

Section 4.2 Area**Sigma Notation**

In the preceding section, you studied antidifferentiation. In this section, you will look further into a problem introduced in Section 1.1—that of finding the area of a region in the plane. At first glance, these two ideas may seem unrelated, but you will discover in Section 4.4 that they are closely related by an extremely important theorem called the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

This section begins by introducing a concise notation for sums. This notation is called **sigma notation** because it uses the uppercase Greek letter sigma, written as  $\Sigma$ .

**Sigma Notation**

The sum of  $n$  terms  $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n$  is written as

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n$$

where  $i$  is the **index of summation**,  $a_i$  is the  **$i$ th term** of the sum, and the **upper and lower bounds of summation** are  $n$  and 1.

**NOTE** The upper and lower bounds must be constant with respect to the index of summation. However, the lower bound doesn't have to be 1. Any integer less than or equal to the upper bound is legitimate. ■

**Ex.1 Examples of Sigma Notation**

- a.  $\sum_{i=1}^6 i = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6$
- b.  $\sum_{i=0}^5 (i + 1) = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6$
- c.  $\sum_{j=3}^7 j^2 = 3^2 + 4^2 + 5^2 + 6^2 + 7^2$
- d.  $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{n}(k^2 + 1) = \frac{1}{n}(1^2 + 1) + \frac{1}{n}(2^2 + 1) + \dots + \frac{1}{n}(n^2 + 1)$
- e.  $\sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) \Delta x = f(x_1) \Delta x + f(x_2) \Delta x + \dots + f(x_n) \Delta x$

From parts (a) and (b), notice that the same sum can be represented in different ways using sigma notation. ■

Although any variable can be used as the index of summation  $i, j$ , and  $k$  are often used. Notice in Example 1 that the index of summation does not appear in the terms of the expanded sum.

The following properties of summation can be derived using the associative and commutative properties of addition and the distributive property of addition over multiplication. (In the first property,  $k$  is a constant.)

$$1. \sum_{i=1}^n ka_i = k \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$$

$$2. \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i \pm b_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \pm \sum_{i=1}^n b_i$$

**THEOREM 4.2 Summation Formulas**

$$1. \sum_{i=1}^n c = cn$$

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

$$3. \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

$$4. \sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4}$$

**Ex.2 Evaluating a Sum**

Evaluate  $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i+1}{n^2}$  for  $n = 10, 100, 1000,$  and  $10,000.$

$n$	$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i+1}{n^2} = \frac{n+3}{2n}$
10	
100	
1,000	
10,000	

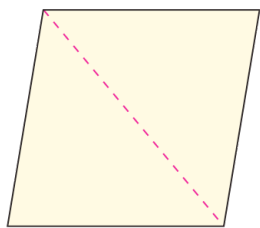
In the table, note that the sum appears to approach a limit as  $n$  increases. Although the discussion of limits at infinity in Section 3.5 applies to a variable  $x$ , where  $x$  can be any real number, many of the same results hold true for limits involving the variable  $n$ , where  $n$  is restricted to positive integer values. So, to find the limit of  $(n + 3)/2n$  as  $n$  approaches infinity, you can write

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n + 3}{2n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n}{2n} + \frac{3}{2n} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2n} \right) = \frac{1}{2} + 0 = \frac{1}{2}.$$

## Area

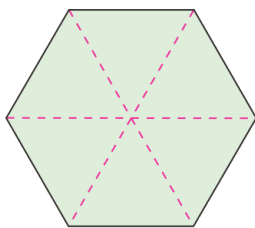
In Euclidean geometry, the simplest type of plane region is a rectangle. Although people often say that the *formula* for the area of a rectangle is  $A = bh$ , it is actually more proper to say that this is the *definition* of the **area of a rectangle**.

From this definition, you can develop formulas for the areas of many other plane regions. For example, to determine the area of a triangle, you can form a rectangle whose area is twice that of the triangle, as shown in Figure 4.5. Once you know how to find the area of a triangle, you can determine the area of any polygon by subdividing the polygon into triangular regions, as shown in Figure 4.6.

