

Differentiation: a review

Definition.

Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}$, $x \in X$, $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. We say that f is differentiable at x if there exists a limit

$$f'(x) := \lim_{y \rightarrow x} \frac{f(y) - f(x)}{y - x}.$$

Remark.

The definition makes sense only at cluster points of X . At isolated points, every function is differentiable.

Reformulation of the definition.

f is differentiable at x iff $f(y) = f(x) + (y - x)\phi(y)$, where $\phi: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous at x . In this case, $\phi(x) = f'(x)$.

Proof.

Note that for $y \neq x$, $\phi(y) = \frac{f(y) - f(x)}{y - x}$. Thus ϕ is continuous at x iff there exists

$$\lim_{y \rightarrow x} \frac{f(y) - f(x)}{y - x} \blacksquare$$

Corollary.

If f is differentiable at x then f is continuous at x .

Proof.

f is a sum of a constant and a multiple of a function continuous at x ■

I will not review for the differentiation of the sums, products, and fractions. But the Chain Rule is usually given an incorrect proof in Calculus.

Chain rule.

Let $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $g: Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are two functions, and let $h := g \circ f$. Let f be differentiable at $x \in X$, $f(x) \in Y$, and g be differentiable at $f(x)$. Then h is differentiable at x , and $h'(x) = g'(f(x))f'(x)$.

Proof.

Use reformulated definition of differentiability to write

$$h(y) = g(f(y)) = g(f(x)) + (f(x) - f(y))\psi(f(y)) = g(f(x)) + \psi(f(y))\phi(y)(y - x)$$

Here ϕ and ψ are the corresponding functions for f and g :

$$f(y) = f(x) + (y - x)\phi(y)$$

$$g(z) = g(f(x)) + (z - f(x))\psi(z).$$

The function $\psi(f(y))\phi(y)$ is continuous at x , as a combination of continuous functions. Plugging in $y = x$ we get the expression for the derivative. ■

Rolle's Theorem.

Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function, which is differentiable at every point of (a, b) . Assume that $f(a) = f(b)$. Then $\exists c \in (a, b): f'(c) = 0$.

Proof.

Since $[a, b]$ is compact, f reaches its maximum at a point of $[a, b]$. The rest of the proof proceeds as in the Calculus (cf. the textbook also). ■

Cauchy Theorem (Generalized Mean Value Theorem).

Let $f, g: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be two continuous functions, which are differentiable at every point of (a, b) . $\exists c \in (a, b): f'(c)(g(b) - g(a)) = g'(c)(f(b) - f(a))$.

Corollary (Mean Value Theorem).

Take $g(t) \equiv t$ in the previous theorem. Then

$$\exists c \in (a, b): f'(c)(b - a) = (f(b) - f(a)).$$

Proof of the Cauchy Theorem.

Consider the function on $[a, b]$:

$$h(x) := (f(x) - f(a))(g(b) - g(a)) - (f(b) - f(a))(g(x) - g(a)).$$

This function satisfies the conditions of the Rolle's Theorem. So $\exists c \in (a, b): h'(c) = 0$.

$$\text{Thus } f'(c)(g(b) - g(a)) - g'(c)(f(b) - f(a)) = 0 \blacksquare$$

Riemann integration

Definition.

A partition P of the interval $[a, b]$ is a finite subset of $[a, b]$ containing a and b .

Interpretation.

We can order elements of P :

$$a = x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n = b$$

Mesh of the partition P is defined as $mesh(P) := \max_{1 \leq j \leq n-1} |x_{j+1} - x_j|$.

Definition.

A partition Q is called a *refinement* of partition P if $P \subset Q$. If P and Q are two partitions, a partition $R := P \cup Q$ is their common refinement.

Definition.

A *marked* partition of $[a, b]$ is a pair (P, Z) , where P is a partition, and Z is any set of points containing one point from each interval corresponding to P .

Remark.

We can order elements of Z as $\zeta_1 < \zeta_2 < \dots < \zeta_{n-1}$ such that $\zeta_j \in [x_j, x_{j+1}]$.

Definition.

Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. For a marked partition $(P, Z) = (\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}, \{\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \dots, \zeta_n\})$ define the Riemann sum for (P, Z) as

$$I(f, P, Z) := \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} f(\zeta_j)(x_{j+1} - x_j).$$

Assume now that f is bounded on $[a, b]$, and $P = \{a = x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n = b\}$ is a partition of $[a, b]$.

