

## 5.2 Sigma notation & limits of finite sums

Greek letter  $\Sigma$

Sum in sigma notation

meaning

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_k$$

$$a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^6 k^2$$

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 + 5^2 + 6^2$$

$$\sum_{k=2}^5 (-1)^k k$$

$$(-1)^2 2 + (-1)^3 3 + (-1)^4 4 + (-1)^5 5 = 2 - 3 + 4 - 5$$

$$\sum_{j=4}^5 \frac{j^2}{j-1}$$

$$\frac{4^2}{4-1} + \frac{5^2}{5-1} = \frac{16}{3} + \frac{25}{4} = \frac{139}{12}$$

$$\sum_{i=-1}^2 7 f(i)$$

$$\begin{aligned} 7f(-1) + 7f(0) + 7f(1) + 7f(2) &= 7(f(-1) + f(0) + f(1) + f(2)) \\ &= 7 \sum_{i=-1}^2 7f(i) \\ \text{If } f(x) &= x^3 \Rightarrow 7((-1)^3 + 0^3 + 1^3 + 2^3) \\ &= 7(-1 + 1 + 2) \\ &= 14 \end{aligned}$$

Ex: Express the sum  $1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 9$  in sigma notation.

Use 2 as the lower limit of summation and

$k$  for the index of summation.

Answer Look for a pattern.

Observe that to go to the next term we always add +2

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} a_2 & + & a_3 & + & a_4 & + & a_5 & + & a_6 \\ 1 & & (1+2) & & (1+2+2) & & (1+2+2+2) & & (1+2+2+2+2) \\ 1+2(0) & & 1+2(1) & & 1+2(2) & & 1+2(3) & & 1+2(4) \\ 1+2(\underset{\uparrow k}{2-2}) & & 1+2(\underset{\uparrow k}{3-2}) & & 1+2(\underset{\uparrow k}{4-2}) & & 1+2(\underset{\uparrow k}{5-2}) & & 1+2(\underset{\uparrow k}{6-2}) \end{array}$$

$$\sum_{k=2}^6 1+2(k-2) \quad \text{or} \quad \sum_{k=2}^6 1+2k-4 \quad \text{or} \quad \boxed{\sum_{k=2}^6 2k-3}$$

Ex: Express the sum  $-\frac{5}{3} + \frac{5}{9} - \frac{5}{27} + \frac{5}{81}$  in sigma notation.  
 Use 2 as the lower limit of summation and  $j$  for the index of summation.

Answer Look for a pattern.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 \\
 & \begin{array}{cccc}
 (-1)^{\text{odd}} \downarrow & (-1)^{\text{even}} \downarrow & (-1)^{\text{odd}} \downarrow & (-1)^{\text{even}} \downarrow \\
 -\frac{5}{3^1} & +\frac{5}{3^2} & -\frac{5}{3^3} & +\frac{5}{3^4} \\
 \text{2-1} & \text{3-1} & \text{4-1} & \text{5-1}
 \end{array} = \sum_{j=2}^5 (-1)^{j+1} \frac{5}{3^{j-1}} \text{ or } \sum_{j=2}^5 (-1)^{j+1} 3 \left( \frac{5}{3^j} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Ex: Express  $-\frac{1}{26} + \frac{1}{27} - \frac{1}{28} + \frac{1}{29} - \frac{1}{30}$  in sigma notation.

Use 25 as the lower limit and  $i$  for the index.

Algebra Rules for finite sums

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{k=1}^3 (k+k^2) &= (1+1^2) + (2+2^2) + (3+3^2) \\
 &= (1+2+3) + (1^2+2^2+3^2) && \text{Regroup terms} \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^3 k + \sum_{k=1}^3 k^2
 \end{aligned}$$

In general,

$$\sum_{k=1}^n (a_k + b_k) = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k + \sum_{k=1}^n b_k \quad \text{Sum Rule}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n c a_k = c \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \quad \text{Constant Multiple Rule}$$

Ex: If  $\sum_{k=2}^{100} a_k = 4$  and  $\sum_{k=2}^{100} b_k = 24$ , find ...

