

5.1 Integral Notation

The notation that represents the net area under a curve is called a 'definite integral'

- Area under $f(x) = x^3 + 4$ on $[1, 3]$:

$$A = \int_1^3 x^3 + 4 \, dx$$

- pronounced 'the integral of $x^3 + 4$ from 1 to 3 dx'
- \int 'the integral sign' - elongated S
(to remind us of a sum)
- 1 is the 'lower limit of integration'
- 3 is the 'upper " " " "
- $x^3 + 4$ can be thought of as the height of rectangles
- dx is the width of the rectangles, comes from $h = \Delta x$
- we'll learn to work with these in Section 5.3

- Area under $f(x) = \sin x + x$ on $[-7, 6]$ is

$$A = \int_{-7}^6 \sin x + x \, dx$$