

Primitives and integrals

1 Subdivisions and Darboux Sums

Definition 1 Let $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$. An n -th order subdivision of an interval $[a, b]$ is a finite set $l = \{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subset [a, b]$, such that

$$a = x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n = b.$$

We called the step of the subdivision l the real number $h = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} (x_i - x_{i-1})$.

We say that h is the uniform step of the subdivision when $x_i = x_0 + ih$, $i = 1 \dots n$ with $h = \frac{b-a}{n}$.

Example 1 In this example, we provide some subdivisions of the interval $[0, 1]$:

$$l_1 = \{0, \frac{1}{2}, 1\}, \quad l_2 = \{0, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}, 1\}, \quad l_3 = \{0, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, 1\}, \quad l_4 = \{0, \frac{2}{5}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{6}, 1\}.$$

l_1 , l_2 , and l_3 are uniform with steps of $h_1 = \frac{1}{2}$, $h_2 = \frac{1}{4}$ and $h_3 = \frac{1}{3}$. In contrast, l_4 is not uniform and has a step of $h_4 = \frac{2}{5}$.

1.1 Darboux Sums

Let f be a bounded function on $[a, b]$. We consider a subdivision l of $[a, b]$ denoted as:

$$l = \{a = x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n = b\}.$$

For $i = 1, \dots, n$, we define

$$m_i = \inf_{x \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]} f(x) \quad \text{and} \quad M_i = \sup_{x \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]} f(x).$$

Definition 2 The **lower Darboux Sum** associated with f is given by:

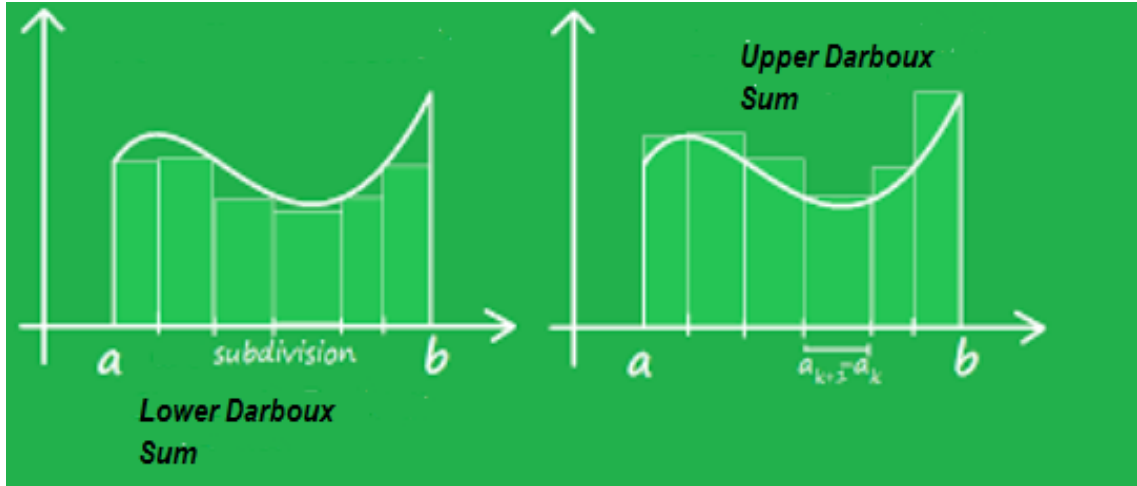
$$s_{[a,b]}(f, l) = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i (x_i - x_{i-1}).$$

The **upper Darboux Sum** associated with f is given by:

$$S_{[a,b]}(f, l) = \sum_{i=1}^n M_i (x_i - x_{i-1}).$$

Remark 1 The two quantities $S(f, l)$ and $s(f, l)$ are finite, because $\sup_{x \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]}$ and $\inf_{x \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]}$ are finite real numbers since f is assumed to be bounded. Furthermore, $s(f, l) \leq S(f, l)$ because $\inf_{x \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]} \leq \sup_{x \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]}$.

