

Definite Integrals

Example: Find the area between $f(x) = x^2$ and the x -axis and the line $x = 3$.

Solution:

$$A(x) = \int f(x) dx = \int x^2 dx$$

$$A(x) = \frac{x^3}{3} + C$$

But $A(0)$ is obviously 0.

$$\therefore 0 = \frac{0^3}{3} + C \text{ or } C = 0$$

$$A(3) = \frac{3^3}{3} = \frac{27}{3} = 9$$

Example: Find the area between $f(x) = x^2$ and the x -axis
between the lines $x = 2$ and $x = 3$.

Solution:

$$A(x) = \frac{x^3}{3} + 0 = \frac{x^3}{3}$$

$$\text{As above } \therefore A(3) = \frac{3^3}{3} = 9 \text{ and } A(2) = \frac{2^3}{3} = \frac{8}{3}$$

\therefore area between $x = 2$ and $x = 3$ is:

$$9 - \frac{8}{3} = \frac{27 - 8}{3} = \frac{19}{3}$$

A more convenient notation is used:

$$\int_2^3 x^2 dx = \left. \frac{x^3}{3} \right|_2^3 \leftarrow \text{means } \frac{3^3}{3} - \frac{2^3}{3} = 9 - \frac{8}{3} = \frac{19}{3}$$

Note: If a different antiderivative had been used the answer would have been the same. For example, using

$$\frac{x^3}{3} + 5 \text{ would produce } \left(\frac{x^3}{3} + 5 \right) \Big|_2^3 = \left(\frac{27}{3} + 5 \right) - \left(\frac{8}{3} + 5 \right) = \frac{19}{3}$$

The result is the same since you are only interested in the difference and the 5's cancel each other.

N.B. Use the simplest antiderivative. ie. The one with $C = 0$.

The integral symbolism comes from adding all the little rectangles ← called a Reimann Sum.

Area from a to b is

\sum (all the little rectangles)

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

Integral

Example: Find the area between $g(x) = x^3$ and the x -axis from $x = 1$ to $x = 3$.

Solution:

$$\text{area} = \int_1^3 x^3 dx = \frac{x^4}{4} \Big|_1^3 = \frac{3^4}{4} - \frac{1^4}{4} = \frac{81}{4} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{80}{4} = 20$$

Example: Find the area between $g(x) = -x^3$ and the x -axis from $x = 1$ to $x = 3$.

Solution:

$$\text{area} = \int_1^3 (-x^3) dx = -\frac{x^4}{4} \Big|_1^3 = -\frac{3^4}{4} - \left(-\frac{1^4}{4} \right) = -\frac{81}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = -\frac{80}{4} = -20$$

Something is wrong!

The definite integral represents the area only when it is positive!

$$\therefore \int_1^3 (-x^3) dx = -20 \text{ but the area} = \left| \int_1^3 (-x^3) dx \right| = |-20| = 20$$

Definition of area by integration

$$\text{area} = \int_a^b |f(x)| dx$$

$$\text{area of } A = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

$$\text{area of } B = -\int_c^d f(x) dx$$

Therefore,

$$\int_a^c f(x) dx = A - B$$

To find the total area use $|f(x)|$

$$\text{area} = A + B = \int_a^c |f(x)| dx$$

Further Properties of definite integrals: [Definite integrals are sums so the properties follow the properties of sigma notation.]

1. $\int_a^a f(x) dx = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
2. If $f(x)$ is an odd function then $\int_{-a}^a f(x) dx = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
3. If $f(x)$ is an even function then $\int_{-a}^a f(x) dx = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$.
4. $\int_a^b f(x) dx = -\int_b^a f(x) dx$

5. Additive: $\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^c f(x) dx + \int_c^b f(x) dx$

Question: Must c be between a and b ?

Note: The function can be a piecewise function.

