

Lecture 32

Area

Question What is area? Answer/Defin: Area of rectangle = $l \times w$.

Property If a set is a union of 2 disjoint pieces, area should add

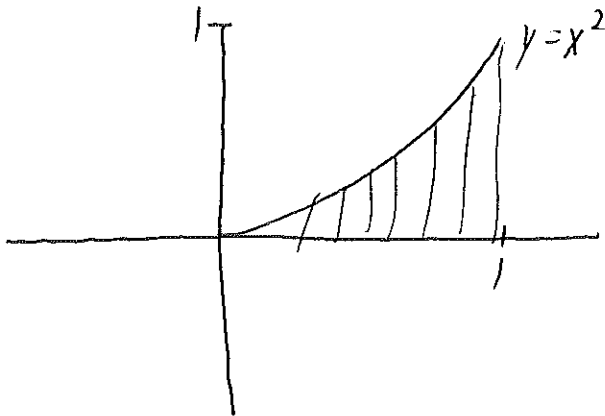
 $\text{Area}(A \cup B) = \text{area } A + \text{area } B$

• What if they have 1-dimensional intersection?

 $\rightarrow \text{Area triangle} = \frac{1}{2} b h$

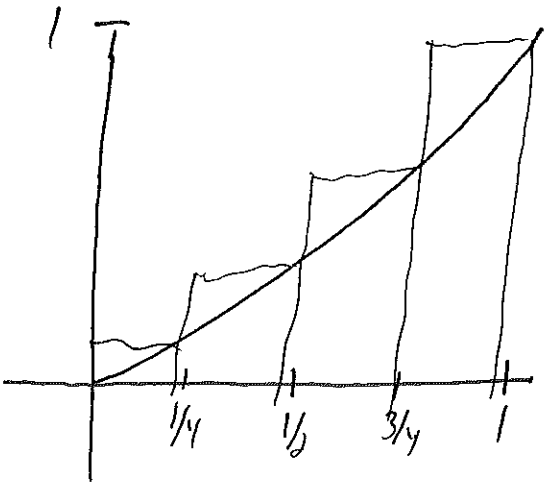
What if boundary is a fractal!

Problem Find area under $y = x^2$ and above $[0, 1]$



Idea Similar to how we got slope of tangent line by approximation w/ secant lines

Approximate w/ rectangles, take a limit.



$f(x) = x^2$ · divide $[0, 1]$ into intervals

- each has base $1/4$
- heights $f(1/4) = 1/16$
 $f(1/2) = 1/4$
 $f(3/4) = 9/16$
 $f(1) = 1$

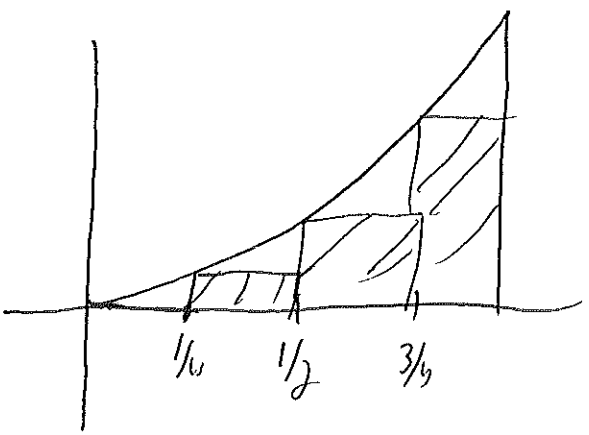
$$\text{Area} \approx \frac{1}{4} (f(1/4) + f(1/2) + f(3/4) + f(1))$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} (1/16 + 1/4 + 9/16 + 1) = \frac{1}{4} (30/16) = \frac{30}{64}$$

$$= \frac{15}{32}$$

$15/32$ is an overestimate

Could use left endpoints



$$A \approx \frac{1}{4} (f(0) + f(1/4) + f(1/2) + f(3/4))$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} (0 + 1/16 + 1/4 + 9/16)$$

$$L_4 = \frac{1}{4} (14/16) = 7/32$$

How to improve? More rectangles!

$$R_8 = \frac{1}{8} (f(1/8) + f(2/8) + \dots + f(7/8)) \approx$$

$$R_n = \frac{1}{n} \left(\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2}{n}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{n}{n}\right)^2 \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^3} (1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2)$$

Facts

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i = 1 + 2 + \dots + n = \frac{(n+1)n}{2} = \frac{n^2+n}{2}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^3} \left(\frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} \right)$$

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$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n = \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Other Options

- midpoint
- lower & upper sums

More generally

$$\text{Area} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [f(x_1)\Delta x + \dots + f(x_n)\Delta x]$$

$x_i \in i^{\text{th}} \text{ int.}$