

Extra Riemann Sum, Definite Integral Example

Evaluate $\int_{-2}^3 x^2 - 4x + 3 \, dx$ using Riemann Sums and the limit definition of the definite integral.

Here $f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 3$, $a = -2$, $b = 3$, $\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n} = \frac{3 - (-2)}{n} = \frac{5}{n}$
 and $x_i = a + i\Delta x = -2 + i\left(\frac{5}{n}\right) = -2 + \frac{5i}{n}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{-2}^3 x^2 - 4x + 3 \, dx &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) \Delta x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n f\left(-2 + \frac{5i}{n}\right) \left(\frac{5}{n}\right) \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(-2 + \frac{5i}{n}\right)^2 - 4\left(-2 + \frac{5i}{n}\right) + 3 \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(4 - \frac{20i}{n} + \frac{25i^2}{n^2} + 8 - \frac{20i}{n} + 3\right) \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{25i^2}{n^2} - \frac{40i}{n} + 15\right) \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{25i^2}{n^2} - \frac{5}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{40i}{n} + \frac{5}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n 15 \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{125}{n^3} \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 - \frac{200}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n i + \frac{75}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n 1 \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{125}{n^3} \left(\frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}\right) - \frac{200}{n^2} \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right) + \frac{75}{n} \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{125}{6} \left(\frac{n}{n}\right) \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right) \left(\frac{2n+1}{n}\right) - \frac{200}{2} \left(\frac{n}{n}\right) \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right) + 75 \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{125}{6} (1) \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) \left(2 + \frac{1}{n}\right) - (100) (1) \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) + 75 \\
 &= \frac{125}{6} (1)(1)(2) - (100)(1)(1) + 75 = \frac{125}{3} - 100 + 75 \\
 &= \frac{125}{3} - 100 + 75 = \frac{125}{3} - 25 = \frac{125}{3} - \frac{75}{3} = \boxed{\frac{50}{3}}
 \end{aligned}$$