

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY



REAL ANALYSIS

MATH 321-2

---

uniform continuity go brrrr

---

*Author:*  
Elliott YOON

5 January 2023

# 1 The Riemann Stieljis Integral

**Remark 1.1.** For this section, let there be a standing assumption that  $f$  is bounded.

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $[a, b]$  be a given interval. A **partition**  $P$  of  $[a, b]$  is a finite set of points  $\{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  where

$$a = x_0 \leq x_1 \leq \dots \leq x_n = b.$$

We will adopt the following notation:  $\Delta x_i = x_i - x_{i-1}$ . Now, let  $P$  be any partition of  $[a, b]$ . We put

1.  $M_i = \sup f(x) \quad (x_{i-1} \leq x \leq x_i),$
2.  $m_i = \inf f(x) \quad (x_{i-1} \leq x \leq x_i),$
3.  $U(P, f) = \sum_{i=1}^n M_i \Delta x_i,$
4.  $L(P, f) = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i \Delta x_i,$

and finally obtain the *upper* and *lower Riemann integrals* of  $f$  over  $[a, b]$ :

1.  $\overline{\int_a^b} f \, dx = \inf_{P \in \mathcal{P}} U(P, f),$
2.  $\underline{\int_a^b} f \, dx = \sup_{P \in \mathcal{P}} L(P, f)$

where  $\mathcal{P}$  is the set of all partitions  $P$  of  $[a, b]$ .

## Lemma 1.3

The set  $\{U(P, f) \mid P \in \mathcal{P}\}$  is bounded below.

*Proof.* Since  $f$  is bounded,  $f(x) \geq m$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ . Notice that

$$U(P, f) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sup_{x \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]} f(x) \Delta x_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^n m \cdot \Delta x_i = m(b - a).$$

□

**Definition 1.4.** We say that  $f$  is **Riemann-integrable** and write  $f \in \mathcal{R}([a, b])$  if

$$\overline{\int_a^b} f \, dx = \underline{\int_a^b} f \, dx.$$

**Remark 1.5.** Notice that  $L(P, f)$  and  $U(P, f)$  are bounded by  $m(b - a)$  and  $M(b - a)$ , where  $m \leq f(x) \leq M$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ . In other words, the upper and lower integrals exist for *every* bounded real function.

**Definition 1.6.** Let  $\alpha$  be nondecreasing (monotonically increasing) function on  $[a, b]$ . We write  $\Delta \alpha_i = \alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x_{i-1})$ . (Clearly,  $\Delta \alpha_i \geq 0$ . We put

1.  $U(P, f, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n M_i \Delta \alpha_i,$
2.  $L(P, f, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i \Delta \alpha_i.$

where  $M_i, m_i$  have the same meaning as in Definition 1.2 and we define

$$\overline{\int_a^b} f d\alpha = \inf_{P \in \mathcal{P}} U(P, f, \alpha) \quad (1)$$

and

$$\underline{\int_a^b} f d\alpha = \sup_{P \in \mathcal{P}} L(P, f, \alpha). \quad (2)$$

If (1) and (2) are equal, then we say  $f$  is *integrable with respect to  $\alpha$  over  $[a, b]$* , written  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ , and notate their common value, known as the **Riemann-Stieltjes integral** as

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha.$$

**Question 1.7.** When is  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$

It may be helpful to rephrase the question to ask when  $f$  is *not* in  $\mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ .

- Nonexample: The function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in \mathbb{Q} \\ 0 & x \notin \mathbb{Q} \end{cases}$$

is *not* in  $\mathcal{R}([a, b])$ . Notice that for any partition  $P$ ,  $U(P, f) = 1 \neq 0 = L(P, f)$ .

So whenever  $\inf_{P \in \mathcal{P}} U(P, f, \alpha)$  is *strictly* greater than  $\sup_{P \in \mathcal{P}} L(P, f, \alpha)$ , we know  $f \notin \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ .

