

6.5 Average value of a function

積分版本的均值定理

Recall: Mean Value Theorem (MVT):

f is continuous on $[a, b]$ 閉連續 and differentiable on (a, b) 開可微,

$$\implies \exists c \in (a, b), \exists f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}.$$

What is average? y_1, \dots, y_n , then $y_{ave} = \frac{y_1 + \dots + y_n}{n} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i}{n}$.

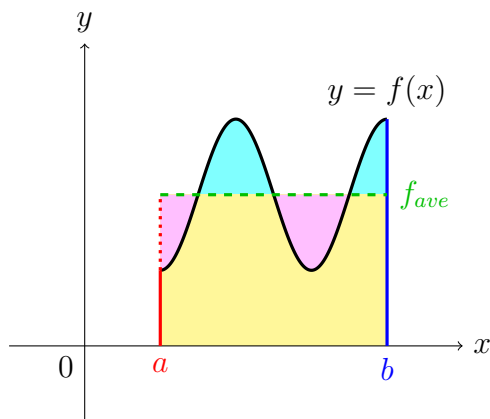
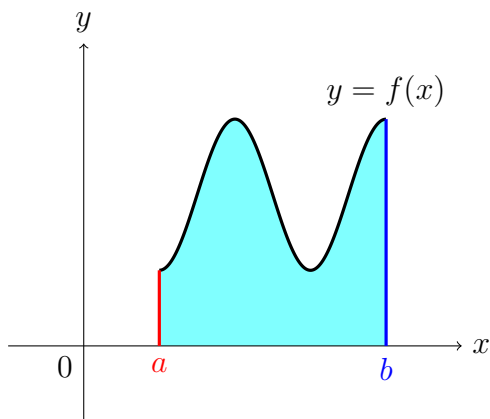
把 $[a, b]$ 分成 n 等分, $y_i = f(x_i^*)$, $\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n} \iff n = \frac{b-a}{\Delta x}$, then

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i}{n} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*)}{(b-a)/\Delta x} = \frac{1}{b-a} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*) \Delta x$$

When $n \rightarrow \infty$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{b-a} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*) \Delta x = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx$.

Define: The *average value* 平均值 of f on $[a, b]$ is

$$f_{ave} = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx.$$



Theorem 1 (The Mean Value Theorem for Integrals)

If f is **continuous** on $[a, b]$, then $\exists c \in (a, b)$ (課本寫 $[a, b]$) \ni

$$f(c) = f_{ave} = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx.$$

◆ **Proof.** (Exercise 6.5.25) Let $F(x) = \int_a^x f(t) dt$.

By **TFTC**, F is continuous on $[a, b]$ and differentiable on (a, b) , $F' = f$, and

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

By **MVT**, $\exists c \in (a, b)$, \ni

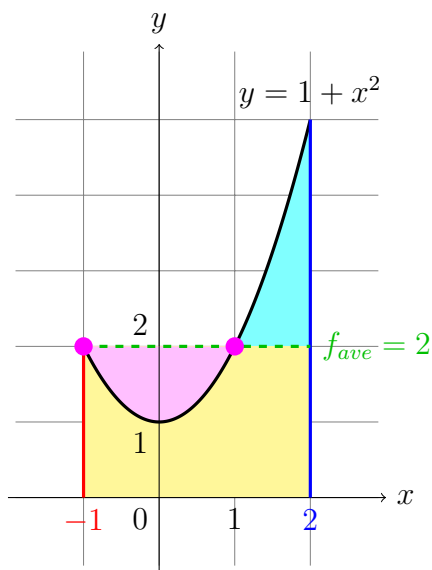
$$f(c) = F'(c) = \frac{F(b) - F(a)}{b-a} = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx. \quad \blacksquare$$

Note: c 也有可能發生在端點 ($f(a) = f(c)$ 或 $f(b) = f(c)$), 所以是 $[a, b]$. 因為定理證明只保證裡面 $((a, b))$ 有, 沒說端點不會有.

Example 0.1 Find f_{ave} of $f(x) = 1 + x^2$ on $[-1, 2]$ and c with $f(c) = f_{ave}$.

$$f_{ave} = \frac{1}{2 - (-1)} \int_{-1}^2 (1 + x^2) dx = \frac{1}{3} \left[x + \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{-1}^2 = 2.$$

$$f(c) = 1 + c^2 = 2, c = \pm 1. \text{ (兩個都要寫)} \quad \blacksquare$$



(定理保證裡面有 ($c = 1 \in (-1, 2)$), 沒說端點 ($c = -1$) 不會有. 題目指定範圍 $[-1, 2]$, 所以端點如果有也要寫.)