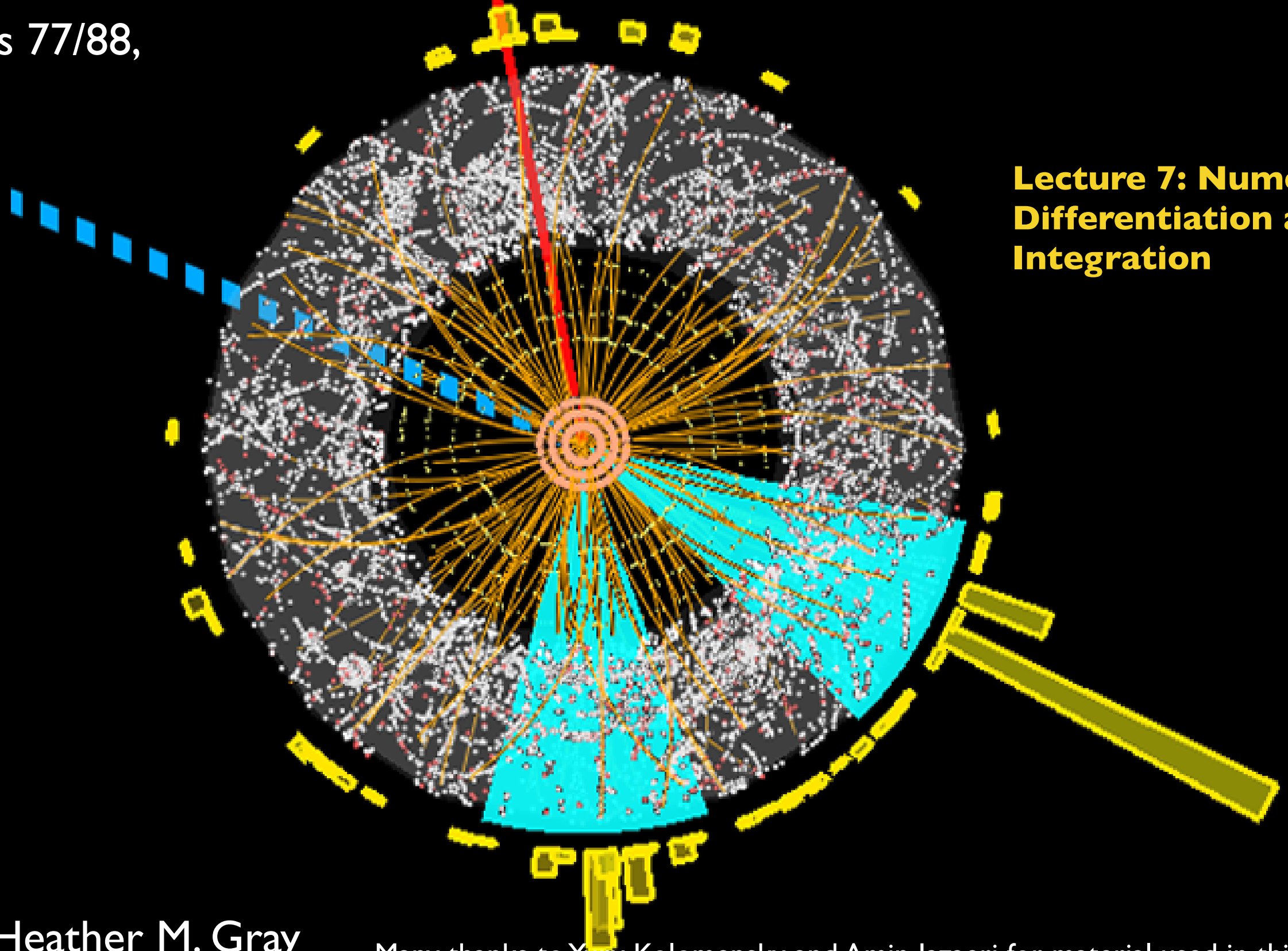


# Introduction to Computational Techniques in Physics/Data Science Applications in Physics

Physics 77/88,

**Lecture 7: Numerical  
Differentiation and  
Integration**



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Many thanks to Yury Kolomensky and Amin Jazaeri for material used in this course

# Numerical Differentiation

- Definition

- $\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim$

- Approximation

- $\frac{df(x)}{dx} =$

- Similarly

- $\Delta^n f(x) =$

# Numerical Differentiation

- The difference of a of degree is a constant,  
, and the difference is
- Let's take  $f(x) = x^2$  as an example

$x_i$	$f(x_i)$	$\Delta f(x)$	$\Delta^2 f(x)$	$\Delta^3 f(x)$
2	$f(2) =$			
		$\Delta f(2) =$		
3	$f(3) =$		$\Delta^2 f(2) =$	
		$\Delta f(3) =$		$\Delta^3 f(2) =$
4	$f(4) =$		$\Delta^2 f(3) =$	
		$\Delta f(4) =$		$\Delta^3 f(3) =$
5	$f(5) =$		$\Delta^2 f(4) =$	
		$\Delta f(5) =$		
6	$f(6) =$			

# Taylor Series

- Expand any function  $f(x)$ 
  - $f(x_0 + kh) =$
- Rearrange to solve for  $f'(x)$
- 
- Backward difference ( $k =$  )
- Forward difference ( $k =$  )
-

# Taylor Series: Central Difference

- $f(x_0 + kh) = f(x_0) + khf'(x_0) + \frac{(kh)^2 h''(x_0)}{2!} + \dots + \frac{(kh^n) f^n(x_0)}{n!}$
- $f(x_0 - kh) =$
- Subtract the two and set  $k = 1$ :
-

# Higher Order Approximations

- 1st order  $f'(x) =$
- 2nd order  $f'(x) =$
- 1st order  $f''(x) =$
- 2n order  $f''(x) =$

# Numerical Integration

- Consider the integral
  - $I =$
- The integral can be approximated by
  - $I \approx$
- The  $\omega_i$  are weights, and the  $x_i$  are nodes
- Assuming that  $f$  is continuous and smooth on the interval  $[a, b]$ , numerical integration leads to a numerical solution
- The goal of any numerical integration method is to choose  $\omega_i$  and  $x_i$  such that the error is minimized for the smallest  $n$  possible for a given function

# Numerical Integration

- How can we choose the points, , and the , , such that

- $\int_a^b f(x)dx \approx$

- In general, there are sets of

- The of the

- The importance of



# Numerical Integration Methods

- Upper and Lower Sums
- Newton-Cotes Methods:
  - a) Trapezoid Rule
  - b) Simpson Rules
- Romberg Method
- Gauss Quadrature