**Definition 1.8.** For partitions  $P, Q \in \mathcal{P}$ ,

1. If  $Q \supset P$ , we say  $Q$  is a **refinement** of  $P$ .
2. We call  $P^* = P \cup Q$  a **common refinement**.

**Lemma 1.9**

If  $Q \supset P$ , then  $U(Q, f, \alpha) \leq U(P, f, \alpha)$  and  $L(Q, f, \alpha) \geq L(P, f, \alpha)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $Q = P \cup \{x_0, \dots, x_k\}$ . If  $k = 0$ , the conclusion obviously holds. Now, suppose  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $U(Q, f, \alpha) \leq U(P, f, \alpha)$ , and let  $P^*$  contain just one more point than  $P$ ,  $x^*$ , where  $x_{i-1} < x^* < x_i$ . Write  $w_1 = \sup_{x_{i-1} \leq x \leq x^*} f(x)$  and  $w_2 = \sup_{x^* \leq x \leq x_i} f(x)$ . Notice  $w_1, w_2 \leq M_i$  where  $M_i = \sup_{x_{i-1} \leq x \leq x_i} f(x)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} U(P, f, \alpha) - U(P^*, f, \alpha) &= M_i[\alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x_{i-1}) - w_1[\alpha(x^*) - \alpha(x_{i-1})] - w_2[\alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x^*)]] \\ &= (M_i - w_1)[\alpha(x^*) - \alpha(x_{i-1})] + (M_i - w_2)[\alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x^*)] \\ &\geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

The proof for the lower integrals is the same. □

**Remark 1.10.** Notice that for any partitions  $P_1, P_2$ , it follows with the common refinement  $P^* = P_1 \cup P_2$  that

$$L(P_1, f, \alpha) \leq L(P^*, f, \alpha) \leq U(P^*, f, \alpha) \leq U(P_2, f, \alpha).$$

**Corollary 1.11**

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha \leq \overline{\int_a^b f d\alpha}.$$

We now arrive at a useful lemma relating integrability to being able to find partitions that allow the distance between upper and lower integrals to be arbitrarily small:

**Lemma 1.12**

$f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$  if, and only if,  $\forall \epsilon > 0$ , there exists a partition  $P$  such that  $U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \epsilon$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f \in \mathcal{R}$ . Then there exists a partition  $P_1$  such that  $0 \leq U(P_1, f, \alpha) - \overline{\int_a^b f d\alpha} < \epsilon/2$ . Similarly, there exists  $P_2$  such that  $0 \leq \underline{\int_a^b f d\alpha} - L(P_2, f, \alpha) < \epsilon/2$ . (Notice that  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ , so  $\overline{\int_a^b f d\alpha} = \underline{\int_a^b f d\alpha} = \int_a^b f d\alpha$ .) Let  $P = P_1 \cup P_2$  be the common refinement of  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ . Then

$$U(P, f, \alpha) \leq U(P_1, f, \alpha) < \int_a^b f d\alpha + \epsilon/2 < L(P_2, f, \alpha) + \epsilon \leq L(P, f, \alpha) + \epsilon.$$

Now assume the converse. Recall that  $\overline{\int_a^b f d\alpha} \leq U(P, f, \alpha)$  and  $\underline{\int_a^b f d\alpha} \geq L(P, f, \alpha)$  for any partition  $P$ . Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then there exists a partition  $P$  such that

$$0 \leq \overline{\int_a^b f d\alpha} - \underline{\int_a^b f d\alpha} \leq U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \epsilon.$$

□

Now, let's introduce a bit of notation to make our lives easier. We can write that  $f$  is continuous on a metric space  $X$  as  $f \in \mathcal{C}(X)$ . Furthermore, we can improve upon our notation of integrability to write  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha, S)$  to mean that  $f$  is integrable on with respect to  $\alpha$  over  $S$ .

**Theorem 1.13**

Let  $f \in \mathcal{C}([a, b])$ . Then  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha, [a, b])$ .

