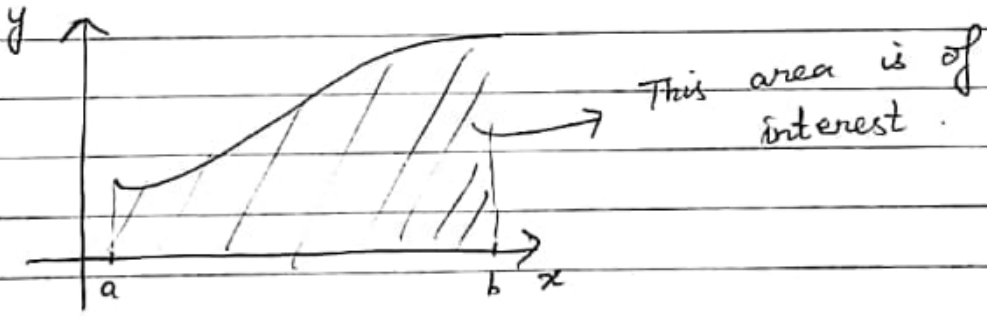
6.3

Definite Integral.

Given a continuous function $f(x)$ on an interval $[a, b]$, one is often interested in determining the area bounded by the graph of $f(x)$, the x-axis, and the lines $x = a$ and $x = b$.

One can begin to approximate this area using the so-called Riemann Sums..



The idea is to break down the interval $[a, b]$ into subintervals of equal length h; choosing some point from the subinterval and forming rectangles whose areas we add up to approximate the above area under $f(x)$.