



Calculus I Brain Summary

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This is a list of all the thoughts located in the Calculus I Brain. Each thought is followed by a statement indicating the content associated by that thought. Italicized thoughts are all example problems. Thoughts followed by (jump) are jump thoughts, which are located on the left hand side of the central thought in the Brain matrix. Jump thoughts often take the user to entirely different sections of the Brain or provide reference information about the central thought.

Review of Basic Concepts – A short refresher course of concepts covered in Algebra, Trig and Geometry

Cartesian Plane – A brief discussion about the Cartesian plan and how it works

Definition of Circle in Plane – Gives the standard equation of a circle

Distance Formula – Just what it says

Midpoint Formula – Just what it says

Standard Form of Circle – Same as "Definition of Circle in Plane"

Function Review – Explanation of function notation and how a function is defined

Function Representation – Equivalent means of representation of functions

Examples – An example of how we utilize function representation

Translation/Combination – Shifting functions around the Cartesian plane

Composition Examples – Examples of composing two functions with each other

Even More Examples – 2 examples of real world applications

Trans/Combo Examples – Yet more examples involving shifting graphs of functions around the Cartesian Plane

Trig Example – A graph showing how to scale trig functions based on amplitude and frequency

Types of Functions – A brief summary of the different kinds of functions and properties of said functions

Geometry Review – A brief reminder of the various formulas involving geometric shapes

Related Rates (jump) – This link takes you to the area of Related Rates in Differentiation,

Circles – Area, circumference of different shapes based on circles, such as ellipses, sectors, and rings

Triangles – Includes equilateral, right, and general triangle formulas

Other – Other common geometric shapes such as trapezoids and parallelograms

Volumes – Formulas of 3-dimensional shapes such as cones, spheres, and wedges

Real Numbers and Number Line – Review of key concepts about real numbers, important to understanding calculus

Absolute Value – Definition and properties of the absolute value operator

Definition of Order – Basically a review of inequalities and intervals

Intervals – Intervals and their notation as used in mathematics

Properties of Inequalities – Just what it sounds like

Limits – An introduction to limits with an informal definition

Example Problems (jump) – Several examples of limits using the informal definition

Example 1 – Uses a technique to factor a denominator and cancel like terms

Example 2 – A special trick is introduced to eliminate a hostile term to make the limit easier to evaluate

Example 3 – Rationalization of the expression to get rid of radical signs

Limits at Infinity (jump) – More fully covered under Differentiation | Advanced Principles

Basic Limits – 3 simple formulas for evaluating limits of a particular form

Functions vs. Limits – A brief discussion of the difference between a function and a limit

Continuity and One-Sided Limits – Definition of continuity (and discontinuity)

Continuity on Closed Interval – Definition of what it means to be continuous on a closed interval

Existence of a Limit – Definition of when a (two-sided) limit exists

Example – Shows an example of when a (two-sided) limit does not exist

Intermediate Value Theorem – A brief discussion of the IVT and how it works graphically

One-Sided Limits – Explanation of what they are, including a Flash Video Example

Properties of Continuity – Several common properties exploited by various functions

Delta-Epsilon Definition – The formal definition of what a limit actually is, explained in graphical terms

Example 1 – Shows how to use the D-E Definition, using a specified value of ϵ

Example 2 – Shows how to *choose* a value for δ to use the D-E definition in order to prove that a given limit is true

Example 3 – Uses a graph to find a particular value for δ

Infinite Limits – Explanation of what happens when a given limit equals ∞

Properties – Several characteristic properties of what happens when limits equal ∞

Vertical Asymptotes – The graphical explanation of infinite limits

Properties of Limits – Just what it sounds like

Example 1 – Finding the limit using a trick of factoring, then canceling factors

Example 2 – Finding the limit by rationalizing the numerator

Example 3 – Finding the limit using a trick of finding the least common denominator

Example 4 – Finding the limit of a function involving absolute values

Special Limits – A list of limits of different types of functions

Composite Functions – Limit of two functions composed with each other

Polynomial Functions – Limit of a polynomial function

Radical Functions – Limit of a function involving a $\sqrt[n]{}$ symbol

Rational Functions – Limit of one polynomial function divided by another

Trig Functions – Limit of sine, cosine, tangent and their associated cofunctions

Squeeze Theorem – How to find the limit of a function through indirect means

Example – An application of the Squeeze Theorem

Tangent Line Problem – The problem which gave rise to the differentiation side of calculus

Derivative at a Point – Basic definition of what the derivative is in graphical terms including a Flash Video Example

Derivative as a Function – How to find the slope of a function at *any* point on the curve

