

The Riemann-Stieltjes Integral

Defn let $[a, b]$ be a given interval. By a partition P of $[a, b]$ we mean a finite set of points $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$, where

$$a = x_0 \leq x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_{n-1} \leq x_n = b$$

Let α be a monotonically increasing function on $[a, b]$.

Then α is bounded on $[a, b]$ since $\alpha(a)$ and $\alpha(b)$ are finite. Corresponding to each partition P of $[a, b]$, we write

$$\Delta \alpha_i = \alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x_{i-1})$$

Then $\Delta \alpha_i \geq 0$ since α is monotonically increasing.

For any real function f which is bounded on $[a, b]$, we put

$$U(P, f, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n M_i \Delta \alpha_i$$

$$L(P, f, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i \Delta \alpha_i$$

where $M_i = \text{lub } f(x) \quad (x_{i-1} \leq x \leq x_i)$

and $m_i = \text{glb } f(x) \quad (x_{i-1} \leq x \leq x_i)$

Then the sums $U(P, f, \alpha)$ and $L(P, f, \alpha)$ are respectively called the upper Stieltjes and lower Stieltjes sums of the function f w.r.t. α corresponding to the partition P .

We further define

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha = \text{glb } W(P, f, \alpha)$$

and $\int_a^b f d\alpha = \text{lub } L(P, f, \alpha)$

where the glb and the lub are taken over all possible partitions P of $[a, b]$. The integrals $\int_a^b f d\alpha$ and $\int_a^b f d\alpha$ are called the upper and lower Riemann-Stieltjes integrals of f with respect to α over $[a, b]$, respectively.

If the upper and lower integrals are equal, we say that f is integrable with respect to α , in the Riemann sense and write $f \in R(\alpha)$. Further in this case, common value of upper and lower integral is denoted

by $\int_a^b f d\alpha$ or $\int_a^b f(x) d\alpha(x)$. (1)

and is called the Riemann-Stieltjes integral of f w.r.t. α over $[a, b]$.

By taking $\alpha(x) = x$, the Riemann integral is seen to be a special case of the Riemann Stieltjes integral.

We shall now investigate the existence of integral (1). Without saying so every time, f will be assumed real and bounded, and α monotonically increasing on $[a, b]$.

Defn. let P and P^* be two partitions of $[a, b]$.

We say that the partition P^* is a refinement of P if every point of P is a point of P^* .

Given two partitions P_1 and P_2 of $[a, b]$, we say that P^* is their common refinement if $P^* = P_1 \cup P_2$.

Theorem If P^* is a refinement of P , then

$$L(f, P, \alpha) \leq L(f, P^*, \alpha)$$

$$\text{and } U(f, P^*, \alpha) \leq U(f, P, \alpha).$$

Proof. Suppose first that P^* contains just one point more than P . let this extra point be x^* and suppose $x_{i-1} < x^* < x_i$, where x_{i-1} and x_i are two consecutive points of P .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Put } \omega_1 &= \text{glb } f(x) & (x_{i-1} \leq x \leq x^*) \\ \omega_2 &= \text{glb } f(x) & (x^* \leq x \leq x_i) \\ m_i &= \text{glb } f(x) & (x_{i-1} \leq x \leq x_i) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Then } \omega_1 \geq m_i \text{ and } \omega_2 \geq m_i.$$

$$\text{Hence } L(P^*, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \omega_1 [\alpha(x^*) - \alpha(x_{i-1})] + \omega_2 [\alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x^*)] \\ &\quad - m_i [\alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x_{i-1})] \end{aligned}$$

$$= (\omega_1 - m_i) [\alpha(x^*) - \alpha(x_{i-1})] + (\omega_2 - m_i) [\alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x^*)] \geq 0.$$

$$\therefore L(P^*, f, \alpha) \geq L(P, f, \alpha)$$

If P^* contains k points more than P , we repeat this reasoning k times to get the reqd result.

