

**FAR  
BEYOND**

**MAT122**

**Average Change**



Stony Brook University

# Accumulated Change

ex. Based on the graph below, which salesperson has the most total sales after 6 months?

Salesperson A (because their  $y$ -values are consistently higher over 6 months)

Which salesperson has the most total sales after the first year? What are sales for each?

Count boxes under each graph:

Salesperson A:

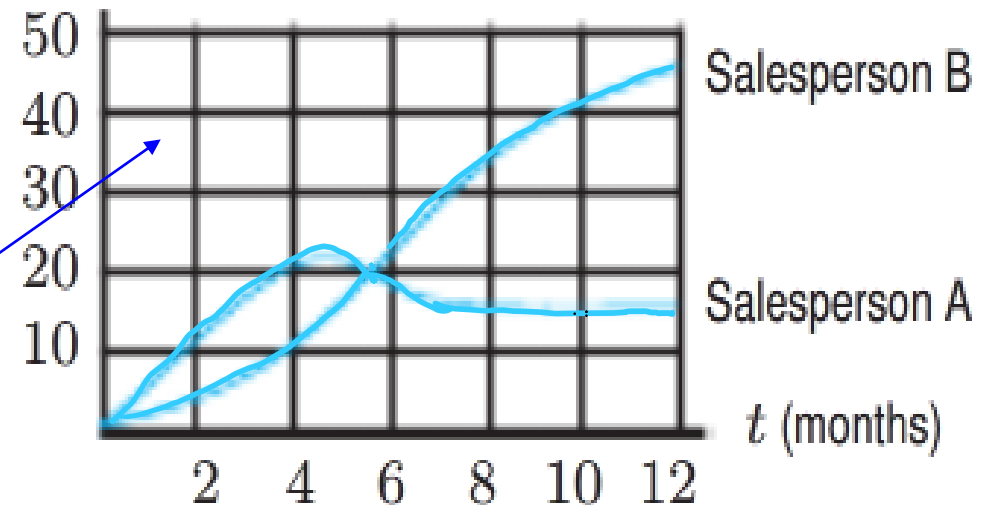
$\sim 8.75$  boxes     $8.75 (20) =$  \$175 in sales

Salesperson B:

$\sim 13.25$  boxes     $13.25 (20) =$  \$265 in sales

base: 2    height: 10  
area of each box: 20

number of sales per month

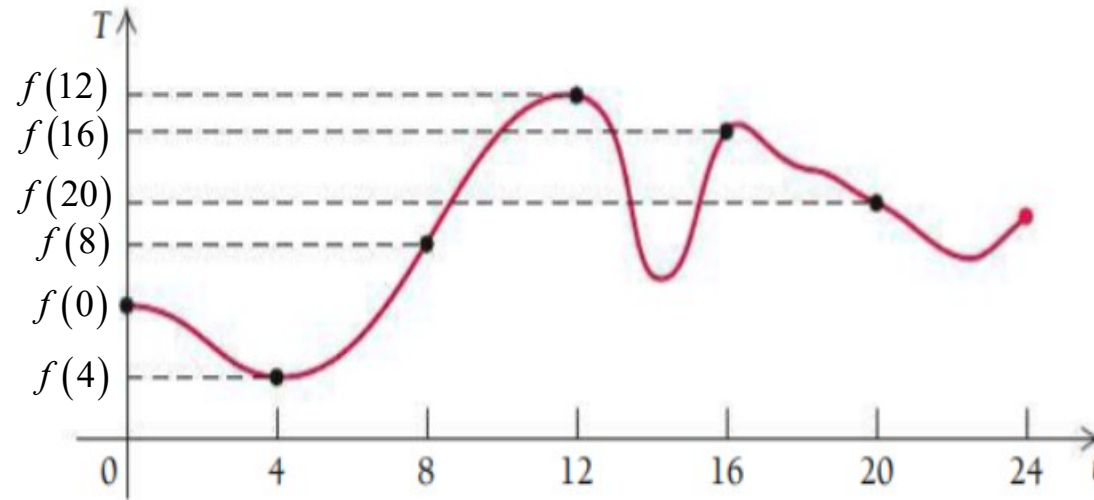


# Average Value of a Continuous Function - Intro

An important use of area under the curve is finding the **average value** of a continuous function over a closed interval.

ex. Suppose a weather station measures the temperature at time  $t$  over a 24-hour period,  $[0, 24]$ .

The function is continuous:



To find average temperature for the day, might take 6 temperature readings at 4-hr intervals, starting at midnight.

