



## Integrating a Discrete Function

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### Article Information

Subject: This worksheet demonstrates the use of Mathcad to illustrate the integration of a discrete function using different methods.

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Version: Mathcad 2001

### Introduction

The following worksheet will illustrate how to integrate a discrete function. This is usually either by calculating the area of the trapezoids defined by the data points or by integrating interpolant. So here we show the answer by trapezoidal rule as well as with 3 types of interpolation. For more information on interpolation see the [topic](#). The following outlines sheet:

1. Trapezoidal Rule
2. Polynomial Interpolation
3. Linear Spline Interpolation
4. Cubic Spline Interpolation

See the following links for notes and presentations. [click [here](#) for textbook notes] [click [h](#) for power point presentation].

### Inputs

The user may enter any set of data X, and Y, and the lower and upper limit for the function to be integrated. By entering these data, the program will calculate the average value of the function using the trapezoidal rule, the polynomial interpolation, and the spline interpolation.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Set of Data, X} \\ \text{X} := \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 10 \\ 15 \\ 20 \\ 22.5 \\ 30 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Set of Data, Y} \\ \text{Y} := \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} 320 \\ 120 \\ 620 \\ 7720 \\ 320 \\ 620 \end{pmatrix}$$

NOTE: Make sure you enter the same number of data in both X and Y.

Lower limit of the integral  $a$      $a := 0.1$

Upper limit of the integral  $b$      $b := 30$

range := X<sub>0</sub>, X<sub>0</sub> + 0.01 .. X<sub>rows(X)-1</sub>

### *Data Checks*

The data set  $X$  and  $Y$  and limits  $a$  and  $b$  must have certain characteristics. The following checks that certain criteria are true.

Are the limits  $a$  and  $b$  in the data range of  $X$ ? If  $\text{check}_0$  returns YES, then you may proceed. If it reports NO then you need to redefine either or both  $a$  and  $b$  so that they are within the data range of  $X$ .

$$\text{check}_0 := \begin{cases} \text{"YES"} & \text{if } a \geq \min(X) \wedge b \leq \max(X) \\ \text{"NO"} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\text{check}_0 = \text{"YES"}$

Are the values of  $X$  in increasing order? If  $\text{check}_1$  returns YES, then you may proceed. If it reports NO, then you need to resort  $X$  and  $Y$  so that  $X$  is in ascending order.

$$\text{check}_1 := \begin{cases} \text{XX} \leftarrow \text{sort}(X) \\ \text{"YES"} & \text{if } X = \text{XX} \\ \text{"NO"} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\text{check}_1 = \text{"YES"}$

