

Exercise 23

Evaluate the integral.

$$\int_1^9 \sqrt{x} \, dx$$

Solution

According to part 2 of the fundamental theorem of calculus,

$$\int_a^b f(x) \, dx = F(b) - F(a),$$

where F is an antiderivative of f . Use the power rule in reverse here: Bump up the exponent by 1 and divide by that exponent.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^9 \sqrt{x} \, dx &= \int_1^9 x^{1/2} \, dx \\ &= \left(\frac{x^{3/2}}{\frac{3}{2}} \right) \Big|_1^9 \\ &= \frac{2}{3} (x^{3/2}) \Big|_1^9 \\ &= \frac{2}{3} (9^{3/2} - 1^{3/2}) \\ &= \frac{2}{3} (3^3 - 1^3) \\ &= \frac{52}{3} \end{aligned}$$