

1 | Slicing into Rectangles

The general idea of Riemann sums is to slice a curve into vertical non-overlapping rectangles to approximate the area between the curve and the x-axis. This can be expressed mathematically as a summation given the function $f(x)$, the range $[a, b]$, and the number of rectangles n :

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

This can be written more concisely by defining $\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n}$ and $x_i = a + k\Delta x$:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \Delta x f(x_i)$$

2 | Area Interpretation

3 | Upper and Lower Bound

4 | the Definite Integral