

The Riemann Integral

Defn Let $a < b$.

1) A partition of the interval $I := [a, b]$ is the set of points $P = \{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ such that $a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = b$.

2) The norm of a partition $P = \{x_0, \dots, x_n\}$ is $\|P\| := \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} (x_j - x_{j-1}) > 0$.

3) A refinement of a partition P on $[a, b]$ is a partition Q on $[a, b]$ where $P \subseteq Q$. In this case, we say Q is finer than P , or P is coarser than Q .

-Notes: a) Every partition of $I := [a, b]$ decomposes I into n subintervals $I_j := [x_{j-1}, x_j]$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, where $I_j \cap I_k = \emptyset$ if and only if $k = j+1$ and is empty for $k \neq j$ or $k \neq (j+1)$. Some people call this a subdivision of I . Notice there are always $(n+1)$ points in a partition while it creates n subintervals.

b) Some people call the norm the mesh of the partition.

c) The symbol $\Delta x_j := x_j - x_{j-1}$ represents the length of the j th subinterval, and the symbol Δx will be used to represent the length of a uniform subdivision (i.e. $\Delta x_i = \Delta x_j \forall i, j = 1, \dots, n$).

d) $\sum_{j=1}^n \Delta x_j = b - a$ by a telescoping sum.

Defn Given a function $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ that is bounded, and the partition $P = \{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ of $I = [a, b]$, let $I_j := [x_{j-1}, x_j]$, $M_j := \sup_{x \in I_j} f(x)$, and $m_j := \inf_{x \in I_j} f(x)$ for $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then,

1) The upper Riemann sum of f over P is

$$U(f, P) := \sum_{j=1}^n M_j \Delta x_j$$

2) The lower Riemann sum of f over P is

$$L(f, P) := \sum_{j=1}^n m_j \Delta x_j$$

-Notes: a) Since f is bnded, M_j and m_j exist and are finite $\forall j$.

b) If f is continuous, then it is bounded on I .

c) If $f(x) = \alpha$ (a constant), then $U(f, P) = L(f, P) = \alpha(b-a)$.

d) $L(f, P) \leq U(f, P)$; e) If Q is finer than P , then $L(f, P) \leq L(f, Q) \leq U(f, Q) \leq U(f, P)$.

Defn A function $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is Riemann integrable on $I = [a, b]$ if f is bounded and $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists$ partition P of I such that $U(f, P) - L(f, P) < \epsilon$.

Thm(5.10) If f is continuous on I , then it is integrable on I .

Defn Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be bounded, and $\mathcal{P}$ be the set of all partitions on $[a, b]$. Then,

1) The upper integral of f on $[a, b]$ is $\int_a^b f(x) dx := \inf_{P \in \mathcal{P}} U(f, P)$.

2) The lower integral of f on $[a, b]$ is $\int_a^b f(x) dx := \sup_{P \in \mathcal{P}} L(f, P)$.

3) If $\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx$, then we define the integral to be $\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx$.

-Note: $\int_a^b f(x) dx \leq \int_a^b f(x) dx$.

Thm(5.15) f is Riemann integrable if and only if the integral exists.

Thm(5.16) If $f(x) = \alpha$ (a constant), then $\int_a^b f(x) dx = \alpha(b-a)$.