

Calculus Lesson 421: Sigma Notation

Sigma Notation

- Sigma notation is a succinct way to write a long sum of numbers that follow a pattern.
- Basic Form:

$$\sum_{i=start}^{end} \text{equation using } i$$

Find the following sums

$$\sum_{i=1}^6 3i$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^5 (i + 1)$$

$$\sum_{j=3}^7 j^2$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} (i^2 + 1)$$

Write the following sums using sigma notation with start $i = 1$:

A. $-2 + -1 + 0 + 1$

B. $1 + 4 + 9 + 16 + 25 + 36$

C. $7 + 10 + 13 + 16 + 19 + 22 + 25$

D. $8 + 6 + 4 + 2 + 0 + -2 + -4$

E. $-1 + 0 + 1 + 8 + 27 + 64$

F. $4 - 9 + 14 - 19 + 24 - 29$

Sequences on the Calculator:

- Use the sequence command to show the list of numbers
- The seq(command is found by pressing 2nd LIST and it is the 5th choice in the OPS menu.
- Example: State the first 5 terms for the sequence described by $a_i = i^2 - i$

$$\text{seq}(x^2 - x, x, 1, 5, 1)$$

Sums on the Calculator:

- Use the sum command to find the answer to the sum.
- The sum(command is found by pressing 2nd LIST and it is the 5th choice in the MATH menu.
- Example: State the sum of the first 6 terms of the sequence described by $6x - 2$.

$$\text{sum}(\text{seq}(6x - 2, x, 1, 6, 1))$$

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Sigma Notation

- Sigma notation is a succinct way to write a long sum of numbers that follow a pattern.
- Basic Form:

$$\sum_{i=\text{start}}^{\text{end}} \text{equation using } i$$

Find the following sums

$$\sum_{i=1}^6 3i = 3(1) + 3(2) + 3(3) + 3(4) + 3(5) + 3(6) = 63$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^5 (i+1) = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 = 21$$

$$\sum_{j=3}^7 j^2 = 9 + 16 + 25 + 36 + 49 = 135$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n}(i^2 + 1) = \frac{1}{n}(1^2 + 1) + \frac{1}{n}(2^2 + 1) + \dots + \frac{1}{n}(n^2 + 1)$$

Write the following sums using sigma notation with start $i = 1$:

A. $-2 + -1 + 0 + 1$
linear $\sum_{i=1}^4 (i-3)$

B. $1 + 4 + 9 + 16 + 25 + 36$
quad $\sum_{i=1}^6 i^2$

C. $7 + 10 + 13 + 16 + 19 + 22 + 25$
linear $\sum_{i=1}^7 (3i+4)$

D. $8 + 6 + 4 + 2 + 0 + -2 + -4$
linear $\sum_{i=1}^7 (-2i+10)$

E. $-1 + 0 + 1 + 8 + 27 + 64$
cubic $\sum_{i=1}^6 (i-2)^3$

F. $4 - 9 + 14 - 19 + 24 - 29$
numbers linear
signs swap $\sum_{i=1}^6 (-1)^{i+1} \cdot (5i-1)$



In Exercises 1–6, find the sum. Use the summation capabilities of a graphing utility to verify your result.

1. $\sum_{i=1}^5 (2i + 1)$

2. $\sum_{k=3}^6 k(k - 2)$

3. $\sum_{k=0}^4 \frac{1}{k^2 + 1}$

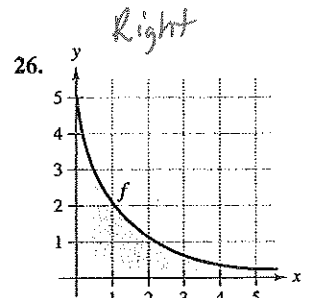
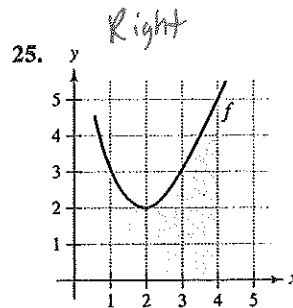
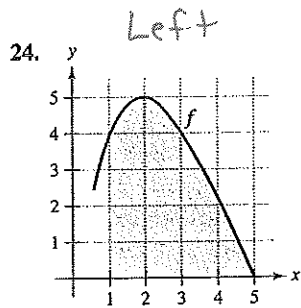
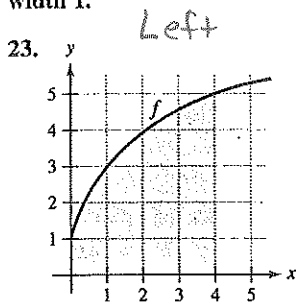
4. $\sum_{j=3}^5 \frac{1}{j}$

In Exercises 7–14, use sigma notation to write the sum.

