

28 Lesson 28

28.1 Area and Riemann Sums

Notation: \sum , namely the **sigma symbol**, means to “sum up.”

Example: Evaluate

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^5 (2i + 1). \quad \leftarrow \text{plug in } i=1, \dots, 5 \text{ into } 2i+1 \\ & \quad \quad \quad \text{and add all the terms} \\ & = \underbrace{(2 \cdot 1 + 1)}_{2+1=3} + \underbrace{(2 \cdot 2 + 1)}_{4+1=5} + \underbrace{(2 \cdot 3 + 1)}_{6+1=7} + \underbrace{(2 \cdot 4 + 1)}_{8+1=9} + \underbrace{(2 \cdot 5 + 1)}_{10+1=11} \\ & = 3 + 5 + 7 + 9 + 11 \\ & = \mathbf{35} \end{aligned}$$

Example: Using sigma notation, rewrite the following sum.

$$\sqrt{\cos(x) + 1} + \sqrt{\cos(2x) + 1} + \sqrt{\cos(3x) + 1} + \cdots + \sqrt{\cos(nx) + 1}$$

Look at each term in sum. What's changing?
 $\hookrightarrow \cos(ix)$ where $i=1, \dots, n$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\cos(ix) + 1}$$

Goal: Approximate signed area under the curve of a function. This is the area enclosed by the function and the x -axis with a sign.

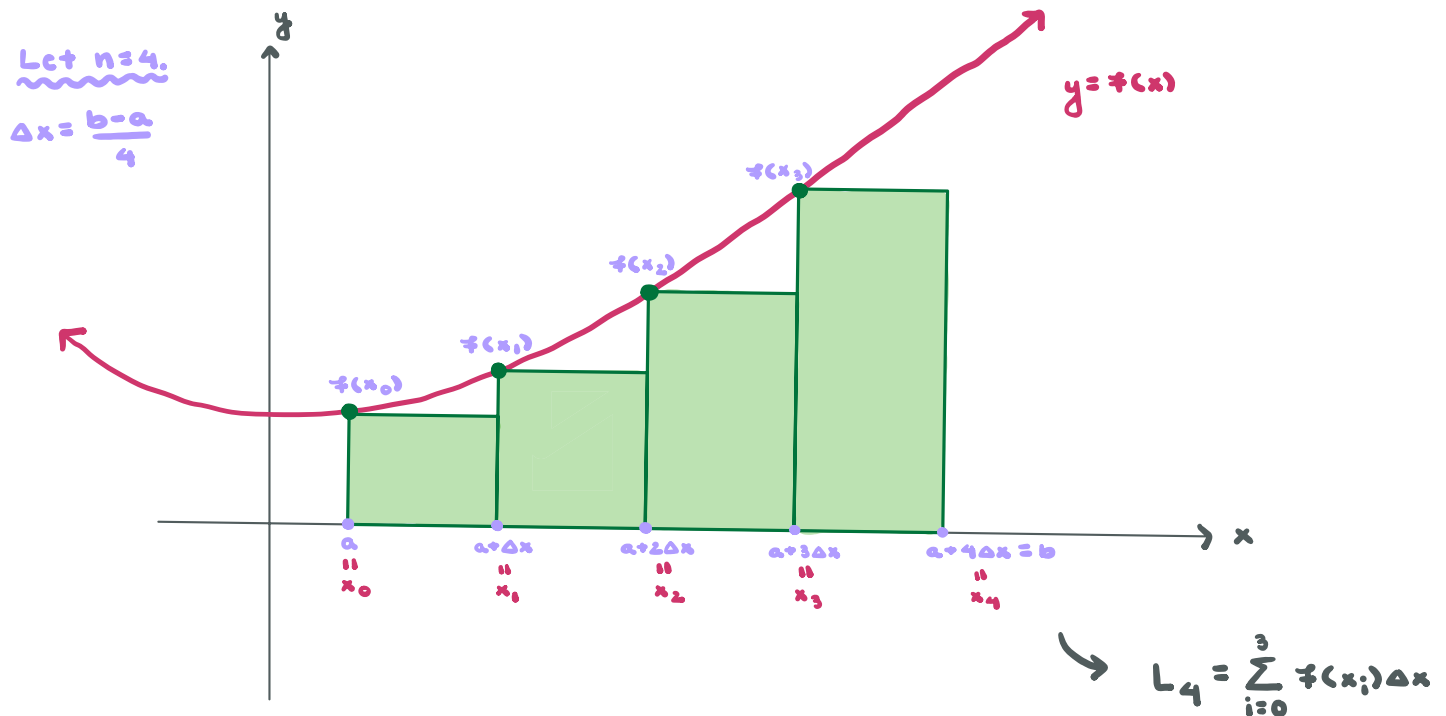
- If the function is above the x -axis, then the area is positive.
- If the function is below the x -axis, then the area is negative.