# Upper and Lower Sums

- Partition the  into

- $P =$

- Define

- Minimum:  $m_i =$

- Maximum:  $M_i =$

- Lower Sum

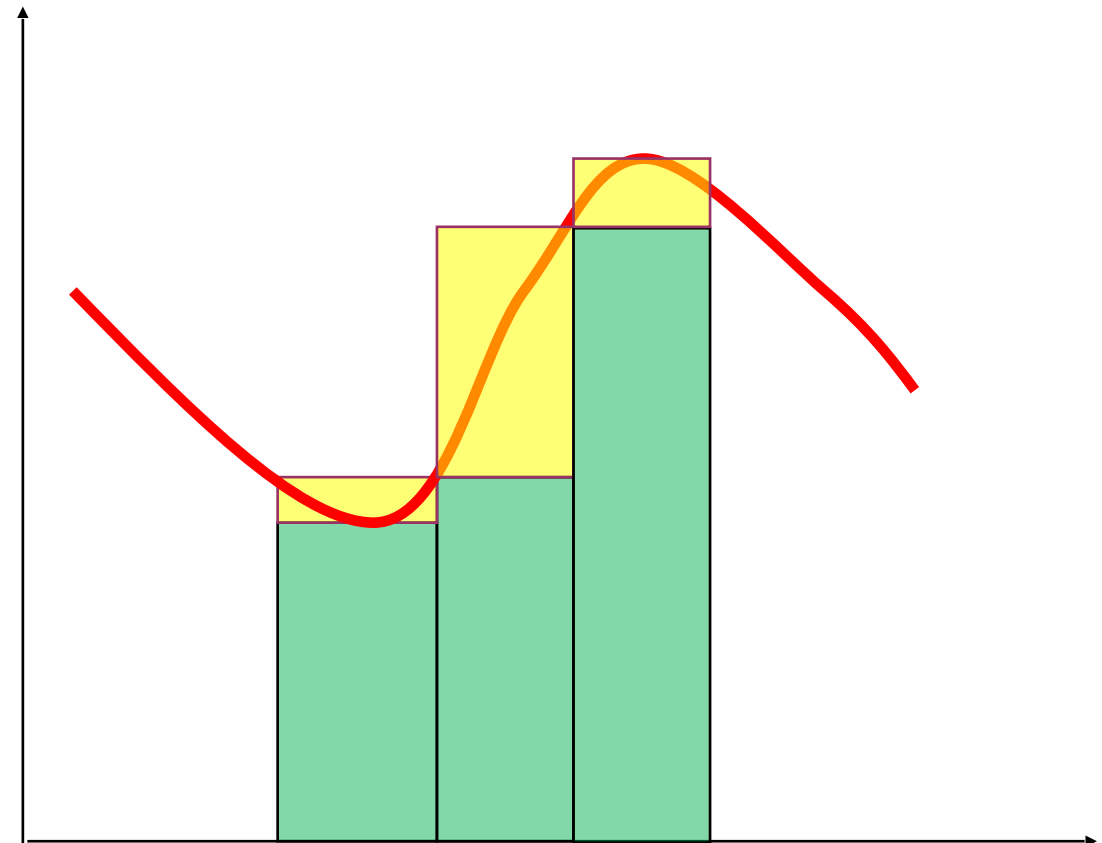
- $L(f, P) =$

- Upper Sum

- $U(f, P) =$

- Estimate of the integral =

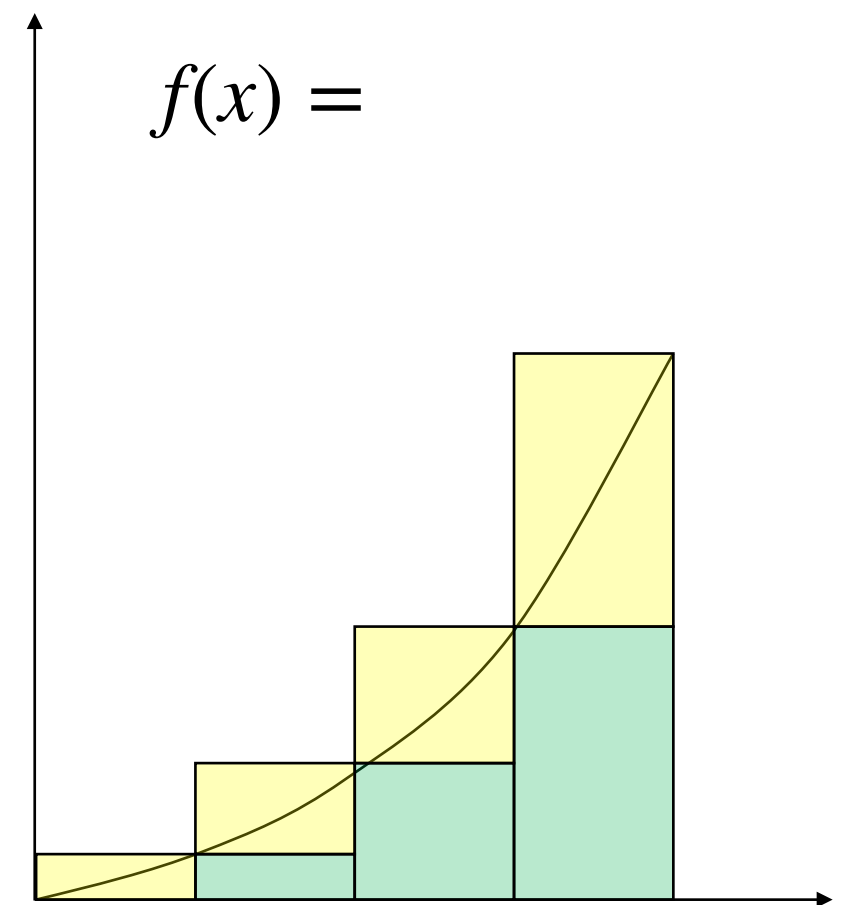
- Error  $\leq$



# Example

- $\int_0^1 x^2 dx =$
- Partition  $P =$
- $n =$

i				
$m_i$				
$M_i$				



- $x_{i+1} - x_i =$

# Example (cont)

- Lower Sum

- $$L(f, P) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} m_i(x_{i+1} - x_i)$$

- $$=$$

- $$=$$

- Upper Sum

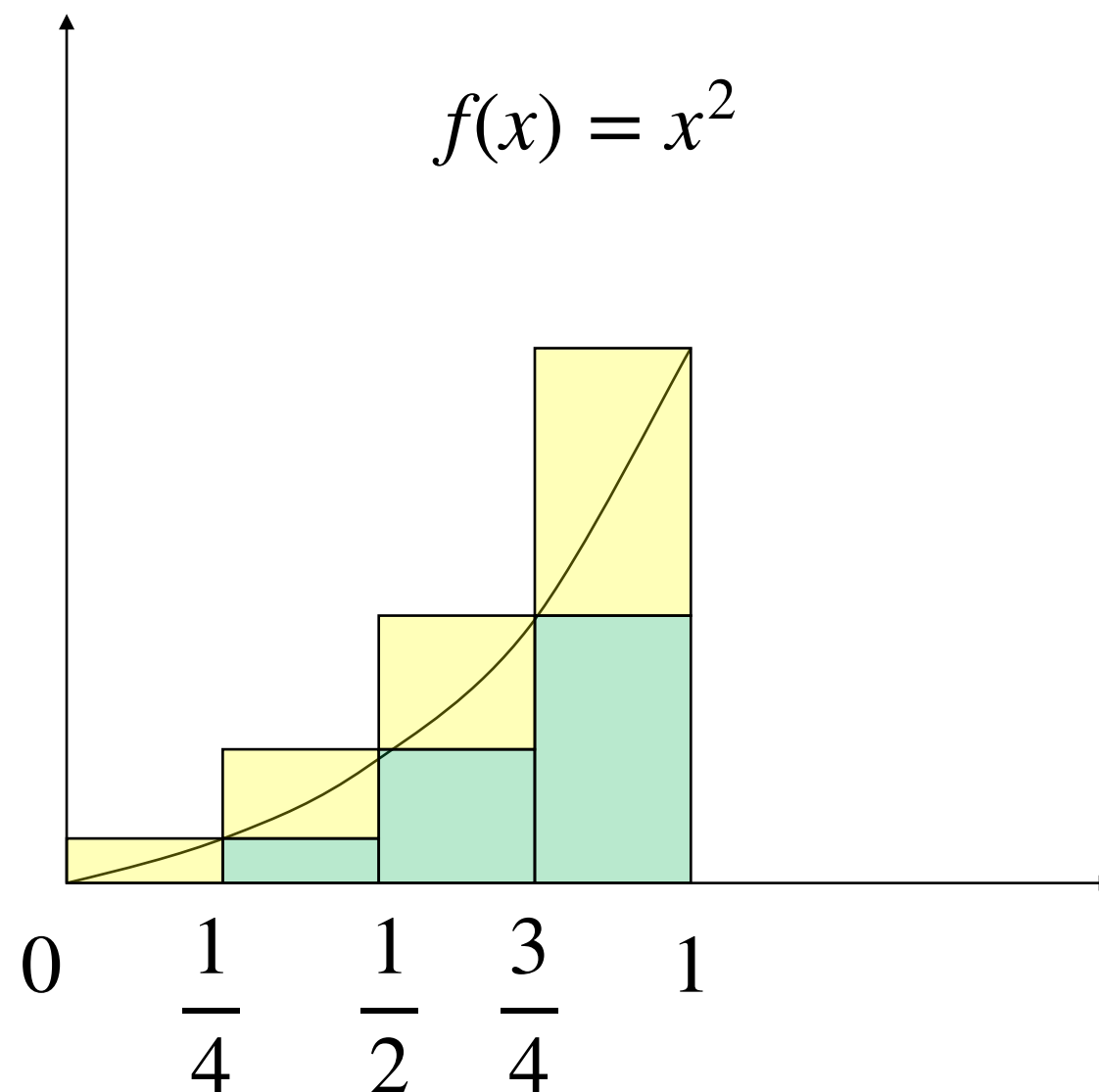
- $$U(f, P) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} M_i(x_{i+1} - x_i)$$

