

### Section 6.3 The definite integral

#### Definition of a definite integral.

If  $f$  is a function defined on a closed interval  $[a, b]$ , let  $P$  be a partition of  $[a, b]$  with partition points  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$ , where

$$a = x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n = b$$

Choose points  $x_i^* \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]$  and let  $\Delta x_i = x_i - x_{i-1}$  and  $\|P\| = \max\{\Delta x_i\}$ . Then the **definite integral of  $f$  from  $a$  to  $b$**  is

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{\|P\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*) \Delta x_i$$

*Riemann sum is*  
 $\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*) \Delta x_i$

if this limit exists. If the limit does exist, then  $f$  is called **integrable** on the interval  $[a, b]$ .

In the notation  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ ,  $f(x)$  is called the **integrand** and  $a$  and  $b$  are called the limits of integration;  $a$  is the **lower limit** and  $b$  is the **upper limit**.

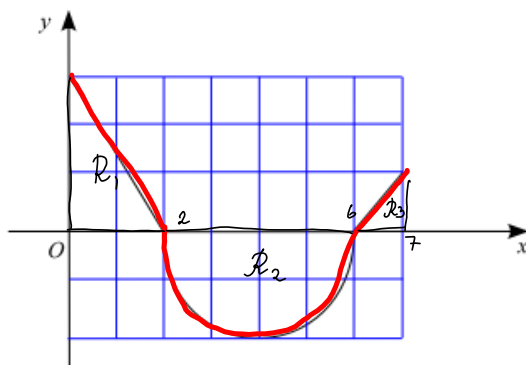
The procedure of calculating an integral is called **integration**.

For the special case where  $f(x) \geq 0$ ,  $\int_a^b f(x)dx = \text{area under the graph of } f \text{ from } a \text{ to } b$ .

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

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

**Example 1.** Evaluate  $\int_0^7 f(x)dx$  if the graph of the function  $f(x)$  is



$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^7 f(x)dx &= \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{R}_1) - \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{R}_2) + \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{R}_3) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(2)(3) - \frac{\pi}{2}(2^2) + \frac{1}{2}(1)(1) \\ &= 3 + \frac{1}{2} - 2\pi \\ &= \boxed{\frac{7}{2} - 2\pi} \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 1.** If  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ , then  $f$  is integrable on  $[a, b]$ .

If  $f$  has a finite number of discontinuities and these are all jump discontinuities, then  $f$  is called **piecewise continuous function**.

**Theorem 2.** If  $f$  is piecewise continuous on  $[a, b]$ , then  $f$  is integrable on  $[a, b]$ .

$f$  is integrable on  $[a, b]$ , then  $f$  must be **bounded function** on  $[a, b]$ : that is, there exist a number  $M$  such that  $|f(x)| < M$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ .

Let  $P$  be a regular partition of  $[a, b]$ : that is  $\Delta x = \Delta x_1 = \Delta x_2 = \dots = \Delta x_n = \frac{b-a}{n}$  and  $x_0 = a, x_1 = a + \Delta x, x_2 = a + 2\Delta x, \dots, x_n = b$

If we choose  $x_i^*$  to be the right endpoint of the  $i$ th interval, then  $x_i^* = x_i = a + i\Delta x = a + i\frac{b-a}{n}$ , so

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b-a}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f\left(a + i\frac{b-a}{n}\right)$$

If  $x_i^*$  is the midpoint of the  $i$ th interval, then  $x_i^* = \bar{x}_i = (x_{i-1} + x_i)/2$ , so

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b-a}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(\bar{x}_i)$$

**Example 2.** Evaluate the integral  $\int_1^4 (x^2 - 2) dx$

• Partition  $[1, 4]$  into  $n$  subintervals of equal length  
 $\Delta x = \frac{4-1}{n} = \frac{3}{n}$