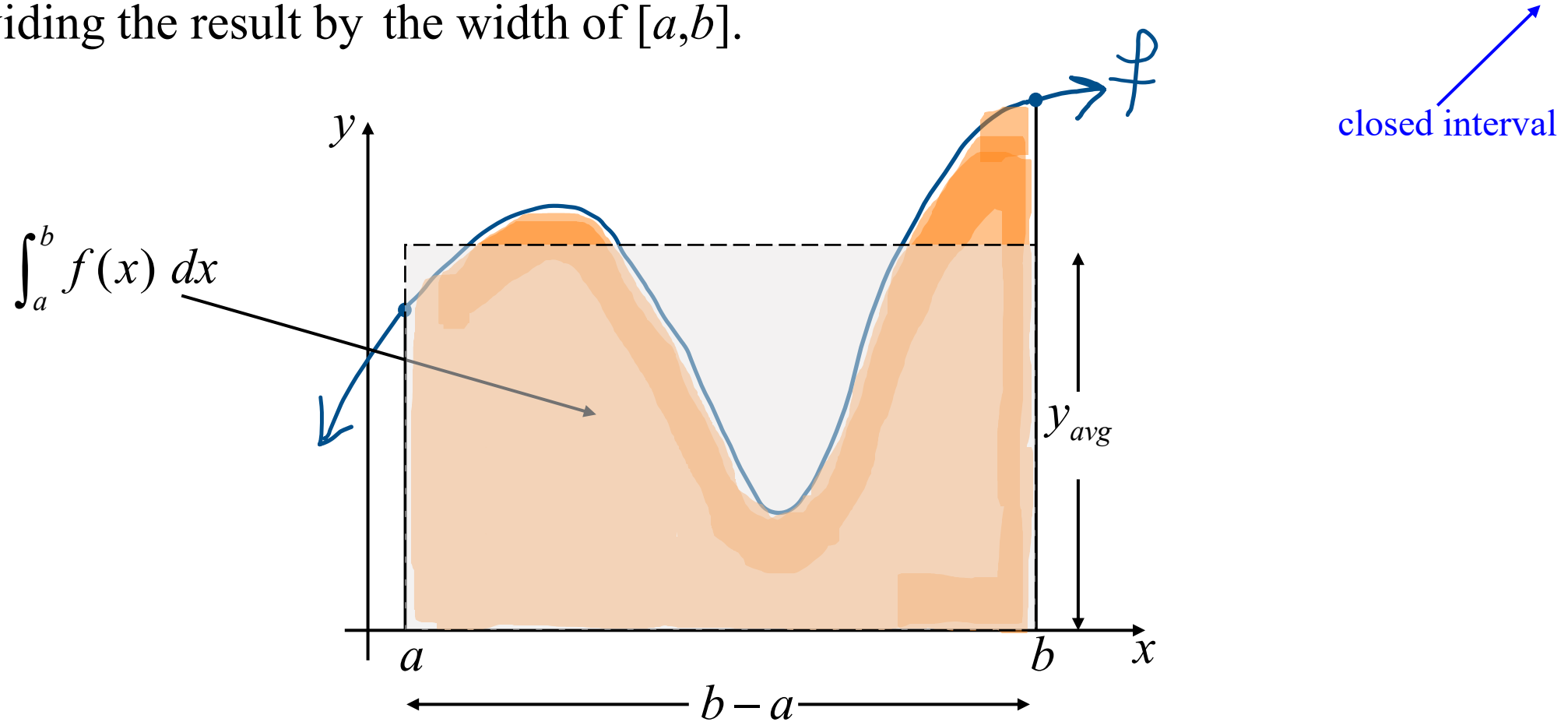
Overall average temperature could then be estimated by adding the recorded values and dividing by 6.

$$T_{avg} \approx \frac{f(0) + f(4) + f(8) + f(12) + f(16) + f(20)}{6}$$

As can be expected, more readings would yield a more accurate estimate.

# Average Value of a Continuous Function - Exact

Finding exact average value is simply done by evaluating the definite integral over  $[a,b]$  and dividing the result by the width of  $[a,b]$ .



# Average Value of a Continuous Function

Let  $f$  be continuous over  $[a,b]$ . Then its **average value**,  $y_{avg}$ , over  $[a,b]$  is given by:

$$y_{avg} = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

ex. Find the average value of  $f(x) = x^2$  over  $[0,2]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} y_{avg} &= \frac{1}{2-0} \int_0^2 x^2 dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{x^3}{3} \bigg|_0^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{2^3}{3} - 0 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{8}{3} \right) = \boxed{\frac{4}{3}} \end{aligned}$$

# Average Value – Example #2

ex. Rico's speed, in mph,  $t$  min after entering the freeway, is given by:

$$y_{avg} = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

$$v(t) = -\frac{1}{200}t^3 + \frac{3}{20}t^2 - \frac{3}{8}t + 60 \quad t \leq 30$$

From 5 min after entering freeway to 25 min after doing so, what is Rico's average speed?

$$y_{avg} = \frac{1}{25-5} \int_5^{25} \left( -\frac{1}{200}t^3 + \frac{3}{20}t^2 - \frac{3}{8}t + 60 \right) dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{20} \left( -\frac{1}{200} \frac{t^4}{4} + \frac{3}{20} \frac{t^3}{3} - \frac{3}{8} \frac{t^2}{2} + 60t \right) \Big|_5^{25}$$

$$= \frac{1}{20} \left( -\frac{1}{800}t^4 + \frac{1}{20}t^3 - \frac{3}{16}t^2 + 60t \right) \Big|_5^{25} = F(b) - F(a)$$

$$= \frac{1}{20} \left( -\frac{1}{800}25^4 + \frac{1}{20}25^3 - \frac{3}{16}25^2 + 60 \cdot 25 \right) - \left( -\frac{1}{800}5^4 + \frac{1}{20}5^3 - \frac{3}{16}5^2 + 60 \cdot 5 \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{20} \left( \frac{53,625}{32} - \frac{9625}{32} \right) = \frac{44,000}{20 \cdot 32} = \frac{2200}{32} = \frac{22 \cdot 100}{4 \cdot 8} = \frac{2 \cdot 11 \cdot 25 \cdot 4}{4 \cdot 8} = \frac{275}{4} = \boxed{68 \frac{3}{4} \text{ mph}}$$

# Change in Value

ex.  $f(t)$  is the value of an investment over a 5-month period

$f'(t)$  is the rate of change of  $f(t)$

a. When is the value increasing and decreasing?

Decreasing first 3 months; increasing last 2 months.

$f'$  negative

$f'$  positive

b. After 5 months, has the value increased or decreased?

Total change in value,  $f$ , is *net* area under curve of  $f' = \int_0^5 f'(t) dt$

Answer: over 5 months, value has decreased.

rate of change of value  
of investment (\$/month)

