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## Areas between curves, in general:

The area $A$ bounded between the curves $y=f(x)$ and $y=g(x)$ and the lines $x=a$ and $x=b$, where $f(x) \geq g(x)$ over the interval $[a, b]$, is given by

$$
A=\int_{a}^{b} f(x)-g(x) d x
$$



## You try:

1. Graph $f(x)=-x^{2}+2$ and $g(x)=x$ on the same axes.
2. Verify that $f(x) \geq g(x)$ over the interval $[0,1]$ and draw a new picture that shows the area bounded between $y=f(x)$, $y=g(x), x=0$ and $x=1 / 2$. Compute this area.

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## You try:

1. Notice that the graphs of $y=-x^{2}+2$ and $y=x$ intersect twice, at $x=-2$ and $x=1$, and that there's an area that's trapped between these two functions:


Set up the integral for the described area.
2. The area bounded by $y=-x^{2}+2, y=x, x=0$ and $x=3$ is actually in two pieces, one where $y=-x^{2}+2$ is on top and one where $y=x$ is on top (they switch at $x=1$ ):


What are the two integrals whose sum is the described area?

## Areas between curves, in general:

If bounds $[a, b]$ are given:

1. If $f>g$ over the whole interval, $A=\int_{a}^{b} f(x)-g(x) d x$.
2. If the functions cross each other, compute where this happens, and break the area up:


$$
A=\int_{a}^{c_{1}} g(x)-f(x) d x+\int_{c_{1}}^{c_{2}} f(x)-g(x) d x+\int_{c_{2}}^{b} g(x)-f(x) d x
$$

## Areas between curves, in general:

If bounds are not given:
The problem will ask "find the area enclosed by the curves
$y=f(x)$ and $y=g(x)^{\prime \prime}$. This means that the two curves will cross enough times to define an enclosed area:
(a) Find the points of intersection $c_{1}, c_{2}, \ldots$
(b) Decide which function is on top for each interval.
(c) If $f(x)>g(x)$ for over the interval $\left[c_{i}, c_{i+1}\right]$, the corresponding area is $A_{i}=\int_{c_{i}}^{c_{i+1}} f(x)-g(x) d x$.
(d) Add up the areas of the pieces.


## You try:

1. Graph $y=x^{3}$ and $y=x$ on the same axes.
2. Compute the area bounded by $y=x^{3}, y=x, x=0$, and $x=2$.
3. Compute the area enclosed by $y=x^{3}$ and $y=x$.

Sanity check: your answers should all be positive! Always draw pictures!!!

## You try:

1. Graph $y=x^{3}$ and $y=x$ on the same axes.
2. Compute the area bounded by $y=x^{3}, y=x, x=0$, and $x=2$.

Ans: 2.5
3. Compute the area enclosed by $y=x^{3}$ and $y=x$. Ans: 0.5

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## Flipping the axes

Sometimes, because of the resulting integration problem, it can be better to calculate your integral versus $y$ instead of versus $x$.

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Example: Compute the area above the $x$-axis, below
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Instead of starting with rectangles that have base $\Delta x$ and height $\arccos (x)$, resulting in the integral

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A=\int_{0}^{1} \cos ^{-1}(x) d x \quad \text { (use integration by parts) }
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$$
A=\int_{0}^{\pi / 2} \cos (y) d y=\left.\sin (y)\right|_{0} ^{\pi / 2}=1
$$

## You try:

Calculate the area $A$ bounded between $y=\arcsin (x), y=0$, and $x=1$ in two ways:


1. Compute the standard way, with vertical rectangles, integrating versus $x$. You'll need to use integration by parts.
2. Compute using horizontal rectangles, integrating versus $y$. (Careful! In the previous example, the right function was $x=\cos (y)$ and the left function was $x=0$. Now the right function is $x=1$ and the left function is $x=\sin (y)!$ )