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

6. Constant multiplier: $\int_a^b Cf(x) dx = C \int_a^b f(x) dx$

7. Sum function: $\int_a^b (f + g)(x) dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx + \int_a^b g(x) dx$

Let's Practice

1. Find the area between the line $y = 2x + 6$ and the x -axis
from $x = -5$ to $x = 15$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-5}^{15} |2x + 6| dx &= \int_{-5}^{-3} (-2x - 6) dx + \int_{-3}^{15} (2x + 6) dx \\ &= (-x^2 - 6x) \Big|_{-5}^{-3} + (x^2 + 6x) \Big|_{-3}^{15} \\ &= (-9 + 18) - (-25 + 30) + (225 + 90) - (9 - 18) \\ &= 328\end{aligned}$$

2. Find the area bounded by $y = x^2 - 4$ and the x -axis.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{area} &= -\int_{-2}^2 (x^2 - 4) dx \\ &= -\left[\left(\frac{x^3}{3} - 4x \right) \Big|_{-2}^2 \right] \\ &= -\left[\left(\frac{8}{3} - 8 \right) - \left(-\frac{8}{3} + 8 \right) \right] = \frac{32}{3}\end{aligned}$$

3. Find the area between $y = x^3 + 2x^2 - x - 2$ and the x -axis.

Solution:

$$0 = x^2(x+2) - 1(x+2)$$

$$0 = (x+2)(x^2-1)$$

$$0 = (x+2)(x-1)(x+1)$$

$$x \quad -2 \quad -1 \quad 1$$

$$y \quad - \quad + \quad - \quad +$$

area = area of A + area of B

$$= \int_{-2}^{-1} f(x) dx + \int_{-1}^1 (-f(x)) dx$$

$$= \int_{-2}^{-1} (x^3 + 2x^2 - x - 2) dx + \int_{-1}^1 (-x^3 - 2x^2 + x + 2) dx$$

$$= \left(\frac{x^4}{4} + \frac{2x^3}{3} - \frac{x^2}{2} - 2x \right) \Big|_{-2}^{-1} + \left(-\frac{x^4}{4} - \frac{2x^3}{3} + \frac{x^2}{2} + 2x \right) \Big|_{-1}^1$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{2} + 2 \right) - \left(4 - \frac{16}{3} - 2 + 4 \right) +$$

$$\left(-\frac{1}{4} - \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{2} + 2 \right) - \left(-\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{2} - 2 \right)$$

4. Find the area between $y = \sin x$, the x -axis, $x = -\frac{\pi}{3}$ and $x = \frac{\pi}{3}$.

Solution:

Since $y = \sin x$ is odd areaA = areaB

$$\therefore \text{Area} = 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \sin x dx$$

$$= 2(-\cos x) \Big|_0^{\frac{\pi}{3}} = 2 \left[\cos \frac{\pi}{3} + \cos 0 \right]$$

$$= 2 \left[-\frac{1}{2} + 1 \right] = 1$$

Area between Curves

Find the area between the curves $f(x) = x$ and $g(x) = x^2$.

Solution:

Points of intersection are: “sketch”

$$x^2 = x \quad \therefore \text{shaded area} = \text{area under line}$$

$$x^2 - x = 0 \quad - \text{area under parabola}$$

$$x(x-1) = 0 \quad (\text{from } x = 0 \text{ to } x = 1)$$

$$x = 0 \quad x = 1$$

$$\text{area} = \int_0^1 x dx - \int_0^1 x^2 dx = \left. \frac{x^2}{2} \right|_0^1 - \left. \frac{x^3}{3} \right|_0^1 = \left(\frac{1}{2} - 0 \right) - \left(\frac{1}{3} - 0 \right) = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\text{OR area} = \int_0^1 (x - x^2) dx = \left. \left(\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} \right) \right|_0^1 = \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} \right) - 0 = \frac{1}{6}$$