Example – Uses the definition of the derivative to find the slope of a function

Derivative Notation – Various ways in which we can express the notion of a derivative

Graphing the Derivative – How to graph the derivative based on key points

Differentiability and Continuity – Any function that is differentiable is by definition also continuous

Tangent Line Examples

Example 1 – How to find the tangent line to a graph using a process of estimation

Example 2 – Uses the definition of the derivative at a point to find the tangent line to a curve

Example 3 – Finding the slope of a tangent line and a secant line connecting two points on a curve

Differentiation – One of the two elemental concepts in calculus, concerning the slope of a function at any point

Definitions (jump) – Basic concepts, mostly covered under the Tangent Line Problem (see above)

Basic Principles – Elementary rules and applications of differentiation

Applications – The two most basic applications are Related Rates and Rates of Change

Examples (jump) – 3 common examples of differentiation as used in physics and geometry

Circle – The rate of change of the area of an expanding circle

Optics – The rate of change of the focal length of a double-convex lens

Pressure-Volume – The rate of change of volume with respect to time as pressure increases

Rates of Change – One of the fundamental definitions of the derivative

Acceleration – The rate of change of velocity with respect to time

Velocity – The rate of change of position with respect to time

Average Velocity – The sort of velocity we usually deal with

Instantaneous Velocity – The calculus brand of velocity

Related Rates – Changing the rate of one variable with respect to another rate of change (Flash Video Example)

Chain Rule (jump) – A link to the Chain Rule, which is instrumental in solving this type of problem

Geometry Review (jump) – Another key element to solving Related Rates problems is understanding geometry

Method – Solving Related Rates (jump) – A brief summary of how to solve this type of problem

Example 1 – Find the change in height given a particular change in volume

Example 2 – Ideal Gas Law example finding change in volume given a change in pressure

Example 3 – Generic related rates example

Higher Order Derivatives – How to find the second, third and so on derivatives of a given function

More on Higher Order Derivatives – Further explanation on Higher Order Derivatives

Implicit Differentiation – A method of differentiating a function indirectly

Method of Implicit Diff (jump) – A summary of the technique of Implicit Differentiation

Example 1 – Polynomial function example

Example 2 – Trigonometric function example

Linear Approximations – Definition of the linearization of a function

Examples (jump)

Example 1 – Generic polynomial function example

Example 2 – Example involving the accuracy of the approximation

Differentials – Definition of the differential and its graphical representation

General Formulas (jump) – Basic formulas involving differentials similar to those for derivatives

Example 1 – Generic examples on how to find the differential of a given function

Example 2 – Slightly more complicated example using differentials

Relative Size – Shows how big Δy is compared to dy as $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$

Rules – The various elementary rules governing the derivative operator

Rules Summary (jump) – A list of all the rules for easy reference

Examples – Several examples using the rules of differentiation

Ex 1 – 4 – Examples 1 through 4

Example 1

Example 2

Example 3

Example 4

Ex 5 – 7 – Examples 5 through 7

Example 5

Example 6

Example 7

Chain Rule – The cornerstone of differentiation and without which calculus would be impossible

Related Rates (jump) – Related Rates uses the Chain Rule extensively

Example 1 – Simple example of the Chain Rule

Example 2 – Much more complicated example involving the graphical shape known as the Witch of Maria Agnesi

Constant Multiple Rule – The constant can be factored out before differentiating the function

Power Rules – How to differentiate a function raised to a power

General Power Rule – Power Rule involving use of the Chain Rule

Power Rule – Simplest form of the General Power Rule, where $u(x) = x$

Example 4 – Several examples showing how to use various rules of differentiation

Product Rule – How to differentiate two functions multiplied together

Product Rule Example – Several examples of how to apply the Product Rule

Quotient Rule – How to differentiate a rational function

Example 2 – Same as Example 2 under Chain Rule

Sum/Difference Rules – How to differentiate the sum of two functions

Example 4 – Same as Example 4 under Power Rule

Trig Function Rules – How to differentiate any of the six trig functions

Sin/Cos – Differentiation of sine and cosine

Tan/Cot/Sec/Csc – Differentiation of tangent, cotangent, secant, and cosecant

Advanced Principles – More advanced ideas about differentiation such as Extrema and Rolle's Theorem

Business and Econ – Common formulas encountered in business and economic applications

Concavity – Description of functions based on how much it curves

Example (jump) – A comprehensive example looking at the complete description of a function

Points of Inflection – The points on a curve at which the concavity changes from positive to negative and vice versa