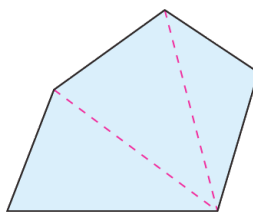


Parallelogram

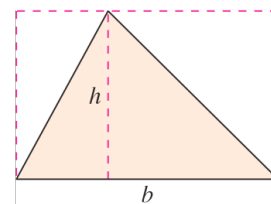
Figure 4.6



Hexagon



Polygon

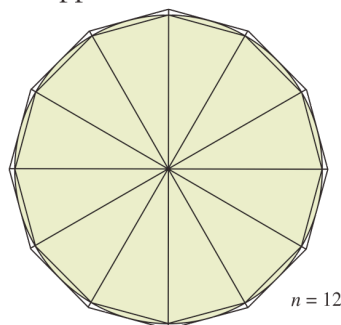
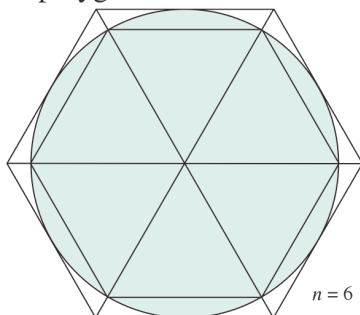


Triangle:  $A = \frac{1}{2}bh$

Figure 4.5

Finding the areas of regions other than polygons is more difficult. The ancient Greeks were able to determine formulas for the areas of some general regions (principally those bounded by conics) by the *exhaustion* method. The clearest description of this method was given by Archimedes. Essentially, the method is a limiting process in which the area is squeezed between two polygons—one inscribed in the region and one circumscribed about the region.

For instance, in Figure 4.7 the area of a circular region is approximated by an  $n$ -sided inscribed polygon and an  $n$ -sided circumscribed polygon. For each value of  $n$ , the area of the inscribed polygon is less than the area of the circle, and the area of the circumscribed polygon is greater than the area of the circle. Moreover, as  $n$  increases, the areas of both polygons become better and better approximations of the area of the circle.



## The Area of a Plane Region

Recall from Section 1.1 that the origins of calculus are connected to two classic problems: the tangent line problem and the area problem. Example 3 begins the investigation of the area problem.

### Ex.3 Approximating the Area of a Plane Region

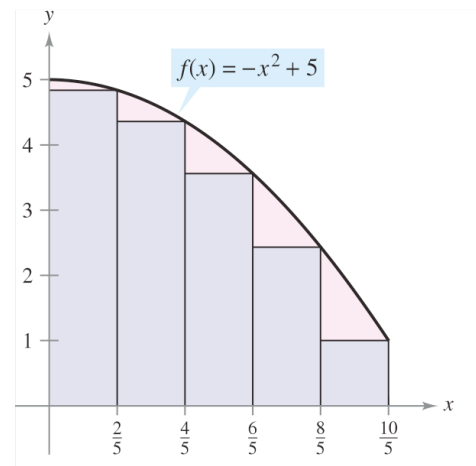
Use the five rectangles in Figure 4.8(a) and (b) to find *two* approximations of the area of the region lying between the graph of

$$f(x) = -x^2 + 5$$

and the  $x$ -axis between  $x = 0$  and  $x = 2$ .