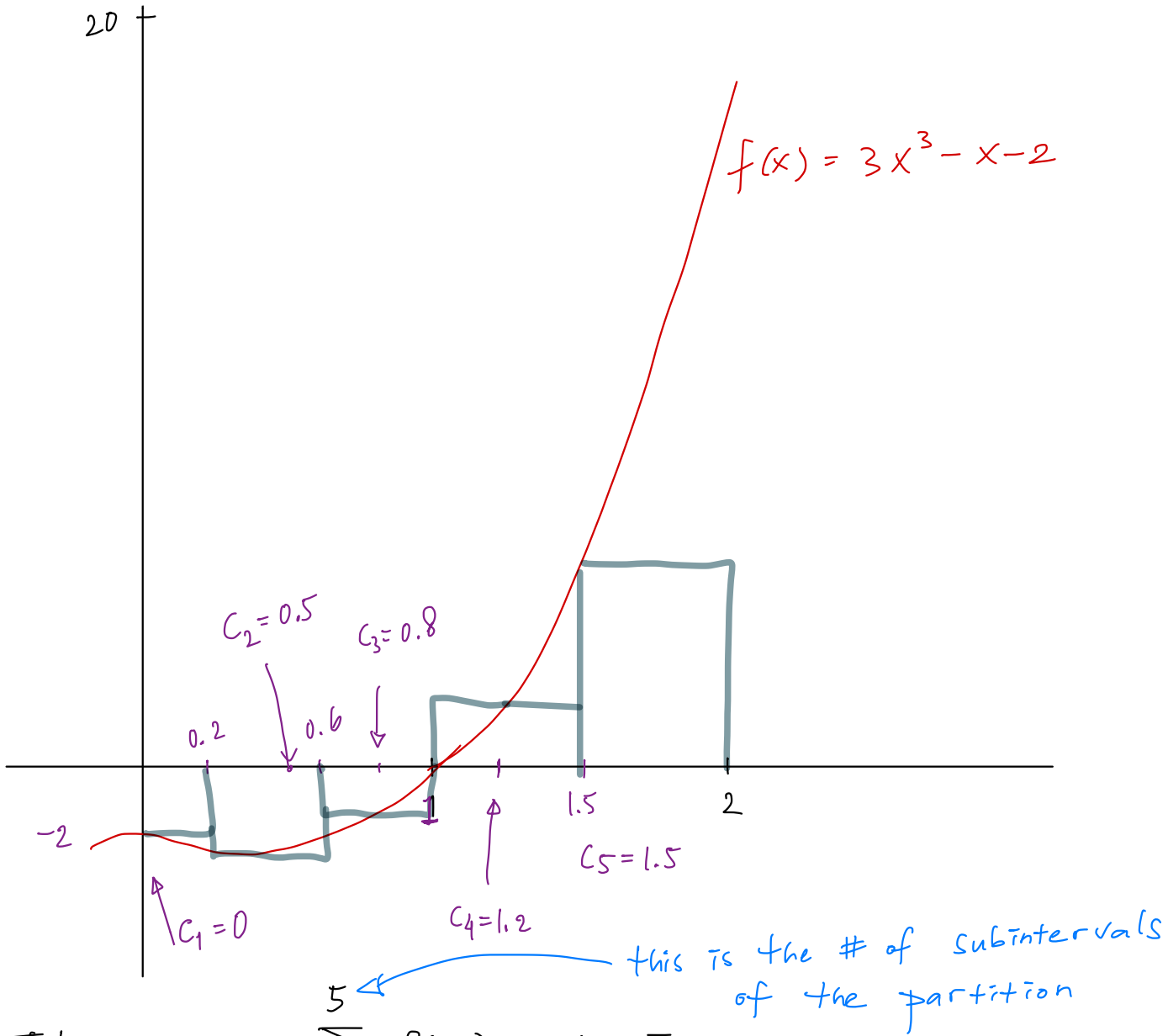
$$\begin{aligned} 1.) \quad \sum_{k=1}^{100} \frac{b_k}{24} &= \frac{1}{24} \sum_{k=1}^{100} b_k \\ &= \frac{1}{24} (24) \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2.) \quad \sum_{k=2}^{100} b_k - 3a_k &= \sum_{k=2}^{100} b_k + (-3) \sum_{k=2}^{100} a_k \\ &= 24 + (-3)4 \\ &= 12 \end{aligned}$$



• For each subinterval  $[x_{k-1}, x_k]$ :

- we select some point  $c_k$  in  $[x_{k-1}, x_k]$
- draw a rectangle from x-axis to  $f(c_k)$
- Area of rectangle is  $f(c_k) \Delta x_k$



• The sum  $\sum_{k=1}^5 f(c_k) \Delta x_k =$

$$f(c_1) \Delta x_1 + f(c_2) \Delta x_2 + f(c_3) \Delta x_3 + f(c_4) \Delta x_4 + f(c_5) \Delta x_5 =$$

$$f(0) \cdot 0.2 + f(0.5) \cdot 0.4 + f(0.8) \cdot 0.4 + f(1.2) \cdot 0.5 + f(1.5) \cdot 0.5$$

is an example of a Riemann sum for  $f$  on the interval  $[a, b] = [0, 2]$ .

Next time (Sec 5.3 The Definite integral):

- Let the norm  $\|P\|$  approach 0.

- If the Riemann sums of  $f$  on  $[a, b]$ .

approach a number, this number is called

the definite integral of  $f$  over  $[a, b]$ .