(x_1) - u(x_0) \, v(x_0) - \int_{x_0}^{x_1} v \, du$$

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$$= x_1 e^{x_1} - x_0 e^{x_0} - (e^{x_1} - e^{x_0})$$

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