7. $\frac{1}{3(1)} + \frac{1}{3(2)} + \frac{1}{3(3)} + \cdots + \frac{1}{3(9)}$

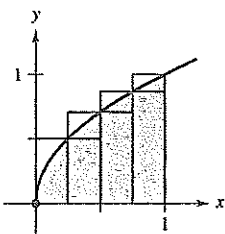
8. $\frac{5}{1+1} + \frac{5}{1+2} + \frac{5}{1+3} + \cdots + \frac{5}{1+15}$

In Exercises 23–26, bound the area of the shaded region by approximating the upper and lower sums. Use rectangles of width 1.

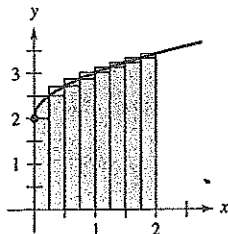


In Exercises 27–30, use upper and lower sums to approximate the area of the region using the indicated number of subintervals (of equal width).

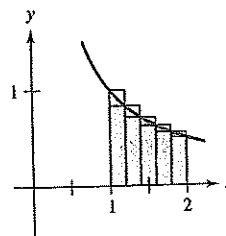
27. $y = \sqrt{x}$



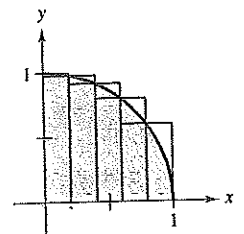
28. $y = \sqrt{x} + 2$



29. $y = \frac{1}{x}$



30. $y = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$



In Exercises 1-6, find the sum. Use the summation capabilities of a graphing utility to verify your result.

1. $\sum_{i=1}^5 (2i + 1)$

2. $\sum_{k=3}^6 k(k-2)$

① $(2 \cdot 1 + 1) + (2 \cdot 2 + 1) + (2 \cdot 3 + 1) + (2 \cdot 4 + 1) + (2 \cdot 5 + 1)$
 $3 + 5 + 7 + 9 + 11 = 35$

3. $\sum_{k=0}^4 \frac{1}{k^2 + 1}$

4. $\sum_{j=3}^5 \frac{1}{j}$

② $(3(3-2)) + (4(4-2)) + (5(5-2)) + (6(6-2))$
 $3 + 8 + 15 + 24 = 50$

③ $\frac{1}{0^2+1} + \frac{1}{1^2+1} + \frac{1}{2^2+1} + \frac{1}{3^2+1} + \frac{1}{4^2+1}$
 $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{17} = \frac{158}{85}$

In Exercises 7-14, use sigma notation to write the sum.

