



Activity 8.2[‡] – The Definition of Net Area

FOR DISCUSSION: *In your own words, explain the meaning of each symbol in the expression*

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

1. Use the limit definition of the definite integral with right-hand endpoints to evaluate

$\int_1^2 3x^2 dx$ by following the sequence of computations. Simplify your work at each step.

$$a = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad b = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad \Delta x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad x_k^* = a + \Delta x \cdot k = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

$$f(x_k^*) =$$

$$f(x_k^*) \Delta x =$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n f(x_k^*) \Delta x = \hspace{15em} \text{(closed form)}$$

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

$$\text{Therefore, } \int_1^2 3x^2 dx =$$

[‡] This activity has supplemental exercises.

2. Use the limit definition of the definite integral with right-hand endpoints to evaluate

$\int_0^3 (2x^2 - x) dx$ by following the sequence of computations. Simplify your work at each step.

$$a = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad b = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad \Delta x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad x_k^* = a + \Delta x \cdot k = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

$$f(x_k^*) =$$

$$f(x_k^*) \Delta x =$$

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

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

Therefore, $\int_0^3 (2x^2 - x) dx =$

3. The velocity (in m/s) of an object is given by $v(t) = t^2 - 2t$. Use the properties of the definite integral and the Fundamental Theorem to find the total distance traveled on $[0, 5]$. That is, compute $\int_0^5 |t^2 - 2t| dt$.

4. Practice the properties of the definite integral.

(a) If $\int_{-1}^2 f(x) dx = 41$, then $\int_2^{-1} f(x) dx =$

(b) If $\int_2^{10} g(x) dx = 15$ and $\int_6^{10} g(x) dx = 21$, then $\int_2^6 g(x) dx =$

(c) If $\int_3^5 h(x) dx = 6$, then $\int_3^5 (4h(x) - 3) dx =$

5. **(OPTIONAL)** Verify some of the properties of the definite integral stated in Lesson 8.2 using the properties of summations, the limit laws, and the definition of the definite integral:

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_{k=1}^n f(x_k^*) \cdot \frac{b-a}{n}$$

(a) Write $\int_a^a f(x)dx$ in limit form. Show that $\int_a^a f(x)dx = 0$.

(b) Write $\int_b^a f(x)dx$ in limit form. Show that $\int_b^a f(x)dx = -\int_a^b f(x)dx$.

(c) Write $\int_a^b k \cdot f(x)dx$ in limit form. Show that $\int_a^b k \cdot f(x)dx = k \cdot \int_a^b f(x)dx$.

(d) Write $\int_a^b (f(x) \pm g(x))dx$ in limit form. Show that $\int_a^b (f(x) \pm g(x))dx = \int_a^b f(x)dx \pm \int_a^b g(x)dx$.