Geometric Interpretation: The upper (respectively, lower) Darboux sum is the sum of the areas of the upper rectangles with base $[x_{i-1} - x_i]$ (respectively, the lower rectangles).



1.2 Riemann-integrable function

Definition 3 An integral is a mathematical operation that, given a function, finds the area under the curve of that function over a specified interval.

Definition 4 Let f be a bounded function on $[a, b]$. We say that f is Riemann-integrable (or integrable in the Riemann sense) on $[a, b]$ if

$$s(f, l) = S(f, l).$$

This value is denoted by $\int_a^b f(x)dx$, which represents the integral of f over the interval $[a, b]$.

Theorem 1

1. Every continuous function on a segment $[a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$ is Riemann-integrable on $[a, b]$.
2. If f is Riemann-integrable on $[a, b]$ (with $a < b$), then f is also Riemann-integrable on $[a, b]$ and we have:

$$\left| \int_a^b f(x)dx \right| \leq \int_a^b |f(x)|dx.$$

This inequality is a consequence of the absolute value inequality for integrals.

1.2.1 Properties of the Riemann Integral

Let f and g be two bounded and integrable functions on an interval $[a, b]$. The following properties hold:

1. **Positivity:** If $f \geq 0$ on $[a, b]$, then

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx \geq 0.$$

2. **Monotonicity:** If $f \leq g$ on $[a, b]$, then

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

3. **Linearity:**

$$\int_a^b (\alpha f(x) + \beta g(x))dx = \alpha \int_a^b f(x)dx + \beta \int_a^b g(x)dx, \quad \forall (\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

2 Primitive functions

Let's assume that $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ is an interval.

Definition 5 Let $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. A primitive of f is a derivative function $F : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, such that $F'(x) = f(x)$, $\forall x \in I$.

Theorem 2 Every continuous function on I admits primitives on I .

Remark 2 If a function f admits a primitive, that primitive is not unique.

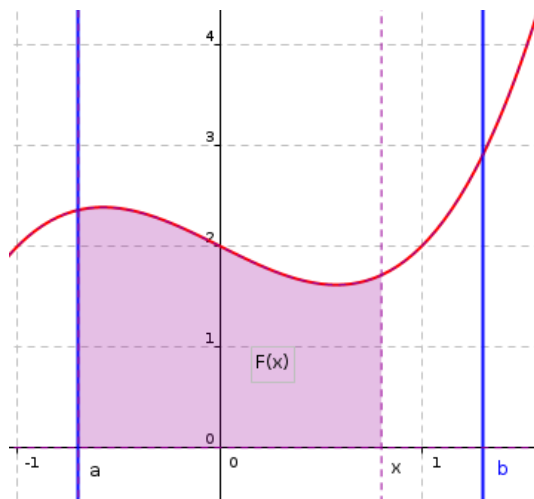
Proposition 1 If F is a primitive of f on I then, the function $G : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is also a primitive of f if and only if $F - G = c$, where $c \in \mathbb{R}$ is a constant.

Example 2 The function $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = x^3$ has as a primitive the function $F(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^4$, also $G(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^4 + 5$ is a primitive of f because $F(x) - G(x) = c = -5 \in \mathbb{R}$.

2.1 Primitive function at a point

Theorem 3 Let f be a continuous function on I , $x_0 \in I$ and $y_0 \in \mathbb{R}$. Then, there exists a primitive F of f , only one, such that $F(x_0) = y_0$.

Geometric interpretation: Among all the curve presenting the primitives of f on I , there exists one and only one passing through the point (x_0, y_0) .



Example 3 Let f be a function defined on \mathbb{R} by:

$$f(x) = x^2 - 3x + 2.$$

Determine the primitive F of f on \mathbb{R} which vanishes at the point $x_0 = 1$.

Indeed: The set of primitive functions of f has the form:

$$F(x) = \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 2x + c, \quad c \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The condition $F(1) = 0$, gives

$$F(1) = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{3}{2} + 2 + c = 0 \iff c = -\frac{5}{6}.$$

Then, the only primitive function of f at the point $x_0 = 1$ is given by:

$$F(x) = \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 2x - \frac{5}{6}.$$

2.2 Primitive functions of elementary functions

In the following table, u is a derivable function on I .