- $$=$$

- $$=$$

- $$I = \frac{L + U}{2} =$$

- $$\text{Error} \leq \frac{U - L}{2} =$$



# Upper and Lower Sums

- Estimates based on  $\underline{f}$  and  $\overline{f}$  sums are easy to obtain for functions
  - functions that are always increasing or always decreasing
- For continuous functions, finding the upper and lower sums of the function can be done by finding the maximum and minimum values of the function on each subinterval

# Newton-Cotes Methods

• In  $\mathbb{R}$ , the function is approximated by a

• Computing the integral of a polynomial is

$$\bullet \int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \int_a^b p(x) dx$$

$$\bullet \approx$$

# Newton-Cotes Methods

- Method
- Uses polynomials

- $\int_a^b f(x)dx \approx \int_a^b$

- Simpson's 1/3 Rule

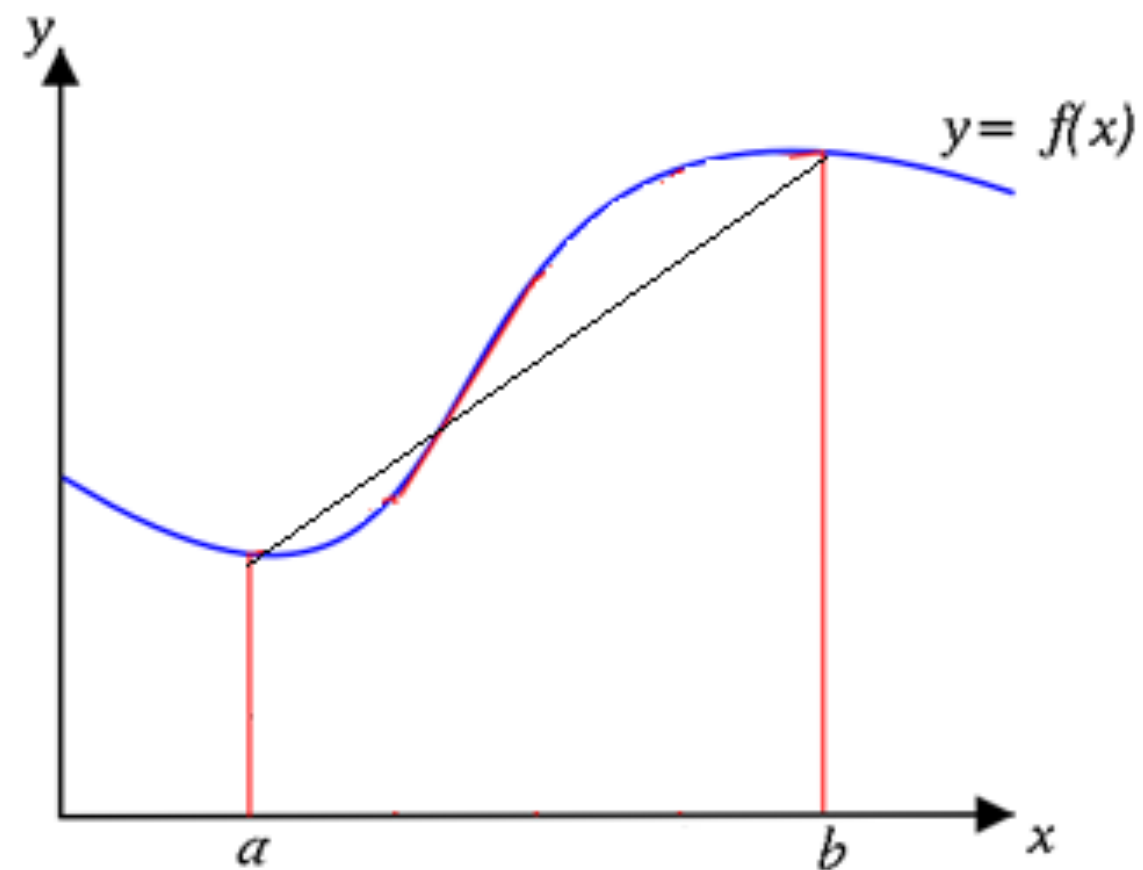
- Uses polynomials

- $\int_a^b f(x)dx \approx \int_a^b$

# Trapezoid Method

- $I = \int_a^b f(x) dx \approx$

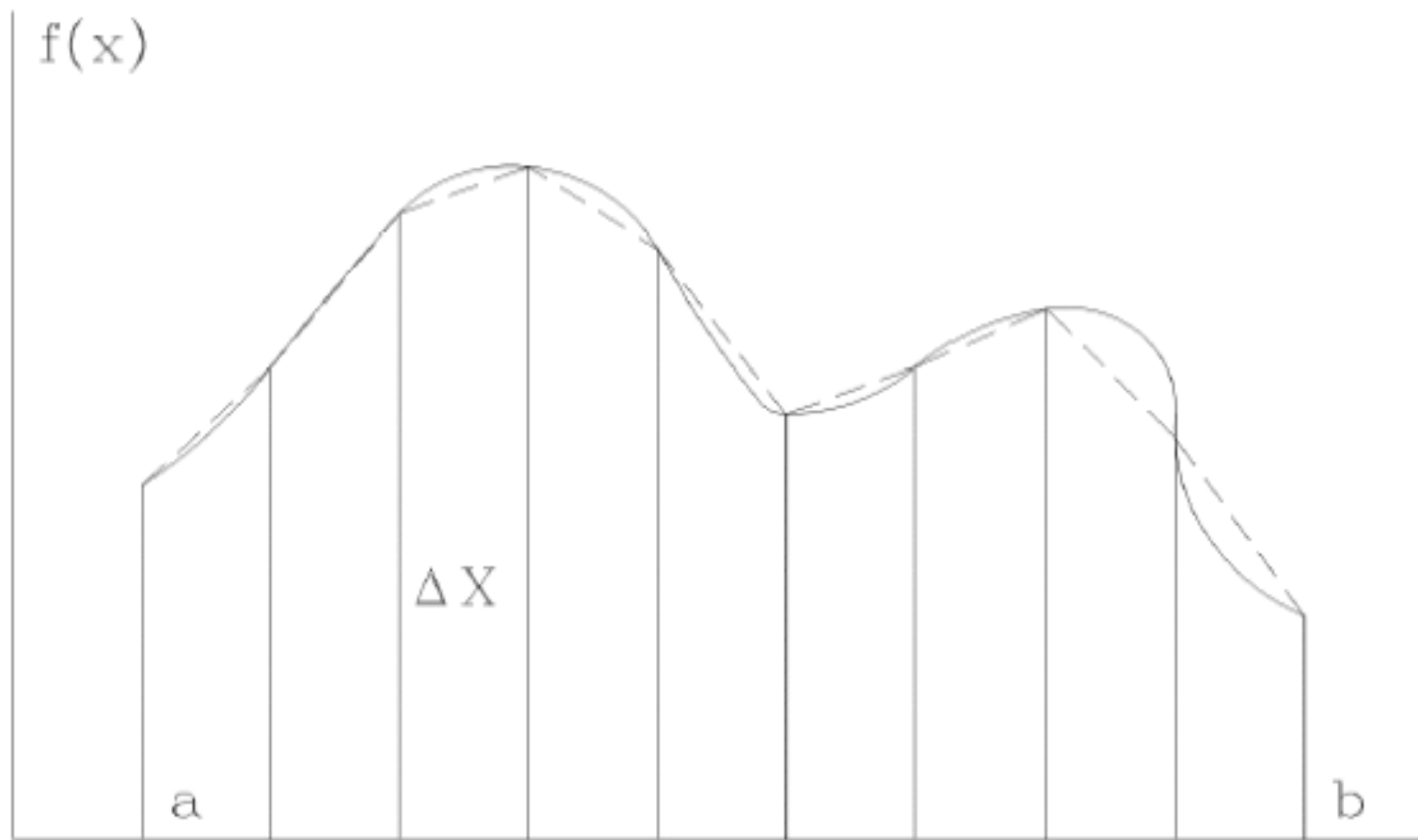
- $\approx$





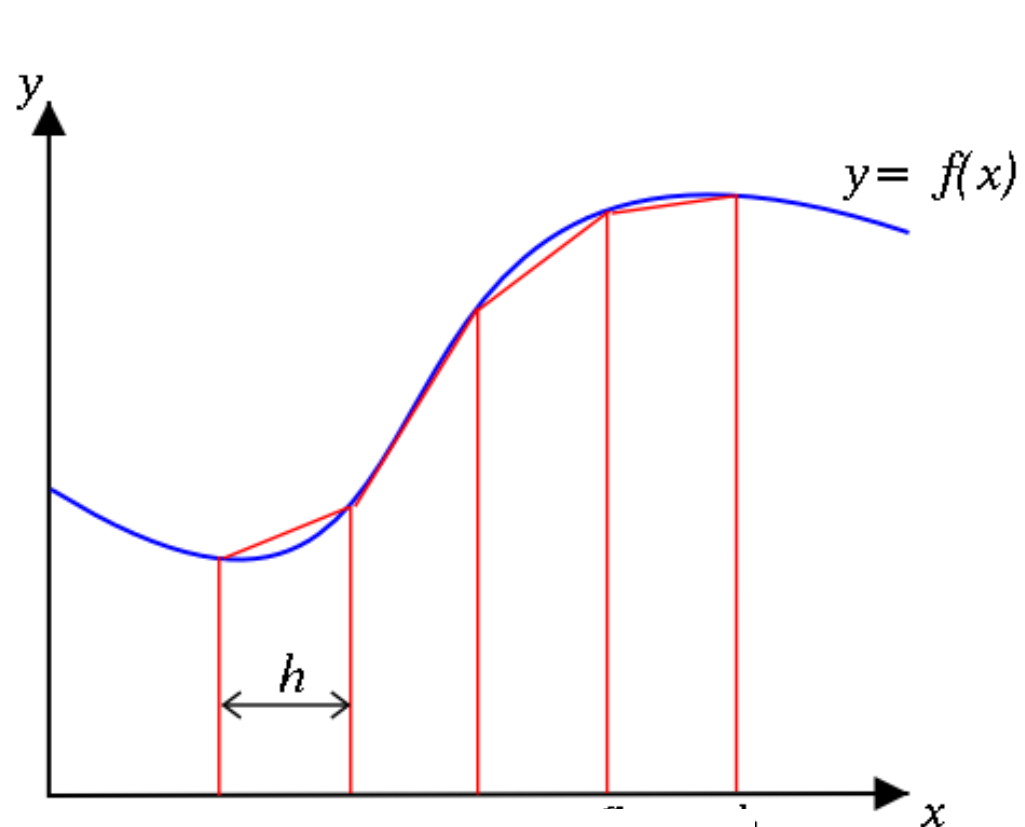
# Numerical Integration

- Composite Trapezoid Rule



# Trapezoid Rule

- Approximate  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  using the areas of the



$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \sum$$

=

=

For this to

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx$$

# Numerical Integration

- Trapezoid Rule

$$\bullet \int_a^b f(x)dx = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{f(x_{i+1}) + f(x_i)}{2} \Delta x_i$$

$$\bullet \Delta x_i =$$

- So the                      are

$$\bullet w_i = \left\{ \right.$$

# Simpson's Rule

- Trapezoidal rule was based on the  
by a polynomial, and then  
integrating
- Simpson's is an of the  
trapezoidal rule where the is  
by a polynomial

$$\bullet \quad I = \int_a^b f(x) dx \approx$$

- Here, is a polynomial
- $f_2(x) =$

# Simpson's Rule

- Simpson's rule:

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

- where  $\Delta x =$

- Simpson's rule can be used when there are an even number of subintervals

- $\int_{x_1}^{x_n} f(x)dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{\Delta x}{3} [f(x_{i-1}) + 4f(x_i) + f(x_{i+1})]$

# Composite Simpson's Rule

- Simpson's rule for  $\int_{x_0}^{x_2} p_1(x) dx$  is given as:

- $\int_{x_0}^{x_2} p_1(x) dx =$

- We can do the same on  $\int_{x_2}^{x_4} p_1(x) dx$  to get

- $\int_{x_2}^{x_4} p_1(x) dx =$

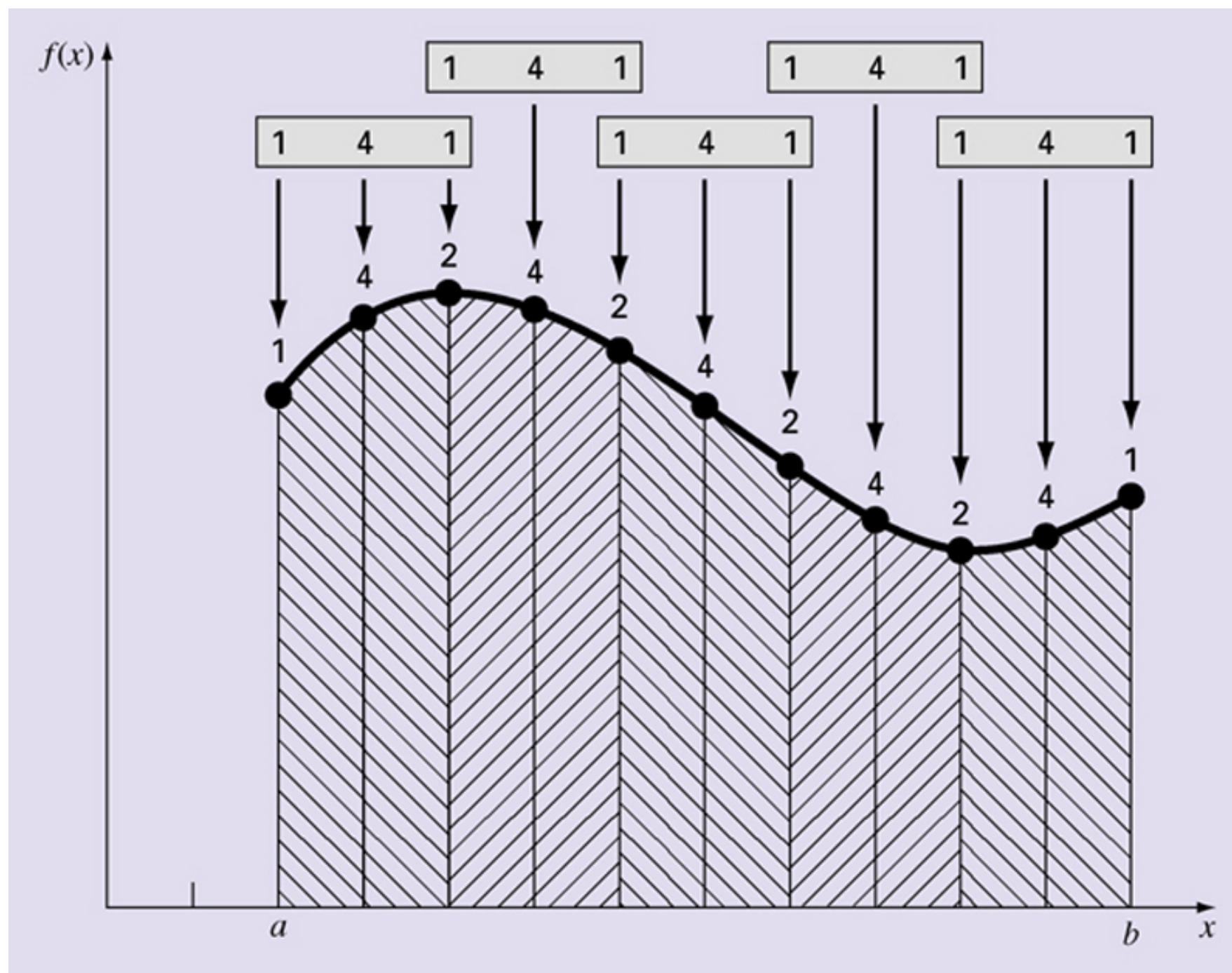
- Hence on the  $[x_0, x_4]$  region

- $\int_{x_0}^{x_4} f(x) dx =$

- In general for an  $n$  number of intervals

- $\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx$

# Composite Simpson's Rule



Applicable

if the number of segments is

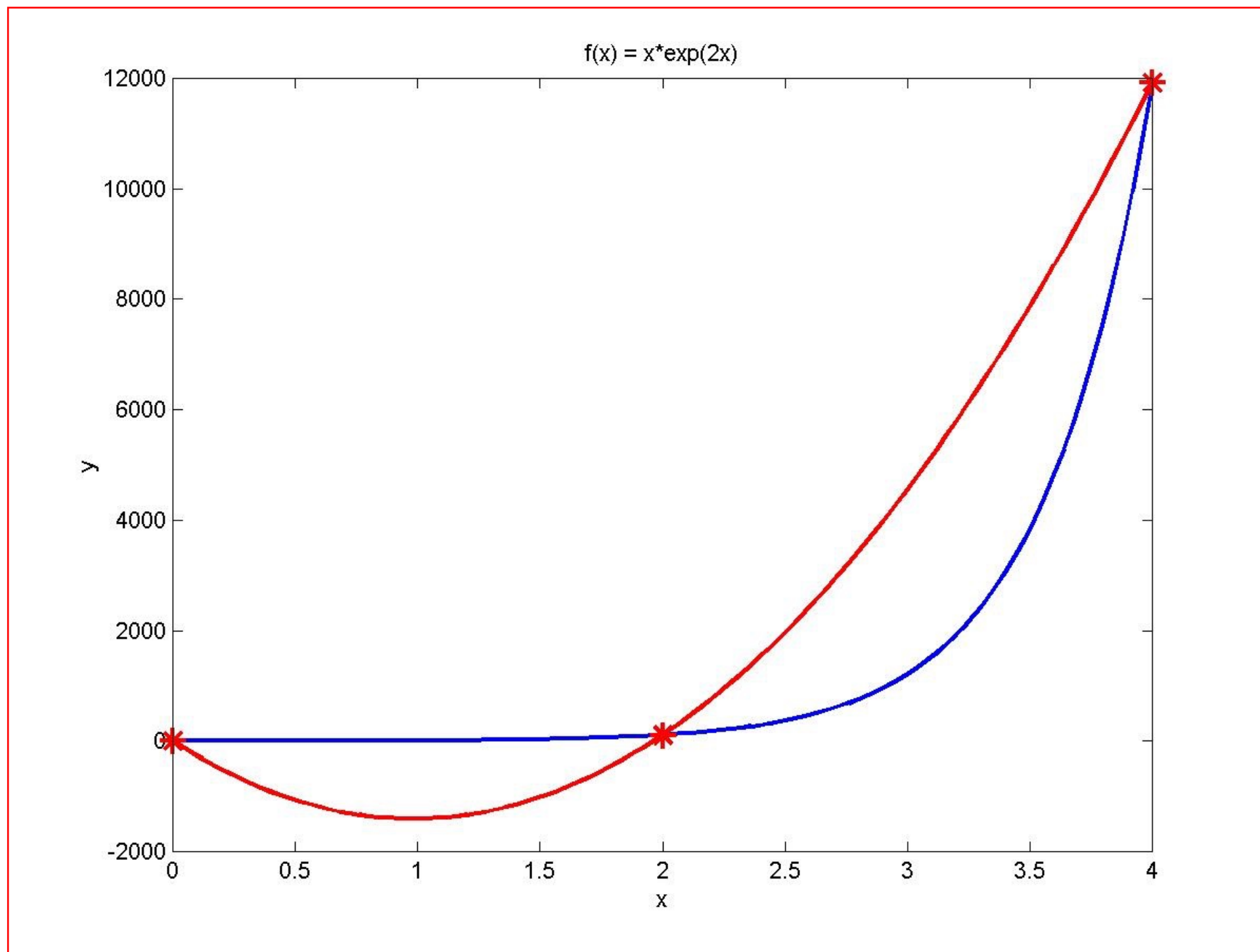
# Weights in Simpson's Rule

- For 1/3 Simpson' Rule the weights are:

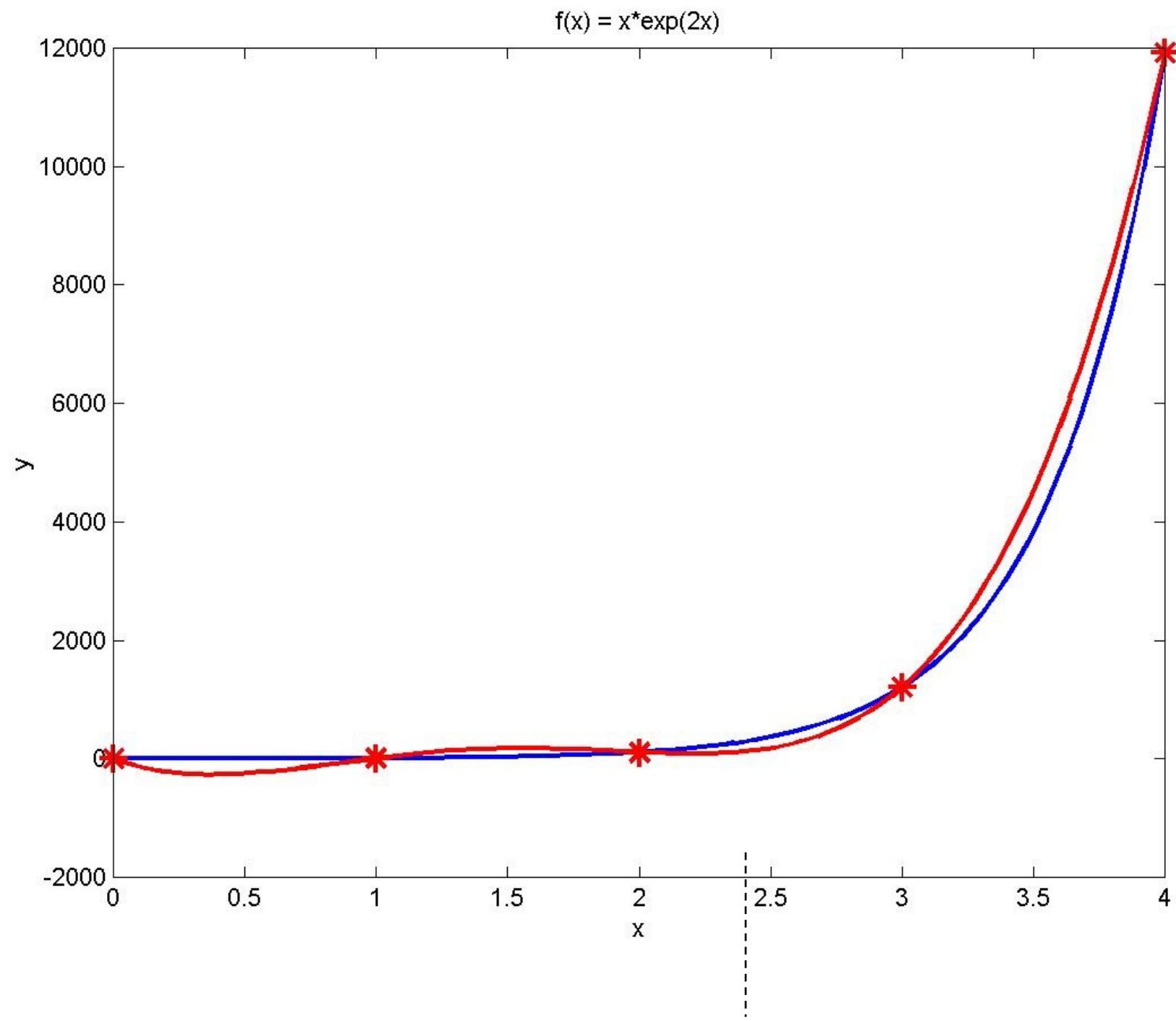
- $w_i = \left\{ \right.$



# Simpson's Rule



# Composite Simpson's 1/3 Rule



# Higher order fits

- Can increase the order of the fit to cubic, quartic etc.
- For a cubic fit over  $x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3$  we find

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_3} f(x) dx \cong \frac{3h}{8} [f(x_0) + 3f(x_1) + 3f(x_2) + f(x_3)]$$

- For a quartic fit over  $x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4$  Simpson's 3/8<sup>th</sup> Rule

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_4} f(x) dx \cong \frac{2h}{45} [7f(x_0) + 32f(x_1) + 12f(x_2) + 32f(x_3) + 7f(x_4)]$$

Boole's Rule

- In practice these higher order formulas are not that useful, we can devise better methods if we first consider the errors involved

# Error in the Trapezoid Rule

- Consider a  $\Delta x$  of  $f(x)$

$$f(x) =$$

- The integral of  $f(x)$  written in this form is then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx =$$

$$=$$

# Error in the Trapezoid Rule

- Perform the same expansion about

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx =$$

- If we take an average of (1) and (2) then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx =$$

- Notice that derivatives are while derivatives are

# Error in the Trapezoid Rule

- We also make Taylor expansions of  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  around both  $a$  and  $b$  which allow us to find the error for terms in  $h^2$  and  $h^4$  and to derive

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx =$$

- It takes *quite a bit of work* to get to this point, but the key issue is that we have now created a formula for the error which are all  $O(h^2)$
- If we now use this formula in the Trapezoid rule there will be a large number of  $n$  values for which the error is large

# Error in the Composite Trapezoid

- We now sum over a series of trapezoids to get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_a^b f(x)dx &= \frac{h}{2}[(f(a) + f(x_1)) + (f(x_1) + f(x_2)) + \dots + (f(x_{n-2}) + f(x_{n-1})) + (f(x_{n-1}) + f(b))] \\
 &+ \frac{h^2}{12}[(f'(a) - f'(x_1)) + (f'(x_1) - f'(x_2)) + \dots + (f'(x_{n-2}) - f'(x_{n-1})) + (f'(x_{n-1}) - f'(b))] \\
 &+ \frac{h^4}{720}[(f'''(a) - f'''(x_1)) + (f'''(x_1) - f'''(x_2)) + \dots + (f'''(x_{n-2}) - f'''(x_{n-1})) + (f'''(x_{n-1}) - f'''(b))] \\
 &+ \dots \\
 &= \frac{h}{2}[f(a) + f(b)] + h \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} f(a + ih) + \frac{h^2}{12}[f'(a) - f'(b)] + \frac{h^4}{720}[f'''(a) - f'''(b)] + \dots \quad (11)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Note now
- The expansion is in powers of

# Error in estimating the integral

Assumption :  $f'(x)$  is continuous on  $[a,b]$

Equal intervals (width =  $h$ )

Theorem : If Trapezoid Method is used to

approximate  $\int_a^b f(x)dx$  then

$Error =$

$|Error| \leq$



# Estimating error for trapezoid rule

$$\int_0^{\pi} \sin(x) dx, \quad \text{find } h \text{ so that } |\text{error}| \leq \frac{1}{2} \times 10^{-5}$$

$$|Error| \leq$$

$$b = \quad a = \quad f'(x) =$$

$$|f'(x)| \leq \quad \Rightarrow |Error| \leq$$

$$\Rightarrow h^2 \leq$$

# Gaussian Quadrature

- So far, we've considered  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  spaced
- We've also only looked at  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  formulae
- Gaussian quadrature achieves  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  and by
- We generally apply a  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  to make the
- There are a number of  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  of Gaussian quadrature, we'll look at
- Slides were adapted from [http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/topics/gauss\\_quadrature.html](http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/topics/gauss_quadrature.html)

See [here](#) for further details

# Theory of Gaussian Quadrature

- Recall the trapezoid method

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

- Let's express it as

- $\int_a^b f(x)dx = \sum$

- where

# Basis of Gaussian Quadrature Rule

- Previously we discussed how the rule was developed using the method coefficients

$$\bullet \int_a^b f(x)dx \approx c_1 f(a) + c_2 f(b)$$

- The Gaussian Quadrature Rule is an of the Trapezoidal Rule approximation

- where the of the function are not predetermined as and , but as and

$$\bullet I = \int_a^b f(x)dx \approx$$

# Basis of the Gaussian Quadrature Rule

- We can find our  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  by assuming that the formula gives  $I \approx c_1 f(x_1) + c_2 f(x_2)$  for integrating a general polynomial

- $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3$

- Then we find that

- $\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^b (a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3) dx$

