

Math 152 Calculus and Analytic Geometry II

Sec 5.2 The Definite Integral

Definition of a Definite Integral:

If $f(x)$ is a continuous function defined on $[a,b]$. we divide the interval into n subintervals of equal width $\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n}$

We let $x_0 (= a), x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n (= b)$ be the endpoints of the subintervals and we let $x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_{n-1}^*, x_n^*$ be any sample points in each of the subintervals, (whew... take a breath...)

Then the definite integral of f from a to b is

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

Notes:

- Since $f(x)$ is continuous, the limit always exists.
- The limit does not depend on the sample points chosen (Since $f(x)$ is continuous, any sample point in a small interval must have almost the same y -value)
- The limit also exists even if the function $f(x)$ has a finite number of jumps, holes or breaks.
- But it does not always exist if there is a vertical asymptote in the interval !!!!

- The definite integral $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ is a number. It does not depend on ' x '.

- The sum is called a "Reimann sum" after Bernhard Riemann (1822-1866)
- If the function is always positive, then the sum can be thought of as the area under the curve.
- If the function is sometimes positive and sometimes negative, we'll have to rethink that...

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bernhard_Riemann



Express the following Limit as a definite integral on the interval $[0, \pi]$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n (1 + 3x_i^2) \sin(x_i) \Delta x$$

How can we evaluate these limits?

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

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

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

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

<http://www.math.utah.edu/~cherk/ccli/bob/sums.html>



Evaluate the following using rules for summations. Use the interval [2,8]

$$f(x) = x^2 - 5x + 2$$

$$\int_2^8 x^2 - 5x + 2 dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i^2 - 5x_i + 2) \frac{b-a}{n}$$

Evaluate the following definite integral. (Think before you try some ugly limits...)

$$\int_{-4}^4 (2 + \sqrt{16 - x^2}) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n (2 + \sqrt{16 - x_i^2}) \frac{b-a}{n}$$

Another Riemann Sum Plotter
<http://mathworld.wolfram.com/RiemannSum.html>



Properties of a Definite Intearal

$$\int_a^b c dx = c(b - a)$$

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

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

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

Notice that these properties are true if $a < b$.

But also if $a = b$ or if $a > b$

What does that mean?

Comparison Theorems for Definite Integrals

If $m \leq f(x) \leq M$ for all $a \leq x \leq b$ then,

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

Evaluate the following using rules for summations. Use the interval [0,4]

$$\int_0^4 x^3 - 6x^2 dx$$

Evaluate the following using rules for summations. Use the interval $[-3,5]$

$$\int_{-3}^5 3x^2 - 4x dx$$