

## Chapter 10: Definite Integrals

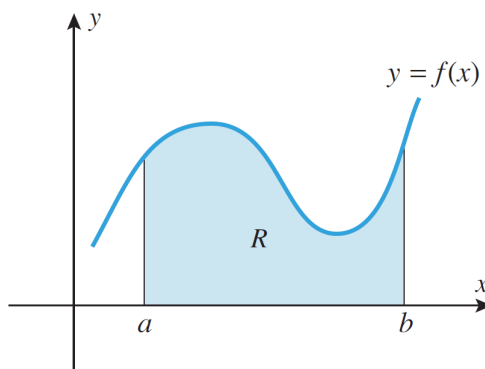
**Learning Objectives:**

- (1) Define the definite integral and explore its properties.
- (2) State the fundamental theorem of calculus, and use it to compute definite integrals.
- (3) Use integration by parts and by substitution to find integrals.
- (4) Evaluate improper integrals with infinite limits of integration.

**1 Riemann Sums & Definite Integrals**

Suppose  $f$  is a function on  $[a, b]$ . Suppose further that  $f(x)$  is positive on  $[a, b]$ . Then we define

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \text{area between } f(x) \text{ and the } x\text{-axis.}$$



What if some of the value of  $f(x)$  is negative? Because  $f(x)$  is negative, the “height” of  $f(x)$  at this point is negative, so we take the area as negative. Therefore, we have the following definition.

**Definition 1.1** (Total Signed Area). Let  $y = f(x)$  be defined on a closed interval  $[a, b]$ . The **total signed area from  $x = a$  to  $x = b$  under  $f$**  is: the area under the graph of  $f$  and above the  $x$ -axis on  $[a, b]$  – the area above the graph of  $f$  and under the  $x$ -axis on  $[a, b]$ .

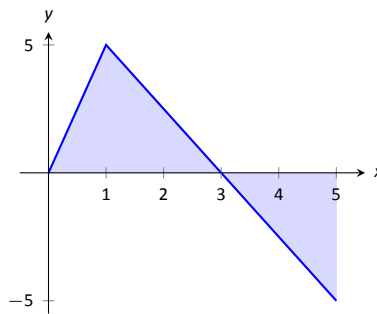
**Geometric interpretation of integration** The **definite integral of  $f$  on  $[a, b]$**  is the total signed area under  $f$  on from  $a$  to  $b$ , denoted

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx,$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are the **bounds (or limits) of integration**.

We usually drop the word “signed” when talking about the definite integral, and simply say the definite integral gives “the area under the graph of  $f$ ”.

**Example 1.1.** Consider the function  $f$  given below. Compute  $\int_0^5 f(x) dx$ .



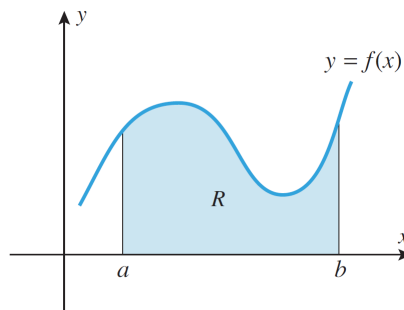
*Solution.* The graph of  $f$  is above the  $x$ -axis over  $[0, 3]$ . The area is  $\frac{1}{2} \times 3 \times 5 = 7.5$ .

The graph of  $f$  is under the  $x$ -axis over  $[3, 5]$ . This is the “negative” area. The area is  $-\frac{1}{2} \times 2 \times 5 = -5$ . Hence

$$\int_0^5 f(x) dx = 7.5 - 5 = 2.5.$$

■

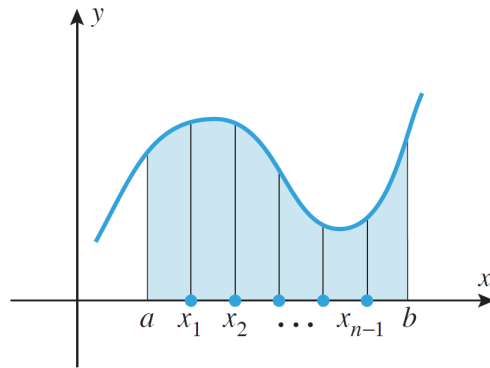
What if the region is not as simple as the previous example, such as the one below?



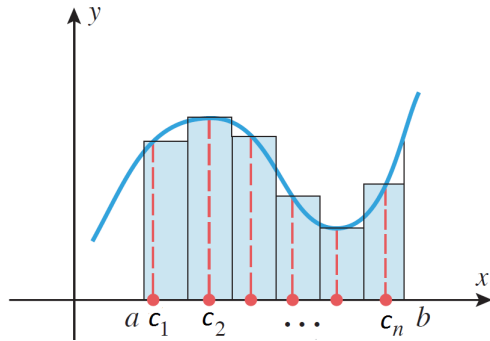
**Idea:** Approximate the area by small rectangles!