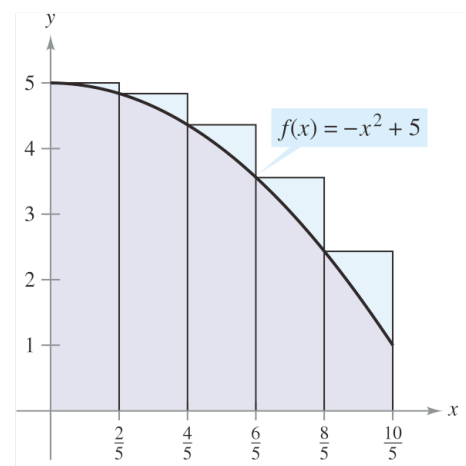
$$\left[0, \frac{2}{5}\right], \left[\frac{2}{5}, \frac{4}{5}\right], \left[\frac{4}{5}, \frac{6}{5}\right], \left[\frac{6}{5}, \frac{8}{5}\right], \left[\frac{8}{5}, \frac{10}{5}\right]$$

(a)



(a) The area of the parabolic region is greater than the area of the rectangles.

(b)

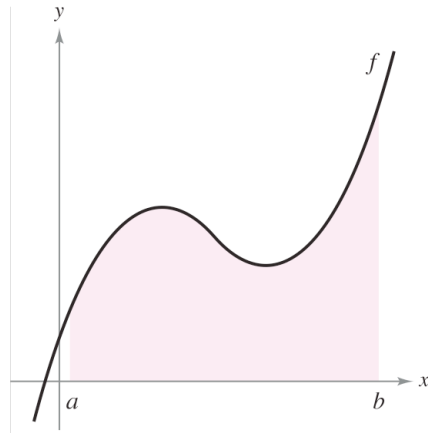


(b) The area of the parabolic region is less than the area of the rectangles.

**Figure 4.8**

## Upper and Lower Sums

The procedure used in Example 3 can be generalized as follows. Consider a plane region bounded above by the graph of a nonnegative, continuous function  $y = f(x)$ , as shown in Figure 4.9. The region is bounded below by the  $x$ -axis, and the left and right boundaries of the region are the vertical lines  $x = a$  and  $x = b$ .



The region under a curve  
**Figure 4.9**

To approximate the area of the region, begin by subdividing the interval  $[a, b]$  into  $n$  subintervals, each of width  $\Delta x = (b - a)/n$ , as shown in Figure 4.10. The endpoints of the intervals are as follows.

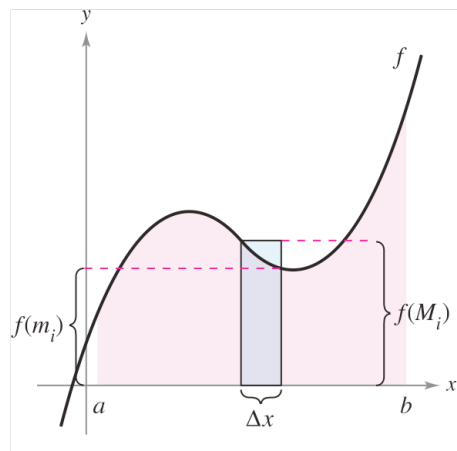
$$\underbrace{a = x_0} \quad \underbrace{x_1} \quad \underbrace{x_2} \quad \underbrace{x_n = b}$$

$$a + 0(\Delta x) < a + 1(\Delta x) < a + 2(\Delta x) < \cdots < a + n(\Delta x)$$

Because  $f$  is continuous, the Extreme Value Theorem guarantees the existence of a minimum and a maximum value of  $f(x)$  in *each* subinterval.

$f(m_i)$  = Minimum value of  $f(x)$  in  $i$ th subinterval

$f(M_i)$  = Maximum value of  $f(x)$  in  $i$ th subinterval



The interval  $[a, b]$  is divided into  $n$  subintervals of width  $\Delta x = \frac{b - a}{n}$ .

