Lesson Plan 6 - Regions Between Curves 6.2

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We've been looking at a definite integral as the area beneath a curve, that is the area between the curve and y=0.

If the y coordinate of the curve is < 0 we treat this as negative area. What about the area between two curves?



Clearly the area below f(x) minus the area below g(x) is the area between the curves.

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) \, dx - \int_{a}^{b} g(x) \, dx = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) - g(x) \, dx$$



What if one or both functions drop below the X axis?

We can add a constant amount to both functions, moving them up above the X-axis preserving the area. Then:

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x)dx + C - \left[\int_{a}^{b} g(x)dx + C\right] = \int_{a}^{b} f(x)dx - \int_{a}^{b} g(x)dx + \int_{a}^{b} C dx - \int_{a}^{b} C dx =$$
$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x)dx - \int_{a}^{b} g(x)dx$$

What if we have two functions that cross over and we want all the area between them?



Then we need to calculate

$$\int_{a}^{d} |f(x) - g(x)| dx = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) - g(x) dx - \int_{b}^{c} f(x) - g(x) dx + \int_{c}^{d} f(x) - g(x) dx \int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) - g(x) dx + \int_{c}^{b} f(x) dx + \int_{c}^{b}$$

Example 1: Find the area enclosed by $y = x^2$ and $y = 2x - x^2$



Setting these equal we find

$$x^{2} = 2x - x^{2}$$

 $2x^{2} - 2x = 0$
 $x(x-1) = 0$

So the points of intersection are 0 and 1.

We integrate
$$\int_{0}^{1} |2x - x^2 - (x^2)| = \int_{0}^{1} 2x - 2x^2 = \left[x^2 - \frac{2x^3}{3}\right]_{0}^{1} = 1 - \frac{2}{3} - (0 - 0) = \frac{1}{3}$$

Using Approximate integration



We look for the points $e^x = x + 2$, but have no algebraic way to calculate the limits, so we use the calculator so solve this equation $(x+2) - e^x = 0$ using the Calc:2 Zero function.

We get values -1.841406 and 1.1461932

We could now use the anti-derivative:

$$A = \int_{-1.841406}^{1.1461932} \left(x + 2 - e^x\right) dx = \left[\frac{x^2}{2} + 2x - e^x\right]_{-1.841406}^{1.141932} = \left[\frac{1.141932^2}{2} + 2\left(1.141932\right) - e^{1.141932}\right] - \left[\frac{-1.841406^2}{2} + 2\left(-1.841406\right) - e^{-1.841406}\right] = 0$$

1.949071483

Or just use the Calc:7 Integration function.

1.9490715

Integrating a compound area Example 3:

Find the area between the functions $f(x) = -x^2 + 3x + 6$ and g(x) = |2x|



First we want to find the interval by solving $-x^2 + 3x + 6 = -2x$ for x < 0

 $-x^{2} + 3x + 6 = -2x \rightarrow x^{2} - 5x - 6 = 0 \rightarrow (x - 6)(x + 1) = 0$ x = {6, -1} So the left intersection is x = -1

For x > 0 $-x^{2} + 3x + 6 = 2x \rightarrow x^{2} - x - 6 = 0 \rightarrow (x - 3)(x + 2) = 0$ $x = \{3, -2\}$ So the right intersection is x = 3

So we integrate
$$\int_{-1}^{3} -x^2 + 3x + 6 - |2x| dx$$

Note however that

$$|2x| = \begin{cases} -2x & x < 0\\ 2x & x \ge 0 \end{cases}$$

so

$$\int_{-1}^{3} -x^{2} + 3x + 6 - |2x| dx = \int_{-1}^{0} -x^{2} + 3x + 6 + 2x dx + \int_{0}^{3} -x^{2} + 3x + 6 - 2x dx$$

$$\int_{-1}^{0} -x^{2} + 3x + 6 + 2x dx = \left[\frac{-x^{3}}{3} + \frac{5x^{2}}{2} + 6x\right]_{-1}^{0} = (0) - \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{5}{2} - 6\right) = \left(\frac{2}{6} + \frac{15}{6} - \frac{36}{6}\right) = \frac{19}{6}$$

$$\int_{0}^{3} -x^{2} + 3x + 6 - 2x dx = \left[\frac{-x^{3}}{3} + \frac{x^{2}}{2} + 6x\right]_{0}^{3} = \left(\frac{-27}{3} + \frac{9}{2} + 18\right) - (0) = \left(\frac{-54}{6} + \frac{27}{6} + \frac{108}{6}\right) = \frac{81}{6}$$

$$\frac{19}{6} + \frac{81}{6} = \frac{100}{6} = \frac{50}{3}$$

Example 4: Find the area between y = x - 1 and $y^2 = 2x + 6$ f(x) = x-1 $g(x) = \sqrt{2 \cdot x + 6}$ $h(x) = -\sqrt{2 \cdot x + 6}$ -10 10 Already we have a problem because the $2nd^{6}$ equation is not a function. But we can switch x and yx = y - 1 and $x^2 = 2y + 6$ or y = x + 1 and $y = \frac{x^2 - 6}{2}$ We find the intersection $x+1 = \frac{x^2-6}{2}$

Sometimes it is easier to integrate along Y instead of X?

$$L \qquad x^2 - 2x - 8 = 0$$

$$(x-4)(x+2) = 0$$
 so the interval is $[-2,4]$

So

$$\int_{-2}^{4} x + 1 - \left(\frac{x^2 - 6}{2}\right) dx = \int_{-2}^{4} -\frac{x^2}{2} + x + 4 \, dx = \left[-\frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{x^2}{2} + 4x\right]_{-2}^{4} = -\frac{64}{6} + 8 + 16 - \left(\frac{-8}{6} + 2 - 8\right) = 18$$

Sometimes it helps to use some simple geometry

Example 5:

Find the area of the region in the first quadrant bounded by $y = x^{2/3}$ and y = x - 4



Note that we can calculate this finding

$$\int_{0}^{8} x^{2/3} dx - A_{\Delta}$$

where $A \ge \frac{1}{2} 4 \cdot 4 = 8$

$$\int_{0}^{8} x^{\frac{2}{3}} dx - A_{\Delta} = \left[\frac{x^{\frac{5}{3}}}{\frac{5}{3}}\right]_{0}^{8} - 8 = \frac{3}{5} \left[32 - 0\right] - 8 = \frac{96}{5} - \frac{40}{5} = \frac{56}{5}$$