1. A **partition** of  $[a, b]$ :  $a = x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n = b$ ,  $x_k = \frac{b-a}{n}k + a$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$  divides  $[a, b]$  into  $n$  subintervals  $[a_{k-1}, a_k]$  with width:

$$\Delta x_k = x_k - x_{k-1} = \frac{b-a}{n}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$



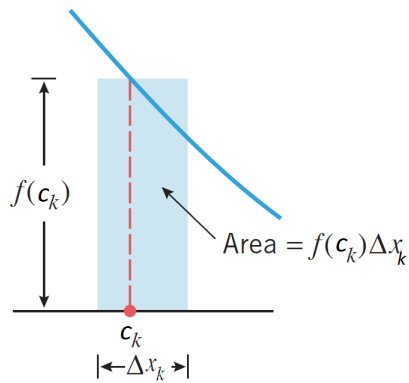
2. Choose points  $c_k \in [x_{k-1}, x_k]$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , to form small rectangles.



3. Calculate the area of each rectangle and sum them up.

For the  $k$ th subinterval,

Area of $k$ th rectangle = height $\times$ width = $f(c_k)\Delta x_k$
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**Definition 1.2.**

$$\sum_{k=1}^n f(c_k) \Delta x_k$$

is called a **Riemann Sum** of  $f$  on  $[a, b]$ .

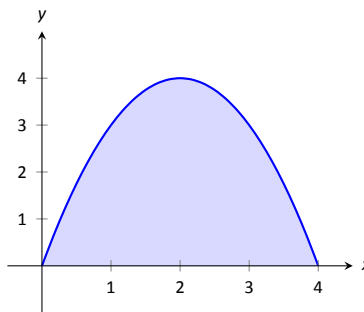
In particular,

if  $c_k = x_{k-1}$ , the sum is called **left Riemann sum**

if  $c_k = x_k$ , **right Riemann sum**

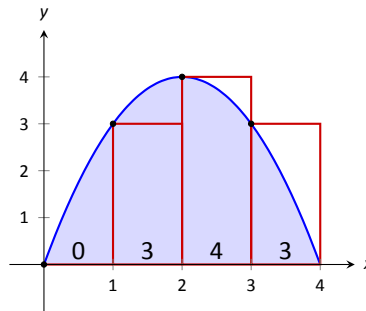
if  $c_k = \frac{x_{k-1} + x_k}{2}$ , **mid-point Riemann sum**

**Example 1.2.** Approximate the area under  $y = 4 - x^2 + 4x$  on  $[0, 4]$  with partition  $x_0 = 0, x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3 = 3, x_4 = 4$ .

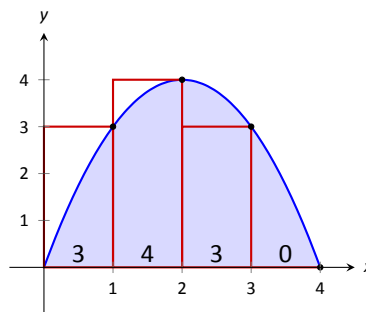


1. **Left Riemann sum:**  $c_1 = 0, c_2 = 1, c_3 = 2, c_4 = 3$ .

$$\text{Area} \approx f(0) \cdot 1 + f(1) \cdot 1 + f(2) \cdot 1 + f(3) \cdot 1 = 10.$$

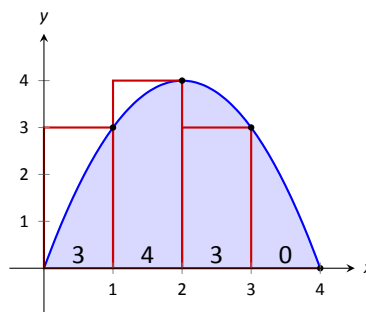


2. **Right Riemann sum:**  $c_1 = 1, c_2 = 2, c_3 = 3, c_4 = 4$ .



$$\text{Area} \approx f(1) \cdot 1 + f(2) \cdot 1 + f(3) \cdot 1 + f(4) \cdot 1 = 10.$$

3. **Mid-point Riemann sum:**  $c_1 = 0.5, c_2 = 1.5, c_3 = 2.5, c_4 = 3.5$ .



$$\text{Area} \approx f(0.5) \cdot 1 + f(1.5) \cdot 1 + f(2.5) \cdot 1 + f(3.5) \cdot 1 = 11.$$

**Question:** How to get better approximation of the area?

**Solution:** Increase number of rectangles.

**Definition 1.3.** Let  $f(x)$  be continuous on  $[a, b]$ . Consider the partition:  $x_k = \frac{b-a}{n}k + a$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$ . For any  $c_k \in [x_{k-1}, x_k]$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n f(c_k) \Delta x_k$  is a fixed number, called **definite (Riemann) integral of  $f(x)$  on  $[a, b]$** , denoted by  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ , i.e.,

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

**Hard Theorem:** Let  $f$  be a piecewise continuous function, then  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  is well-defined. I.e. The limit in the preceding definition exists, and is independent of the choices of  $c_k$ .