*Proof.* Notice  $[a, b]$  is compact. Thus  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $[a, b]$ , so for  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|f(x) - f(y)| < \frac{\epsilon}{\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)}$  whenever  $|x - y| < \delta$ . Now, pick a partition  $P$  (with  $n$  elements) such that  $\Delta x_j < \delta$  for all  $j$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\int_a^b f d\alpha} - \underline{\int_a^b f d\alpha} &\leq U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sup_{I_j} f \Delta x_j - \sum_{j=1}^n \inf_{I_j} f \Delta x_j \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \sup_{I_j} f - \inf_{I_j} f \right) \Delta x_j \\ &< \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\epsilon}{\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)} \Delta x_j \\ &= \frac{\epsilon}{\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)} (\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)) = \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\epsilon$  is arbitrary, the proof is complete. □

**Remark 1.14.** It turns out, we need not require that  $f$  is continuous on the entire interval; it suffices for  $f$  to be continuous *except at finitely many points*, with  $\alpha$  continuous where  $f$  is not! Zoo wee mama!

**Theorem 1.15** (The cooler Daniel)

If  $f$  is continuous at except finitely many points and  $\alpha$  is continuous at the points of  $f$ 's discontinuity, then  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f$  be continuous except at finitely many points, say  $\{x_0, \dots, x_n\}$ . Because  $f$  is continuous at except *finitely* many points, we can let  $M = |f|$ .

Since the set of discontinuities  $S = \{x_0, \dots, x_n\}$  is finite,  $\alpha$  is uniformly continuous on  $S$ . It follows from the triangle inequality and the monotone increasing property of  $\alpha$  that for all  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $\alpha(x_j + \delta) - \alpha(x_j - \delta) < \epsilon$ .

We can always choose  $\delta$  to be smaller, so without loss of generality, assume the set of  $[x_j - \delta, x_j + \delta]$  is disjoint. Let  $F = [a, b] \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^n (x_i - \delta, x_i + \delta)$ .  $F$  is compact, so for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta' > 0$  such that  $|f(u) - f(v)| < \epsilon$  for all  $u, v \in F$  where  $|u - v| < \delta'$ .

We can now partition  $F$  into intervals  $I_j$  with  $\Delta x_j < \delta'$ . Let  $J_i = [x_i - \delta, x_i + \delta]$ . We can now partition  $[a, b]$  into a partition  $P$  consisting of the  $I_i$ 's and  $J_i$ 's. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\int} f d\alpha - \underline{\int} f d\alpha &\leq \sum_j \sup_{I_j} f \Delta x_j - \sum_j \inf_{I_j} f \Delta x_j + \sum_j \sup_{J_j} f \Delta x_j - \sum_j \inf_{J_j} f d\alpha \\ &= \sum_j \left( \sup_{I_j} f - \inf_{I_j} f \right) \Delta x_j + \sum_j \left( \sup_{J_j} f - \inf_{J_j} f \right) \Delta x_j \\ &\leq \epsilon \sum_j \Delta x_j + \sum_j 2M\epsilon \\ &= K\epsilon, \end{aligned}$$

where  $K \in \mathbb{R}$ . □

**Remark 1.16.** What if we want to compose functions? Will their composition be integrable? Well it turns out that if the inner function is integrable, then the outer function being continuous on the range of the inner function is sufficient for integrability of the composition.

**Theorem 1.17** (Integrability of composition of functions)

If  $f$  takes values in  $[m, M]$  on  $[a, b]$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha, [a, b])$ , and  $\phi$  continuous on  $[m, M]$ , then  $\phi \circ f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha, [a, b])$ .

The proof for this theorem is pretty funny, so hang on.

*Proof.*  $\phi$  is uniformly continuous on  $[m, M]$  (why?) so for some  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta < \epsilon$  such that  $|\phi(u) - \phi(v)| < \epsilon$  whenever  $|u - v| < \delta$ . Note that if we find a sufficiently small  $\delta$ , then any value less than  $\delta$  also works so we can restrict ourselves to only working with  $\delta < \epsilon$ . It turns out, this restriction will become very useful later on!

