

CALCULUS

Prof. Liang ZHENG

Spring 2025

- In this section we introduce a more convenient notation for working with sums that have a large number of terms. After describing this notation and its properties, we consider what happens as the number of terms approaches infinity.

① Finite Sums and Sigma Notation

Sigma notation enables us to write a sum with many terms in the compact form

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_k = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \cdots + a_n.$$

The Greek letter Σ stands for “sum.” The **index of summation** k tells us where the sum begins (at the number below the Σ symbol) and where it ends (at the number above Σ).

5.2 Sigma Notation and limits of Finite Sums

The summation symbol
(Greek letter sigma) — $\sum_{k=1}^n a_k$

The index k ends at $k = n$.

a_k is a formula for the k th term.

The index k starts at $k = 1$.

Thus, we can write the squares of the numbers 1 through 10 as

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 + 5^2 + 6^2 + 7^2 + 8^2 + 9^2 + 10^2 = \sum_{k=1}^{10} k^2.$$

and the sum of $f(i)$ for integers i from 1 to 100 as

$$f(1) + f(2) + f(3) + \cdots + f(100) = \sum_{i=1}^{100} f(i).$$

5.2 Sigma Notation and limits of Finite Sums

Example 1 Express the following sums in sigma notation.

(a) $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5;$

(b) $(-1)^1 1 + (-1)^2 2 + (-1)^3 3;$

(c) $\frac{1}{1+1} + \frac{2}{2+1};$

(d) $\frac{4^2}{4-1} + \frac{5^2}{5-1}.$

A sum in sigma notation	The sum written out, one term for each value of k	The value of the sum
$\sum_{k=1}^5 k$	$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5$	15
$\sum_{k=1}^3 (-1)^k k$	$(-1)^1(1) + (-1)^2(2) + (-1)^3(3)$	$-1 + 2 - 3 = -2$
$\sum_{k=1}^2 \frac{k}{k+1}$	$\frac{1}{1+1} + \frac{2}{2+1}$	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{7}{6}$
$\sum_{k=4}^5 \frac{k^2}{k-1}$	$\frac{4^2}{4-1} + \frac{5^2}{5-1}$	$\frac{16}{3} + \frac{25}{4} = \frac{139}{12}$

Example 2 Express the sum $1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 9$ in sigma notation.

5.2 Sigma Notation and limits of Finite Sums

Algebra Rules for Finite Sums

Algebra Rules for Finite Sums

1. *Sum Rule:*
$$\sum_{k=1}^n (a_k + b_k) = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k + \sum_{k=1}^n b_k$$
2. *Difference Rule:*
$$\sum_{k=1}^n (a_k - b_k) = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k - \sum_{k=1}^n b_k$$
3. *Constant Multiple Rule:*
$$\sum_{k=1}^n c a_k = c \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \quad (\text{Any number } c)$$
4. *Constant Value Rule:*
$$\sum_{k=1}^n c = n \cdot c \quad (\text{Any number } c)$$

5.2 Sigma Notation and limits of Finite Sums

Example 3 Demonstrate the use of the algebra rules.

$$(a) \sum_{k=1}^n (3k - k^2); \quad (b) \sum_{k=1}^n (-a_k); \quad (c) \sum_{k=1}^3 (k + 4); \quad (d) \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{n}.$$

Example 4 Show that the sum of the first n integers is:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

- The sums of the squares and cubes of the first n integers are:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)^2$$

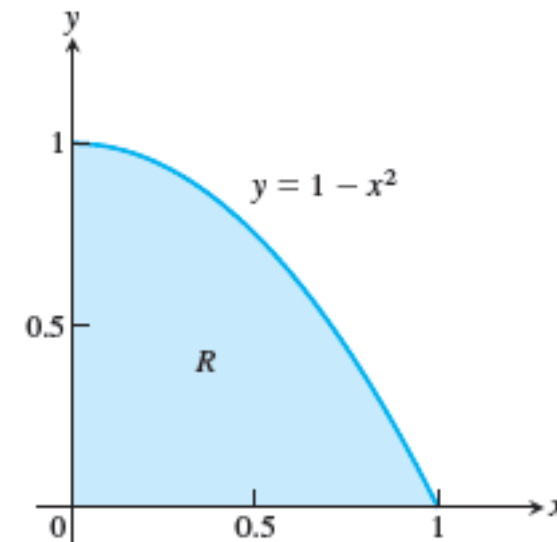
5.2 Sigma Notation and limits of Finite Sums

② Limits of Finite Sums

Example 5

Find the area of the shaded region R that lies above the x -axis, below the graph of $y = 1 - x^2$, and between the vertical lines $x = 0$ and $x = 1$, by using lower sum approximations.