Function f	Primitive F
$k \in \mathbb{R}$	$kx + C$
$x^n, n \in \mathbb{N}$	$\frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} + C$
$\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$	$2\sqrt{x} + C$
$\frac{1}{x^n}, n \in \mathbb{N} * -\{1\}$	$\frac{-1}{(n-1)x^{n-1}} + C$
$u'(x)u^n(x), n \in \mathbb{N}*$	$\frac{u^{n+1}(x)}{n+1} + C$
$\frac{u'(x)}{\sqrt{u(x)}}$	$2\sqrt{u(x)} + C$
$\frac{u'(x)}{u^n(x)}, n \in \mathbb{N} * -1\}$	$\frac{-1}{(n-1)u^{n-1}(x)} + C$
$\frac{u'(x)}{u(x)}$	$\ln u(x) + C$
e^x	$e^x + C$
$u'(x)e^{u(x)}$	$e^{u(x)} + C$
$\cos x$	$\sin x + C$
$u'(x) \cos(u(x))$	$\sin(u(x)) + C$
$\sin x$	$-\cos x + C$
$u'(x) \sin(u(x))$	$-\cos(u(x)) + C$

2.3 Operations on primitive functions

Let f and g be two derivable functions on I , with $c \in \mathbb{R}$ is a constant.

Function	primitive
$f' + g'$	$f + g + c$
kf'	$kf + c$
$f' f^n (n \neq -1, n \in \mathbb{Z})$	$\frac{1}{n+1} f^{n+1} + c$
$\frac{f'}{\sqrt{f}}$	$2\sqrt{f}$
$f'(g' \circ f)$	$f \circ g + c$
$\frac{f'}{\sqrt{1-f^2}}$	$\arcsin f + c$
$\frac{f'}{1+f^2}$	$\arctan f + c$

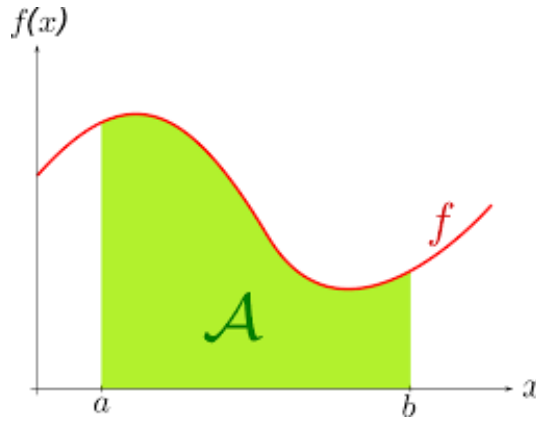
Example 4 Determine the primitive of the function: $f(x) = x(1 + x^2)^3$ on \mathbb{R} .

Indeed: The function f is continuous on \mathbb{R} and has the form: $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}u'(x)u^3(x)$, where $u(x) = 1 + x^2$ and $u'(x) = 2x$. Then: $F(x) = \frac{1}{8}(1 + x^2)^4 + c$, where $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

3 Integrals

Definition 6 Let f be a function defined on I and F its primitive and $a, b \in I$. The quantity $F(b) - F(a)$ (also noted by $[F(x)]_a^b$) is the integral of f between a and b and we note:

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



Attention:

1. The order of a and b in the integral is very important.
2. The number a is the lowest upper bound and b is the highest upper bound of the integral:

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = [F(x)]_a^b = F(b) - F(a).$$

3. The result of calculating the integral doesn't depend on the chosen primitive.

Indeed: If F_1 and F_2 are two primitives of f , then $F_1 = F_2 + c$, where $c \in \mathbb{R}$ is a constant. Then,

$$[F_1(x)]_a^b = [F_2(x) + c]_a^b = F_2(b) + c - F_2(a) - c = F_2(b) - F_2(a) = [F_2(x)]_a^b.$$

