

# Areas Between Curves

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Then the area bounded:

- *above* by the graph of  $f(x)$
- *below* by the graph of  $g(x)$
- on the *left* by the vertical line  $x = a$
- on the *right* by the vertical line  $x = b$

is given by:

$$A = \int_a^b [f(x) - g(x)] dx$$

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is given by:

$$A = \int_a^b [f(x) - g(x)] dx$$

The assumption that  $f(x) - g(x) \geq 0$  on  $[a, b]$  is *necessary*.

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Let  $f(x) = x + 1$  and  $g(x) = x$ , then  $f(x) \geq g(x)$  for  $x \in [0, 1]$ , so the area is

$$A = \int_0^1 [(x + 1) - x] dx$$

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$$= \int_0^1 1 dx = x \Big|_0^1 = 1 - 0 = 1$$

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Let  $f(x) = e^x$  and  $g(x) = e^{-x}$ , then  $f(x) \geq g(x)$  for  $x \in [0, 1]$ , so the area is

$$A = \int_0^1 [e^x - e^{-x}] dx = \int_0^1 e^x dx - \int_0^1 e^{-x} dx$$



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Let  $f(x) = e^x$  and  $g(x) = e^{-x}$ , then  $f(x) \geq g(x)$  for  $x \in [0, 1]$ , so the area is

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \int_0^1 [e^x - e^{-x}] dx = \int_0^1 e^x dx - \int_0^1 e^{-x} dx \\ &= (e^x + e^{-x}) \Big|_0^1 = e + e^{-1} - 2 \end{aligned}$$

# Question 1

---

Find the area between the curves

$x$  and  $x^3$  between  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$

- |    |       |    |                   |
|----|-------|----|-------------------|
| 1. | $1/4$ | 4. | 1                 |
| 2. | $1/2$ | 5. | 3                 |
| 3. | 2     | 6. | none of the above |

# Question 1

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Find the area between the curves

$x$  and  $x^3$  between  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$

- |          |                      |
|----------|----------------------|
| 1. $1/4$ | 4. 1                 |
| 2. $1/2$ | 5. 3                 |
| 3. 2     | 6. none of the above |

1.  $A = 1/4$

# Question 2

---

Find the area between the curves

$\cos x$  and  $\sin x$  between  $x = 0$  and  $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. $\sqrt{2}$     | 4. 1                 |
| 2. $\sqrt{2}/2$   | 5. $\sqrt{2} - 3$    |
| 3. $\sqrt{2} - 1$ | 6. none of the above |

# Question 2

---

Find the area between the curves

$\cos x$  and  $\sin x$  between  $x = 0$  and  $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. $\sqrt{2}$     | 4. 1                 |
| 2. $\sqrt{2}/2$   | 5. $\sqrt{2} - 3$    |
| 3. $\sqrt{2} - 1$ | 6. none of the above |

3.  $A = \sqrt{2} - 1$

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If neither  $f(x) \geq g(x)$  nor  $g(x) \geq f(x)$  on  $[a, b]$ , then the previous formula cannot be used for the entire interval.

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Then on the subintervals where  $f(x) \geq g(x)$ , apply the formula

$$A_i = \int (f(x) - g(x)) dx$$



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Instead, we have to break the interval into subintervals where either  $f(x) \geq g(x)$  or  $g(x) \geq f(x)$ .

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In this case,

- $\cos x \geq \sin x$  when  $0 \leq x \leq \pi/4$
- $\cos x \leq \sin x$  when  $\pi/4 \leq x \leq \pi/2$

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Example: Find the area between the curves  $y = \cos x$  and  $y = \sin x$  between  $x = 0$  and  $x = \pi/2$

In this case,

- $\cos x \geq \sin x$  when  $0 \leq x \leq \pi/4$
- $\cos x \leq \sin x$  when  $\pi/4 \leq x \leq \pi/2$

We have to split

$$A = \int_0^{\pi/2} |\cos x - \sin x| dx$$

into two parts. The graphs cross at  $x = \pi/4$  in this case.