Find $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n f\left(\frac{k}{n}\right) \frac{1}{n}$, where $f\left(\frac{k}{n}\right) = 1 - \left(\frac{k}{n}\right)^2$.



Example 6 Find the limit.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k(k+1)} \right]$$

5.2 Sigma Notation and limits of Finite Sums

③ Riemann Sums

- The theory of limits of finite approximations was made precise by the German mathematician Bernhard Riemann. We now introduce the notion of a Riemann sum, which underlies the theory of the definite integral that will be presented in the next section.
- We begin with an arbitrary bounded function f defined on a closed interval $[a, b]$ (shown in Fig. 5.8). Then we choose $n-1$ points $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$ between a and b that are in the increasing order, so that $a < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_{n-1} < b$.
- Let $x_0 = a$ and $x_n = b$, so that

$$a = x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_{n-1} < x_n = b.$$

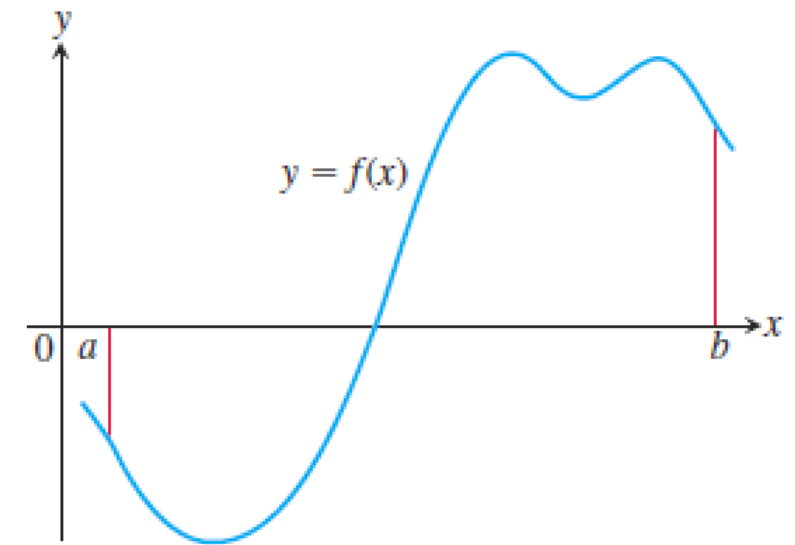


FIGURE 5.8 A typical continuous function $y = f(x)$ over a closed interval $[a, b]$.

5.2 Sigma Notation and limits of Finite Sums

- The set of all of these points,

$$P = \{x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n\},$$

is called a **partition** of $[a, b]$.