Define

$$M_j(f, P) := \sup_{x \in [x_j, x_{j+1}]} f(x), \quad m_j(f, P) := \inf_{x \in [x_j, x_{j+1}]} f(x),$$

Definition.

The *upper sum* of f with respect to a partition P is defined as

$$U(f, P) := \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} M_j(f, P)(x_{j+1} - x_j).$$

The *lower sum* of f with respect to a partition P is defined as

$$L(f, P) := \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} m_j(f, P)(x_{j+1} - x_j).$$

Remark.

Note that for any marking Z of a partition P we have

$$L(f, P) \leq I(f, P, Z) \leq U(f, P).$$

Moreover,

$$U(f, P) = \sup_Z I(f, P, Z), \quad L(f, P) = \inf_Z I(f, P, Z).$$

Proof is left as an exercise.

Lemma.

Let R be a refinement of partition P . Then

$$L(f, P) \leq L(f, R) \leq U(f, R) \leq U(f, P)$$

Proof.

It is enough to prove the lemma for the case when $R \setminus P$ consists of exactly one element, and then use the induction on the number of elements in $R \setminus P$.

Let $R \setminus P = \{z\}$, and let $x_{j-1} < z < x_j$. Then

$$U(f, P) - U(f, R) = \left(\sup_{x \in [x_j, x_{j+1}]} f(x) \right) (x_{j+1} - x_j) - \left(\sup_{x \in [x_{j-1}, z]} f(x) \right) (z - x_j) - \left(\sup_{x \in [z, x_j]} f(x) \right) (x_{j+1} - z) \geq 0,$$

since

$$(x_{j+1} - x_j) = (x_{j+1} - z) + (z - x_j),$$

and

$$\sup_{x \in [x_j, x_{j+1}]} f(x) \geq \sup_{x \in [x_j, z]} f(x); \quad \sup_{x \in [x_j, x_{j+1}]} f(x) \geq \sup_{x \in [z, x_{j+1}]} f(x).$$

The inequality for the lower sums is proven the same way. ■

Corollary.

For any two partitions P and Q ,

$$U(f, P) \geq L(f, Q)$$

Proof.

Let $R := P \cup Q$ be the common refinement of both P and Q .

Then, by previous lemma,

$$L(f, Q) \leq L(f, R) \leq U(f, R) \leq U(f, P) \blacksquare$$

Definition.

Define $U(f) = \inf_P U(f, P)$, $L(f) = \sup_P L(f, P)$: the upper and lower integral of f over $[a, b]$.

Remark.

By the previous corollary, $U(f) \geq L(f)$.

Definition.

f is called *Riemann integrable* on $[a, b]$ if $U(f) = L(f) =: \int_a^b f(x) dx$.

Riemann condition for integrability.

f is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$ iff $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ one can find a partition P , such that

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

Proof.

Since $L(f, P) \leq L(f) \leq U(f) \leq U(f, P)$, we have $U(f) - L(f) \leq U(f, P) - L(f, P)$.

Thus Riemann condition implies that $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ $U(f) - L(f) < \varepsilon$. Thus $U(f) = L(f)$.

If f is integrable, then, by the properties of supremum and infimum,

$\forall \varepsilon > 0$ one can find two partitions Q, R such that

$$U(f) \leq U(f, Q) < U(f) + \varepsilon/2, \quad L(f) - \varepsilon/2 < L(f, R) \leq L(f).$$

Take $P = R \cup Q$. By previous lemma,

$$L(f) - \varepsilon/2 < L(f, R) \leq L(f, P) \leq U(f, P) \leq U(f, Q) < U(f) + \varepsilon/2.$$

Since f is integrable, $U(f) = L(f)$, so $U(f, P) - L(f, P) < \varepsilon$. ■

Definition.

Let I be an interval. *Oscillation* of a function f on I is defined as

$$osc_I(f) := \sup_{x, y \in I} |f(x) - f(y)| = \sup_{x \in I} f(x) - \inf_{x \in I} f(x).$$

Note that

$$U(f, P) - L(f, P) = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} osc_{[x_{j-1}, x_j]}(f)(x_j - x_{j-1}).$$

Thus f is integrable on $[a, b]$ iff $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ one can find a partition P , such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} osc_{[x_{j-1}, x_j]}(f)(x_j - x_{j-1}) < \varepsilon.$$

Theorem.

f is integrable on $[a, b]$ iff

$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$: for any marked partition (P, Z) with $mesh(P) < \delta$

$$\text{we have } \left| I(f, P, Z) - \int_a^b f(t) dt \right| < \varepsilon.$$

Proof.