Idea: We will approximate the (signed) area between a curve and the x -axis using rectangles.

Strategies: Suppose $f(x)$ is a function on the interval $[a, b]$. We want to approximate the (signed) area between $f(x)$ and the x -axis on $[a, b]$ using n rectangles. We will use *left* and *right* **Riemann sums**.

Divide the interval $[a, b]$ into n sub-intervals of width $\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n}$.

Left Riemann Sum: Denote the left Riemann sum by L_n . Construct rectangles of width Δx from the left endpoint of each sub-interval. The height of each rectangle is given by the value of $f(x)$, where x is the left endpoint of each sub-interval.

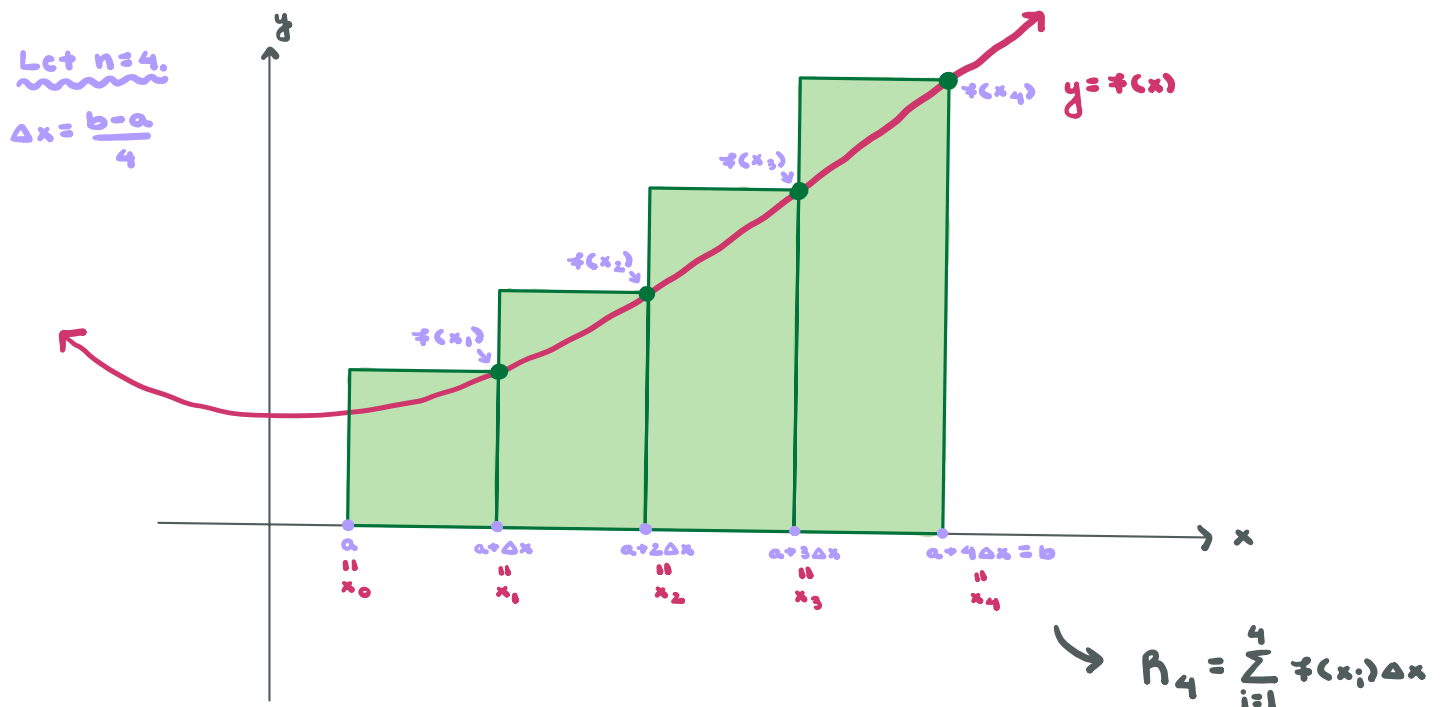


It follows that

$$L_n = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} f(x_i) \cdot \Delta x,$$

