

Definite Integral ↔ Limit of a Riemann Sum

The definition of a **definite integral** is $\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n f(x_k) \Delta x_k$.

Concept: $\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n (f(a + k\Delta x) \Delta x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \underbrace{\left(f\left(a + k \frac{b-a}{n}\right) \right)}_{\text{using right-hand heights}} \overbrace{\frac{b-a}{n}}^{\text{width}}$
 where n is the number of subdivisions.

Example 1

Write the following limit as a definite integral.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\sqrt{3 + \frac{2k}{n} \cdot \frac{2}{n}} \right)$$

1. Determine Δx	
2. Determine a	
3. Determine b	
5. Rewrite the integral	

Practice

Write each Riemann Sum as a definite integral.
 Do not evaluate.

1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \left(f\left(2 + k \cdot \frac{3}{n}\right) \frac{3}{n} \right)$

2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\cos\left(0 + \frac{k\pi}{n}\right) \frac{\pi}{n} \right)$

3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\sqrt[3]{2 + \frac{5k}{n} \cdot \frac{5}{n}} \right)$

4. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\left(3\left(\frac{k}{n} + 4\right) + 2 \right) \frac{1}{n} \right)$

5. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\left(\cos\left(\frac{k\pi}{3n}\right) \right) \frac{\pi}{3n} \right)$