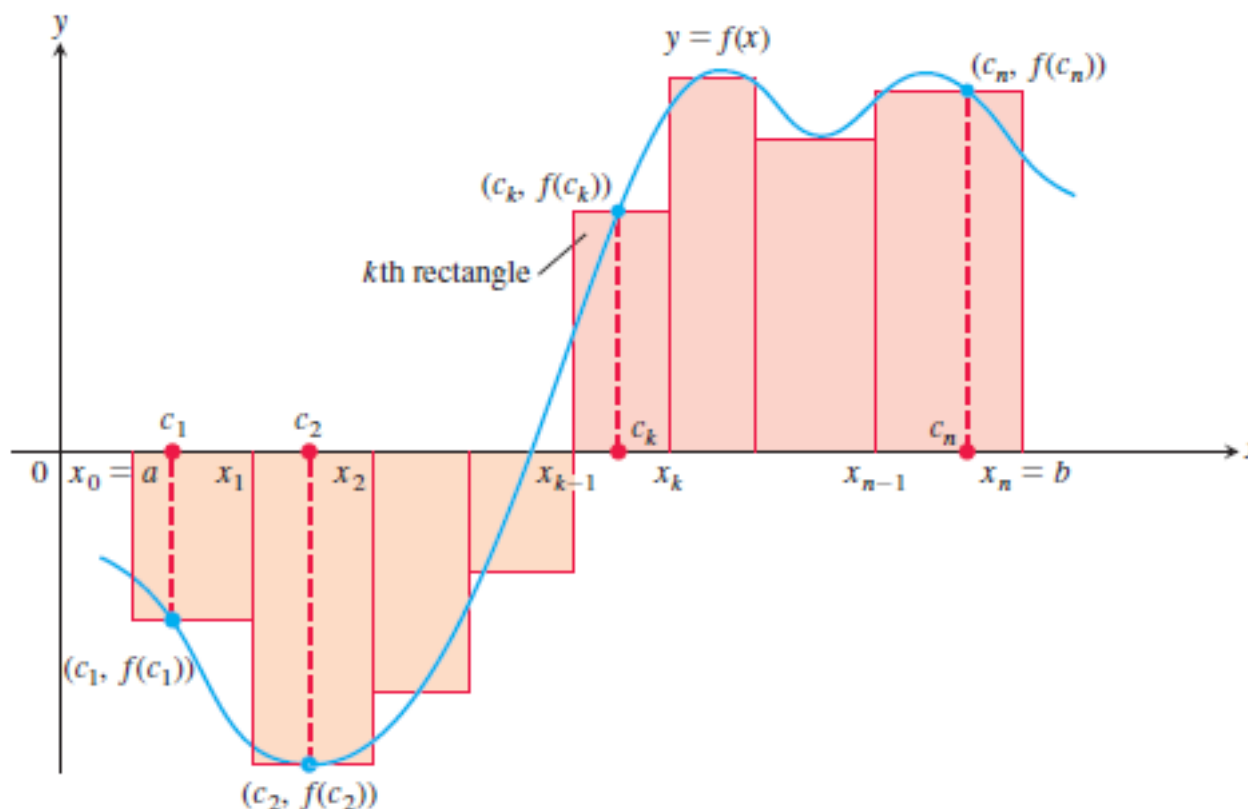
- The partition P divides $[a, b]$ into the n closed subintervals

$$[x_0, x_1], [x_1, x_2], \dots, [x_{n-1}, x_n].$$

- The width of the first subinterval $[x_0, x_1]$ is denoted Δx_1 , the width of the second $[x_1, x_2]$ is denoted Δx_2 , and the width of the k th subinterval is $\Delta x_k = x_k - x_{k-1}$. If all n subintervals have equal width, then their common width, which we call Δx , is equal to $(b-a)/n$.
- In each subinterval we select some point. The point chosen in the k th subinterval $[x_{k-1}, x_k]$ is called c_k .

5.2 Sigma Notation and limits of Finite Sums

- Then on each subinterval we stand a vertical rectangle that stretches from the x -axis to touch the curve at $(c_k, f(c_k))$. These rectangles can be above or below the x -axis, depending on whether $f(c_k)$ is positive or negative, or on the x -axis if $f(c_k) = 0$.



5.2 Sigma Notation and limits of Finite Sums

- On each subinterval we form the product $f(c_k) \cdot \Delta x_k$. When $f(c_k) > 0$, the product $f(c_k)\Delta x_k$ is the area of a rectangle with height $f(c_k)$ and width Δx_k . When $f(c_k) < 0$, the product $f(c_k)\Delta x_k$ is a negative number, the negative of the area of a rectangle of width Δx_k that drops from the x -axis to the negative number $f(c_k)$.
- Finally, we sum all these products to get

$$S_P = \sum_{k=1}^n f(c_k) \Delta x_k$$

The sum S_P is called a **Riemann sum for f on the interval $[a, b]$** .

- There are many such sums, depending on the partition P we choose, and the choices of the points c_k in the subinterval.

5.2 Sigma Notation and limits of Finite Sums

Skill Practice 1

$$(a) \sum_{k=8}^{88} k$$

$$(b) \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{n} + 2n \right)$$

$$(c) \sum_{k=1}^{100} \frac{1}{k(k+1)}$$

Skill Practice 2

Using mathematical induction to show that the sums of the squares and cubes of the first n integers are:

$$(a) \sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

$$(b) \sum_{k=1}^n k^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)^2$$