*Remark.* The “Lebesgue integral” is well-defined for more general functions.

**Example 1.3.** Evaluate  $\int_2^3 x dx$  using the left Riemann sum with  $n$  equally spaced subintervals.

**Example 1.4.** Evaluate  $\int_0^1 x^2 dx$  using the right Riemann sum with  $n$  equally spaced subintervals.

*Solution.* Consider the partition of  $[0, 1]$ :  $x_k = \frac{k}{n}, k = 0, \dots, n$ .

Right Riemann sum: on  $[x_{k-1}, x_k], c_k = x_k = \frac{k}{n}$ .

$$\sum_{k=1}^n f(c_k) \Delta x_k = \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{k}{n}\right)^2 \frac{1}{n} = \frac{(n+1)(2n+1)}{6n^2}.$$

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

$$\text{So, } \int_0^1 x^2 dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{(n+1)(2n+1)}{6n^2} = \frac{1}{3}. \quad \blacksquare$$

*Remark.* It's so complicated to use definition to compute  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ . Later, we will discuss another easier method: [fundamental theorem of calculus](#).

**Theorem 1.1** (Properties of definite integrals).

$$1. \quad \int_a^a f(x) dx = 0$$

$$2. \quad \int_a^b k dx = k(b-a)$$

$$3. \quad \int_a^b (f(x) \pm g(x)) dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx \pm \int_a^b g(x) dx$$

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

4. if  $a < b$ ,

$$\int_b^a f(x) dx \triangleq - \int_a^b f(x) dx \quad (\triangleq, \text{defined to be})$$

$$5. \quad \int_a^c f(x) dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx + \int_b^c f(x) dx$$

6. if  $f(x) \leq g(x)$  on  $[a, b]$ , then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \leq \int_a^b g(x) dx$$

## 2 The fundamental Theorem of Calculus

Notation:

$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^b f(t) dt$ : definite integral of function  $f$  on  $[a, b]$ , which is a number.

$\int_a^x f(t) dt$ : definite integral of function  $f$  on  $[a, x]$ , it can be regarded as a function of  $x$ .

**Theorem 2.1** (Fundamental Theorem of Calculus).

Assume  $f(x)$  is continuous.

$$1. \quad \boxed{\frac{d}{dx} \int_a^x f(t) dt = f(x)} \quad (\text{i.e. } \int_a^x f(t) dt \text{ is an anti-derivative of } f(x))$$

2. Let  $F(x)$  be **any** anti-derivative of  $f(x)$ ,  $F'(x) = f(x)$ , then

$$\boxed{\int_a^b f(x) dx = F(x)|_a^b := F(b) - F(a)}.$$

Remark.

$$1. \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \text{Differentiation} & \xleftrightarrow{\text{Fundamental thm of calculus}} & \text{Integration} \\ F'(x) = f(x) & & \int_a^b f(x) dx = F(b) - F(a) \end{array}$$

2. Anti-derivative  $F(x)$  is not unique. Which one should we choose?

Another anti-derivative:  $\tilde{F}(x) = F(x) + C$ , then

$$\tilde{F}(b) - \tilde{F}(a) = (F(b) + C) - (F(a) + C) = F(b) - F(a).$$

so, it does not matter, we can choose **any** anti-derivative.

**Example 2.1.**

$$\int_1^9 \sqrt{x} dx = \int_1^9 x^{1/2} dx \Big|_1^9 = \frac{2}{3} x^{3/2} \Big|_1^9 = \frac{2}{3} (27 - 1) = \frac{52}{3}.$$

**Example 2.2.** Evaluate  $\int_1^2 \ln x dx$ .



We first find one antiderivative of  $\ln x$ ,

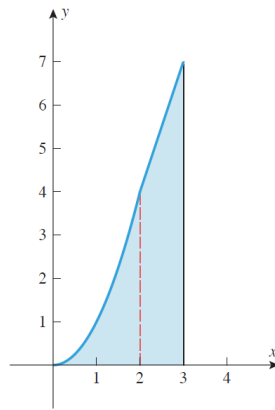
$$\begin{aligned}\int \ln x \, dx &= x \ln x - \int 1 \, dx && \text{(integration by parts)} \\ &= x \ln x - x + C.\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So, } \int_1^2 \ln x \, dx = (x \ln x - x)|_1^2 = 2 \ln 2 - 1.$$

**Example 2.3.** Let

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2, & x < 2 \\ 3x - 2, & x \geq 2 \end{cases}.$$

Find  $\int_0^3 f(x) \, dx$ .



