

Find $\int_0^9 F(x) \, dx$ If $F(x) = 5$ For $x < 5$ x For $x \geq 5$.

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Understanding the integral of a piecewise function, specifically calculating the definite integral from 0 to 9 of $F(x)$, where $F(x)$ is defined differently based on the value of x , is an essential skill in calculus. This problem involves integrating a function with a piecewise definition, which is common in real-world applications such as physics, economics, and engineering. In this article, we will explore how to evaluate such integrals step-by-step, interpret the results, and understand the significance of the integral in the context of the given function.

Introduction to Piecewise Functions and Integrals

What is a Piecewise Function?

A piecewise function is a function defined by different expressions depending on the interval of the input variable x . These functions are useful when a quantity behaves differently in different regions, such as speed changing at certain points or cost structures varying with quantity.

For the given problem:

- $F(x) = 5$ for $x < 5$
- $F(x) = x$ for $x \geq 5$

This means that the function has a constant value of 5 for all x less than 5, and then it increases linearly with x starting from 5 onwards.

The Importance of Integrating Piecewise Functions

Calculating the definite integral of a piecewise function helps determine the total accumulated quantity over an interval. For example, in physics, this could represent the total distance traveled given a speed function that varies over time.

The integral of $F(x)$ from 0 to 9, denoted as $\int_0^9 F(x) \, dx$, involves breaking the integral into parts corresponding to the different definitions of $F(x)$.

Step-by-Step Solution to the Integral

Step 1: Break the Integral at the Point of Discontinuity (x=5)

Since $F(x)$ changes definition at $x=5$, we split the integral into two parts:

- From 0 to 5, where $F(x) = 5$
- From 5 to 9, where $F(x) = x$

Mathematically:

$$\int_0^9 F(x) \, dx = \int_0^5 F(x) \, dx + \int_5^9 F(x) \, dx$$

Step 2: Calculate the First Integral (0 to 5)

For x in $[0, 5)$, $F(x) = 5$

Therefore:

$$\int_0^5 5 \, dx = 5 (5 - 0) = 5 \cdot 5 = 25$$

This represents the total contribution of the constant function over the interval $[0, 5]$.

Step 3: Calculate the Second Integral (5 to 9)

For x in $[5, 9]$, $F(x) = x$

Thus, we need to evaluate:

$$\int_5^9 x \, dx$$

The integral of x with respect to x is:

$$\int x \, dx = (1/2) x^2 + C$$

Applying the limits:

$$[(1/2) 9^2] - [(1/2) 5^2] = (1/2) (81 - 25) = (1/2) 56 = 28$$

Step 4: Combine the Results

Adding the two parts:

$$\text{Total integral} = 25 + 28 = 53$$

Therefore:

$$\int_0^9 F(x) \, dx = 53$$

Interpreting the Results and Applications

Significance of the Integral Result

The value of 53 represents the accumulated quantity of $F(x)$ over the interval from 0 to 9. Depending on the context, this could signify:

- Total distance traveled if $F(x)$ is a speed function
- Total revenue if $F(x)$ is a price function
- Total energy or work done in a physical system

This calculation demonstrates how to handle piecewise functions in integral calculus efficiently.

Practical Applications of Integrating Piecewise Functions

Understanding and calculating integrals of piecewise functions are crucial in many fields:

- Physics: Calculating displacement from a velocity that changes at specific times.
- Economics: Computing total profit or cost when rates change at certain thresholds.
- Engineering: Analyzing systems with different behaviors in different regions.

Additional Considerations and Tips

Handling Discontinuities

When integrating functions with discontinuities:

- Always identify points where the function definition changes.
- Break the integral into separate parts at these points.
- Compute each part independently before summing.

Using Graphs to Visualize

Plotting the function helps visualize the areas under the curve, making it easier to set up and interpret integrals.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Forgetting to split integrals at points of discontinuity.
- Incorrectly applying limits or constants.
- Not simplifying the integral expressions before evaluation.

Summary and Key Takeaways

- Piecewise functions are defined differently over various intervals, requiring careful splitting of integrals.
- The integral from 0 to 9 of $F(x)$, where $F(x) = 5$ for $x < 5$ and $F(x) = x$ for $x \geq 5$, equals 53.
- Breaking the integral at the point of change ($x=5$) simplifies the calculation process.
- Understanding the context of the integral helps interpret the result meaningfully.
- Mastering the integration of piecewise functions is essential across many scientific and engineering disciplines.