Example 5

1. Calculate the integral: $\int_{-1}^2 (2x^2 + 3)dx$.

Let $f(x) = (2x^2 + 3)$ which is a continuous function on $[-1, 2]$. Then, $F(x) = \frac{2}{3}x^3 + 3x + c$ is the primitive of f on $[-1, 2]$. Therefore,

$$\int_{-1}^2 (2x^2 + 3)dx = F(2) - F(-1) = \left[\frac{2}{3}x^3 + 3x \right]_{-1}^2 = 15.$$

2. $\int (\cos 4x - 3 \sin 2x + \cos x)dx = \frac{1}{4} \sin 4x + \frac{3}{2} \cos 2x + \sin x + c, \quad c \in \mathbb{R}.$

Theorem 4 Consider the continuous function $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which admits a continuous derivative function on $[a, b]$. Then,

$$\int_a^b F'(x)dx = F(b) - F(a).$$

Theorem 5 Consider the continuous function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Then, for all $x \in]a, b[$, we have

$$\frac{d}{dx} \int_a^x f(t)dt = f(x).$$

Proposition 2 Let f and g be two integrable functions on $[a, b]$. We have,

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

2. $\int_a^b \lambda f(x)dx = \lambda \int_a^b f(x)dx, \quad \text{where } \lambda \in \mathbb{R}.$

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

4. $\int_a^b f(x)dx = - \int_b^a f(x)dx.$

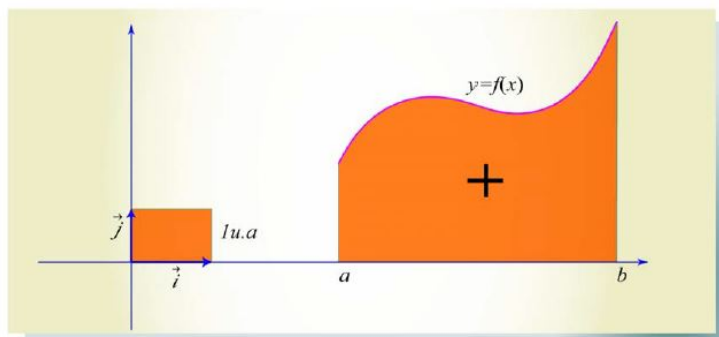
5. $\int_a^b f(x)dx = \int_a^c f(x)dx + \int_c^b f(x)dx, \quad \forall c \in [a, b].$

3.1 Integrals and area

Let (C) be the representative curve of the function f in an orthogonal reference form. D is the region bounded by (C) , the abscissa axis and the equation lines $x = a$ and $x = b$. The unit of area is the area of the rectangle framed by the chosen coordinate system.

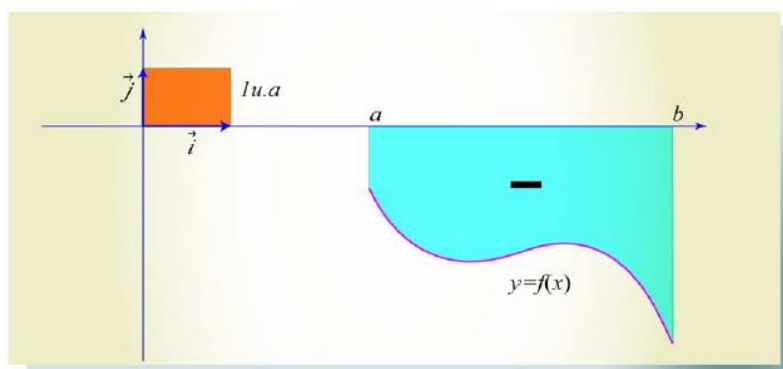
Theorem 6

1. **Positive function:** If f is a positive continuous function on $[a, b]$, then $D = \int_a^b f(x)dx$.