$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^3 f(x) dx &= \int_0^2 f(x) dx + \int_2^3 f(x) dx = \int_0^2 x^2 dx + \int_2^3 (3x - 2) dx && \text{(integrate separately)} \\ &= \left. \frac{x^3}{3} \right|_0^2 + \left[ \frac{3x^2}{2} - 2x \right]_2^3 = \left( \frac{8}{3} - 0 \right) + \left( \frac{15}{2} - 2 \right) = \frac{49}{6}.\end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 2.1.**

1.  $\int_0^1 2xe^{x^2} dx = e - 1.$
2.  $\int_{-1}^2 |x| dx = \frac{5}{2}.$

**Example 2.4.** Compute  $\frac{d}{dx}$  for (1)  $\int_1^x e^{t^2} dt$ , (2)  $\int_{x^2}^{x^3} e^{t^2} dt$ , (3)  $\int_{g(x)}^{h(x)} f(t) dt$ .

*Solution.* It's impossible to get explicit formula for  $F(t) = \int e^{t^2} dt$ .

1. By fundamental theorem of calculus (1), we have

$$\frac{d}{dx} \int_1^x e^{t^2} dt = e^{x^2}.$$

2. Let  $F'(t) = e^{t^2}$ , then

$$\frac{d}{dx} \int_{x^2}^{x^3} e^{t^2} dt = \frac{d}{dx} (F(x^3) - F(x^2)) = F'(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 - F'(x^2) \cdot 2x = e^{x^6} \cdot 3x^2 - e^{x^4} \cdot 2x.$$

3. Let  $F'(t) = f(t)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx} \int_{g(x)}^{h(x)} f(t) dt &= \frac{d}{dx} (F(h(x)) - F(g(x))) \\ &= F'(h(x)) \cdot h'(x) - F'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) \\ &= f(h(x))h'(x) - f(g(x))g'(x).\end{aligned}$$

■

**Exercise 2.2.**  $\frac{d}{dx} \int_{2x}^{x+1} e^{\sqrt{t}} dt = e^{\sqrt{x+1}} - 2e^{\sqrt{2x}}.$

### 3 Definite Integration by Substitution & Integration by Parts

**Theorem 3.1.**

$$\int_a^b f(g(x))g'(x) dx \stackrel{g(x)=u}{=} \int_{g(a)}^{g(b)} f(u) du$$

**Example 3.1.**

1.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 8x(x^2 + 1)dx &= \int_0^1 4(x^2 + 1) d(x^2 + 1) \\ &= \int_1^2 4u du \quad (x^2 + 1 = u, (0)^2 + 1 = 1, 1^2 + 1 = 2) \\ &= 2u^2 \Big|_1^2 \\ &= 2 \times 2^2 - 2 \times 1^2 = 6. \end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_e^{e^2} \frac{1}{x \ln x} dx &= \int_e^{e^2} \frac{1}{\ln x} d(\ln x) \\ &= \int_1^2 \frac{1}{u} du \quad (\ln x = u, \ln e = 1, \ln e^2 = 2) \\ &= \ln u \Big|_1^2 \\ &= \ln 2 - \ln 1 = \ln 2. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.2.**

$$\int_a^b u(x) d(v(x)) = u(x)v(x) \Big|_a^b - \int_a^b v(x) d(u(x))$$

**Example 3.2.**

1.

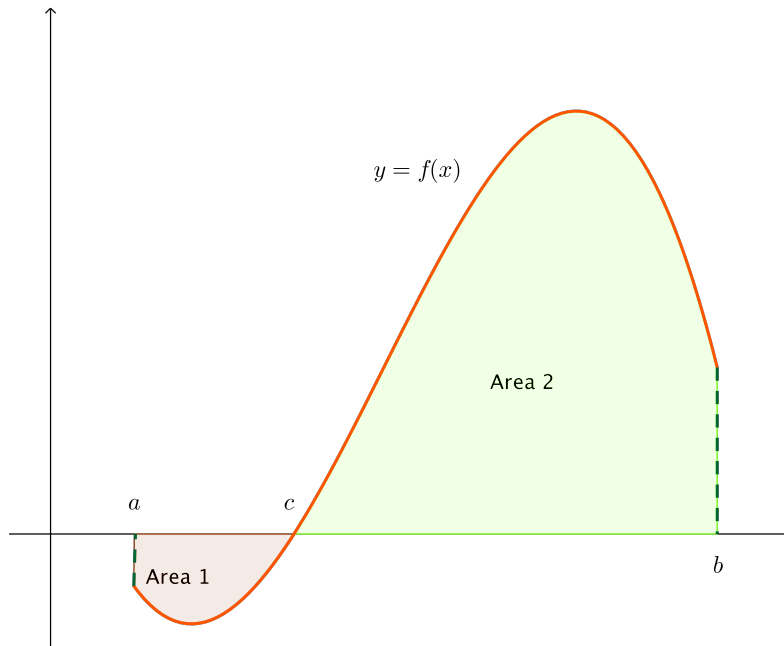
$$\begin{aligned}\int_1^e x \ln x \, dx &= \int_1^e \ln x \, d\left(\frac{x^2}{2}\right) \\ &= \left[\frac{x^2}{2} \ln x\right]_1^e - \int_1^e \frac{x^2}{2} \, d \ln x \\ &= \left(\frac{e^2}{2} \ln e - \frac{1}{2} \ln 1\right) - \int_1^e \frac{x}{2} \, dx \\ &= \frac{e^2}{2} - \left[\frac{x^2}{4}\right]_1^e \\ &= \frac{e^2}{2} - \left(\frac{e^2}{4} - \frac{1}{4}\right) \\ &= \frac{e^2}{4} + \frac{1}{4}.\end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 x e^x \, dx &= \int_0^1 x \, d(e^x) \\ &= x e^x \Big|_0^1 - \int_0^1 e^x \, dx \\ &= e - e^x \Big|_0^1 = 1\end{aligned}$$

