

Section 4.3 – Definite Integral

Definition

Let $f(x)$ be a function defined on a closed interval $[a, b]$. We say that a number J is the **definite integral of f over $[a, b]$** and that J is the limit of the Riemann sums $\sum_{k=1}^n f(c_k) \Delta x_k$ if the following condition is satisfied:

Given any number $\varepsilon > 0$ there is a corresponding number $\delta > 0$ such that for every partition $P = \{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ of $[a, b]$ with $\|P\| < \delta$ and any choice of c_k in $[x_{k-1}, x_k]$, we have

$$\left| \sum_{k=1}^n f(c_k) \Delta x_k - J \right| < \varepsilon$$

Leibniz introduced a notation for the definite integral that captures its construction as a limit of Riemann sums.

The diagram shows the notation $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ with several labels and arrows pointing to its components:

- Upper limit of integration**: A blue label with an arrow pointing to the b above the integral sign.
- Function is integrand**: A black label with an arrow pointing to the $f(x)$ part of the expression.
- Integral sign**: A black label with an arrow pointing to the large integral symbol \int .
- Lower limit of integration**: A red label with an arrow pointing to the a below the integral sign.
- x is the variable of integration**: A black label with an arrow pointing to the dx part of the expression.

Integral of f from a to b .

$$\lim_{\|P\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{k=1}^n f(c_k) \Delta x_k = J = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n f(c_k) \Delta x_k = J = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

Theorem – Integrability of Continuous Functions

If a function f is continuous over the interval $[a, b]$, or if f has at most finitely many jump discontinuities there, then the definite integral $\int_a^b f(x)dx$ exists and f is integrable over $[a, b]$

Properties of Definite Integrals

$$\int_b^a f(x)dx = -\int_a^b f(x)dx \qquad \int_a^a f(x)dx = 0$$

Theorem

When f and g are integrable over the interval $[a, b]$, the definite integral satisfies the rules:

Order of Integration: $\int_b^a f(x)dx = -\int_a^b f(x)dx$

Zero Width Interval: $\int_a^a f(x)dx = 0$

Constant Multiple: $\int_a^b kf(x)dx = k \int_a^b f(x)dx$

Sum and Difference: $\int_a^b (f(x) \pm g(x))dx = \int_a^b f(x)dx \pm \int_a^b g(x)dx$

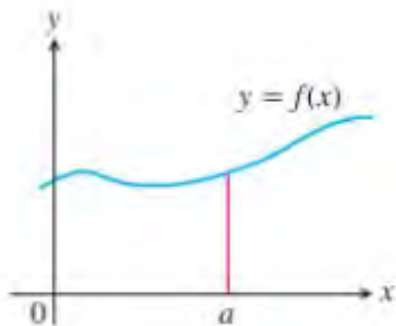
Additivity: $\int_a^b f(x)dx + \int_b^c f(x)dx = \int_a^c f(x)dx$

Max-Min Inequality: If f has **maximum** value $\max f$ and **minimum** value $\min f$ on $[a, b]$, then

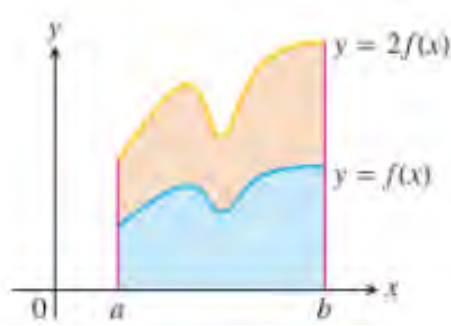
$$(\min f) \cdot (b - a) \leq \int_a^b f(x)dx \leq (\max f) \cdot (b - a)$$

Domination: $f(x) \geq g(x) \text{ on } [a, b] \Rightarrow \int_a^b f(x)dx \geq \int_a^b g(x)dx$

$$f(x) \geq 0 \text{ on } [a, b] \Rightarrow \int_a^b f(x)dx \geq 0$$

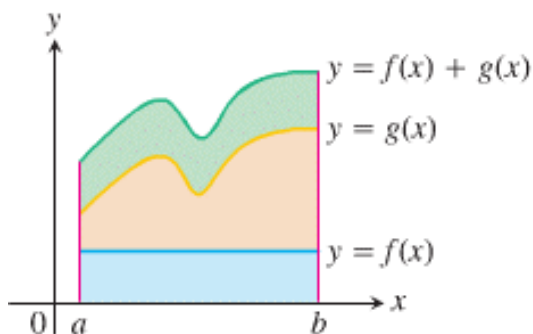


Zero Width Interval: $\int_a^a f(x) dx = 0$



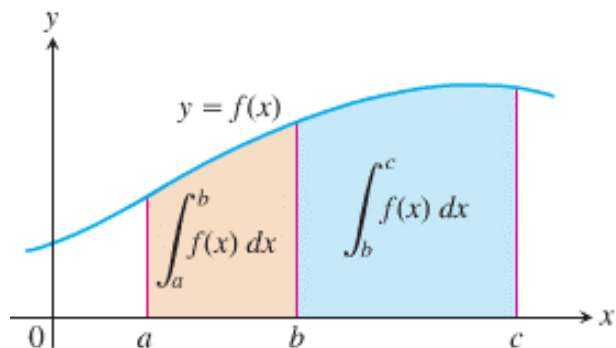
Constant Multiple: ($k = 2$)