(ii) Suppose first that P^* contains just one point more than P .

let this extra point be x^* and suppose $x_{i-1} < x^* < x_i$

where x_{i-1} and x_i are two consecutive points of P .

$$\text{Put } W_1 = \text{lub } f(x) \quad (x_{i-1} \leq x \leq x^*)$$

$$W_2 = \text{lub } f(x) \quad (x^* \leq x \leq x_i)$$

$$M_i = \text{lub } f(x) \quad (x_{i-1} \leq x \leq x_i)$$

$$\text{Then } W_1 \leq M_i \text{ and } W_2 \leq M_i.$$

$$\therefore U(P, f, \alpha) - U(P^*, f, \alpha)$$

$$= M_i [\alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x_{i-1})] - W_1 [\alpha(x^*) - \alpha(x_{i-1})] - W_2 [\alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x^*)]$$

$$= (M_i - W_2) [\alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x^*)] + (M_i - W_1) [\alpha(x^*) - \alpha(x_{i-1})] \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow U(P, f, \alpha) \geq U(P^*, f, \alpha).$$

If P^* contains k points more than P , we repeat the above reasoning k times to get the reqd result.

Theo. For any two partitions P_1 and P_2 of $[a, b]$,

$$L(P_1, f, \alpha) \leq U(P_2, f, \alpha).$$

Pf. let $P = P_1 \cup P_2$ so that P is a common refinement of P_1 & P_2 .

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore L(P_1, f, \alpha) &\leq L(P, f, \alpha) & (\because P \text{ is refinement of } P_1) \\ &\leq U(P, f, \alpha) \\ &\leq U(P_2, f, \alpha) & (\because P \text{ is refinement of } P_2) \end{aligned}$$

Theorem. $\int_a^b f d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha$

Proof. let P_1 and P_2 be any two partitions of $[a, b]$ and

$P^* = P_1 \cup P_2$. Then

$$L(P_1, f, \alpha) \leq L(P^*, f, \alpha) \leq U(P^*, f, \alpha) \leq U(P_2, f, \alpha).$$

Hence $L(P_1, f, \alpha) \leq U(P_2, f, \alpha)$

for any partitions P_1 and P_2 of $[a, b]$.

Keeping P_2 fixed and taking lub over all partitions P_1 , we get

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha \leq U(P_2, f, \alpha).$$

Taking glb over all partitions P_2 , we get

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha$$

Example let $\alpha(x) = x$ and define f on $[0, 1]$ by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \text{ is rational} \\ 0 & \text{if } x \text{ is irrational} \end{cases}$$

let $P = \{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ be a partition of $[0, 1]$.

Then for each $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$;

$$M_i = \text{lub } f(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i] = 1$$

$$\text{and } m_i = \text{glb } f(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i] = 0$$

because each subinterval $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$ contains rational as well as irrational numbers.

$$\text{Therefore } L(P, f, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i \Delta \alpha_i = 0$$

$$\text{and } U(P, f, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n M_i \Delta \alpha_i = \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) = 1 - 0 = 1.$$

This holds for every partition P of $[0, 1]$.

$$\text{So } \int_{-0}^1 f d\alpha = 0 \text{ and } \int_0^1 f d\alpha = 1.$$

$$\text{Hence } \int_{-0}^1 f d\alpha < \int_0^1 f d\alpha$$

Theorem $f \in R(\alpha)$ on $[a, b]$ if and only if for every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists a partition P such that

$$U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \epsilon.$$

Proof. Suppose first that given condition holds.

let $\epsilon > 0$. Then $\exists$ a partition P of $[a, b]$ s.t.

$$U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \epsilon.$$

$$\text{Now } L(P, f, \alpha) \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq U(P, f, \alpha)$$

So
$$0 \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha - \int_{\bar{a}}^b f d\alpha \leq U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha)$$

that is,

$$0 \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha - \int_{\bar{a}}^b f d\alpha < \epsilon$$

Since $\epsilon > 0$ is arbitrary small, this gives

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha - \int_{\bar{a}}^b f d\alpha = 0$$

Hence
$$\int_a^b f d\alpha = \int_{\bar{a}}^b f d\alpha \quad \text{and so } f \in R(\alpha)$$

Conversely suppose that $f \in R(\alpha)$.

Then
$$\int_{\bar{a}}^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f d\alpha$$

let $\epsilon > 0$ be given.

Since $\int_{\bar{a}}^b f d\alpha$ is lub of all lower sums, there exists

a partition P_1 of $[a, b]$ s.t.

$$L(P_1, f, \alpha) > \int_{\bar{a}}^b f d\alpha - \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \int_a^b f d\alpha - \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

Similarly there exists a partition P_2 of $[a, b]$ s.t.

$$U(P_2, f, \alpha) < \int_a^b f d\alpha + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \int_{\bar{a}}^b f d\alpha + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

Let $P = P_1 \cup P_2$ so that P is a common refinement of P_1 and P_2 . Then

$$\begin{aligned} U(P, f, \alpha) &\leq U(P_2, f, \alpha) \\ &< \int_a^b f d\alpha + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ &< L(P_1, f, \alpha) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ &\leq L(P, f, \alpha) + \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \epsilon.$$

Theorem If f is continuous on $[a, b]$ then $f \in R(\alpha)$ on $[a, b]$.

