

Riemann Sums - Equal Width

p. 343 - 352 (5.1)

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Let f be continuous and non-negative on the interval $[a, b]$, then a **Riemann Sum** estimates distances, area, total cost, etc. by sums of areas of rectangles of n width. (Area under the curve)

To find the Riemann Sums where the n 's are equal:

1. Area = $__ + __ + __ + __ + \dots$ (n is # of blanks = # of rectangles)
2. Each blank has (ht.)(Δx) of each rectangle where $\Delta x = \frac{b - a}{n}$.
3. If f is an analytical equation (not table or graph) set up a table where the x 's count by Δx and $f(x)$ is the height at that x -value.
4. The problem situation determines which height, $f(x)$ to use:
 - a) the left height (LRAM) or right height (RRAM) of the rectangle
 - b) the lowest height of the rectangle (lower or inscribed)
 - d) the greatest height of the rectangle (upper or circumscribed)
 - e) the height of the middle of the rectangle (midpoint)

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1. Set up an approximation of the area of the function $y = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$ using the LRAM with 5 rectangles of equal width over $[0, 1]$.

2. Set up an estimate of the area between the curve $g(x)$ and the x -axis using the lower Riemann sums with 4 subintervals of equal width for $[-2, 2]$.