- $\int_a^b (a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3) dx =$

- $\int_a^b (a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3) dx =$

- Recalling that  $I \approx c_1 f(x_1) + c_2 f(x_2)$

- $\Rightarrow I =$

# Basis of the Gaussian Quadrature Rule

- Equating the two expressions yields

$$a_0(b-2) + a_1\left(\frac{b^2-a^2}{2}\right) + a_2\left(\frac{b^3-a^3}{3}\right) + a_3\left(\frac{b^4-a^4}{4}\right) =$$

- As the constants are

- 

- 

- Only one solution to the four equations

- $x_1 =$  ;  $x_2 =$

- $c_1 =$  ;  $c_2 =$

# Gaussian Quadrature

- In conclusion, the

Gaussian Quadrature Rule is

- $\int_a^b f(x)dx \approx c_1 f(x_1) + c_2 f(x_2)$

- $=$

# Higher Point Gaussian Quadrature Formulae

- $\int_a^b f(x)dx \approx c_1 f(x_1) + c_2 f(x_2) + c_3 f(x_3)$

- is called the **Gaussian Quadrature Rule**

- As for the two-point rule, one can calculate the **three-point rule** by assuming that the formula gives **exact results** for integrating a **polynomial of degree 5**

- $\int_a^b (a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + a_4 x^4 + a_5 x^5)dx$

- General **n-point** rules would approximate the integral

- $\int_a^b f(x)dx \approx$



# Arguments and Weighing Factors

- In handbooks, the  $c_i$  and  $x_i$  are given for Gaussian quadrature rules for integrals of the form

$$\int_{-1}^{+1} g(x) dx \approx$$

Weighting factors  $c$  and function arguments  $x$  used in Gaussian Quadrature Formulae.

Points	Weighting Factors	Function Arguments
2	$c_1 = 1.000000000$ $c_2 = 1.000000000$	$x_1 = -0.577350269$ $x_2 = 0.577350269$
3	$c_1 = 0.555555556$ $c_2 = 0.888888889$ $c_3 = 0.555555556$	$x_1 = -0.774596669$ $x_2 = 0.000000000$ $x_3 = 0.774596669$
4	$c_1 = 0.347854845$ $c_2 = 0.652145155$ $c_3 = 0.652145155$ $c_4 = 0.347854845$	$x_1 = -0.861136312$ $x_2 = -0.339981044$ $x_3 = 0.339981044$ $x_4 = 0.861136312$

# Arguments and Weighing Factors

- Now that we have a table for  $\int_{-1}^1 g(x)dx$  integrals,
  - how can we use it for  $\int_a^b g(x)dx$  integrals:
- Recall that  $\int_a^b g(x)dx$  with limits  $a$  and  $b$  can be converted into  $\int_{-1}^1 g(u)du$  with limits  $-1$  and  $1$
- Let  $x =$ 
  - If  $x = a \Rightarrow$
  - If  $x = b \Rightarrow$
- $\Rightarrow m =$  and  $c =$
- i.e.  $x =$  ;  $dx =$
- Substituting  $x$  and  $dx$  yields

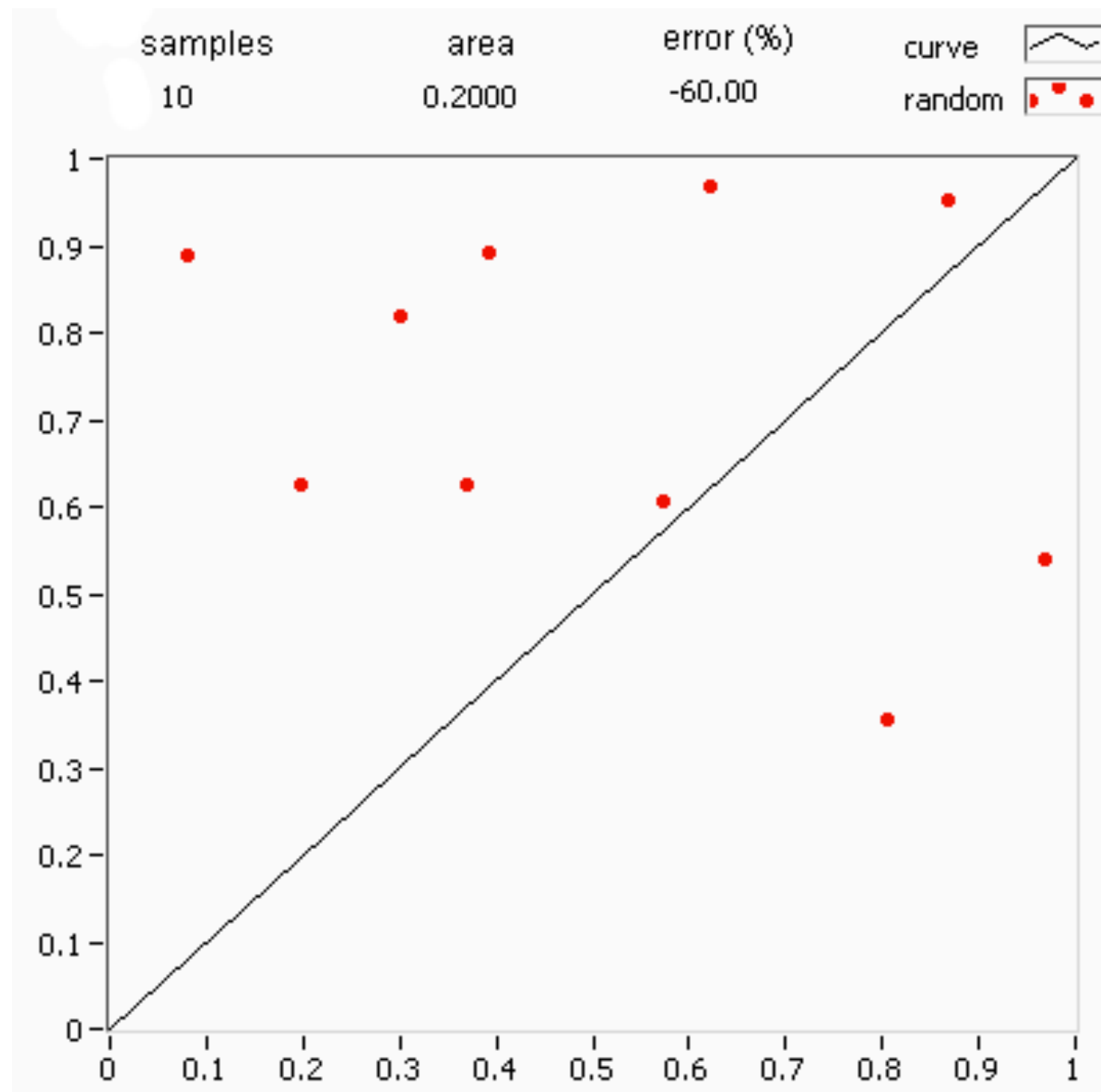
# Recap: MC Integration

- Suppose we want to compute a

$$\bullet Z = \int$$

- Generate a  $x$  (e.g.  $x \sim p(x)$  distributed in  $\mathcal{X}$ )
- If  $x$  is within  $A$ , increment sum
- Repeat  $N$  times
- Uncertainty on  $Z$  typically scales as  $1/\sqrt{N}$