where $x_i = a + i \cdot \Delta x$.

Right Riemann Sum: Denote the right Riemann sum by R_n . Construct rectangles of width Δx from the right endpoint of each sub-interval. The height of each rectangle is given by the value of $f(x)$, where x is the right endpoint of each sub-interval.



It follows that

$$R_n = \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) \cdot \Delta x,$$

where $x_i = a + i \cdot \Delta x$.

Example: Use the left and right Riemann sums with 3 rectangles to estimate the (signed) area under the curve of $y = x + 2$ on the interval $[1, 7]$.

$n = 3$
 $[a, b] = [1, 7]$
 $\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n} = \frac{7-1}{3} = 2$
 $x_i = a + i \Delta x = 1 + i \cdot 2$

$$L_3 = \sum_{i=0}^2 y(x_i) \Delta x$$

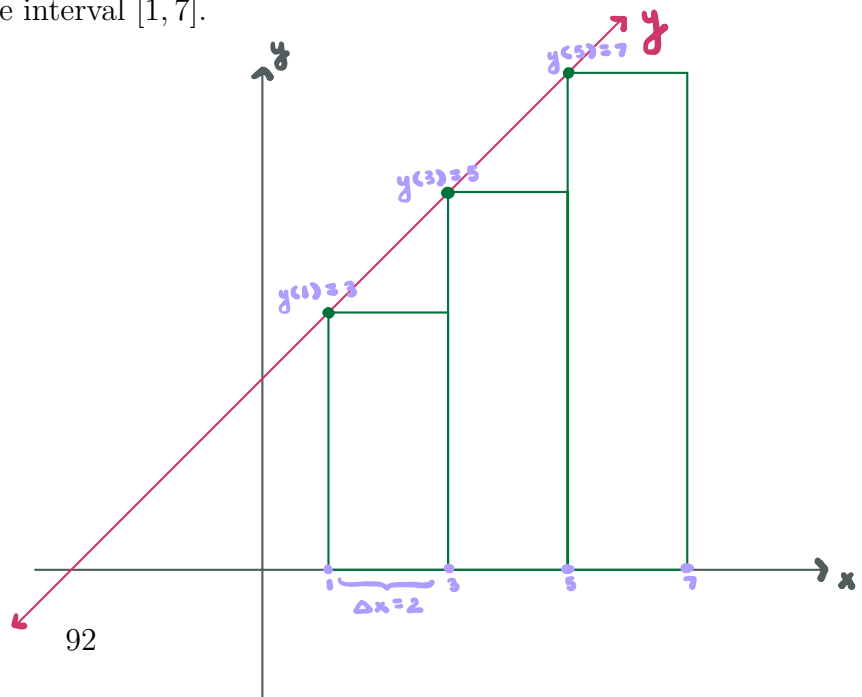
$$= \sum_{i=0}^2 [1 + i \cdot 2 + 2] \cdot 2$$

