

## 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 shorthand for sums with a predictable pattern. We use the Greek letter Sigma ( $\Sigma$ ) to do so.

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

↑ Where to stop  
i<sup>th</sup> term  
↓ Where to start

Index "Variable"

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

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

Ex/ Express  $2^3 + 3^3 + 4^3 + \dots + n^3$  in Sigma notation

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

NOTE (Reindexing): We can start from any number if we adjust our formula accordingly

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

Ex/ Express  $(\sqrt{1}+1)^2 + (\sqrt{2}+1)^2 + (\sqrt{3}+1)^2 + \dots + (\sqrt{n}+1)^2$

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

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

Theorem Sums are linear. I.e. if  $k$  is a constant

$$\textcircled{1} \sum_{i=M}^N (a_i \pm b_i) = \sum_{i=M}^N a_i \pm \sum_{i=M}^N b_i$$

$$\textcircled{2} \sum_{i=M}^N k a_i = k \sum_{i=M}^N a_i$$

Ex4/ Compute  $\sum_{i=1}^n 1$

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

Ex5/ Show  $\sum_{i=1}^n i = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned} S &= 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n \\ + S &= n + (n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + 1 \\ \hline 2S &= \underbrace{(n+1) + (n+1) + (n+1) + \dots + (n+1)}_{n \text{ times}} \end{aligned}$$

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

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

$$\textcircled{3} \sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

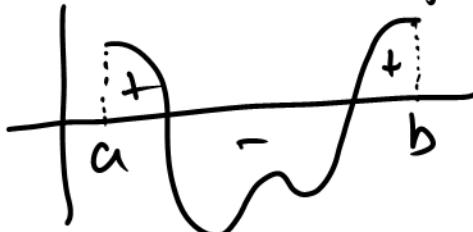
$$\textcircled{4} \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

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

Theorem  $\textcircled{1} \sum_{i=1}^n n$

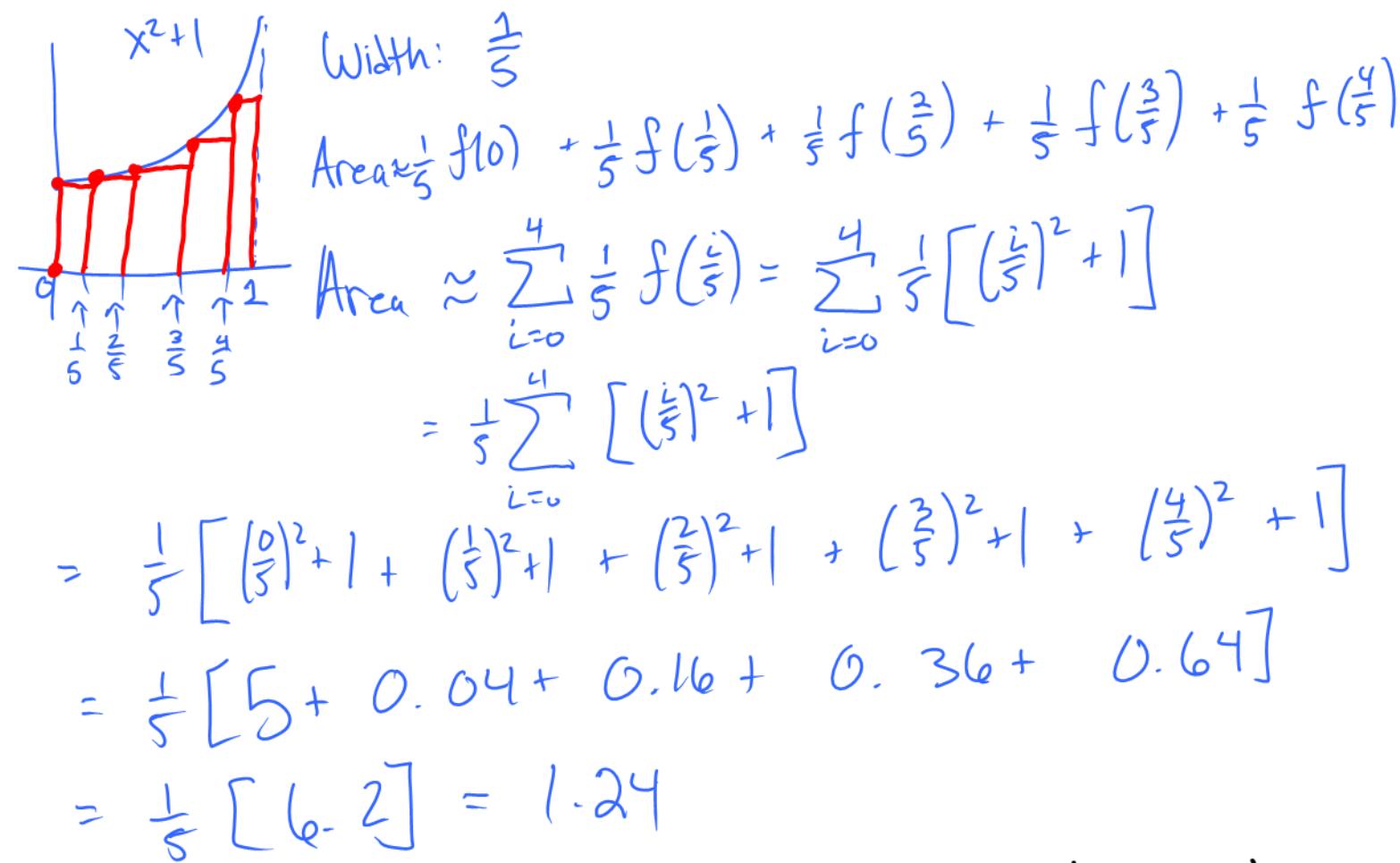
$$\textcircled{2} \sum_{i=1}^n k = kn$$

# The Area Problem

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

A: Approximate the shape with rectangles

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



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

How do we do this in general

① Divide  $[a, b]$  into  $N$  equally spaced segments  
Width:  $\frac{b-a}{N} = \Delta X$

② Determine Heights:

$$x_i = a + i \Delta X$$

$$\text{Height : } f(x_i) = f(a + i \Delta X)$$

$$0 \leq i \leq N-1$$

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

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

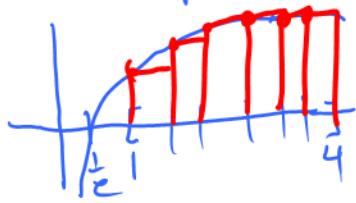
The Right Riemann Sum is

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

Ex7 Consider the function  $f(x) = \ln(x) + 1$  on  $[1, 4]$

@ Compute  $L_6$  [i.e., the Left Riemann Sum w/ 6 Rectangles]

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



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

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

$$\star = \frac{1}{2}(6) + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \ln(1) + \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + \ln(2) + \ln\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) + \ln(3) + \ln\left(\frac{7}{2}\right) \right]$$

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

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

⑥ Repeat for  $R_6$

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

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

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

$$= 3 + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + \ln(2) + \ln\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) + \ln(3) + \ln\left(\frac{7}{2}\right) + \ln(4) \right]$$

$$= 3 + \frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{2520}{8}\right)$$

$$\approx \boxed{5.876286}$$

⑦ Find (but do not compute)  $L_N$  and  $R_N$

$$\Delta X = \frac{4-1}{N} = \frac{3}{N} \quad a=1 \quad b=4$$

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

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