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$$\int_0^{\pi/2} |\cos x - \sin x| dx$$
$$= \int_0^{\pi/4} [\cos x - \sin x] dx + \int_{\pi/4}^{\pi/2} [\sin x - \cos x] dx$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{\pi/2} |\cos x - \sin x| dx \\ &= \int_0^{\pi/4} [\cos x - \sin x] dx + \int_{\pi/4}^{\pi/2} [\sin x - \cos x] dx \\ &= (\sqrt{2} - 1) + (\sqrt{2} - 1) = 2\sqrt{2} - 2 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{\pi/2} |\cos x - \sin x| dx \\ &= \int_0^{\pi/4} [\cos x - \sin x] dx + \int_{\pi/4}^{\pi/2} [\sin x - \cos x] dx \\ &= (\sqrt{2} - 1) + (\sqrt{2} - 1) = 2\sqrt{2} - 2 \end{aligned}$$

The difficult part of this type of problem is usually finding the points where the curves of  $f$  and  $g$  cross.

# Question 3

---

Find the area between the curves

$x^3$  and  $x$  between  $x = -1$  and  $x = 1$

- |          |                      |
|----------|----------------------|
| 1. $1/3$ | 4. $1$               |
| 2. $1/4$ | 5. $1/2$             |
| 3. $0$   | 6. none of the above |



# Question 3

---

Find the area between the curves

$x^3$  and  $x$  between  $x = -1$  and  $x = 1$

1.  $1/3$

2.  $1/4$

3.  $0$

4.  $1$

5.  $1/2$

6. none of the above

5.  $A = 1/2$

# Question 4

---

Find the area between the curves

$$y = 2x + 1 \text{ and } y = -x + 4 \text{ between } x = 0 \text{ and } x = 2$$

1.  $1/3$

2.  $1/4$

3.  $2$

4.  $3$

5.  $1/2$

6. none of the above

# Question 4

---

Find the area between the curves

$$y = 2x + 1 \quad \text{and} \quad y = -x + 4 \quad \text{between } x = 0 \text{ and } x = 2$$

- |          |                      |
|----------|----------------------|
| 1. $1/3$ | 4. 3                 |
| 2. $1/4$ | 5. $1/2$             |
| 3. 2     | 6. none of the above |

4.  $A = 3$  The graphs intersect at  $x = 1$ .

# Question 5

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Find the region bounded by the curves

$$y = 4x - x^2 \quad \text{and} \quad y = x^2$$

- |    |       |    |                   |
|----|-------|----|-------------------|
| 1. | $8/3$ | 4. | 3                 |
| 2. | $4/3$ | 5. | $1/8$             |
| 3. | $2/3$ | 6. | none of the above |

# Question 5

---

Find the region bounded by the curves

$$y = 4x - x^2 \quad \text{and} \quad y = x^2$$

- |          |                      |
|----------|----------------------|
| 1. $8/3$ | 4. 3                 |
| 2. $4/3$ | 5. $1/8$             |
| 3. $2/3$ | 6. none of the above |

1.  $A = 8/3$  The graphs intersect at  $x = 0$  and  $x = 2$ .

# Question 6

---

Find the region bounded by the curves

$$y = \sin(\pi x/2) \quad \text{and} \quad y = x^2 - 2x$$

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. $4/3$         | 4. $3/\pi$           |
| 2. $\pi/3$       | 5. $3\pi/8$          |
| 3. $4/3 + 4/\pi$ | 6. none of the above |

# Question 6

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Find the region bounded by the curves

$$y = \sin(\pi x/2) \quad \text{and} \quad y = x^2 - 2x$$

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. $4/3$         | 4. $3/\pi$           |
| 2. $\pi/3$       | 5. $3\pi/8$          |
| 3. $4/3 + 4/\pi$ | 6. none of the above |

3.  $A = 4/3 + 4/\pi$  The graphs intersect at  $x = 0$  and  $x = 2$ .