## 4 Application of Definite Integration

4.1 Area bounded by  $f(x)$  and  $x$ -axis on  $[a, b] = \int_a^b |f(x)| dx$



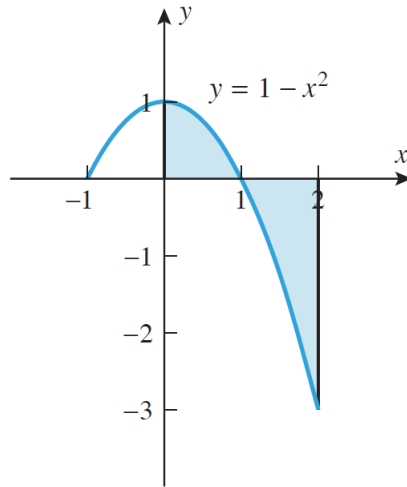
$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^c f(x) dx + \int_c^b f(x) dx = -\text{Area 1} + \text{Area 2} = \text{Signed area}$$

$$\int_a^b |f(x)| dx = \int_a^c -f(x) dx + \int_c^b f(x) dx = \text{Area 1} + \text{Area 2} = \text{Area}$$

**Example 4.1.** Find the total area between the curve  $y = 1 - x^2$  and the  $x$ -axis over the interval  $[0, 2]$ .

*Solution.* Let  $1 - x^2 = 0$ ,  $\Rightarrow x = \pm 1$ .

$$1 - x^2 \begin{cases} \geq 0, & \text{for } -1 \leq x \leq 1, \\ < 0, & \text{for } x < -1 \text{ or } x > 1. \end{cases}$$



The area is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^2 |1 - x^2| dx &= \int_0^1 (1 - x^2) dx + \int_1^2 -(1 - x^2) dx \\
 &= \left[ x - \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^1 - \left[ x - \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_1^2 \\
 &= \frac{2}{3} - \left( -\frac{4}{3} \right) = 2.
 \end{aligned}$$

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**Exercise 4.1.** Area bounded by  $f(x) = x - \sqrt{x}$  and  $x$ -axis on  $[0, 2]$ .

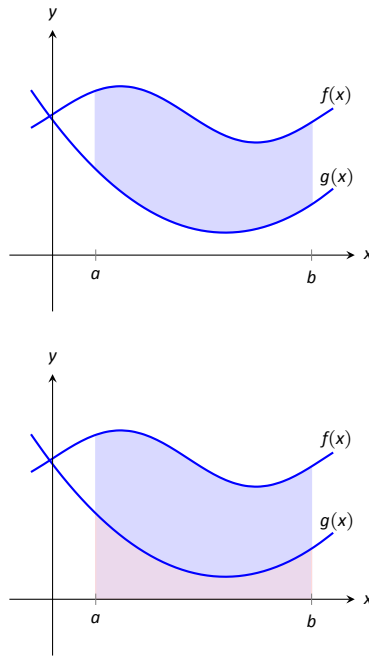
**4.2 Area bounded by  $f(x)$ ,  $g(x)$  on  $[a, b]$**   $= \int_a^b |f(x) - g(x)| dx$