**Figure 4.10**

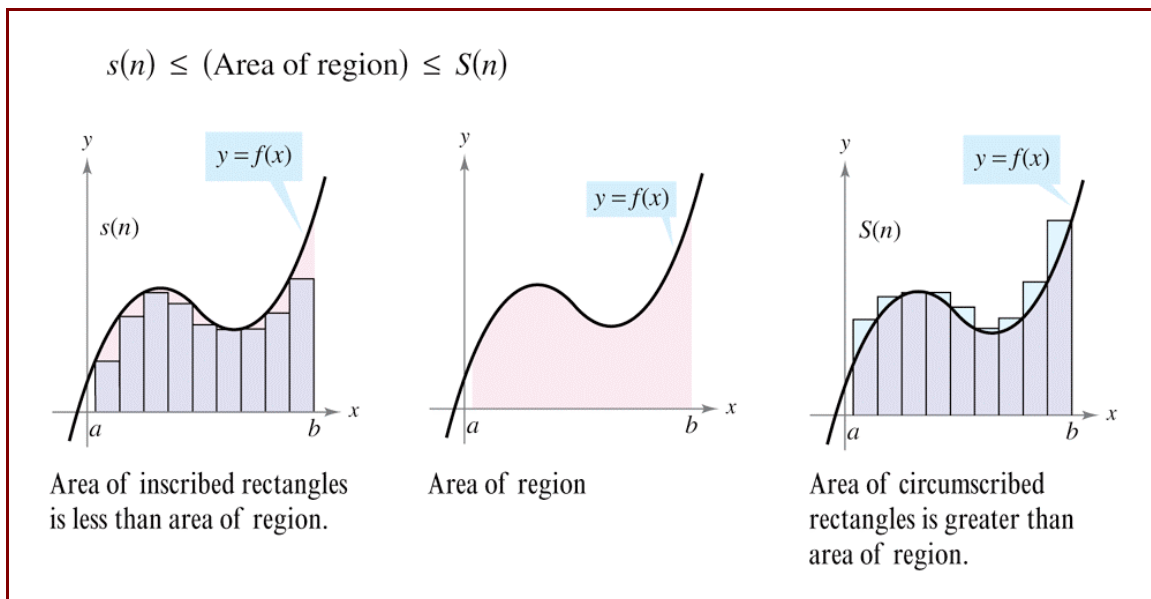


Figure 4.11

Next, define an **inscribed rectangle** lying *inside* the  $i$ th subregion and a **circumscribed rectangle** extending *outside* the  $i$ th subregion. The height of the  $i$ th inscribed rectangle is  $f(m_i)$  and the height of the  $i$ th circumscribed rectangle is  $f(M_i)$ . For *each*  $i$ , the area of the inscribed rectangle is less than or equal to the area of the circumscribed rectangle.

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Area of inscribed} \\ \text{rectangle} \end{array} \right) = f(m_i) \Delta x \leq f(M_i) \Delta x = \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Area of circumscribed} \\ \text{rectangle} \end{array} \right)$$

The sum of the areas of the inscribed rectangles is called a **lower sum**, and the sum of the areas of the circumscribed rectangles is called an **upper sum**.

$$\text{Lower sum} = s(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n f(m_i) \Delta x \quad \text{Area of inscribed rectangles}$$

$$\text{Upper sum} = S(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n f(M_i) \Delta x \quad \text{Area of circumscribed rectangles}$$

From Figure 4.11, you can see that the lower sum  $s(n)$  is less than or equal to the upper sum  $S(n)$ . Moreover, the actual area of the region lies between these two sums.

$$s(n) \leq (\text{Area of region}) \leq S(n)$$

**Ex.4 Finding Upper and Lower Sums for a Region**

Find the upper and lower sums for the region bounded by the graph of  $f(x) = x^2$  and the  $x$ -axis between  $x = 0$  and  $x = 2$ .

