

# Sample outline for a paper on calculus

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## 1. Introduction.

Calculus is a key tool both within mathematics and in engineering applications.

### (a) History.

- i. Already in the ancient Greek world, mathematicians such as Archimedes developed tools for computing areas and volumes, foreshadowing the theory of integration.
- ii. In the second half of the 17th century, Isaac Newton and Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz independently developed the ideas that define calculus as it is understood today.
- iii. Mathematicians of the 19th century, such as A. L. Cauchy, B. Riemann, and K. Weierstrass, created a rigorous mathematical foundation for calculus.

### (b) Applications.

Calculus has extensive applications in physics, chemistry, biology, medicine, and economics.

## 2. Differential calculus.

- (a) The derivative can be understood in multiple ways: as a slope, as a rate of change, and as a best linear approximation.
- (b) Some tools for computing derivatives are the product rule, the quotient rule, and the chain rule.
- (c) Derivatives can be used to solve optimization problems, to understand concavity, to compute limits, and to model marginal cost.

- (d) Many fundamental problems in physics are modeled by differential equations.

### 3. Integral calculus.

- (a) Integration can be understood as the inverse process to differentiation or as a limiting process for computing a quantity through successive approximations by simpler quantities.
- (b) Some tools for computing integrals are the method of substitution and the method of integration by parts.
- (c) Integrals can be used to determine areas, volumes, lengths of curves, area of surfaces, average values, centers of mass, and work done by a force.
- (d) The fundamental theorem of calculus formalizes the concept that integration is the inverse process to differentiation.

### 4. Conclusion.

Calculus is a branch of mathematics that is essential to such varied aspects of modern life as predicting the weather, pricing stock-market options, and designing airplanes.

### 5. References.

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