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  be continuous functions defined on  $[a, b]$  where  $f(x) \geq g(x)$  for all  $x$  in  $[a, b]$ . The area of the region bounded by the curves  $y = f(x)$ ,  $y = g(x)$  and the lines  $x = a$  and  $x = b$  is

$$\int_a^b (f(x) - g(x)) dx.$$

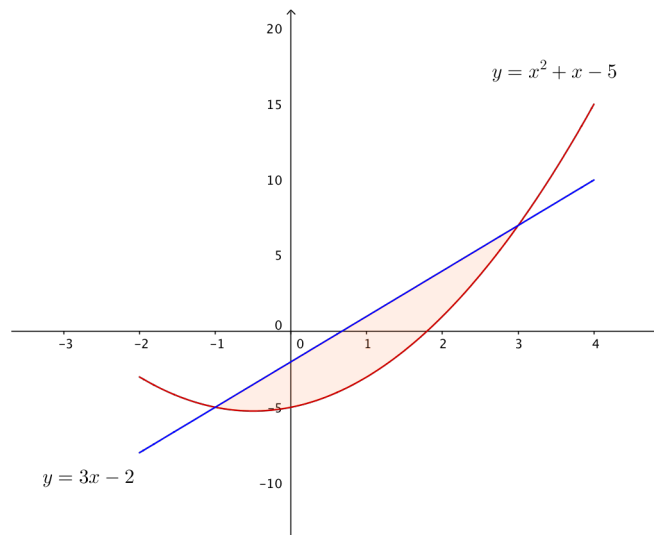
*Proof.* The area between  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  is obtained by subtracting the area under  $g$  from the area under  $f$ . Thus the area is

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



□

**Example 4.2.** Find the area of the region enclosed by  $y = x^2 + x - 5$  and  $y = 3x - 2$ .



*Solution.* Let  $x^2 + x - 5 = 3x - 2 \Rightarrow x = -1, 3$ .

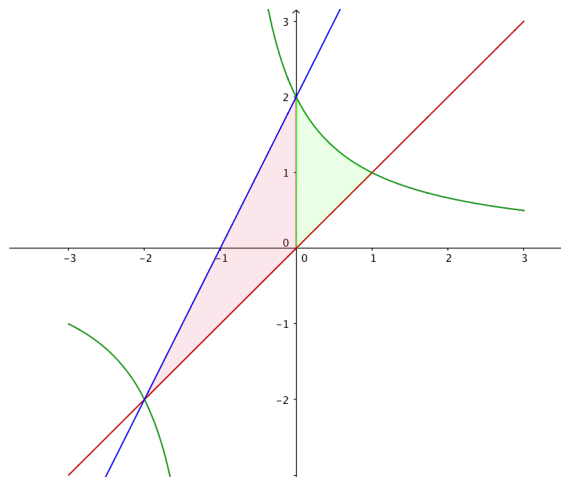
The area is

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-1}^3 ((3x - 2) - (x^2 + x - 5)) dx &= \int_{-1}^3 (-x^2 + 2x + 3) dx \\ &= \left( -\frac{1}{3}x^3 + x^2 + 3x \right) \Big|_{-1}^3 \\ &= -\frac{1}{3}(27) + 9 + 9 - \left( \frac{1}{3} + 1 - 3 \right) \\ &= 10\frac{2}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

■

**Example 4.3.** Find the area bounded by

$$y = f(x) = x, \quad y = g(x) = \frac{2}{x+1}, \quad \text{and} \quad y = h(x) = 2x + 2.$$



*Solution.* Area is

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{-2}^0 (h(x) - f(x)) dx + \int_0^1 (g(x) - f(x)) dx \\ &= \int_{-2}^0 (2x + 2 - x) dx + \int_0^1 \left( \frac{2}{x+1} - x \right) dx \\ &= \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} + 2x \right]_{-2}^0 + \left[ 2 \ln|x+1| - \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^1 \\ &= 2 + \left( 2 \ln 2 - \frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{3}{2} + \ln 4. \end{aligned}$$

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### 4.3 Other Applications

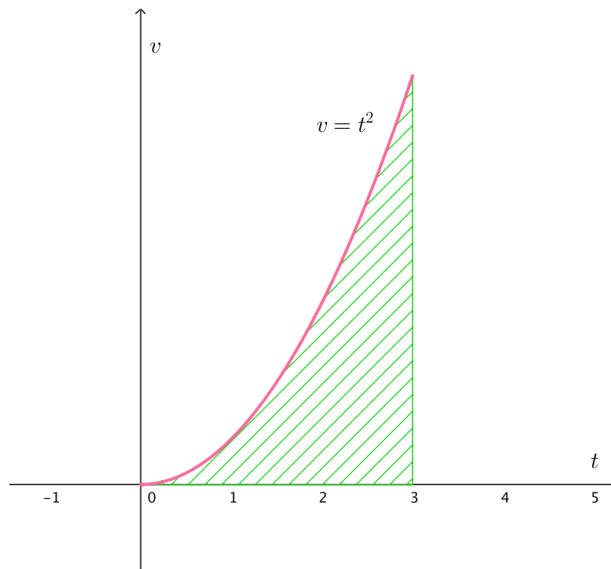
**Example 4.4.** An object moves along  $x$ -axis towards right with speed  $v(t) = t^2$  m/s. Calculate the distance traveled from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 3$ s.

