

Lecture 28: Sigma Notation, Area and Riemann Sums

Goal: Understand the notation $\sum_{i=M}^N a_i$. Approximate the (signed) area underneath the curve.

Sigma Notation:

We want short hand for sums with a predictable pattern. We use the Greek letter Sigma (Σ) to do so.

$$\sum_{i=m}^n a_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} a_m + a_{m+1} + \dots + a_n$$

"Variable" (index) $\rightarrow i$
 n ← Where to stop
 m ← Where to start
 a_i ← i th term

Ex1 $\sum_{i=1}^4 i^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 = 1 + 4 + 9 + 16 = 30$

$\sum_{j=0}^5 2^j = 2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 + 2^4 + 2^5 = 63$

Ex2 Express $2^3 + 3^3 + 4^3 + \dots + n^3$ in Sigma Notation

$$\sum_{i=2}^n i^3$$

NOTE (Reindexing) You can start from any number if you adjust your formula accordingly.

$$\sum_{i=2}^n i^3 = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (i+1)^3 = \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (i+2)^3$$

Ex3 $1^2 + 2^2 + (\sqrt{2}+1)^2 + (\sqrt{3}+1)^2 + \dots + (\sqrt{n}+1)^2$

\uparrow $(\sqrt{0}+1)^2$ \uparrow $(\sqrt{1}+1)^2$

$$\sum_{i=0}^n (\sqrt{i} + 1)^2$$

Theorem Sums are linear. I.e., if k is a constant (i.e., not a fun of the index)

$$(1) \sum_{i=m}^n (a_i \pm b_i) = \sum_{i=m}^n a_i \pm \sum_{i=m}^n b_i$$

$$(2) \sum_{i=m}^n k a_i = k \sum_{i=m}^n a_i$$

Ex 4/ Compute $\sum_{i=1}^n 1$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n 1 = \underbrace{1 + 1 + 1 + \dots + 1}_{n \text{ times}} = n$$

Likewise, for a constant k

$$\sum_{i=1}^n k = k \sum_{i=1}^n 1 = kn$$

Ex 5/ Show $\sum_{i=1}^n i = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

$$S = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n$$

$$+ S = n + (n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + 1$$

$$2S = \underbrace{(n+1) + (n+1) + (n+1) + \dots + (n+1)}_{n \text{ times}}$$

$$2S = n(n+1)$$

$$S = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

Theorem ① $\sum_{i=1}^n 1 = n$

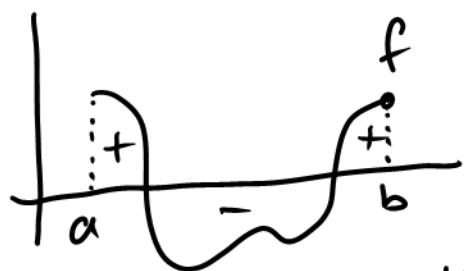
② $\sum_{i=1}^n k = kn$

③ $\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

④ $\sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$

⑤ $\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \left[\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right]^2$

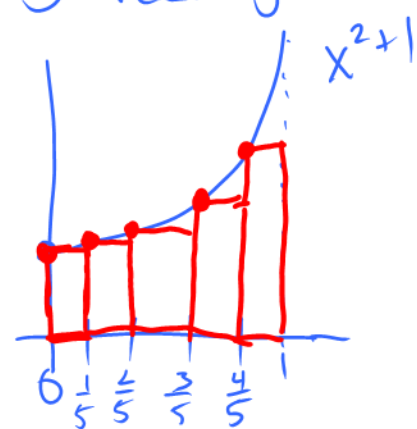
The Area Problem



Q: Given a function f and a closed interval $[a, b]$, compute the (signed) area underneath the curve.

A: Approximate the region via rectangles

Ex 6: Approximate the area of the region bounded by $f(x) = x^2 + 1$, $x=0$, $x=1$, and the x -axis using 5 rectangles.



Width: $\frac{1}{5}$

$$\text{Area} \approx \frac{1}{5} f(0) + \frac{1}{5} f\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) + \frac{1}{5} f\left(\frac{2}{5}\right) + \frac{1}{5} f\left(\frac{3}{5}\right) + \frac{1}{5} f\left(\frac{4}{5}\right)$$

