

Exact Area under a Curve

Ex. 1 Approximate the area under the graph of $f(x) = x^2$ on the interval $[0, 2]$ using a right Riemann sum with:

a) 4 subintervals	b) 16 subintervals	c) 64 subintervals	d) 256 subintervals

Write an expression that can be used to evaluate the exact area under the graph of $f(x) = x^2$ on the interval $[0, 2]$.

The definite integral is simply the limit of a Riemann sum as the width of each interval gets smaller and smaller as indicated in the formula above.

KEY QUESTION: Does the definite integral always equal the area?

The **integral** option in your calculator uses Riemann sums with $\Delta x = 0.0001$. It computes the area of each rectangle and gives the sum of all the rectangles from $x = a$ to $x = b$.

Ex. 2 For each of the following functions, sketch a quick graph and shade the indicated region. Use the **integral** feature of your calculator to approximate the value of each definite integral.

a) $\int_0^2 x^2 \, dx$	b) $\int_2^0 x^2 \, dx$
c) $\int_{-2}^0 x^2 \, dx$	d) $\int_0^2 -x^2 \, dx$

Examples: Find the area of the region enclosed by the graph and the x -axis on the given interval

1) $f(x) = 2x + 1; a = 0, b = 2$	
2) $f(x) = x^2 - 4; a = 2; b = 4$	
3) $f(x) = 3 - x^2; a = -1; b = 1$	
4) $f(x) = 2x - x^2; a = 0, b = 2$	
5) $f(x) = e^x; a = 0, b = 2$	