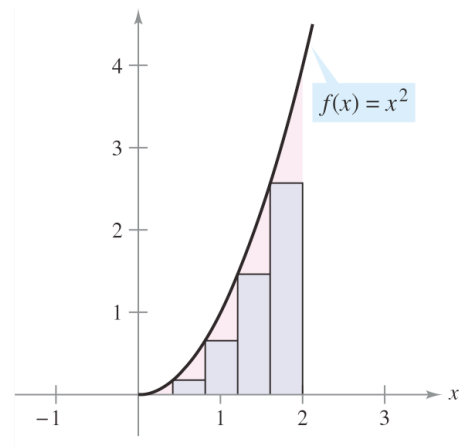
$$\Delta x = \frac{b - a}{n} =$$

(a)

$$s(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n f(m_i) \Delta x =$$

Left Endpoints

$$m_i = \frac{2(i - 1)}{n}$$



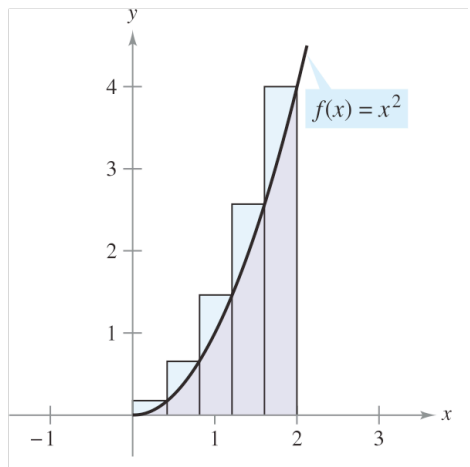
Inscribed rectangles

(b)

$$S(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n f(M_i) \Delta x =$$

Right Endpoints

$$M_i = \frac{2i}{n}$$



Circumscribed rectangles

**Figure 4.12**

Example 4 illustrates some important things about lower and upper sums. First, notice that for any value of  $n$ , the lower sum is less than (or equal to) the upper sum.

$$s(n) = \frac{8}{3} - \frac{4}{n} + \frac{4}{3n^2} < \frac{8}{3} + \frac{4}{n} + \frac{4}{3n^2} = S(n)$$

Second, the difference between these two sums lessens as  $n$  increases. In fact, if you take the limits as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , both the upper sum and the lower sum approach  $\frac{8}{3}$ .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s(n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{8}{3} - \frac{4}{n} + \frac{4}{3n^2} \right) = \frac{8}{3} \quad \text{Lower sum limit}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{8}{3} + \frac{4}{n} + \frac{4}{3n^2} \right) = \frac{8}{3} \quad \text{Upper sum limit}$$

The next theorem shows that the equivalence of the limits (as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ) of the upper and lower sums is not mere coincidence. It is true for all functions that are continuous and nonnegative on the closed interval  $[a, b]$ . The proof of this theorem is best left to a course in advanced calculus.

### THEOREM 4.3 Limits of the Lower and Upper Sums

Let  $f$  be continuous and nonnegative on the interval  $[a, b]$ . The limits as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  of both the lower and upper sums exist and are equal to each other. That is,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s(n) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(m_i) \Delta x \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(M_i) \Delta x \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(n) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Delta x = (b - a)/n$  and  $f(m_i)$  and  $f(M_i)$  are the minimum and maximum values of  $f$  on the subinterval.

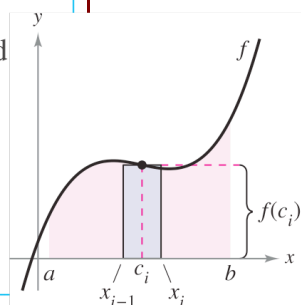
Because the same limit is attained for both the minimum value  $f(m_i)$  and the maximum value  $f(M_i)$ , it follows from the Squeeze Theorem (Theorem 1.8) that the choice of  $x$  in the  $i$ th subinterval does not affect the limit. This means that you are free to choose an *arbitrary*  $x$ -value in the  $i$ th subinterval, as in the following *definition of the area of a region in the plane*.

### Definition of the Area of a Region in the Plane

Let  $f$  be continuous and nonnegative on the interval  $[a, b]$ . The area of the region bounded by the graph of  $f$ , the  $x$ -axis, and the vertical lines  $x = a$  and  $x = b$  is

$$\text{Area} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(c_i) \Delta x, \quad x_{i-1} \leq c_i \leq x_i$$

where  $\Delta x = (b - a)/n$  (see Figure 4.14).