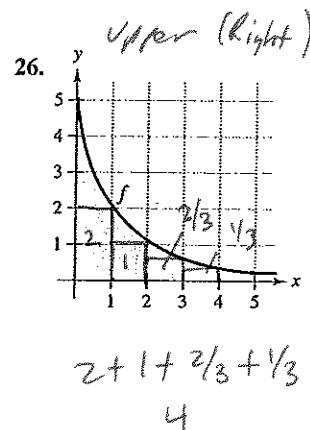
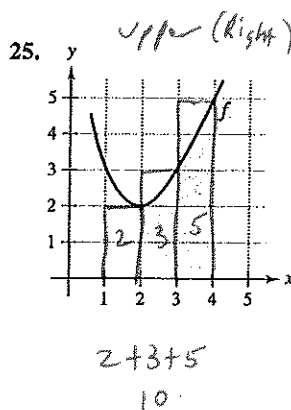
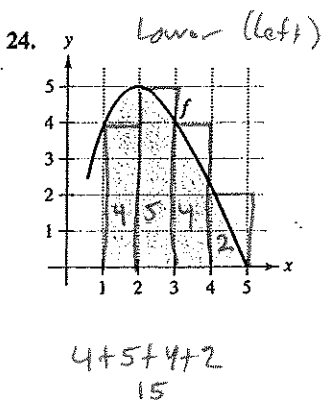
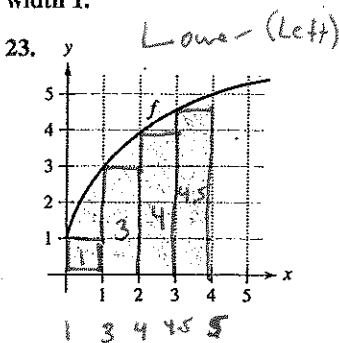
7. $\frac{1}{3(1)} + \frac{1}{3(2)} + \frac{1}{3(3)} + \dots + \frac{1}{3(9)}$

$\sum_{i=1}^9 \frac{1}{3i}$

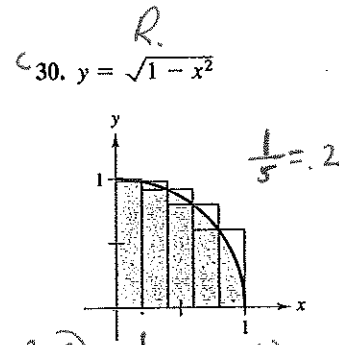
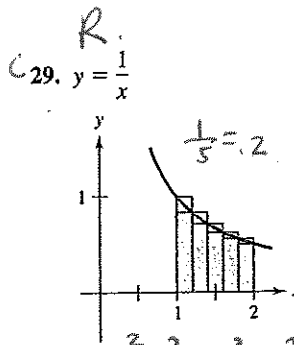
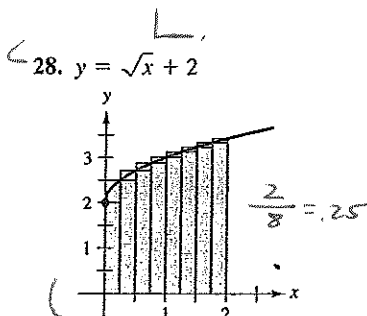
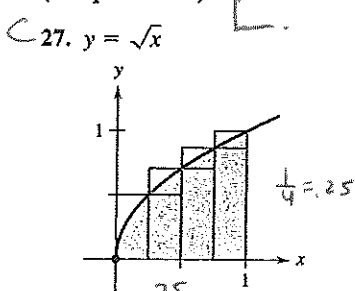
8. $\frac{5}{1+1} + \frac{5}{1+2} + \frac{5}{1+3} + \dots + \frac{5}{1+15}$

$\sum_{i=1}^{15} \frac{5}{1+i}$

In Exercises 23-26, bound the area of the shaded region by approximating the upper and lower sums. Use rectangles of width 1.



In Exercises 27-30, use upper and lower sums to approximate the area of the region using the indicated number of subintervals (of equal width).



Left $\sum_{i=0}^4 \sqrt{x} = \sqrt{0} + \sqrt{.25} + \sqrt{.5} + \sqrt{.75} + \sqrt{1}$
 $1.5(0 + .5 + .7071 + .866) = 1.5(2.0731) = 3.1096$
 5.18

Right $\sum_{i=0}^7 \sqrt{x+2} = \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2.25} + \sqrt{2.5} + \dots + \sqrt{2.75}$
 $1.5(1.414 + 1.5 + 1.581 + \dots + 1.658) = 1.5(13.72) = 20.58$
 5.684

$\sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{1.2} + \frac{1}{1.4} + \frac{1}{1.6} + \frac{1}{1.8} + \frac{1}{2}$
 $1.5(1.64) = 2.46$
 6.45

$\sum_{i=0}^4 \sqrt{1-x^2} = \sqrt{1-0^2} + \sqrt{1-.2^2} + \sqrt{1-.4^2} + \sqrt{1-.6^2} + \sqrt{1-.8^2}$
 $1.5(1.88) = 2.82$
 6.59