

Calculus Section 4.3 Midpoint and Trapezoidal Sums

- Understand the definition of a Riemann Sum
- Use sums to find the area under a curve

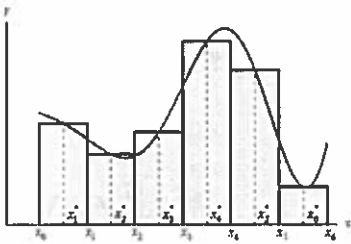
Homework: Riemann Sum worksheet

Midpoint Sum

The left Riemann sum used the $f(x)$ on the left side of each rectangle for its height.

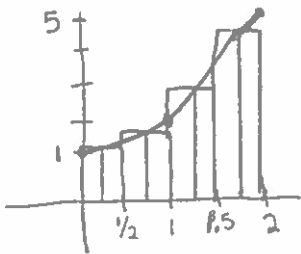
The right Riemann sum used the $f(x)$ on the right side of each rectangle for its height.

A midpoint sum uses the midpoint of each rectangle as its height.



The midpoint sum both over and underestimates for each rectangle. On average, the midpoint is more accurate than a left or right Riemann sum.

Ex) Use the midpoint sum to find the area under the curve $y = x^2 + 1$ on $[0, 2]$ with 4 even subintervals.



$$A \approx f(1/4) \times 1/2 + f(3/4) \times 1/2 + f(1.25) \times 1/2 + f(1.75) \times 1/2$$

$$A \approx 1.0625 \times 1/2 + 1.5625 \times 1/2 + 2.5625 \times 1/2 + 4.0625 \times 1/2$$

$$A \approx 2.3125$$

Ex) Use a midpoint sum with 3 equal partitions to estimate the area under the curve shown in the table below.

x	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
f(x)	0	5	7	8	14	19	21

$$A \approx f(2) \times 2 + f(4) \times 2 + f(6) \times 2$$

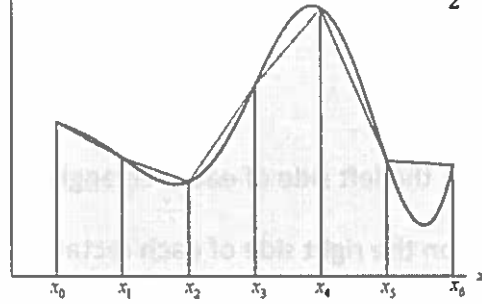
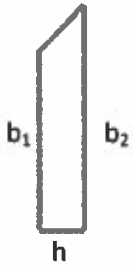
$$A \approx 5 \times 2 + 8 \times 2 + 19 \times 2$$

$$A \approx 10 + 16 + 38$$

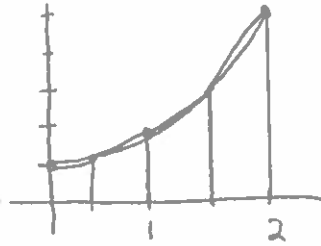
$$A \approx 64$$

Trapezoidal Sums

Another approximation sum uses trapezoids. Area of a trapezoid is: $A = \frac{1}{2}(b_1 + b_2)h$



Ex) Use a trapezoidal sum to approximate the area under the curve $y = x^2 + 1$ on $[0, 2]$ with 4 equal intervals.



$$A \approx \frac{f(0)+f(1/2)}{2} (\frac{1}{2}) + \frac{f(1/2)+f(1)}{2} (\frac{1}{2}) + \frac{f(1)+f(1.5)}{2} (\frac{1}{2}) + \frac{f(1.5)+f(2)}{2} (\frac{1}{2})$$

$$A \approx \frac{1+1.25}{2} (\frac{1}{2}) + \frac{1.25+2}{2} (\frac{1}{2}) + \frac{2+3.25}{2} (\frac{1}{2}) + \frac{3.25+5}{2} (\frac{1}{2})$$

$$A \approx 4.75$$

Ex) The acceleration of a particle is given in the table below. If the initial velocity of the particle is $v(0) = 3$, find the velocity of the particle at time $t = 8$.

t	0	2	5	7	8
a(t)	0	4	13	21	23

$$v(8) \approx \frac{a(0)+a(2)}{2} (2) + \frac{a(2)+a(5)}{2} (3) + \frac{a(5)+a(7)}{2} (2) + \frac{a(7)+a(8)}{2} (1) + C$$

$$v(8) \approx \frac{0+4}{2} (2) + \frac{4+13}{2} (3) + \frac{13+21}{2} (2) + \frac{21+23}{2} (1) + C$$

$$v(8) \approx 85.5 + C$$

$$v(8) \approx 85.5 + 3$$

$$v(8) \approx 88.5$$