Proof - let $\epsilon > 0$ be given. Choose $\eta > 0$ so that

$$[\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)]\eta < \epsilon.$$

Since f is continuous on $[a, b]$, it is uniformly continuous on $[a, b]$. So there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(t)| &< \eta \quad \text{whenever } x, t \in [a, b] \\ &\quad \text{with } |x - t| < \delta. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

If P is any partition of $[a, b]$ such that $|P| < \delta$ then

(1) implies

$$M_i - m_i \leq \eta \quad (i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n)$$

where $M_i = \text{lub } f(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i]$ and

$$m_i = \text{glb } f(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i].$$

9.

Hence
$$U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - m_i) \Delta \alpha_i$$

$$\leq \eta \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta \alpha_i = \eta [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)] < \epsilon$$

and so $f \in R(\alpha)$.

Theorem let f be a continuous real function on the interval $[a, b]$ If $f(a) < f(b)$ and if c is a number such that $f(a) < c < f(b)$ then there exists a point $x \in (a, b)$ such that $f(x) = c$.

Theorem If f is monotonic on $[a, b]$ and if α is continuous on $[a, b]$, then $f \in R(\alpha)$.

(We still assume, of course, that α is monotonic)

Proof. let $\epsilon > 0$ be given.

For any positive integer n , choose a partition

$P = \{x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n\}$ of $[a, b]$ s.t.

$$\alpha(x_1) = \alpha(a) + \frac{\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)}{n}$$

$$\alpha(x_2) = \alpha(a) + \frac{2[\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)]}{n}$$

$$\alpha(x_{n-1}) = \alpha(a) + \left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right) [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)].$$

This is possible since α is continuous on $[a, b]$.

We suppose that f is monotonically increasing on $[a, b]$.

Then $M_i = f(x_i)$, $m_i = f(x_{i-1})$ ($i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$)

So that

$$\begin{aligned} U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) &= \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - m_i) \Delta \alpha_i \\ &= \frac{\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - m_i) \\ &= \frac{\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n [f(x_i) - f(x_{i-1})] \\ &= \frac{\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)}{n} [f(b) - f(a)] < \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

If n is taken large enough.

Hence $f \in R(\alpha)$.

Theorem If $f_1 \in R(\alpha)$ and $f_2 \in R(\alpha)$ on $[a, b]$, then $f_1 + f_2 \in R(\alpha)$

and
$$\int_a^b (f_1 + f_2) d\alpha = \int_a^b f_1 d\alpha + \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha$$

Proof. Let $\epsilon > 0$ be given.

Since $f_1 \in R(\alpha)$, $f_2 \in R(\alpha)$, there exist partitions P_1 and

P_2 of $[a, b]$ such that

$$U(P_1, f_1, \alpha) - L(P_1, f_1, \alpha) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$U(P_2, f_2, \alpha) - L(P_2, f_2, \alpha) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}.$$

Let $f = f_1 + f_2$ and $P = \{a = x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n = b\}$ be common

refinement of P_1 and P_2 . Then $U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$

and $U(P, f_2, \alpha) - L(P, f_2, \alpha) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}.$

Suppose further that M_i', m_i' ; M_i'', m_i'' and M_i, m_i are the bounds of f_1, f_2 and f respectively in the subinterval $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$ for $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$. Then

$$m_i' + m_i'' \leq m_i \leq M_i \leq M_i' + M_i'' \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n.$$

Multiplying by Δx_i and adding for $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$; we get

$$L(P, f_1, \alpha) + L(P, f_2, \alpha) \leq L(P, f, \alpha) \leq U(P, f, \alpha) \leq U(P, f_1, \alpha) + U(P, f_2, \alpha)$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) &\leq U(P, f_1, \alpha) - L(P, f_1, \alpha) + U(P, f_2, \alpha) - L(P, f_2, \alpha) \\ &< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $f \in R(\alpha)$, that is, $f_1 + f_2 \in R(\alpha)$.