Note that since

$$U(f, P) = \sup_Z I(f, P, Z), \quad L(f, P) = \inf_Z I(f, P, Z),$$

and for an integrable function f

$$L(f, P) \leq \int_a^b f(t) dt \leq U(f, P),$$

the Theorem is equivalent to the following statement

f is integrable on $[a, b]$ iff

$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$: for any partition P with $mesh(P) < \delta$

$$\text{we have } U(f, P) - L(f, P) < \varepsilon.$$

The "only if" part follows immediately from the Riemann integrability condition.

Assume now that f is integrable. Let $M := \sup_{x \in [a, b]} |f(x)|$, and fix $\varepsilon > 0$.

Then the Riemann integrability condition implies that for some partition

$Q = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ such that

$$U(f, Q) - L(f, Q) < \varepsilon/3.$$

Let us now take $\delta := \frac{\varepsilon}{3Mn}$, and consider any partition $P = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m\}$ with $\text{mesh}(P) < \delta$.

Let us divide the intervals associated with P into two classes: the intervals which lie inside one of the intervals from partition Q and all other intervals. Note that an interval $[y_j, y_{j+1}]$ is in the second class iff for some x_k we have $y_j < x_k < y_{j+1}$. Thus there are at most n intervals of the second class.

Note that if $[y_j, y_{j+1}] \subset [x_k, x_{k+1}]$, then $M_j(f, P) \leq M_k(f, Q)$.

Thus

$$\sum_{\text{Class I}} M_j(f, P)(y_{j+1} - y_j) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} M_k(f, P)(x_{k+1} - x_k) = U(f, Q).$$

On the other hand,

$$\sum_{\text{Class II}} M_j(f, P)(y_{j+1} - y_j) \leq M\delta \#(\text{intervals of Class II}) \leq M\delta n = \varepsilon/3.$$

Thus

$$U(f, P) = \sum_{\text{Class I}} M_j(f, P)(y_{j+1} - y_j) + \sum_{\text{Class II}} M_j(f, P)(y_{j+1} - y_j) \leq U(f, Q) + \varepsilon/3.$$

Similarly,

$$L(f, P) \geq L(f, Q) - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

Thus we get $U(f, P) - L(f, P) < \varepsilon$ ■

Definition.

Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}$, $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. f is called *increasing* on X if $\forall x, y \in X, x < y \Rightarrow f(x) \leq f(y)$.

f is called *decreasing* on X if $\forall x, y \in X, x < y \Rightarrow f(x) \geq f(y)$.

f is called *monotone* on X if f is either increasing or decreasing.

Theorem.

Every monotone function on $[a, b]$ is integrable on $[a, b]$.

Proof.

We'll prove the Theorem for an increasing function f , the prove for a decreasing function is the same.

Notice that f is bounded, since for any $x \in X$, we have $f(a) \leq f(x) \leq f(b)$.

Take $M := f(b) - f(a)$. If $M = 0$, then the function is constant, so it is integrable. Assume therefore that $M > 0$.

We will use the Riemann integrability criterion. Fix $\varepsilon > 0$. Take any partition $P = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ with $\text{mesh}(P) < \frac{\varepsilon}{M}$.

Notice that $M_j(f, P) = f(x_{j+1})$, $m_j(f, P) = f(x_j)$, and so

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \text{osc}_{[x_{j-1}, x_j]}(f)(x_j - x_{j-1}) &= \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (f(x_{j+1}) - f(x_j))(x_j - x_{j-1}) \\ &\leq \text{mesh}(P) \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (f(x_{j+1}) - f(x_j)) < \frac{\varepsilon}{M} (f(b) - f(a)) = \varepsilon \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Theorem.

Every continuous function on $[a, b]$ is integrable on $[a, b]$.

Proof.

Notice that f is bounded, since it is a continuous function on compact $[a, b]$.