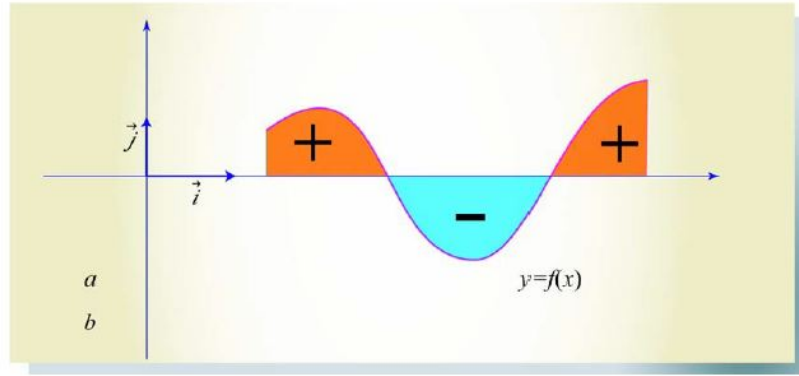
2. **Negative function:** If f is a negative continuous function on $[a, b]$, then

$$D = - \int_a^b f(x)dx = \int_b^a f(x)dx.$$



3. **Function for any sign:** If f is a continuous function with any sign on $[a, b]$, then

$$D = \int_a^b f(x)dx = \int_a^c f(x)dx - \int_c^d f(x)dx + \int_d^b f(x)dx.$$



3.2 The integral calculation

In this subsection, we will present 3 methods to calculate the integrals.

- (a) **Direct Integral:** This concerns integrals of functions of the form $u'u^n$, $\frac{u'}{u^n}$, \dots where u is a function whose primitive is known.

Example 6

$$\int_2^3 \frac{x dx}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} = \left[\sqrt{x^2 + 1} \right]_2^3 = \sqrt{10} - \sqrt{5}.$$

- (b) **Integration by parts:** it is a technique in calculus that allows you to find the integral of the product of two functions by applying a specific formula derived from the product rule for differentiation.

The formula for integration by parts is often written as:

$$\int u(x)v'(x)dx = u(x)v(x) - \int u'(x)v(x)dx.$$

Or,

$$\int_a^b u(x)v'(x)dx = \left[u(x)v(x) \right]_a^b - \int_a^b u'(x)v(x)dx.$$

Example 7

1. $I = \int x e^x dx$. Let

$$u = x \Rightarrow u' = 1 \, dx$$

$$v' = e^x dx \Rightarrow v = e^x.$$

Then,

$$I = x e^x - \int e^x dx = x e^x - e^x + c = (x - 1)e^x + c.$$

2. $I = \int_1^2 \ln x \, dx$. Let

$$u = \ln x \Rightarrow u' = \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$v' = dx \Rightarrow v = x.$$

Then,

$$I = \left[x \ln x \right]_1^2 - \int_1^2 \frac{x}{x} dx = -2 \ln(2) - [x]_1^2 = -2 \ln(2) + 1.$$

(c) **The variable change method:** it is a technique used in calculation to simplify and solve integrals by making a change of variable. This method is particularly useful when dealing with complex integrals or when the integral involves a composite function. The general idea is to replace the variable of integration with a new variable that simplifies the integral.

Theorem 7 Let $g : [c, d] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a continuous differentiable function and strictly monotonic. Suppose that $g([c, d]) = [a, b]$. For all $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we have

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_c^d f(g(t)) g'(t) dt.$$

Example 8

1. $I = \int_1^2 \frac{dx}{e^x + e^{-x}}$. Put:

$$u(x) = e^x \Rightarrow du = e^x dx.$$

On the other hand,

$$x = 1 \Rightarrow u = e \quad \text{and} \quad x = 2 \Rightarrow u = e^2.$$

Thus,

$$I = \int_e^{e^2} \frac{du}{u^2 + 1} = [\arctan]_e^{e^2} = \arctan(e) - \arctan(e^2).$$

2. $I = \int \sqrt{1 - x^2} dx$. Put:

$$x = \sin t \Rightarrow dx = \cos t dt.$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 t} \cos t dt = \int \cos^2 t dt = \int (\cos(2t) + 1) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int 2 \cos(2t) dt + \int dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sin(2t) + t + c \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sin t \cos t + t + c \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sin t \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 t} + t + c \\ &= \frac{1}{2} x \sqrt{1 - x^2} + \arcsin x + c. \end{aligned}$$

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