The width of the  $i$ th subinterval is  $\Delta x = x_i - x_{i-1}$ .

Figure 4.13



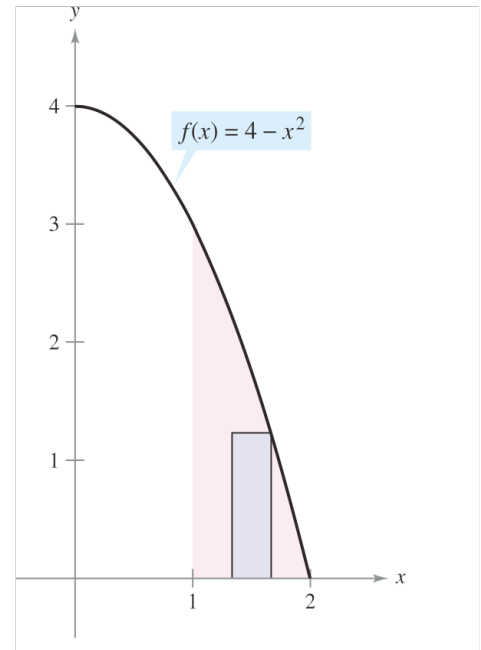
### Ex.5 Finding Area by the Limit Definition

Find the area of the region bounded by the graph of  $f(x) = 4 - x^2$ , the  $x$ -axis, and the vertical lines  $x = 1$  and  $x = 2$ , as shown in Figure 4.15.

$$\Delta x = \frac{b - a}{n} =$$

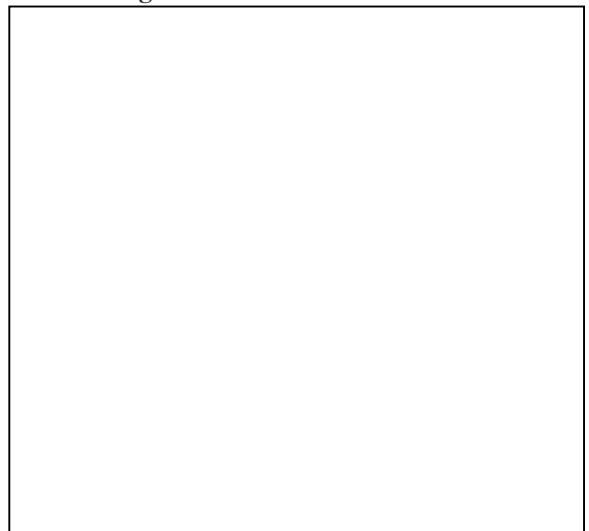
$$c_i =$$

$$\text{Area} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(c_i) \Delta x =$$



The area of the region bounded by the graph of  $f$ , the  $x$ -axis,  $x = 1$ , and  $x = 2$  is  $\frac{5}{3}$ .

**Figure 4.15**



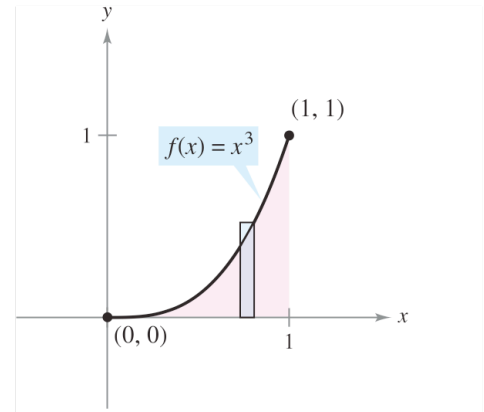
**Ex.6 Finding Area by the Limit Definition**

Find the area of the region bounded by the graph  $f(x) = x^3$ , the  $x$ -axis, and the vertical lines  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$ , as shown in Figure 4.14.

$$\Delta x = \frac{b - a}{n} =$$

$$c_i =$$

$$\text{Area} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(c_i) \Delta x =$$



