

6.1 Areas Between Curves

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Definitions & Theorems:

★ 1. Formula:

The area A of the region bounded by the curves $y = f(x)$, $y = g(x)$, and the line $x = a$, $x = b$, where f and g are continuous and $f(x) \geq g(x)$ for all x in $[a, b]$, is

$$A = \int_a^b [f(x) - g(x)] dx$$

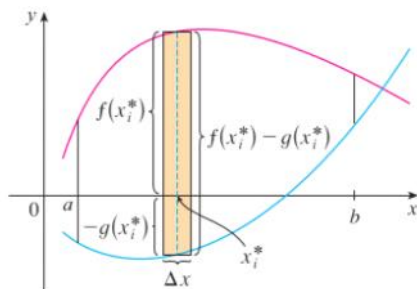
2. Formula:

The area A between the curves $f = f(x)$ and $f = g(x)$ and between $x = a$ and $x = b$ is

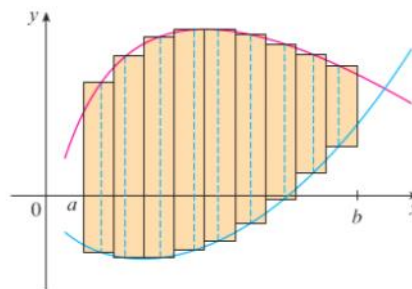
$$A = \int_a^b |f(x) - g(x)| dx$$

Proofs or Explanations:

1. Formula1



(a) Typical rectangle

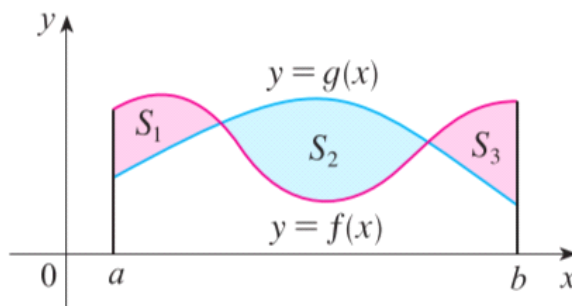


(b) Approximating rectangles

Consider the region S that lies between two curves $y = f(x)$ and $y = g(x)$ and between the vertical lines $x = a$ and $x = b$, where f and g are continuous functions and $f(x) \geq g(x)$ for all x in $[a, b]$

$$A = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n [f(x_i^*) - g(x_i^*)] \Delta x = \int_a^b [f(x) - g(x)] dx$$

2. Formula2



$$|f(x) - g(x)| = \begin{cases} f(x) - g(x), & \text{where } f(x) \geq g(x) \\ g(x) - f(x), & \text{where } g(x) \geq f(x) \end{cases}$$

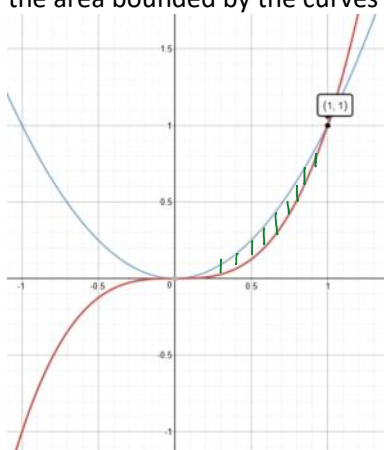
Extra topics:

1. Steps for solving for the area between curves:

- Find the intersection
- Sketch the situation
- Determine "top" and "bottom"
- Compute the definite integral of "top" - "bottom" for each partition.

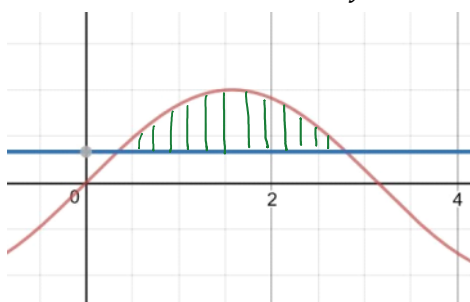
Examples:

1. Find the area bounded by the curves $f = x^3$ and $f = x^2$.



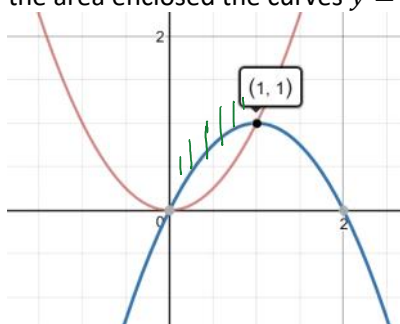
$$A = \int_0^1 (x^2 - x^3) dx = \frac{1}{12}$$

2. Find the area between the curves $y = \sin x$ and $y = \frac{1}{3}$ on $\left[\frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{5\pi}{6}\right]$



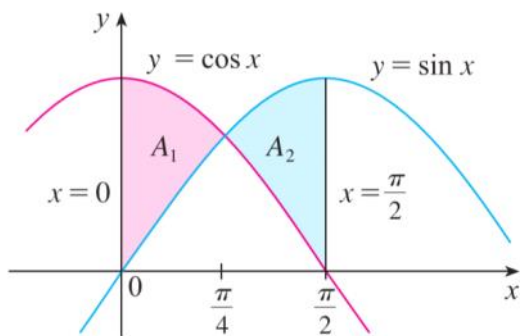
$$A = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{5\pi}{6}} \left[\sin x - \frac{1}{3} \right] dx = \sqrt{3} - \frac{2}{9}\pi$$

3. Find the area enclosed the curves $y = x^2$ and $y = 2x - x^2$



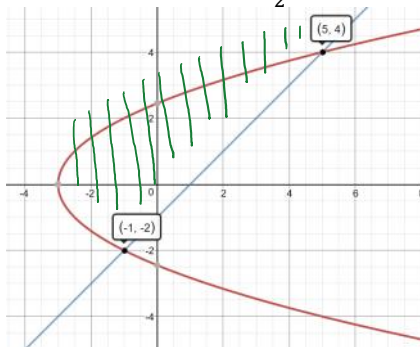
$$A = \int_0^1 [(2x - x^2) - x^2] dx$$

4. Find the area between the curves $y = \sin x$ and $y = \cos x$ on $\left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$



$$A = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} [\cos x - \sin x] dx + \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} [\sin x - \cos x] dx$$

5. Find the area between $x = \frac{1}{2}y^2 - 3$ and $x = y + 1$



$$A = \int_{-2}^4 \left[(y + 1) - \left(\frac{1}{2}y^2 - 3 \right) \right] dy$$