In general

“sketch”

$$\text{area of } A = \int_a^b (f(x) - g(x)) dx$$

and area = A + B

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

$$\text{or} = \int_a^c |g(x) - f(x)| dx$$

1. Find the area bounded by the curves $y = x^2 - 2x$ and $y = 6x - x^2$.

Solution:

Intersection points are:

$$x^2 - 2x = 6x - x^2$$

$$2x^2 - 8x = 0$$

$$2x(x - 4) = 0$$

$$x = 0 \quad x = 4$$

“sketch”

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= \int_0^4 \left[(6x - x^2) - (x^2 - 2x) \right] dx \\ &= \int_0^4 (8x - 2x^2) dx \\ &= \left(4x^2 - \frac{2x^3}{3} \right) \Big|_0^4 = \frac{64}{3} \end{aligned}$$

2. Find the area between $y = x$ and $y = \sqrt[3]{x}$

Solution: “sketch”

Intersection points are:

$$x = \sqrt[3]{x}$$

$$x^3 = x$$

$$x^3 - x = 0$$

$$x(x-1)(x+1) = 0 \quad \therefore x = 0, \pm 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{area} &= \int_{-1}^0 (x - \sqrt[3]{x}) dx + \int_0^1 (\sqrt[3]{x} - x) dx \\ &= \left(\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{3x^{\frac{4}{3}}}{4} \right) \Big|_{-1}^0 + \left(\frac{3x^{\frac{4}{3}}}{4} - \frac{x^2}{2} \right) \Big|_0^1 \\ &= 0 - \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{4} \right) + \left(\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \right) - 0 = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

OR

Since both functions are odd you can use symmetry.

$$\text{area} = 2 \int_0^1 (\sqrt[3]{x} - x) dx = 2 \left(\left(\frac{3}{4} x^{\frac{4}{3}} - \frac{x^2}{2} \right) \Big|_0^1 \right) = 2 \left(\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{4} \right) = 2 \left(\frac{1}{4} \right) = \frac{1}{2}$$

3. Find the area between $y^2 = 2x - 2$ and $y = x - 5$.

Solution: “sketch”

intersection points are:

$$\frac{y^2 + 2}{2} = y + 5$$

$$y^2 + 2 = 2y + 10$$

$$y^2 - 2y - 8 = 0$$

$$(y - 4)(y + 2) = 0$$

$$y = 4 \quad y = -2$$

$$x = 9 \quad x = 3$$

Method 1

$$\begin{aligned} \text{area} &= \int_1^3 (\sqrt{2x-2} - (-\sqrt{2x-2})) dx + \\ &\quad \int_3^9 (\sqrt{2x-2} - (x-5)) dx \\ &= \int_1^3 (2\sqrt{2x-2}) dx + \int_3^9 (\sqrt{2x-2} - x + 5) dx \end{aligned}$$

Method 2 (Much easier) x and y change roles as you rotate the diagram 90° .

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{area} &= \int_{-2}^4 \left[(y+5) - \left(\frac{y^2+2}{2} \right) \right] dy \\
&= \int_{-2}^4 \left(y+5 - \frac{y^2}{2} - 1 \right) dy \\
&= \int_{-2}^4 \left(y - \frac{y^2}{2} + 4 \right) dy \\
&= \left(\frac{y^2}{2} - \frac{y^3}{6} + 4y \right) \Big|_{-2}^4 \\
&= \left(8 - \frac{32}{3} + 16 \right) - \left(2 + \frac{4}{3} - 8 \right) \\
&= \left(24 - \frac{32}{3} \right) - \left(-6 + \frac{4}{3} \right) = 30 - 12 = 18
\end{aligned}$$

Homework:

4. Find the area between the curves:

$$y = x^3 + x + 1 \quad \text{and} \quad y = x^2 + x + 1 \quad \text{from } x = -1 \text{ to } x = 2$$

5. Find the area between the curves:

$$y = x^2 - 2x \quad \text{and} \quad y = -x^2 + 2x + 6$$