With this same P , we have

$$\begin{aligned} U(P, f_1, \alpha) &\leq U(P_1, f_1, \alpha) \\ &< L(P_1, f_1, \alpha) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ &\leq \int_a^b f_1 d\alpha + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \int_a^b f_1 d\alpha + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \end{aligned}$$

that is,
$$U(P, f_1, \alpha) < \int_a^b f_1 d\alpha + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

Similarly,
$$U(P, f_2, \alpha) < \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

Therefore
$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b f d\alpha &\leq U(P, f, \alpha) \leq U(P, f_1, \alpha) + U(P, f_2, \alpha) \\ &< \int_a^b f_1 d\alpha + \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha + \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Since ϵ is arbitrary positive number, we have

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f_1 d\alpha + \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha \quad (1)$$

Replacing f_1 and f_2 in (1) by $-f_1$ and $-f_2$ respectively, we have

$$\int_a^b -f d\alpha \leq \int_a^b -f_1 d\alpha + \int_a^b -f_2 d\alpha$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad -\int_a^b f d\alpha \leq -\int_a^b f_1 d\alpha - \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad \int_a^b f_1 d\alpha + \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha \quad (2)$$

From (1) & (2),

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f_1 d\alpha + \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha$$

Hence

$$\int_a^b (f_1 + f_2) d\alpha = \int_a^b f_1 d\alpha + \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha$$

Theorem If $f \in R(\alpha)$ then $cf \in R(\alpha)$ for every constant c

and

$$\int_a^b cf d\alpha = c \int_a^b f d\alpha.$$

Proof. Clearly result is true for $c = 0$.

So assume $c \neq 0$ let $\epsilon > 0$ be given

Since $f \in R(\alpha)$, $\exists$ a partition P of $[a, b]$ s.t.

$$U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \frac{\epsilon}{|c|}. \quad (1)$$

Let the partition P be $\{a = x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n = b\}$

Suppose $M_i = \text{lub } f(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i]$,

$m_i = \text{glb } f(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i]$,

$M_i' = \text{lub } (cf)(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i]$

and $m_i' = \text{glb } (cf)(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i] \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$

Then
$$M_i' = \begin{cases} c M_i & \text{if } c > 0 \\ c m_i & \text{if } c < 0 \end{cases}$$

and
$$m_i' = \begin{cases} c m_i & \text{if } c > 0 \\ c M_i & \text{if } c < 0 \end{cases}$$

So
$$U(P, cf, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n M_i' \Delta \alpha_i = \begin{cases} c U(P, f, \alpha) & \text{if } c > 0 \\ c L(P, f, \alpha) & \text{if } c < 0 \end{cases}$$

and
$$L(P, cf, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i' \Delta \alpha_i = \begin{cases} c L(P, f, \alpha) & \text{if } c > 0 \\ c U(P, f, \alpha) & \text{if } c < 0 \end{cases}$$

Thus
$$U(P, cf, \alpha) - L(P, cf, \alpha) = \begin{cases} c (U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha)) & \text{if } c > 0 \\ -c (U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha)) & \text{if } c < 0. \end{cases}$$

that is,
$$U(P, cf, \alpha) - L(P, cf, \alpha) = |c| [U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha)]$$

Hence
$$U(P, cf, \alpha) - L(P, cf, \alpha) < \epsilon \quad [\text{using (1)}]$$

and so $cf \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha).$

It remains to show
$$\int_a^b cf \, d\alpha = c \int_a^b f \, d\alpha.$$

For $c=0$, result is trivial.

So let $c > 0$.

$$\text{Since } U(P, f, \alpha) < L(P, f, \alpha) + \frac{\epsilon}{c} \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha + \frac{\epsilon}{c} = \int_a^b f d\alpha + \frac{\epsilon}{c},$$

we have

$$\int_a^b cf d\alpha = \int_a^b cf d\alpha \leq U(P, cf, \alpha) = c U(P, f, \alpha) < c \int_a^b f d\alpha + \epsilon$$

That is,

$$\int_a^b cf d\alpha < c \int_a^b f d\alpha + \epsilon.$$

But $\epsilon > 0$ is arbitrary small. So we must have

$$\int_a^b cf d\alpha \leq c \int_a^b f d\alpha \quad (2)$$

Again from (1),

$$L(P, f, \alpha) > U(P, f, \alpha) - \frac{\epsilon}{c} \geq \int_a^b f d\alpha - \frac{\epsilon}{c} = \int_a^b f d\alpha - \frac{\epsilon}{c}$$

$$\text{So } \int_a^b cf d\alpha = \int_a^b cf d\alpha \geq L(P, cf, \alpha) = c L(P, f, \alpha) > c \int_a^b f d\alpha - \epsilon.$$

Since this holds for each $\epsilon > 0$, we have

$$\int_a^b cf d\alpha \geq c \int_a^b f d\alpha \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Hence } \int_a^b cf d\alpha = c \int_a^b f d\alpha.$$

Similarly we can prove the result if $c < 0$.