Second Derivative Test – A test for finding points of relative extrema

Test for Concavity – How to determine if a function is concave up/down

Limits at Infinity – What happens to the limit of a function as $x \rightarrow \infty$

Limits (jump) – A link to the basic concepts of limits

Formal Definitions – The Delta-Epsilon Definition as applied to limits at infinity

Horizontal Asymptotes – The graphical interpretation of limits at infinity (as opposed to infinite limits)

Rational Limit at Infinity

Min/Max Values – The relative extrema of a functions, with Flash Video Example

Example 1 (jump) – How to use a graph to find relative extrema

Example 2 (jump)

Extrema – The high and low points on the graph of a function

Examples (jump)

Example 1 – Finding the absolute extrema of a function

Example 2 – Proving that a given function has no extrema

Guidelines (jump) – A brief summary of how to find the extrema of a function

Critical Numbers – The values used to determine extrema, since extrema can only occur at critical numbers

Extreme Value Theorem – On any given closed interval, there is at least one maximum and minimum

First Derivative Test – How to determine if a critical number is a maxima or minima

Increasing/Decreasing Functions – Basic definition

Guidelines (jump) – Summary of how to find intervals of increase and decrease

Test for Finding Inc/Dec Functions – Just what it sounds like

Relative Extrema – Basic definition

Newton's Method – How to approximate the roots of a function

Example 1 – Find the seventh root of 3 using Newton's Method

Example 2 – Find the indicated root of an equation to the desired accuracy

Optimization Problems – Applications of extrema

Example 1 – Fencing in a field using a fixed length of fence and maximizing the area enclosed

Example 2 – Find the specified volume of a box using the minimum amount of material

Rolle's Theorem – An existence theorem for critical points

Mean Value Theorem – Application of Rolle's Theorem

Cauchy MVT (jump) – Broader explanation of the Mean Value Theorem

Example – Application of the Mean Value Theorem involving the speed of a car

Integration – The other fundamental concept covered in calculus, concerning the area underneath a curve

Basic Integration Formulas (jump) – A summary of the most commonly used integration formulas

Guidelines for Integration (jump) – A set of steps for approaching problems involving integrals

Procedures (jump) – How to transform certain integrands to fit a particular integration formula

Basics – The basic concept of the integral and its associated properties

Antiderivatives – One interpretation of the indefinite integral

Basic Rules (jump) – A list of simple integration formulas

Examples

Example 1 – Finding the antiderivative of a polynomial function

Example 2 – Finding the linear density of a rod

Example 3 – Finding the height of a cliff by dropping a stone off of it

Integral Notation – The most common means of representing integrals in mathematics

Area – The problem for which the definite integral was developed to solve

Area of Region in Plane – How to find the area of a planar region

Limit of Lower/Upper Sums – A prelude to the infamous Riemann Sum

Example 1 – Using lower/upper sums to approximate the area under curve

Sigma Notation – Definition of what sigma notation actually means

Riemann Sums (jump) – A link to the Riemann Sum, which sets the stage for the Definite Integral

Summation Formulas – Common summation formulas

Summation Properties – Properties of summation along with proofs of those properties

Definite Integral – The area under a curve

Examples (jump)

Example 1 – Sketch a defined region, then find its area

Example 2 – Evaluate a Riemann Sum

Example 3 – Evaluate a Definite Integral

Area of a Region – What the Definite Integral is used for

Properties

Additive Interval Property – Separating one integral into two integrals

Basic Properties – Fundamental properties associated with the Definite Integral

Midpoint Rule of Integrals – A rule used for approximation of an area

Preservation of Inequality – Definite Integrals obey same laws of inequality as any real number

Riemann Sums – Formal explanation of Definite Integral

Sigma Notation (jump) – Link back to sigma notation for more clarification of Riemann Sums

Fundamental Theorem – The link between differentiation and integration

Examples (jump)

Example 1 – Evaluate several definite integrals

Example 2 – Find the area of a region

Example 3 – Find the area of a region

2nd Fundamental Theorem – The other link between differentiation and integration

Example 1 – Integrate a function using the 2nd Fundamental Theorem

Example 2 – Find the derivative of a function with the 2nd Fundamental Theorem

Example 3 – Find the derivative of a function

Example 4 – Find the derivative of a function

Average Value on an Interval – How to find the average value of a function over a particular interval

Example 1 – Sketch the graph of a function and find its average value

MVT for Integrals – The Mean Value Theorem as it applies to integrals

Example 1 – Find the mean value of an integral

Integration by Substitution – The most fundamental and widely used technique of integration

Guidelines (jump) – A summary of the technique

Change of Variables – Also known as u -substitution

CV for Definite Integrals – u -substitution as it applies to the Definite Integral