*Solution.* Let  $S(t)$  be the position at  $t$ . Then,  $S'(t) = v(t) = t^2$ .

The distance from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 3$  is

$$\underbrace{S(3) - S(0)}_{\text{total distance change}} = \int_0^3 \overbrace{S'(t)}^{\text{rate of change}} dt = \int_0^3 t^2 dt = \left. \frac{1}{3}t^3 \right|_0^3 = 9\text{m}$$

Geometrically,



■

**Example 4.5.** Let  $L(t)$  be the level of carbon monoxide (CO). Given that  $L'(t) = 0.1t + 0.1$  parts per million (ppm). How much will the pollution change from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 3$ ?

*Solution.*

$$L(3) - L(0) = \int_0^3 L'(t) dt = [0.05t^2 + 0.1t]_0^3 = 0.75\text{ppm.}$$

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**Exercise 4.2.** Let  $t$  be the time (in hour). Let  $m(t)$  be the mass of a certain amount of protein. The protein is changed to an amino acid and cause a decrease in mass at a rate

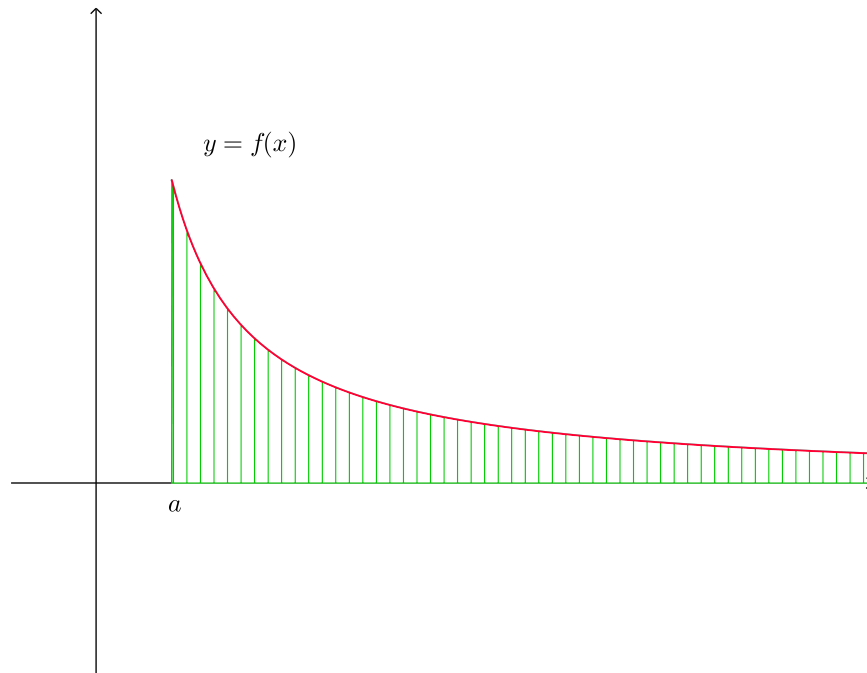
$$\frac{dm}{dt} = \frac{-2}{t+1} \text{g/hr.}$$

Find the decrease in mass of the protein from  $t = 2$  to  $t = 5$ .

Ans:  $-2 \ln 2$ .

## 5 Improper Integral

Question: How to find area of an unbounded region?



**Definition 5.1.** Define

1.

$$\int_a^{+\infty} f(x) dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

if the limit exists, we say that the integral is **convergent**. Otherwise, **divergent**.

2.

$$\int_{-\infty}^b f(x) dx = \lim_{a \rightarrow -\infty} \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

if the limit exists, we say that the integral is **convergent**. Otherwise, **divergent**.

3. Let  $c$  be a fixed real number.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x)dx = \int_{-\infty}^c f(x)dx + \int_c^{+\infty} f(x)dx$$

if **both the two integrals** on the right are convergent, we say that the integral is **convergent**. Otherwise, **divergent**.