Theorem If $f \in R(\alpha_1)$ and $f \in R(\alpha_2)$ then $f \in R(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)$

and
$$\int_a^b f d(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) = \int_a^b f d\alpha_1 + \int_a^b f d\alpha_2.$$

Proof -

Let $\epsilon > 0$ be given.

Since $f \in R(\alpha_1)$ and $f \in R(\alpha_2)$, $\exists$ partitions P_1 and P_2 of $[a, b]$ s.t.

$$U(P_1, f, \alpha_1) - L(P_1, f, \alpha_1) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$U(P_2, f, \alpha_2) - L(P_2, f, \alpha_2) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}.$$

These inequalities also hold if P_1 and P_2 are replaced by their common refinement P .

Let the partition P be $\{a = x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n = b\}$.

If M_i and m_i are bounds of f in $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$ then

$$U(P, f, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2) - L(P, f, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - m_i) [(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)(x_i) - (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)(x_{i-1})]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - m_i) [\alpha_1(x_i) - \alpha_1(x_{i-1})] + \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - m_i) [\alpha_2(x_i) - \alpha_2(x_{i-1})]$$

$$= [U(P, f, \alpha_1) - L(P, f, \alpha_1)] + [U(P, f, \alpha_2) - L(P, f, \alpha_2)]$$

$$< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon$$

Hence $f \in R(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)$.

It remains to show
$$\int_a^b f d(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) = \int_a^b f d\alpha_1 + \int_a^b f d\alpha_2$$

We have

$$U(P, f, \alpha_1) < \int_a^b f d\alpha_1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$\text{and } U(P, f, \alpha_2) < \int_a^b f d\alpha_2 + \frac{\epsilon}{2}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } \int_a^b f d(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) &= \int_a^b f d(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) \leq U(P, f, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2) \\ &= U(P, f, \alpha_1) + U(P, f, \alpha_2) \\ &< \int_a^b f d\alpha_1 + \int_a^b f d\alpha_2 + \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\epsilon > 0$ is arbitrary small, this gives

$$\int_a^b f d(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha_1 + \int_a^b f d\alpha_2 \quad (1)$$

Replacing f by $-f$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b (-f) d(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) &\leq \int_a^b (-f) d\alpha_1 + \int_a^b (-f) d\alpha_2 \\ \text{i.e. } \int_a^b f d\alpha_1 + \int_a^b f d\alpha_2 &\leq \int_a^b f d(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence } \int_a^b f d(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) = \int_a^b f d\alpha_1 + \int_a^b f d\alpha_2.$$

Theorem If $f \in R(\alpha)$ and c is a positive constant, then

17.

$f \in R(c\alpha)$ and

$$\int_a^b f d(c\alpha) = c \int_a^b f d\alpha$$

Proof - First we observe that $c\alpha$ is monotonically increasing on $[a, b]$ since α is monotonically increasing and c is positive.

Let $\epsilon > 0$ be given.

Since $f \in R(\alpha)$, there exists a partition $P = \{a = x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n = b\}$ of $[a, b]$ such that

$$U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \frac{\epsilon}{c}$$

Let M_i and m_i be the bounds of f in $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$ for $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} U(P, f, c\alpha) - L(P, f, c\alpha) &= \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - m_i) [(c\alpha)(x_i) - (c\alpha)(x_{i-1})] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - m_i) [c\alpha(x_i) - c\alpha(x_{i-1})] \\ &= c \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - m_i) [\alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x_{i-1})] \\ &= c [U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha)] < \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

and so $f \in R(c\alpha)$.