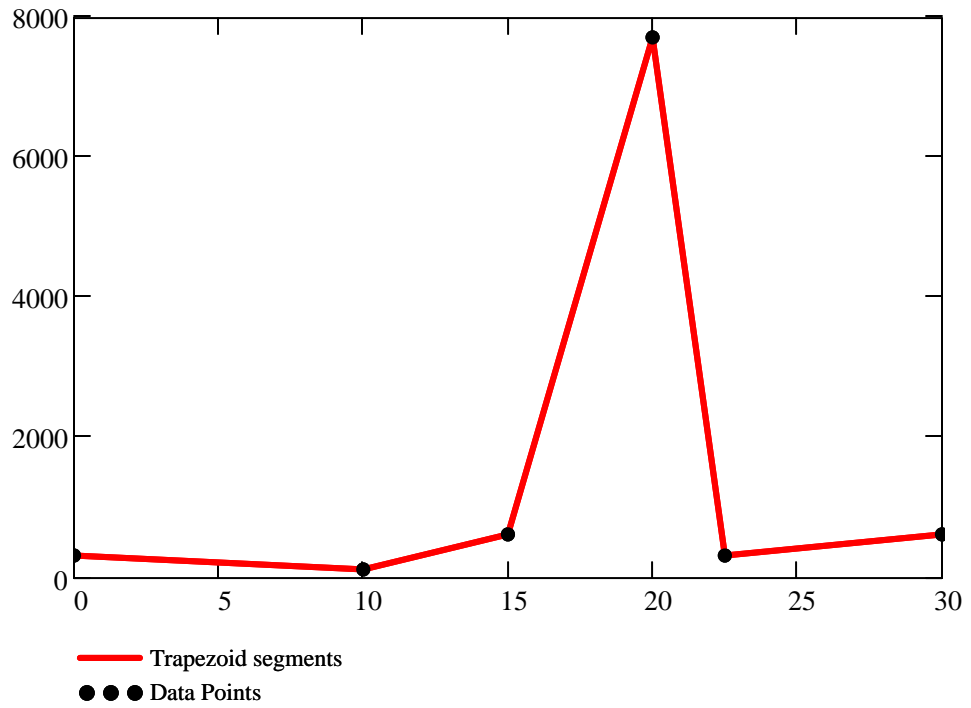
### Trapezoidal Rule

```
trapd(X, Y, a, b) := | n ← rows(X)
                    | I ← 0
                    | for i ∈ 0..n - 2
                    |   | ain ← i if a > Xi
                    |   | bin ← i if b > Xi
                    |   |
                    |   |  $ya \leftarrow \frac{a - X_{ain}}{X_{ain+1} - X_{ain}} (Y_{ain+1} - Y_{ain}) + Y_{ain}$ 
                    |   |
                    |   |  $yb \leftarrow \frac{b - X_{bin}}{X_{bin+1} - X_{bin}} (Y_{bin+1} - Y_{bin}) + Y_{bin}$ 
                    |   |
                    |   |  $I \leftarrow (X_{ain+1} - a) \left( ya + \frac{Y_{ain+1} - ya}{2} \right)$ 
                    |   |
                    |   |  $I \leftarrow I + (b - X_{bin}) \left( Y_{bin} + \frac{yb - Y_{bin}}{2} \right)$ 
                    |   |
                    |   | i ← ain + 1
                    |   | while i ≤ bin - 1
                    |   |   |  $I \leftarrow I + (X_{i+1} - X_i) \left( Y_i + \frac{Y_{i+1} - Y_i}{2} \right)$ 
                    |   |   | i ← i + 1
                    |   |
                    |   | I
```

$AV_0 := \text{trap}_d(X, Y, a, b)$

$AV_0 = 38443.1$

Figure 1: Trapezoidal Rule



### *Polynomial Interpolation*

NOTE: Regression of a data set to the order of one less than the number of data sets is polynomial interpolation.

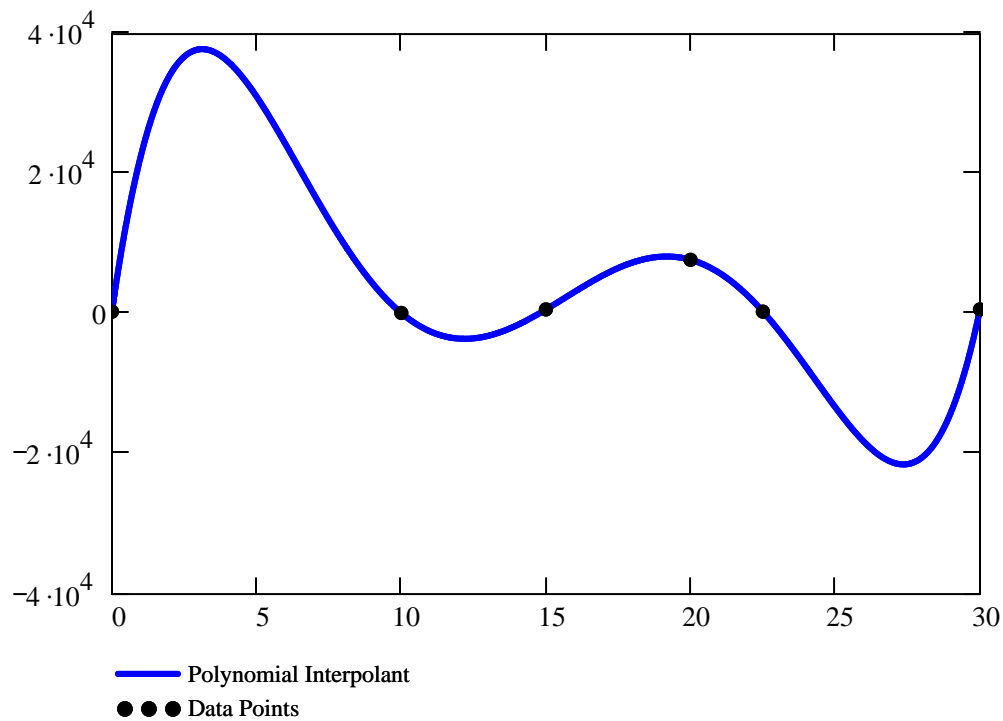
$$z := \text{regress}(X, Y, \text{rows}(X) - 1)$$