Example 1 – Evaluate a definite integral using u -substitution

Example 2 – Evaluate a definite integral using u -substitution

Even and Odd Functions – How to integrate even and odd functions

General Power Rule – The General Power Rule of Differentiation in reverse

Integration of Composite Function – What u -substitution is really all about

Numerical Integration – Approximation methods of integration

Error – The difference between the approximation and the actual value

Integrals of Quadratics – How to quickly integrate a 2nd degree polynomial

Simpson's Rule – Approximating an integral using 2nd degree polynomials

Trapezoidal Rule – Approximating an integral by adding up trapezoids instead of rectangles

Techniques – Various techniques for evaluating integrals

Improper Integrals – Integrals involving infinite limits of integration

Infinite Discontinuity – Place where the integrand equals ∞ for some value c in the interval $[a, b]$

Special Type – A special type of improper integral based on geometric series

Indeterminate Forms – Numbers involving 0 and ∞ that make it impossible to determine what the number actually is

L'Hôpital's Rule – Method to transform Indeterminate Forms into determinate forms

Integration by Parts – How to integrate two functions multiplied together

Guidelines (jump) – A quick summary of IBP

Common Integrals – A short list of integrals that can be solved by IBP relatively easily

Partial Fractions – A technique for integrating rational functions

Guidelines (jump) – A quick summary of how to apply Partial Fractions

Trig Substitution – Integration technique involving transforming integrands into products of powers of trig functions

Special Formulas – Commonly occurring integration formulas

Trigonometric Integrals – Integration technique involving products of powers of trig functions

Wallis's Formulas (jump) – Special formula for evaluating $\cos(x)$ raised to some power

Integrals w/ Sec/Tan – Integration of powers of secant and tangent functions

Integrals w/ Sin/Cos – Integration of powers of sine and cosine functions

Applications – Real world type applications of the Definite Integral

Arc Length – How arc length of a function is defined

Examples (jump)

Example 1 – Finding the length of an arc over a given interval

Area of Surface of Revolution – How to find the surface area of a function revolved about an axis

Surface of Revolution – What happens when a function is revolved about an axis

Area Between 2 Curves – How to find the area enclosed by two given functions

Example 1 – Find the area of a shaded region

Example 2 – Find the area of a shaded region shaped like a tie-fighter

Fluid Pressure and Force – The force per unit area exerted by a fluid such as water or air

Fluid Force – The force exerted on a surface by a fluid such as water or air

Moments and Centers of Mass

2-D System Moments – Expanding moments of a system from a line into a plane

Linear System Moments – Point around which various masses cancel each other out to maintain a certain equilibrium

Planar Lamina – A continuous flat sheet of uniform density

Theorem of Pappus – How to find the volume of an object based on its centroid revolved around an axis

Volume of Revolution – What happens when a curve is revolved around an axis

Shell Method – One of two methods used to find the volume of a solid of revolution

Example 1 – Find the volume of a solid of revolution

Example 2 – Find the volume of a solid of revolution

Example 3 – Find the volume of a solid of revolution, except use both the Shell Method and the Washer Method

Solution: Shell Method – One of 2 ways to solve Example 3

Solution: Washer Method – One of 2 ways to solve Example 3

Washer Method – The other of two methods used to find the volume of a solid of revolution

Disc Method – A special case of the Washer Method, where the inner radius of the washer equals zero

Example 1 – Find the volume of a solid of revolution

Example 2 – Find the volume of a solid of revolution

Solids w/Known Cross Sections – Quick summary of formulas for solids whose cross-sections are known

Washer Method – The full explanation of the Washer Method

Example 1 – Find the volume of a solid of revolution

Example 2 – Find the volume of a solid of revolution

Example 3 – Find the volume of a solid of revolution, but use both the Shell Method and the Washer Method

Solution: Shell Method – One of 2 ways to solve Example 3

Solution: Washer Method – One of 2 ways to solve Example 3

Work – One of the most common applications of calculus, involving a force moving an object over some distance

Work Done by a Variable Force – The work done by a force that is changing at some given rate

Example (jump)

Example 1 – Find the work done by a cable lifting a car up a mine shaft

Example 2 – Find the work required to empty a tank full of water

Example 3 – Find the work required to empty a tank full of gasoline

Coulomb's Law – Work done by moving charged particles around

Hooke's Law – Work performed by springs

Example 1 – Find the work required to stretch a spring

Law of Universal Gravitation – Work performed by any two masses (such as the Earth and the Moon)

Example 1 – Find the work required to put a satellite in geostationary orbit