Further with the same partition P as above,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b f d(c\alpha) &= \int_a^b f d(c\alpha) \leq U(P, f, c\alpha) = c U(P, f, \alpha) \\ &< c L(P, f, \alpha) + \epsilon \\ &\leq c \int_a^b f d\alpha + \epsilon = c \int_a^b f d\alpha + \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Since $\epsilon > 0$ is arbitrary small, this gives

$$\int_a^b f d(c\alpha) \leq c \int_a^b f d\alpha$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b f d(c\alpha) &= \int_{\bar{a}}^b f d(c\alpha) \geq L(P, f, c\alpha) = c L(P, f, \alpha) \\ &> c U(P, f, \alpha) - \epsilon \\ &\geq c \int_a^b f d\alpha - \epsilon = c \int_a^b f d\alpha - \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

This holds for each $\epsilon > 0$. So

$$\int_a^b f d(c\alpha) \geq c \int_a^b f d\alpha$$

Hence
$$\int_a^b f d(c\alpha) = c \int_a^b f d\alpha.$$

Proved.

Theorem If $f_1 \in R(\alpha)$ and $f_2 \in R(\alpha)$ such that

$$f_1(x) \leq f_2(x) \text{ on } [a, b]$$

then
$$\int_a^b f_1 d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha$$

Proof - let $P = \{x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ be any partition of $[a, b]$.

let $M_i = \text{lub } f_1(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i]$

and $M_i' = \text{lub } f_2(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i] \text{ for } i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n.$

Since $f_1(x) \leq f_2(x)$ for all $x \in [a, b]$, it follows that

$$M_i \leq M_i' \quad \text{for } i=1, 2, 3, \dots, n.$$

$$\therefore U(P, f_1, \alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n M_i \Delta \alpha_i \leq \sum_{i=1}^n M_i' \Delta \alpha_i = U(P, f_2, \alpha)$$

Taking infimum over all partitions P of $[a, b]$, we have

$$\int_a^b f_1 d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha$$

This implies $\int_a^b f_1 d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f_2 d\alpha$ since $f_1 \in R(\alpha)$, $f_2 \in R(\alpha)$

Theorem If $f \in R(\alpha)$ on $[a, b]$ and if $a < c < b$, then

$f \in R(\alpha)$ on $[a, c]$ and on $[c, b]$, and

$$\int_a^c f d\alpha + \int_c^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f d\alpha$$

Proof - Since $f \in R(\alpha)$ so given $\epsilon > 0$, $\exists$ a partition P of $[a, b]$ s.t.

$$U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \epsilon.$$

let P^* be a refinement of P such that $P^* = P \cup \{c\}$

Then

$$L(P, f, \alpha) \leq L(P^*, f, \alpha) \leq U(P^*, f, \alpha) \leq U(P, f, \alpha)$$

This gives $U(P^*, f, \alpha) - L(P^*, f, \alpha) \leq U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) < \epsilon.$

let P_1 and P_2 denote the sets of points of P^* between $[a, c]$ and $[c, b]$ respectively. Then P_1 and P_2 are partitions of

$[a, c]$ and $[c, b]$ respectively s.t. $P_1 \cup P_2 = P^*$.

$$\text{Further } U(P^*, f, \alpha) = U(P_1, f, \alpha) + U(P_2, f, \alpha)$$

$$L(P^*, f, \alpha) = L(P_1, f, \alpha) + L(P_2, f, \alpha)$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} U(P_1, f, \alpha) - L(P_1, f, \alpha) + U(P_2, f, \alpha) - L(P_2, f, \alpha) \\ = U(P^*, f, \alpha) - L(P^*, f, \alpha) < \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Since each of the numbers $U(P_1, f, \alpha) - L(P_1, f, \alpha)$ and $U(P_2, f, \alpha) - L(P_2, f, \alpha)$ is non-negative, it follows that

$$U(P_1, f, \alpha) - L(P_1, f, \alpha) < \epsilon$$

$$U(P_2, f, \alpha) - L(P_2, f, \alpha) < \epsilon$$

Hence $f \in R(\alpha)$ on $[a, c]$ and $[c, b]$.

$$\text{It remains to show } \int_a^c f d\alpha + \int_c^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f d\alpha$$

let P_1 be any partition of $[a, c]$ and P_2 be any partition of $[c, b]$. Then $P = P_1 \cup P_2$ is a partition of $[a, b]$ such that

$$U(P, f, \alpha) = U(P_1, f, \alpha) + U(P_2, f, \alpha)$$

$$\text{and } L(P, f, \alpha) = L(P_1, f, \alpha) + L(P_2, f, \alpha).$$

Now

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq U(P, f, \alpha) = U(P_1, f, \alpha) + U(P_2, f, \alpha)$$

Keeping P_1 fixed and taking infimum over all partitions P_2 of $[c, b]$

$$\text{we get } \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq U(P_1, f, \alpha) + \int_c^b f d\alpha$$

Now taking infimum over all partitions P_1 of $[a, c]$, we have

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha \leq \int_a^c f d\alpha + \int_c^b f d\alpha = \int_a^c f d\alpha + \int_c^b f d\alpha \quad (1).$$

since $f \in R(\alpha)$ on $[a, c]$ and $[c, b]$.