We will use the Riemann integrability criterion. Fix $\varepsilon > 0$. Then, since f is uniformly continuous on compact $[a, b]$, one can find $\delta > 0$ such that if $|x - y| < \delta$, then $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{b-a}$. Take any partition $P = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ with $\text{mesh}(P) < \delta$. Note that for any j , $\text{osc}_{[x_{j-1}, x_j]}(f) < \frac{\varepsilon}{b-a}$.

Thus

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \text{osc}_{[x_{j-1}, x_j]}(f)(x_j - x_{j-1}) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{b-a} \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (x_{j+1} - x_j) < \frac{\varepsilon}{b-a} (b-a) = \varepsilon \blacksquare$$

Lemma.

If f and g are integrable functions on $[a, b]$, and $f \leq g$, then $\int_a^b f(t) dt \leq \int_a^b g(t) dt$.

Proof.

Just notice that for any partition P , $L(f, P) \leq L(g, P)$ ■

Lemma.

If f is integrable on $[a, b]$, then $|f|$ is also integrable on $[a, b]$, and

$$\left| \int_a^b f(t) dt \right| \leq \int_a^b |f(t)| dt.$$

Proof.

For any $x, y \in [a, b]$ we have $||f(x)| - |f(y)|| \leq |f(x) - f(y)|$. Thus for any interval I , $osc_I(|f|) \leq osc_I(f)$.

Thus, for any partition P ,

$$U(f, P) - L(f, P) \geq U(|f|, P) - L(|f|, P).$$

So $|f|$ is also integrable.

Notice now that $-|f| \leq f \leq |f|$, so

$$-\int_a^b |f(t)| dt \leq \int_a^b f(t) dt \leq \int_a^b |f(t)| dt. \blacksquare$$

Corollary.

If f is integrable function on $[a, b]$ bounded by M . Then

$$\left| \int_a^b f(t) dt \right| \leq M(b - a).$$

Fundamental Theorem of Calculus

Theorem (Fundamental Theorem of Calculus).

Let f be an integrable function on an interval $[a, b]$, and let

$$F(x) := \int_a^x f(t) dt.$$

Then F is a continuous function. If f is continuous at some $y \in [a, b]$, then F is differentiable at y , and $F'(y) = f(y)$.

Definition.

Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. A function $F: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called *antiderivative* of f if $F'(x) = f(x)$ for any $x \in [a, b]$.

Corollary.

Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function. Then it has an antiderivative. If G is an antiderivative of f , then

$$G(b) - G(a) = \int_a^b f(t) dt.$$

Proof of Corollary.

The function $F(x) := \int_a^x f(t) dt$ is an antiderivative of f , by the Theorem.

If G is any other derivative, then $(F - G)' \equiv 0$. By Mean Value Theorem, it means that $F - G \equiv \text{const}$, so

$$G(b) - G(a) = F(b) - F(a) = \int_a^b f(t) dt - 0 \blacksquare$$

Proof of Theorem.

In this proof, let $[y, x]$ denote the interval $[y, x]$ if $x > y$, and the interval $[x, y]$ if $x < y$. Similarly

$$\int_y^x f(t) dt := \begin{cases} \int_y^x f(t) dt, & \text{if } x > y \\ -\int_x^y f(t) dt, & \text{if } x < y \end{cases}.$$

Note now that, by Assignment 8,

$$F(x) - F(y) = \int_a^x f(t) dt - \int_a^y f(t) dt = \int_y^x f(t) dt$$

Since f is bounded by some number M , we get that

$$|F(x) - F(y)| \leq M|x - y|,$$

which implies that F is uniformly continuous.

Assume now that f is continuous at x . Then, as before

$$\frac{F(x) - F(y)}{x - y} = \frac{\int_a^x f(t) dt - \int_a^y f(t) dt}{x - y} = \frac{\int_y^x f(t) dt}{x - y}.$$

Notice that $f(x) = \frac{\int_y^x f(x) dt}{x - y}$.

Subtracting the two last identities, and using additivity of the integral, we get

$$\frac{F(x) - F(y)}{x - y} - f(x) = \frac{\int_y^x f(t) dt}{x - y} - \frac{\int_y^x f(x) dt}{x - y} = \frac{\int_y^x (f(t) - f(x)) dt}{x - y}.$$

To prove that the above expression tends to 0, let us fix $\varepsilon > 0$, and select $\delta > 0$, such that

$$|x - t| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(t)| < \varepsilon.$$

Note now that if $|y - x| < \delta$ then $\forall t \in [y, x], |t - x| < \delta$, so $|f(t) - f(x)| < \varepsilon$.