Since  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ , it follows from **Lemma 1.12** that there exists a partition  $P$  such that

$$U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \delta^2.$$

For each  $j = 1, \dots, n$  (where  $n = |P|$ ), if  $\sup_{I_j} f - \inf_{I_j} f < \delta$ , place  $j \in A$ . Otherwise place  $j \in B$ .

1. If  $j \in A$ , then  $|\phi(f(x)) - \phi(f(y))| < \epsilon$ ,  $x, y \in I_j$ .
2. If  $j \in B$ , then  $\sup_{I_j}(\phi \circ f) - \inf_{I_j}(\phi \circ f) \leq 2 \sup_{[m, M]} |\phi|$ , and let's notate  $K = \sup_{[m, M]} |\phi|$ .  
But  $U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \delta^2$ , so

$$\sum_{j \in B} \delta \Delta \alpha_j \leq \sum \left( \sup_{I_j} f - \inf_{I_j} f \right) \Delta x_j \leq \delta^2.$$

Dividing both sides by  $\delta$ , we get  $\sum_{j \in B} \Delta \alpha_j < \delta$ .

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\int} \phi \circ f d\alpha - \underline{\int} \phi \circ f d\alpha &\leq U(P, \phi \circ f, \alpha) - L(P, \phi \circ f, \alpha) \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^n \epsilon \Delta \alpha_j + \sum_{j \in B} 2K \Delta \alpha_j \\ &\leq \epsilon(\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)) + 2K\delta \\ &< \epsilon(\alpha(b) - \alpha(a) + 2K). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Remark 1.18.** Note that we (stupidly, in the words of Jared Wunsch,) overcount in the third-to-last line of the extended equation; summing over *all*  $j$  instead of just  $j \in A$ .

**Remark 1.19.** You've probably caught on to the style of proving a function is integrable: find a partition such that the difference  $U - L$  is bounded above by an arbitrary  $\epsilon$ .

We will now explore the properties of the integral, which pretty much agree with the intuition of someone who studied linear algebra and multivariate calculus with Aaron Peterson in MATH 291 @ Northwestern University:

1. The integral is *linear* over  $\mathbb{R}$ ;
2. If a function bounds another from above, then the integral of the first will bound the integral of the second from above;
3. We can split integrals by an intermediate bound;
4. If the magnitude of a function is bounded by a finite number  $M$ , then the magnitude of the integral of that function will be bounded by the product of  $M$  and the width of the integral's bounds.
5. The sum of functions integrable with respect to different "clock speeds" is integrable with respect to the sum of their individual clock speeds. (Really pushing the metaphor here..)

**Theorem 1.20** (Rudin 6.12)

1. If  $f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$  then  $f_1 + f_2 \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ ,  $cf \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$  for every  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , and

$$\int_a^b (f_1 + f_2) d\alpha = \int_a^b f_1 d\alpha + \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha \quad \text{and} \quad \int_a^b cf d\alpha = c \int_a^b f d\alpha.$$

2. If  $f_1(x) \leq f_2(x)$  on  $[a, b]$ , then

$$\int_a^b f_1 d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha.$$

3. If  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$  on  $[a, b]$  and  $a < c < b$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$  on  $[a, c]$  and  $[c, b]$ , and

$$\int_a^c f d\alpha + \int_c^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f d\alpha.$$

4. If  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$  on  $[a, b]$  and if  $|f(x)| \leq M$  on  $[a, b]$ , then

$$\left| \int_a^b f d\alpha \right| \leq M[\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)];$$

5. If  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha_1)$  and  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha_2)$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)$  and

$$\int_a^b f d(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) = \int_a^b f d\alpha_1 + \int_a^b f d\alpha_2;$$

If  $f \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{R}(c\alpha)$  and

$$\int_a^b f d(c\alpha) = c \int_a^b f d\alpha.$$