Again

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f d\alpha \geq L(P, f, \alpha) = L(P_1, f, \alpha) + L(P_2, f, \alpha).$$

Keeping P_1 fixed and taking supremum over all partitions

P_2 of $[c, b]$, we get

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha \geq L(P_1, f, \alpha) + \int_c^b f d\alpha.$$

Now taking supremum over all partitions P_1 of $[a, c]$,

we have

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha \geq \int_a^c f d\alpha + \int_c^b f d\alpha = \int_a^c f d\alpha + \int_c^b f d\alpha \quad (2).$$

From (1) & (2),

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha = \int_a^c f d\alpha + \int_c^b f d\alpha.$$

Theorem. If $f \in R(\alpha)$ on $[a, b]$ and if $|f(x)| \leq K$ on $[a, b]$,

then

$$\left| \int_a^b f d\alpha \right| \leq K [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)].$$

Proof. Let m, M be the bounds of f on $[a, b]$.

Let $P = \{a = x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n = b\}$ be a partition of $[a, b]$.

Suppose $M_i = \text{lub } f(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i]$

and $m_i = \text{glb } f(x) \text{ in } [x_{i-1}, x_i] \text{ for } i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n.$

Then $m \leq m_i \leq M_i \leq M \text{ for } i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n.$

This implies

$$\begin{aligned} m [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)] &= \sum_{i=1}^n m \Delta \alpha_i \leq \sum_{i=1}^n m_i \Delta \alpha_i \leq \sum_{i=1}^n M_i \Delta \alpha_i \\ &\leq M \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta \alpha_i \\ &= M [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)] \end{aligned}$$

that is,

$$m [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)] \leq L(P, f, \alpha) \leq U(P, f, \alpha) \leq M [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)].$$

$$\text{But } L(P, f, \alpha) \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq U(P, f, \alpha)$$

So we have

$$m [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)] \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq M [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)] \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Since } f \in R(\alpha) \text{ so } \int_a^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f d\alpha$$

Therefore (1) implies

$$m [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)] \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq M [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)] \quad (2).$$

Now $|f(x)| \leq K \text{ for all } x \in [a, b]$

So $-K \leq f(x) \leq K \text{ for all } x \in [a, b].$

so that $\sum_{i \in B} \Delta \alpha_i < \delta$.

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 U(P, h, \alpha) - L(P, h, \alpha) &= \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i' - m_i') \Delta \alpha_i \\
 &= \sum_{i \in A} (M_i' - m_i') \Delta \alpha_i + \sum_{i \in B} (M_i' - m_i') \Delta \alpha_i \\
 &\leq \epsilon \sum_{i \in A} \Delta \alpha_i + 2K \sum_{i \in B} \Delta \alpha_i \\
 &\leq \epsilon [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a)] + 2K\delta \\
 &< \epsilon [\alpha(b) - \alpha(a) + 2K] \quad (\because \delta < \epsilon)
 \end{aligned}$$

Since ϵ was arbitrary, we get $h \in R(\alpha)$.

Theorem If $f \in R(\alpha)$ and $g \in R(\alpha)$ on $[a, b]$, then

(a) $fg \in R(\alpha)$;

(b) $|f| \in R(\alpha)$ and $\left| \int_a^b f d\alpha \right| \leq \int_a^b |f| d\alpha$.

Proof. let m and M be bounds of f on $[a, b]$.

Define a function ϕ on $[m, M]$ as $\phi(t) = t^2$.

Then $h(x) = \phi(f(x)) = (f(x))^2 = f^2(x)$ on $[a, b]$

so that $h = f^2$.

By above theorem, $h \in R(\alpha)$ Thus $f^2 \in R(\alpha)$.

Since $f, g \in R(\alpha)$ so $f+g \in R(\alpha)$, $f-g \in R(\alpha)$.

Therefore $(f+g)^2, (f-g)^2 \in R(\alpha)$.