Conclusion

Calculating the integral of a piecewise function such as $F(x) = 5$ for $x < 5$ and $F(x) = x$ for $x \geq 5$ from 0 to 9 is a fundamental skill in calculus that combines understanding of function behavior, integration techniques, and problem-solving strategies. By breaking the integral into manageable parts, accurately applying limits, and summing results, you can handle complex functions effectively. This process not only sharpens your mathematical skills but also enhances your ability to analyze real-world situations involving changing rates or behaviors.

Whether you're a student, educator, or professional, mastering the integration of piecewise functions equips you with a powerful tool to interpret and solve diverse problems across various fields.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the value of the integral $\int_0^9 F(x) dx$ if $F(x)$ is defined as 5 for $x < 5$ and x for $x \geq 5$?

To evaluate $\int_0^9 F(x) dx$, split the integral at $x=5$: $\int_0^5 5 dx + \int_5^9 x dx$. The first part is $5 \times 5 = 25$, and the second is $(1/2) \times (9^2 - 5^2) = (1/2)(81 - 25) = (1/2)(56) = 28$. Summing gives $25 + 28 = 53$.

How do you interpret the piecewise function $F(x) = 5$ for $x < 5$ and $F(x) = x$ for $x \geq 5$ when calculating the integral from 0 to 9?

You treat the integral as two separate parts: from 0 to 5 where $F(x)=5$, and from 5 to 9 where $F(x)=x$. You compute each integral separately and then sum the results to find the total.

What is the integral of the function $F(x)$, defined as 5 for $x < 5$ and x for $x \geq 5$, over the interval $[0, 9]$?

The integral over $[0, 9]$ is 53, calculated as $\int_0^5 5 \, dx + \int_5^9 x \, dx = 25 + 28 = 53$.

Why do we split the integral at $x=5$ when dealing with the piecewise function $F(x)$?

Because $F(x)$ changes definition at $x=5$, splitting the integral ensures we integrate each part with its correct function expression, maintaining accuracy.

Can you explain the steps to evaluate $\int_0^9 F(x) \, dx$ where $F(x)$ is piecewise defined as 5 for $x < 5$ and x for $x \geq 5$?

Yes. First, evaluate $\int_0^5 5 \, dx$, which equals 25. Then evaluate $\int_5^9 x \, dx$, which equals 28. Adding these results gives the total integral of 53.

Additional Resources

In-Depth Analysis of the Integral: Finding $\int_0^9 F(x) \, dx$ for the Piecewise Function $F(x)$

Introduction

Calculus, particularly integration, plays a fundamental role in understanding the behavior of functions across different domains. The problem at hand involves evaluating the definite integral of a piecewise function $F(x)$ over the interval $[0, 9]$. Specifically, the function is defined as:

$$F(x) = \begin{cases}$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 5, & \text{for } x < 5 \\ x, & \text{for } x \geq 5 \end{cases}$$

and we are asked to find:

$$\int_0^9 f(x) \, dx$$

This problem is a classic example of integrating a piecewise function, which requires understanding how to handle different segments of the domain separately, and then summing the results. It showcases the importance of breaking down complex functions into manageable parts, especially when the function's definition changes at certain points.

Understanding the Function $f(x)$

Before diving into the integral calculation, it's essential to understand the structure of $f(x)$:

- For $(x < 5)$: The function is constant at 5. This implies a horizontal line on the graph from $(x = 0)$ to $(x = 5)$.
- For $(x \geq 5)$: The function is linear, increasing as (x) increases, following $(f(x) = x)$.

This piecewise nature introduces a "break point" at $(x = 5)$, which divides the integral into two regions:

1. From $(x=0)$ to $(x=5)$ (where $(f(x) = 5)$)
2. From $(x=5)$ to $(x=9)$ (where $(f(x) = x)$)

The key to solving the integral is to exploit this separation and evaluate each part independently.

Step-by-Step Approach to Computing the Integral

1. Break the integral at the point of discontinuity

Given the piecewise definition, the integral transforms into:

$$\int_0^9 f(x) \, dx = \int_0^5 5 \, dx + \int_5^9 x \, dx$$

This separation simplifies the calculation, as each integral now involves a

single, well-understood function.