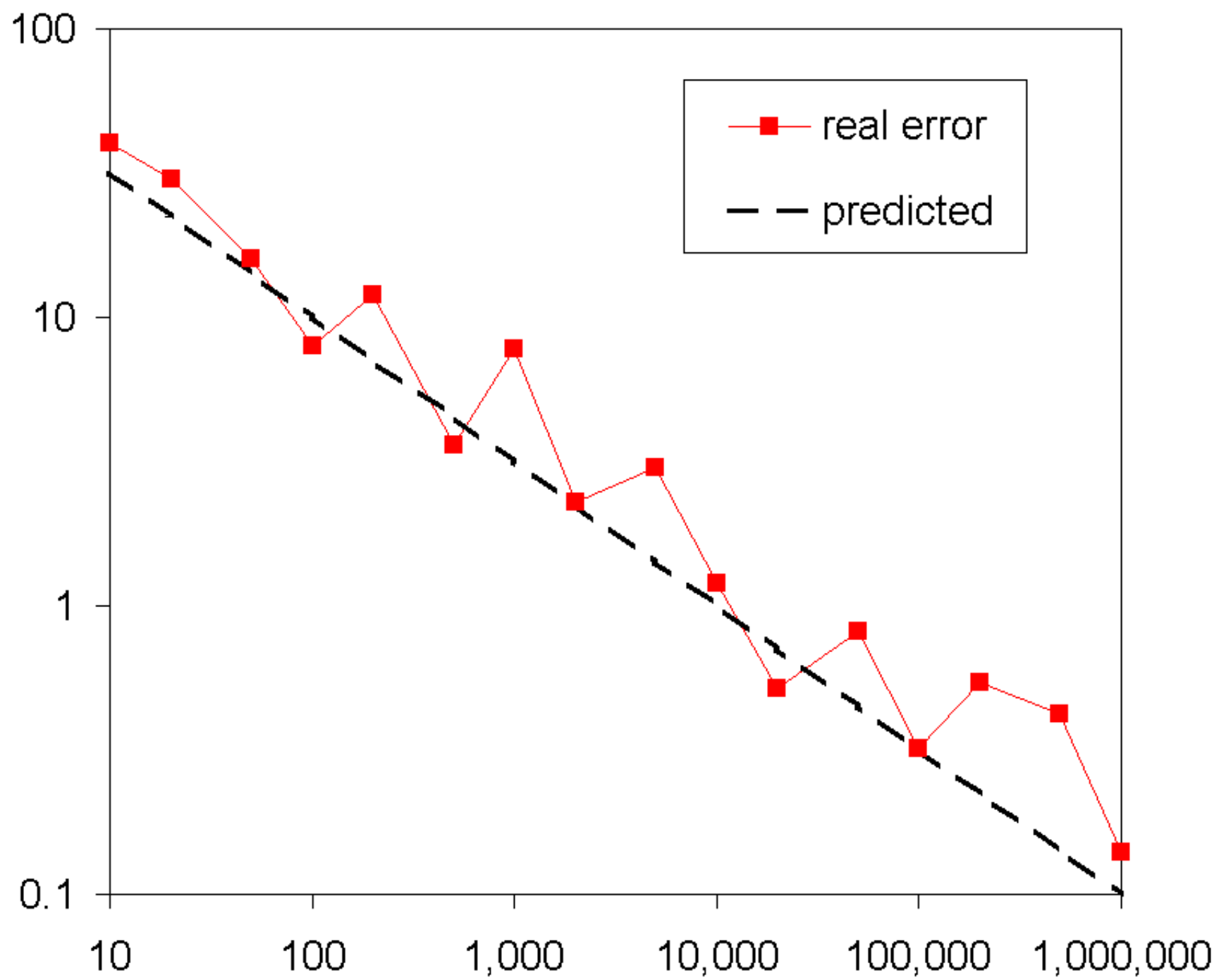
# Example



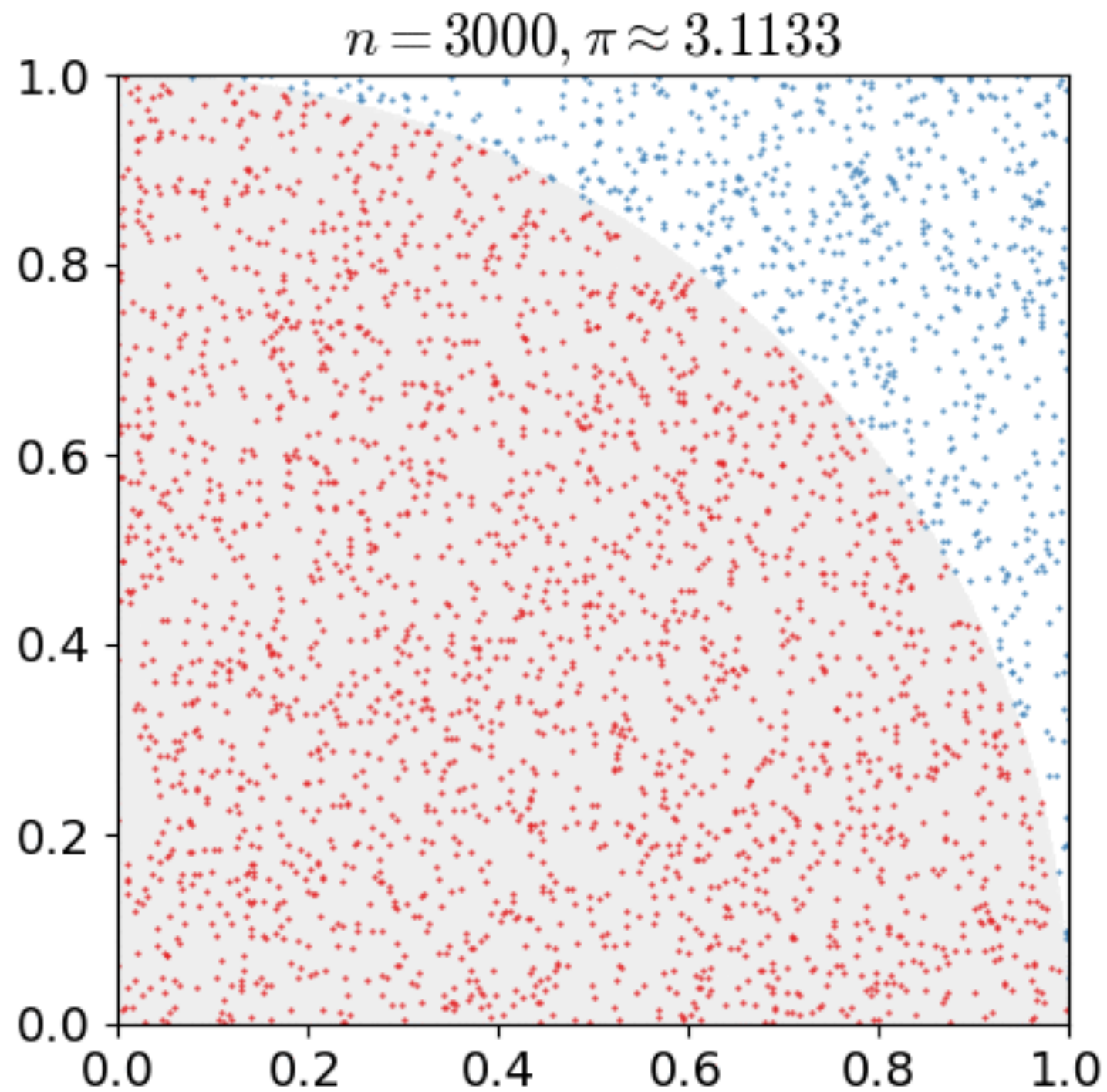
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte\\_Carlo\\_method](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte_Carlo_method)

[Link to gif](#)

# Error Estimate



# Example: Compute $\pi$ by MC



[Link to gif](#)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte\\_Carlo\\_method](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte_Carlo_method)