Thus

$$\left| \int_y^x (f(t) - f(x)) dt \right| \leq \varepsilon |y - x|.$$

So

$$\frac{F(x) - F(y)}{x - y} - f(x) \leq \varepsilon \blacksquare$$

Lebesgue Integrability Theorem.

Definition.

A set $X \subset \mathbb{R}$ is called a *set of measure zero* if

$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists$ a collection of intervals $\{(c_n, d_n)\}$ such that

$X \subset \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (c_n, d_n)$, and $\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (d_n - c_n) < \varepsilon$.

A set $X \subset \mathbb{R}$ is called a *set of content zero* if

$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists$ finite collection of intervals $\{(c_n, d_n)\}$ such that

$X \subset \bigcup_{n=1}^N (c_n, d_n)$, and $\sum_{n=1}^N (d_n - c_n) < \varepsilon$.

Remark.

Any **compact** set of measure zero has content zero (simply because any infinite open cover has finite subcover). Opposite is always true.

Remark.

Any subset of a set of measure (content) zero has measure (content) zero.

Example.

Any finite set has finite content: if the set consists of N points and $\varepsilon > 0$, cover each point of the set by an interval of the length less than $\frac{\varepsilon}{N}$.

Lemma.

Let (A_n) be a sequence (finite or infinite) of the sets of measure zero. Then $A := \bigcup A_n$ also has measure zero.

Proof.

Fix $\varepsilon > 0$. Let \mathcal{F}_n denote a collection of intervals of total length at most $\frac{\varepsilon}{2^n}$ which cover A_n . Then the collection $\mathcal{F} := \bigcup_n \mathcal{F}_n$ covers the set A and has total length at most $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\varepsilon}{2^n} = \varepsilon$ ■

Examples.

1. \mathbb{Q} has zero measure, but does not have zero content.
2. A set has zero content iff its closure is bounded and have zero measure.
3. *Cantor set* has zero measure (and zero content, since it is compact).

Definition.

A property is said to be valid *almost everywhere (a.e.)* if the set of the points where it is **not** valid has zero measure.

Definition. (Oscillation of a function near a point.)

Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, x \in [a, b]$. *Oscillation of f near x* is defined as

$$osc_x f := \inf_{r>0} osc_{(x-r, x+r)} f.$$

Remark.

f is continuous at x iff $osc_x f = 0$. You will prove it in the assignment.

Lebesgue Theorem.

A bounded function on $[a, b]$ is Riemann integrable iff it is continuous almost everywhere.

Proof.

Let f be an integrable function. It means, by Riemann Criterion, that for each n one can find a partition P_n such that $U(f, P_n) - L(f, P_n) < 4^{-n}$. Let us call an interval I from P_n *wild* if $osc_I f \geq 2^{-n}$, otherwise an interval will be called *tame*. Now let us observe that ($|I|$ denotes the length of the interval I)

$$2^{-n} \sum_{\text{wild } I \text{ in } P_n} |I| \leq \sum_{\text{wild } I \text{ in } P_n} osc_I f |I| \leq U(f, P_n) - L(f, P_n) < 4^{-n}$$

Thus

$$\sum_{\text{wild } I \text{ in } P_n} |I| < 2^{-n}.$$

Now let us define

$$A_k := \{x: \exists \text{ wild } [y, z] \text{ in some } P_n \text{ such that } n \geq k \text{ and } y < x < z\}.$$

Let us consider

$$A := \left(\bigcap A_k \right) \cup \bigcup_n P_n.$$

Let us first show that A has measure zero.

Each P_n is finite, so union of the sequence of them has zero measure.

Each A_k is covered by the wild intervals from P_n with $n \geq k$. The total length of all these intervals does not exceed

$$\sum_{n=k}^{\infty} 2^{-n} = 2^{-k+1}.$$

Since the last expression tends to zero when $k \rightarrow \infty$, the set $\bigcap A_k$ has measure zero.