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



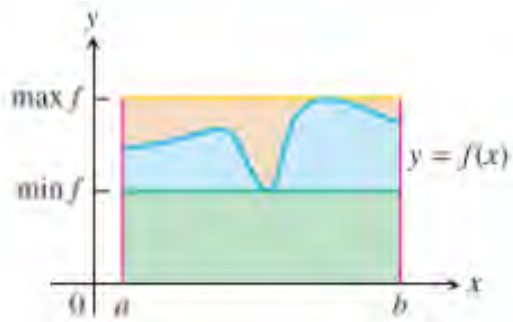
Sum: (areas add)

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



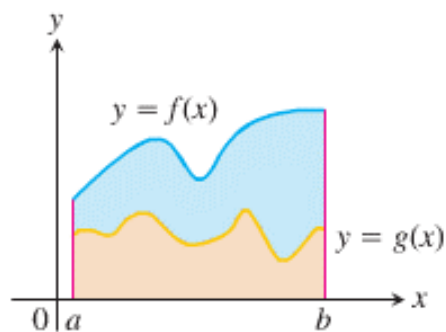
Additive for definite integrals:

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



Max-Min Inequality:

$$\min f \cdot (b - a) \leq \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq \max f \cdot (b - a)$$



Domination

$$f(x) \geq g(x) \text{ on } [a, b] \Rightarrow \int_a^b f(x) dx \geq \int_a^b g(x) dx$$

Example

Suppose that $\int_{-1}^1 f(x)dx = 5$, $\int_1^4 f(x)dx = -2$, $\int_{-1}^1 h(x)dx = 7$. Find:

a) $\int_4^1 f(x)dx$

b) $\int_{-1}^1 [2f(x) + 3h(x)]dx$

Solution

a) $\int_4^1 f(x)dx = -\int_1^4 f(x)dx = -(-2) = \underline{2}$

b) $\int_{-1}^1 [2f(x) + 3h(x)]dx = 2\int_{-1}^1 f(x)dx + 3\int_{-1}^1 h(x)dx$
 $= 2(5) + 3(7)$
 $= \underline{31}$

Example

Show that the value of $\int_0^1 \sqrt{1 + \cos x}dx$ is less than or equal to $\sqrt{2}$

Solution

$\min f \cdot (b - a)$: is the lower bound

$\max f \cdot (b - a)$: is the upper bound

The maximum value of $\sqrt{1 + \cos x}$ on $[0, 1]$ is $\sqrt{1 + 1} = \sqrt{2}$

So, $\int_0^1 \sqrt{1 + \cos x}dx \leq \sqrt{2} \cdot (1 - 0) = \sqrt{2}$

Area Under the Graph of a Nonnegative Function

Definition

If $y = f(x)$ is nonnegative and integrable over a closed interval $[a, b]$, then the area under the curve $y = f(x)$ over $[a, b]$ is the integral of f from a to b ,

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

Example

Compute $\int_0^b x dx$ and find the area A under $y = x$ over the interval $[0, b]$, $b > 0$.

Solution

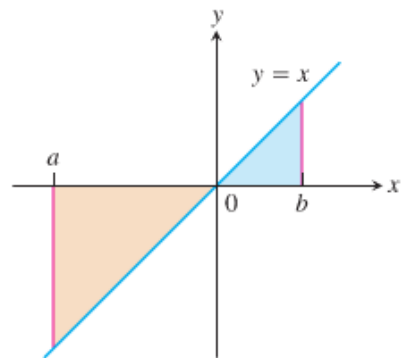
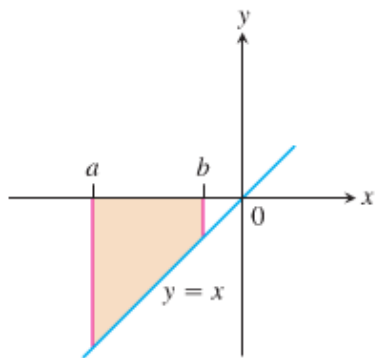
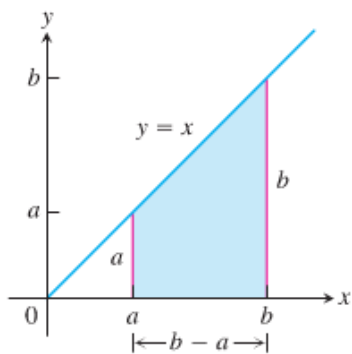
To Compute the definite integral, we consider the partition P subdivides the interval $[0, b]$ into n subintervals of equal width $\Delta x = \frac{b-0}{n} = \frac{b}{n}$.

$$P = \left\{ 0, \frac{b}{n}, \frac{2b}{n}, \frac{3b}{n}, \dots, \frac{nb}{n} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad c_k = \frac{kb}{n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n f(c_k) \Delta x &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{kb}{n} \cdot \frac{b}{n} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{kb^2}{n^2} \\ &= \frac{b^2}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n k \\ &= \frac{b^2}{n^2} \cdot \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \\ &= \frac{b^2}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{b^2}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) \right] = \frac{b^2}{2}$$

$$\int_0^b x dx = \left. \frac{b^2}{2} \right|$$



$$A = \int_0^b x dx = \frac{b^2}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b x dx &= \int_a^0 x dx + \int_0^b x dx \\ &= -\int_0^a x dx + \int_0^b x dx \\ &= -\frac{a^2}{2} + \frac{b^2}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\int_a^b x dx = \frac{b^2}{2} - \frac{a^2}{2} \quad a < b}$$

$$\boxed{\int_a^b x^2 dx = \frac{b^3}{3} - \frac{a^3}{3} \quad a < b}$$