2. Compute the first integral: $\int_0^5 5 \, dx$

This is a straightforward integral of a constant function:

$$\int_0^5 5 \, dx = 5 \times (5 - 0) = 5 \times 5 = 25$$

3. Compute the second integral: $\int_5^9 x \, dx$

This involves integrating the linear function $f(x)$:

$$\int_5^9 x \, dx = \left[\frac{x^2}{2} \right]_5^9$$

Calculating the definite integral:

$$= \frac{9^2}{2} - \frac{5^2}{2} = \frac{81}{2} - \frac{25}{2} = \frac{81 - 25}{2} = \frac{56}{2} = 28$$

Final Result: Summing the Parts

Adding the two results yields the total integral:

$$\boxed{\int_0^9 f(x) \, dx = 25 + 28 = 53}$$

Thus, the value of the integral over the interval $[0, 9]$ is 53.

Geometric Interpretation of the Integral

Understanding the integral geometrically can provide additional insights:

- First part $(0 \leq x < 5)$: The area under $f(x) = 5$ is a rectangle:
 - Width: $(5 - 0 = 5)$
 - Height: (5)
 - Area: $(5 \times 5 = 25)$

- Second part ($5 \leq x \leq 9$): The area under $(F(x) = x)$ from 5 to 9 is a trapezoid:

- Bases: at $(x=5)$, $(F(5) = 5)$; at $(x=9)$, $(F(9) = 9)$
- Height: $(9 - 5 = 4)$
- Area of trapezoid: $(\frac{(b_1 + b_2)}{2} \times h = \frac{(5 + 9)}{2} \times 4 = \frac{14}{2} \times 4 = 7 \times 4 = 28)$

Adding these areas confirms the integral's numerical value of 53.

Deeper Insights and Variations

Importance of Piecewise Integration

This problem exemplifies the importance of understanding how to handle functions that change definitions over their domain. Without segmenting the integral, one might attempt to integrate $(F(x))$ directly, leading to complications or errors.

Handling Discontinuities and Breakpoints

While the current function is continuous at $(x=5)$, in more complex cases, discontinuities might require considering limits or improper integrals. Recognizing the points where the function's formula changes is critical.

Extending to Other Functions

This approach can be generalized to functions with multiple breakpoints or more complex piecewise definitions. The key steps remain:

- Identify the breakpoints
- Break the integral accordingly
- Integrate each piece separately
- Sum the results

Alternative Approaches

While the method outlined is straightforward, alternative methods might include:

- Graphical method: Visualize the areas under the curve to estimate or verify the integral.
- Using antiderivatives: Derive the antiderivative of $(F(x))$ piecewise and evaluate accordingly.
- Numerical integration: For more complex functions, numerical methods like Simpson's rule or the trapezoidal rule can approximate the integral when an explicit antiderivative isn't feasible.

Practical Applications of Such Integrals

Understanding integrals of piecewise functions has real-world implications:

- Physics: Calculating work done by a force that varies across a distance.
- Economics: Computing total revenue or cost where rates change at certain thresholds.
- Biology: Modeling populations with growth rates that change at specific points.

Summary and Key Takeaways

- The integral of a piecewise function requires splitting it at the points where the function definition changes.
- For $(F(x))$, the integral over $([0, 9])$ involves summing the areas under constant and linear segments.
- The total integral evaluates to 53, with the first segment contributing 25 and the second 28.
- Geometrically, these areas correspond to a rectangle and a trapezoid, respectively.
- Recognizing the structure of the function and choosing the appropriate integration strategy simplifies the process.
- The approach is versatile and applicable across various disciplines involving piecewise functions and their integrals.

Final Remarks

This deep dive into the integral of the piecewise function $(F(x))$ over the interval $([0, 9])$ emphasizes foundational calculus principles—breaking down complex functions into manageable parts, applying basic integral formulas, and interpreting results both numerically and geometrically. Such problems reinforce the importance of understanding the behavior of functions over different domains and the techniques required to evaluate their integrals accurately. As you encounter more complex functions, remember the key steps highlighted here to decompose, analyze, and compute integrals effectively.

Find $\int_0^9 f(x) dx$ if $f(x) = 5$ for $x \leq 5$ and $f(x) = x$ for $x > 5$

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