This implies $\frac{1}{4} [(f+g)^2 - (f-g)^2] \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$

that is, $fg \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$ which proves (a).

If we take $\phi(t) = |t|$ on $[m, M]$, we have

$$h(x) = \phi(f(x)) = |f(x)| = |f|(x) \text{ on } [a, b].$$

This gives $h = |f|$. Again by last theorem, $|f| \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$.

Choose $c = \pm 1$ so that $c \int_a^b f d\alpha \geq 0$.

$$\text{Then } \left| \int_a^b f d\alpha \right| = c \int_a^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b cf d\alpha \leq \int_a^b |f| d\alpha$$

since $cf \leq |f|$.

Hence the result.

If we let the points t_i range over the intervals $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$ and take the lub and glb of the numbers $S(P, f, \alpha)$ so obtained, then (1) gives

$$I - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \leq L(P, f, \alpha) \leq U(P, f, \alpha) \leq I + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad (1)$$

that is,

$$U(P, f, \alpha) - L(P, f, \alpha) \leq \epsilon$$

Hence $f \in R(\alpha)$. and $\int_{\frac{1}{a}}^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f d\alpha$

Since $L(P, f, \alpha) \leq \int_{\frac{1}{a}}^b f d\alpha \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq U(P, f, \alpha)$, we have

$$L(P, f, \alpha) \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq U(P, f, \alpha) \quad (2)$$

Using (2) in (1), we get

$$I - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \leq \int_a^b f d\alpha \leq I + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| \int_a^b f d\alpha - I \right| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} < \epsilon.$$

Since ϵ is arbitrary, it follows that

$$\int_a^b f d\alpha = I$$

Hence $\int_a^b f d\alpha = \lim_{|P| \rightarrow 0} S(P, f, \alpha).$

let $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$. Choose a partition P with $\|P\| < \delta$.

and choose $t_i \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]$. By mean value theorem of Differential Calculus, $\exists \xi_i \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]$ s.t.

$$\Delta \alpha_i = \alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x_{i-1}) = \alpha'(\xi_i) (x_i - x_{i-1}) = \alpha'(\xi_i) \Delta x_i$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n f(t_i) \Delta \alpha_i &= \sum_{i=1}^n f(t_i) \alpha'(\xi_i) \Delta x_i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n f(t_i) \alpha'(t_i) \Delta x_i + \sum_{i=1}^n f(t_i) [\alpha'(\xi_i) - \alpha'(t_i)] \Delta x_i \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\left| \sum_{i=1}^n f(t_i) \Delta \alpha_i - \int_a^b f \alpha' dx \right|$$

$$= \left| \sum_{i=1}^n f(t_i) \alpha'(t_i) \Delta x_i + \sum_{i=1}^n f(t_i) [\alpha'(\xi_i) - \alpha'(t_i)] \Delta x_i - \int_a^b f \alpha' dx \right|$$

$$\leq \left| \sum_{i=1}^n f(t_i) \alpha'(t_i) \Delta x_i - \int_a^b f \alpha' dx \right| + \sum_{i=1}^n |f(t_i)| |\alpha'(\xi_i) - \alpha'(t_i)| \Delta x_i$$

$$< \epsilon + 2\epsilon M, \text{ using (0), (1) and (3),}$$

This implies $\lim_{\|P\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^n f(t_i) \Delta \alpha_i = \int_a^b f \alpha' dx$

Hence $\int_a^b f d\alpha = \int_a^b f \alpha' dx.$

Example Evaluate

$$(i) \int_0^2 x^2 dx^2 \quad (ii) \int_0^2 [x] dx^2$$

Soln. We know that

$$\int_a^b f dx = \int_a^b f(x) x'(x) dx$$

$$\text{So } \int_0^2 x^2 dx^2 = \int_0^2 x^2 \cdot 2x dx = 2 \int_0^2 x^3 dx = 2 \left| \frac{x^4}{4} \right|_0^2 = 8.$$

$$\text{and } \int_0^2 [x] dx^2 = \int_0^2 [x] 2x dx$$

$$= 2 \int_0^1 [x] x dx + 2 \int_1^2 [x] x dx$$

$$= 2 \int_1^2 x dx \quad \left[\because [x] = \begin{cases} 0 & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1 & 1 \leq x < 2 \end{cases} \right]$$

$$= \left| x^2 \right|_1^2 = 4 - 1 = 3.$$