$$= 2 \sum_{i=0}^2 (3 + i \cdot 2)$$

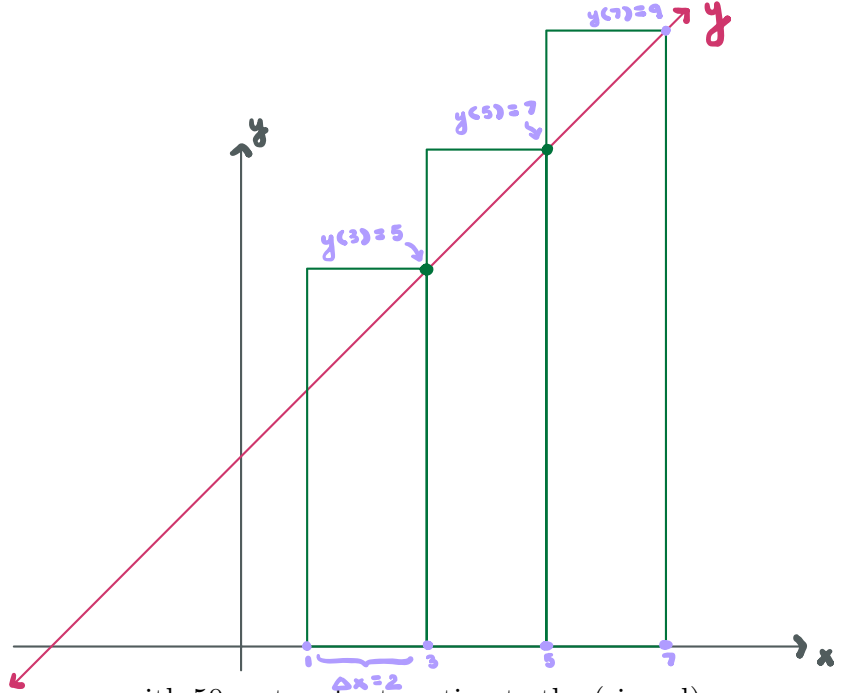
$$= 2 \left[\underbrace{(3+0 \cdot 2)}_3 + \underbrace{(3+1 \cdot 2)}_5 + \underbrace{(3+2 \cdot 2)}_7 \right]$$

$$= 2 \cdot 15$$

$$= 30$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 R_3 &= \sum_{i=1}^3 y(x_i) \frac{\Delta x}{2} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^3 [1+i \cdot 2 + 2] \cdot 2 \\
 &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^3 (3+i \cdot 2) \\
 &= 2 \left[\underbrace{(3+1 \cdot 2)}_5 + \underbrace{(3+2 \cdot 2)}_7 + \underbrace{(3+3 \cdot 2)}_9 \right] \\
 &= 2 \cdot 21 \\
 &= 42
 \end{aligned}$$



Example: Use the left and right Riemann sums with 50 rectangles to estimate the (signed) area under the curve of $y = 3x^2 + x - 1$ on the interval $[0, 150]$.

$$n = 50$$

$$[a, b] = [0, 150]$$

$$\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n} = \frac{150-0}{50} = 3$$

$$x_i = a + i\Delta x = 0 + i \cdot 3 = i \cdot 3$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_{50} &= \sum_{i=0}^{49} y(x_i) \Delta x \\
 &= \sum_{i=0}^{49} (3(i \cdot 3)^2 + i \cdot 3 - 1) \cdot 3 \\
 &= 3 \sum_{i=0}^{49} (27i^2 + i \cdot 3 - 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{50} &= \sum_{i=1}^{50} y(x_i) \Delta x \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{50} (3(i \cdot 3)^2 + i \cdot 3 - 1) \cdot 3 \\
 &= 3 \sum_{i=1}^{50} (27i^2 + i \cdot 3 - 1)
 \end{aligned}$$