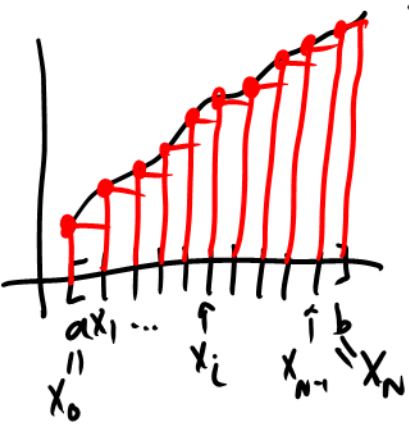
$$= \sum_{i=0}^4 \frac{1}{5} f\left(\frac{i}{5}\right) = \sum_{i=0}^4 \frac{1}{5} \left[\left(\frac{i}{5}\right)^2 + 1 \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{5} \left[\left(\frac{0}{5}\right)^2 + 1 + \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^2 + 1 + \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^2 + 1 + \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^2 + 1 + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2 + 1 \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{5} [5 + 1.2] = \frac{1}{5} [6.2] = 1.24$$

This is an example of a Left Riemann Sum
("Left" is referring to how we chose the height)

How do we do this in general?



① Divide $[a, b]$ into N equal region

$$\text{Width: } \frac{b-a}{N} = \Delta X$$

② Determine Heights
 $x_i = a + i\Delta X$

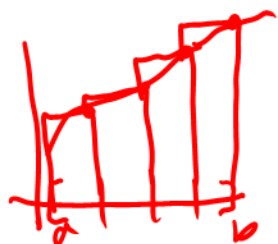
$$\text{Heights: } f(x_i) = f(a + i\Delta X); 0 \leq i \leq N-1$$

Def The Left Riemann Sum of f over $[a, b]$
Using N rectangles is defined as

$$L_N \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} f(a + i\Delta X) \Delta X \text{ where } \Delta X = \frac{b-a}{N}$$

Similarly, the Right Riemann Sum is

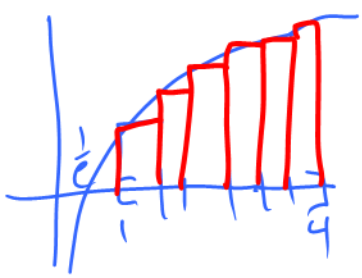
$$R_N \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^N f(a + i\Delta X) \Delta X \text{ where } \Delta X = \frac{b-a}{N}$$



Ex 7/ Consider $f(x) = \ln(x) + 1$ on $[1, 4]$

@ Compute L_6 [ie, left Riemann Sum w/ 6 rect.]

$$\Delta X = \frac{b-a}{N} \xrightarrow[\substack{a=1 \\ b=4 \\ N=6}]{\substack{a=1 \\ b=4 \\ N=6}} \Delta X = \frac{4-1}{6} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$



$$L_N = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} f(a+i\Delta X) \Delta X$$

$$L_6 = \sum_{i=0}^5 f(1+i(\frac{1}{2})) \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^5 [\ln(1+\frac{i}{2}) + 1]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^5 1 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^5 \ln(1+\frac{i}{2})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(6) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^5 \ln(1+\frac{i}{2})$$

$$= 3 + \frac{1}{2} [\ln(1) + \ln(\frac{3}{2}) + \ln(2) + \ln(\frac{5}{2}) + \ln(3) + \ln(\frac{7}{2})]$$

$$= 3 + \frac{1}{2} \ln\left(1 \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot 2 \cdot \frac{5}{2} \cdot 3 \cdot \frac{7}{2}\right) = 3 + \frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{630}{8}\right)$$

$$\approx 3 + \frac{1}{2}(4.366278) = 3 + 2.18314 = \boxed{5.183139}$$

⑥ Repeat for R_6

$$\Delta X = \frac{4-1}{6} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$R_6 = \sum_{i=1}^6 \frac{1}{2} [\ln(1+\frac{i}{2}) + 1] = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^6 [\ln(1+\frac{i}{2}) + 1]$$

$$= 3 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^6 \ln(1+\frac{i}{2})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 3 + \frac{1}{2} \left[\ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + \ln(2) + \ln\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) + \ln(3) + \ln\left(\frac{7}{2}\right) + \ln(4) \right] \\
&= 3 + \frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{3}{2} \cdot 2 \cdot \frac{5}{2} \cdot 3 \cdot \frac{7}{2} \cdot 4\right) \\
&= 3 + \frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{2520}{8}\right) \approx 3 + \frac{1}{2} (5.752573) \\
&= 3 + 2.876286 = 5.876286
\end{aligned}$$

② Set-Up (but do not compute) L_N and R_N

$$\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{N} \Rightarrow \Delta x = \frac{4-1}{N} = \frac{3}{N}$$

$$L_N = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} f\left(1 + i\left(\frac{3}{N}\right)\right) \left(\frac{3}{N}\right)$$

$$L_N = \frac{3}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \left[\ln\left(1 + \frac{3i}{N}\right) + 1 \right]$$

$$R_N = \frac{3}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\ln\left(1 + \frac{3i}{N}\right) + 1 \right]$$