Assume that now $x \notin A$. It means, in particular, that for some N the intervals from P_n , $n > N$, containing x , is tame. Also x itself is not a point of any partition. Fix $\varepsilon > 0$, and pick $n > N$ such that $2^{-n} < \varepsilon$. Then x lies inside one of the tame intervals from P_n , i.e. $x \in (x_j, x_{j+1})$. Choose

small r , such that $(x - r, x + r) \subset (x_j, x_{j+1})$. Thus we get

$$\text{osc}_x f \leq \text{osc}_{(x-r, x+r)} f \leq \text{osc}_{(x_j, x_{j+1})} f < 2^{-n} < \varepsilon, \text{ since}$$

(x_j, x_{j+1}) is tame. Since $\text{osc}_x f < \varepsilon$ for every $\varepsilon > 0$, we get that $\text{osc}_x f = 0$.

So the function f is continuous at all points outside of A . Since A has measure zero, f is a.e. continuous.

Assume now that f is bounded and a.e. continuous. Let $|f| \leq M$ for some $M > 0$.

Fix $\varepsilon > 0$. We will find a partition P with $U(f, P) - L(f, P) < \varepsilon$.

Let us consider $A := \left\{ x: \text{osc}_x f \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{2(b-a)} \right\}$. f is not continuous at any point of A . Thus A has measure zero.

Let us now show that A is closed. Let x be a limit point of A . Fix $r > 0$. Then

$(x - r, x + r) \cap A \neq \emptyset$. Let $y \in (x - r, x + r) \cap A$.

Then for some $\delta > 0$, $(y - \delta, y + \delta) \subset (x - r, x + r)$.

We have

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{2(b-a)} \leq \text{osc}_y f \leq \text{osc}_{(y-\delta, y+\delta)} f \leq \text{osc}_{(x-r, x+r)} f.$$

This implies that

$$\text{osc}_x f = \inf \text{osc}_{(x-r, x+r)} f \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{2(b-a)}.$$

So $x \in A$.

We just proved that A contains all of its limit points, and so it is a closed set. It is also bounded, since $A \subset [a, b]$. It means that it is compact.

Since A is a compact set of measure zero, it also has a zero content.

Let now $\{(a_k, b_k)\}$ is a finite covering of A with $\sum_{k=1}^n (b_k - a_k) < \varepsilon/4M$.

The set $B := [a, b] \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^n (a_k, b_k)$ is compact, and no point of it belongs to A .

$$\text{Thus } \forall x \in B \exists r_x: \text{osc}_{(x-r_x, x+r_x)} f < \frac{\varepsilon}{2(b-a)}.$$

The family of open sets $\{(x - r_x/2, x + r_x/2)\}_{x \in B}$ is an open cover of B , and we can select a finite subcover $\{(c_j, d_j)\}_{j=1}^m$. Note that by the our construction,

$$\text{osc}_{[c_j, d_j]} f < \frac{\varepsilon}{2(b-a)} \text{ (since } [c_j, d_j] \subset (x - r_x, x + r_x) \text{ for some } x \in B).$$

Now let us define the partition

$$P := \{a, b\} \cup \{a_k, 1 \leq k \leq n\} \cup \{b_k, 1 \leq k \leq n\} \cup \{c_j, 1 \leq j \leq m\} \cup \{d_j, 1 \leq j \leq m\}.$$

Call the interval $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$ of the partition P nice if $[x_i, x_{i+1}] \subset B$. Otherwise, let us call it nasty.

Notice that any nice interval is subset of some $[c_j, d_j]$, and thus

$$\text{osc}_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f < \frac{\varepsilon}{2(b-a)}.$$

On the other hand, every nasty interval subset of some $[a_k, b_k]$, and thus the total length of nasty intervals does not exceed $\frac{\varepsilon}{4M}$.

Now we are ready to estimate

$$\begin{aligned}
U(f, P) - L(f, P) &= \sum_i \operatorname{osc}_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]}(f)(x_i - x_{i-1}) = \\
&\sum_{\text{nice}} \operatorname{osc}_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]}(f)(x_i - x_{i-1}) + \sum_{\text{nasty}} \operatorname{osc}_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]}(f)(x_i - x_{i-1}) \leq \\
&\frac{\varepsilon}{2(b-a)} \sum_{\text{nice}} (x_i - x_{i-1}) + 2M \sum_{\text{nasty}} (x_i - x_{i-1}) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2(b-a)}(b-a) + 2M \frac{\varepsilon}{4M} = \varepsilon. \blacksquare
\end{aligned}$$