The area of the region bounded by the graph of  $f$ , the  $x$ -axis,  $x = 0$ , and  $x = 1$  is  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

**Figure 4.14**



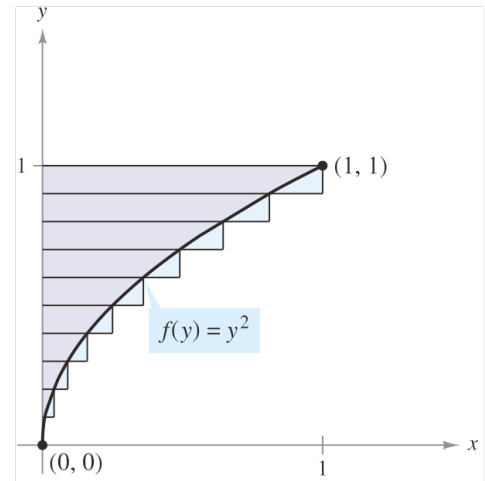
**Ex.7 Finding Area of a Region Bounded by the  $y$ -axis, by the Limit Definition**

Find the area of the region bounded by the graph of  $f(y) = y^2$  and the  $y$ -axis for  $0 \leq y \leq 1$ , as shown in Figure 4.16.

$$\Delta x = \frac{b - a}{n} =$$

$$c_i =$$

$$\text{Area} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(c_i) \Delta y =$$



The area of the region bounded by the graph of  $f$  and the  $y$ -axis for  $0 \leq y \leq 1$  is  $\frac{1}{3}$ .

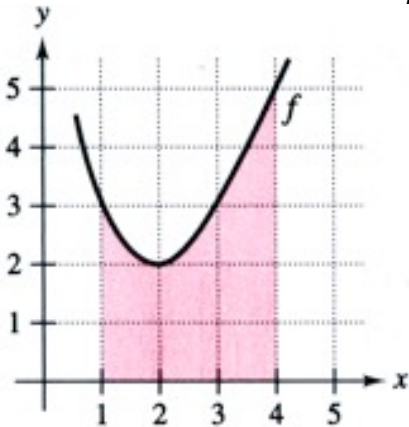
**Figure 4.16**



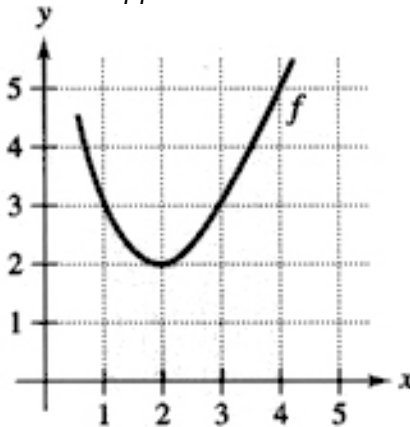
**Ex.8** Finding Area of a Bounded Region

Find the both the upper and lower sums that bound the area of the shaded region. Use rectangles of width 1. First, use the graphs of  $y = f(x)$  to show the graphical representation for each of the respective sums. Then, show the correct algebraic notation to find the value of each sum.

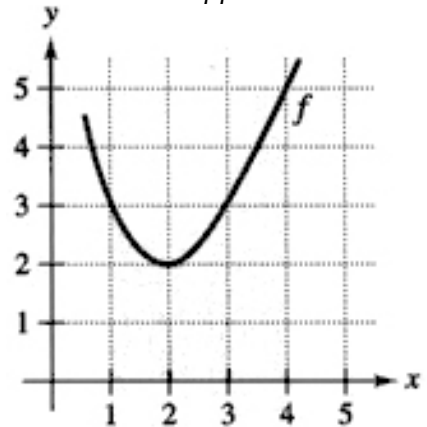
*Bounded Area*



*Upper Sum Approximation*



*Lower Sum Approximation*



Upper Sum  $S(3) =$

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Lower Sum  $s(3) =$

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