### Example 5.1.

$$1. \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-x} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^b e^{-x} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} -e^{-x} \Big|_0^b = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} (e^0 - e^{-b}) = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} (1 - e^{-b}) = 1, \text{ convergent.}$$

$$2. \int_1^{+\infty} \frac{1}{x} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \int_1^b \frac{1}{x} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \ln x \Big|_1^b = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \ln b - \ln 1 = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \ln b = +\infty, \text{ divergent.}$$

$$3. \int_1^{+\infty} \frac{1}{x^2} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \int_1^b \frac{1}{x^2} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \left(-\frac{1}{x}\right) \Big|_1^b = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{b}\right) = 1, \text{ convergent.}$$

$$4. \int_1^{+\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \int_1^b \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} 2\sqrt{x} \Big|_1^b = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} 2(\sqrt{b} - 1) = +\infty, \text{ divergent.}$$

**Example 5.2.** Compute  $\int_0^{+\infty} \frac{dx}{(x+1)(3x+2)}$ .

*Solution.*

$$\frac{1}{(x+1)(3x+2)} = \frac{3}{3x+2} - \frac{1}{x+1}.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^b \frac{dx}{(x+1)(3x+2)} &= [\ln |3x+2| - \ln |x+1|]_0^b \\ &= \ln |3b+2| - \ln |b+1| - \ln |2| = \ln \frac{|3b+2|}{|b+1|} - \ln 2. \end{aligned}$$

Because

$$\lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{|3b+2|}{|b+1|} = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{|3b+2| \times \frac{1}{|b|}}{|b+1| \times \frac{1}{|b|}}.$$

$$\lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\left|3 + \frac{2}{b}\right|}{\left|1 + \frac{1}{b}\right|} = \frac{3}{1} = 3.$$

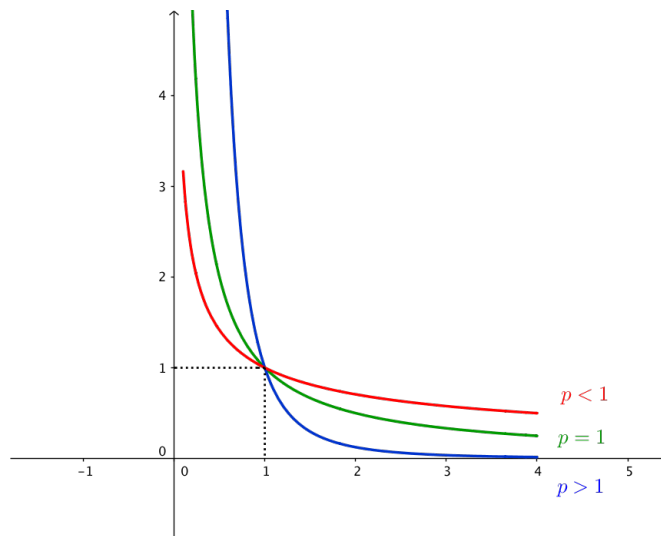
Therefore

$$\lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^b \frac{dx}{(x+1)(3x+2)} = \ln 3 - \ln 2.$$

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**Exercise 5.1.** Let  $p > 1$ . Prove that

$$\int_1^{+\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} dx = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p-1}, & \text{if } p > 1, \quad \text{convergent} \\ +\infty, & \text{if } 0 < p \leq 1, \quad \text{divergent.} \end{cases}$$



*Remark.* From the above exercise,

1.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) = 0 \not\Rightarrow \int_1^{+\infty} f(x) dx$  is convergent.
2. For all  $p > 0$ ,  $\frac{1}{x^p} \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ . However, only for  $p > 1$ ,  $\frac{1}{x^p}$  decays fast enough to guarantee the total area  $\int_1^{+\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} dx$  is finite.

*Remark.* All the integration techniques can be applied, e.g. integration by substitution,...

**Example 5.3.** Compute  $\int_{-\infty}^1 xe^x dx$ . (integration by parts)

*Solution.*

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^1 xe^x dx &= \lim_{a \rightarrow -\infty} \int_a^1 xe^x dx. \\ \int xe^x dx &= \int xd(e^x) = xe^x - \int e^x dx = (x-1)e^x + C. \\ \int_{-\infty}^1 xe^x dx &= \lim_{a \rightarrow -\infty} (x-1)e^x \Big|_a^1 \\ &= \lim_{a \rightarrow -\infty} (1-a)e^a \quad \infty \cdot 0 \quad \text{indeterminate form} \\ &= \lim_{a \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1-a}{e^{-a}} \quad \frac{\infty}{\infty} \\ &= \lim_{a \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{-1}{-e^{-a}} \quad \text{L'Hôpital's rule} \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

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**Exercise 5.2.**  $\int_{-\infty}^1 x^2 e^x dx = e$

**Example 5.4.** Compute  $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{x}{(1+x^2)^2} dx$ . (integration by substitution)

*Solution.* Using the substitution  $u = 1 + x^2$ , we have

$$\int \frac{x}{(1+x^2)^2} dx = \frac{-1}{2(1+x^2)} + C.$$

Thus

$$\int_0^{+\infty} \frac{x}{(1+x^2)^2} dx = \frac{1}{2}$$

and

$$\int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{x}{(1+x^2)^2} dx = -\frac{1}{2}.$$

Hence

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{x}{(1+x^2)^2} dx = \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{x}{(1+x^2)^2} dx + \int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{x}{(1+x^2)^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0.$$

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