• Partition points:

$$\begin{aligned} x_0 &= 1 \\ x_1 &= 1 + \Delta x = 1 + \frac{3}{n} \\ x_2 &= 1 + 2\Delta x = 1 + 2 \cdot \frac{3}{n} \\ &\dots \\ x_i &= 1 + i\Delta x = 1 + i \cdot \frac{3}{n} \\ &\dots \\ x_n &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\bullet x_i^* = x_i = 1 + i\frac{3}{n}$$

$$f(x_i^*) = \left(1 + \frac{3i}{n}\right)^2 - 2$$

$$= 1 + \frac{6i}{n} + \frac{9i^2}{n^2} - 2$$

$$= \frac{9i^2}{n^2} + \frac{6i}{n} - 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_1^4 (x^2-2) dx &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{\left( \frac{9i^2}{n^2} + \frac{6i}{n} - 1 \right)}_{f(x_i^*)} \underbrace{\frac{3}{n}}_{f(x)} \\
&= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3}{n} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{9i^2}{n^2} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{6i}{n} - \sum_{i=1}^n 1 \right) \\
&= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3}{n} \left( \frac{9}{n^2} \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n i^2}_{\frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}} + \frac{6}{n} \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n i}_{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n 1}_n \right) \\
&= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3}{n} \left( \frac{9}{n^2} \cdot \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + \frac{6}{n} \cdot \frac{n(n+1)}{2} - n \right) \\
&= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{9(n+1)(2n+1)}{2n^2} + \frac{9(n+1)}{n} - \frac{3n}{n} \right) = 9+9-3 = \boxed{15}
\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
\int_1^4 (x^2-2) dx &= \left[ \frac{x^3}{3} - 2x \right]_1^4 = \frac{4^3}{3} - 2(4) - \left( \frac{1}{3} - 2 \right) \\
&= \frac{64}{3} - 8 - \frac{1}{3} + 2 = \frac{63}{3} - 6 = 21 - 6 = \boxed{15}
\end{aligned}$$

### Properties of the definite integral

1.  $\int_a^b c dx = c(b - a)$ , where  $c$  is a constant.
2.  $\int_a^b c f(x) dx = c \int_a^b f(x) dx$ , where  $c$  is a constant.
3.  $\int_a^b [f(x) + g(x)] dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx + \int_a^b g(x) dx$ .
4.  $\int_a^b [f(x) - g(x)] dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx - \int_a^b g(x) dx$ .
5.  $\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^c f(x) dx + \int_c^b f(x) dx$ , where  $a < c < b$ .
6.  $\int_a^b f(x) dx = - \int_b^a f(x) dx$ .
7. If  $f(x) \geq 0$  for  $a < x < b$ , then  $\int_a^b f(x) dx \geq 0$ .
8. If  $f(x) \geq g(x)$  for  $a < x < b$ , then  $\int_a^b f(x) dx \geq \int_a^b g(x) dx$ .
9. If  $m \leq f(x) \leq M$  for  $a < x < b$ , then  $m(b - a) \leq \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq M(b - a)$ .
10.  $\left| \int_a^b f(x) dx \right| \leq \int_a^b |f(x)| dx$

**Example 3.** Express the limit as a definite integral

$$(a) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i^4}{n^5} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{\frac{i^4}{n^4}}_{f(x_i^*)} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{n}}_{\Delta x} = \boxed{\int_0^1 x^4 dx}$$

$f(x_i^*) = \frac{i^4}{n^4}$ , if  $x_i^* = \frac{i}{n}$ , then  $f(x) = x^4$   
 $\frac{b-a}{n} = \frac{1}{n} \Rightarrow b-a=1, \quad a=0$

$$\begin{aligned} x_i^* &= a + i\Delta x \\ \Delta x &= \frac{1}{n} \\ x_i^* &= \frac{i}{n} \Rightarrow a=0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(b) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ 3 \left( 1 + \frac{2i}{n} \right)^5 - 6 \right] \frac{2}{n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta x &= \frac{2}{n} = \frac{b-a}{n} \Rightarrow b-a=2 \\ f(x_i^*) &= 3 \left( 1 + \frac{2i}{n} \right)^5 - 6 \Rightarrow f(x) = 3x^5 - 6 \\ x_i^* &= 1 + \frac{2i}{n} \\ &= a + i \cdot \Delta x \Rightarrow a=1 \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad b = a+2 = 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \boxed{\int_1^3 (3x^5 - 6) dx}$$

**Example 4.** Write the given sum or difference as a single integral

$$(a.) \int_1^3 f(x)dx + \int_3^6 f(x)dx + \int_6^1 2f(x)dx$$
$$\underbrace{\int_1^6 f(x)dx} - \underbrace{\int_1^6 2f(x)dx} = \int_1^6 (f(x) - 2f(x))dx = -\int_1^6 f(x)dx$$

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$$(b.) \int_2^{10} f(x)dx - \int_2^7 f(x)dx$$
$$\int_2^7 f(x)dx + \int_7^{10} f(x)dx - \int_2^7 f(x)dx = \int_7^{10} f(x)dx$$