

CH 1 — Integration

Luke Lu • 2026-01-09

Definite Integrals

Info — Riemann Sums

Given $f(x)$ that is defined over $[a, b]$ with $a < b$, the area under function $f(x)$ can be found by

1. Left-Endpoint Riemann Sum

$$L_n = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} f(x_i^*) \Delta x$$

- Underestimates Increasing Functions

2. Right-Endpoint Riemann Sum

$$R_n = \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*) \Delta x$$

- Overestimates Increasing Functions

where

- $\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n}$ under regular partition
- $x_i^* = a + i\Delta x = a + i\frac{b-a}{n}$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_n$ for $f(x)$ on interval $[a, b]$

Regular Partition means interval $[a, b]$ is equally partitioned into n rectangles with identical width

Example:

Estimate area under the curve for $f(x) = x^2$ on $x \in [0, 1]$

$$R_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} f\left(\frac{i}{n}\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \left(\frac{i}{n}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{n^3} \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{(n+1)(2n+1)}{6n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)(2n+1)}{6n} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Info — Definite Integral

$f(x)$ defined on $x \in [a, b]$ with regular partition with n subintervals

The definite integral of $f(x)$ on $[a, b]$ is defined

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

A function is integrable on $x \in [a, b]$ provided that the limit of Riemann Sum exists and has the same value regardless of the choice of x_i^*

Info – Integrability Theorem for Continuous Functions

Integrability: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_n$

1. If f is continuous on $[a, b]$ then f is integrable on $[a, b]$
2. f is bounded on $[a, b]$ and has a **finite** number of discontinuities, then f is integrable on $[a, b]$

That is continuity implies integrability and the other way is false

Examples:

1. $f(x) = x^2$
2. $f(x) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } x \leq 3 \\ 1 & \text{if } x > 3 \end{cases}$, note that $f(x)$ is discontinuous
3. $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{Q} \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin \mathbb{Q} \end{cases}$ on $[0, 1]$
 - x_i^* is rational
 $\int_0^1 f(x) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*) \Delta x = 1$
 - x_i^* is irrational $\int_0^1 f(x) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*) \Delta x = 0$

Thus not integrable

For geometric interpretation, Riemann Sums and Definite Integrals measures the “signed” area where there is no more than 1 inflection point

- A positive result of w implies the area under the curve above x -axis is w
- A negative result of w implies the area under the curve under x -axis is w

Info – Parity of Functions and Definite Integrals

Let $f(x)$ be bounded and integrable on $[-a, a]$

1. If $f(x)$ is odd function, then

$$\int_{-a}^a f(x) dx = 0$$

2. If $f(x)$ is even function where $\int_0^a f(x) dx = w$

$$\int_{-a}^a f(x) dx = 2w$$

Examples:

1. $\int_1^3 x^2 - 3x dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(1 + \frac{2i}{n}) \cdot \frac{2}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\left(1 + \frac{2i}{n}\right)^3 - 3\left(1 + \frac{2i}{n}\right) \right] \cdot \frac{2}{n}$
 $= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(-\frac{4i}{n^2} + \frac{8i^2}{n^3} - \frac{4}{n} \right) = -\frac{10}{3}$
2. $\int_0^5 x^3 - 2 dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f\left(i \frac{5}{n}\right) \frac{5}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\left(\frac{5}{n}\right) \left(\left(i \frac{5}{n}\right)^3 - 2 \right) \right] = \frac{583}{4}$

Info — Basic Property of Definite Integral

Let $f(x), g(x)$ be integrable on $[a, b]$

1. For any $c \in \mathbb{R}$, the function $cf(x)$ is integrable and

$$\int_a^b cf(x) \, dx = c \int_a^b f(x) \, dx$$

2. The function $f + g$ is integrable and

$$\int_a^b (f + g)(x) \, dx = \int_a^b f(x) \, dx + \int_a^b g(x) \, dx$$

3. If $m, M \in \mathbb{R}$ and $m \leq f(x) \leq M \forall x \in [a, b]$, then

$$m(b - a) \leq \int_a^b f(x) \, dx \leq M(b - a)$$

4. If $f(x) \geq 0 \forall x$, then

$$\int_a^b f(x) \, dx \geq 0$$

5. If $f(x) \leq g(x) \forall x \in [a, b]$, then

$$\int_a^b f(x) \, dx \leq \int_a^b g(x) \, dx$$

6. The function $|f|$ is integrable on $[a, b]$ and

$$\left| \int_a^b f(x) \, dx \right| \leq \int_a^b |f(x)| \, dx$$

7. Bound flipping

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

- 8.

$$\int_a^a f(x) \, dx = 0$$

Info — Separation of Domain of Definite Integral

If $f(x)$ is also integrable on an interval containing a, b, c , then

$$\int_a^b f(x) \, dx = \int_a^c f(x) \, dx + \int_c^b f(x) \, dx$$

Info — Average Value of Function

Let f be a function that is continuous on an interval $[a, b]$ with $a < b$. The **average value of f on $[a, b]$** is defined as

$$f_{\text{avg}} = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) \, dx$$