$$f_{\text{polynomial}}(x) := \text{interp}(z, X, Y, x)$$

$$AV_1 := \int_a^b f_{\text{polynomial}}(x) dx$$

$$AV_1 = 151251.755$$

Figure 2: Polynomial Interpolation



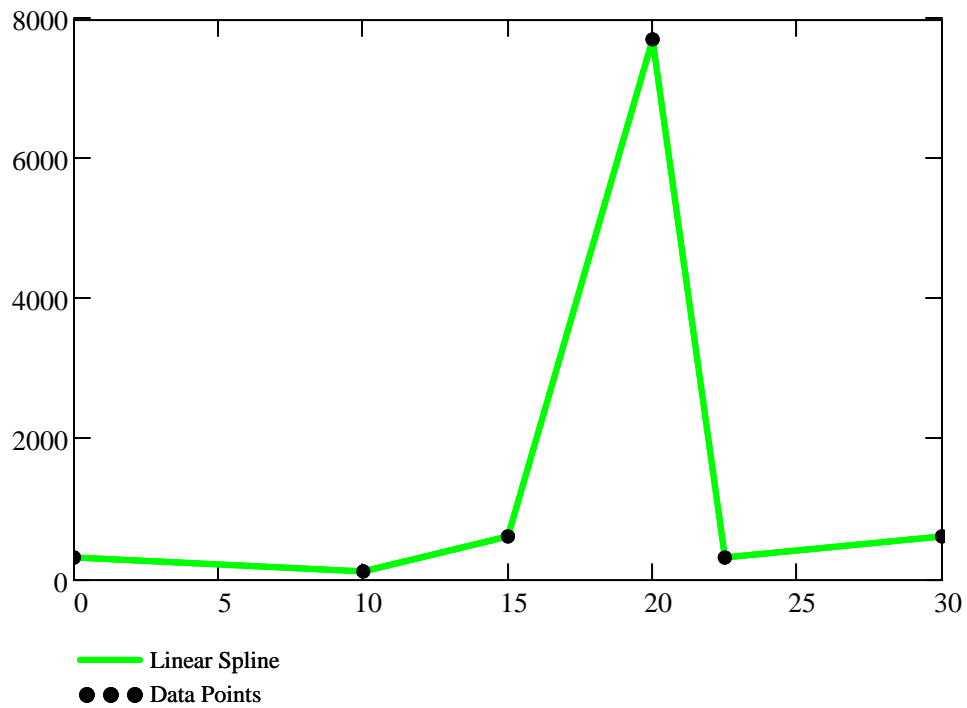
### Linear Spline Interpolation

$$f_{\text{linear}}(x) := \text{linterp}(X, Y, x)$$

$$AV_2 := \int_a^b f_{\text{linear}}(x) dx$$

$$AV_2 = 38444.302$$

Figure 3: Linear Spline Interpolation



### *Cubic Spline Interpolation*

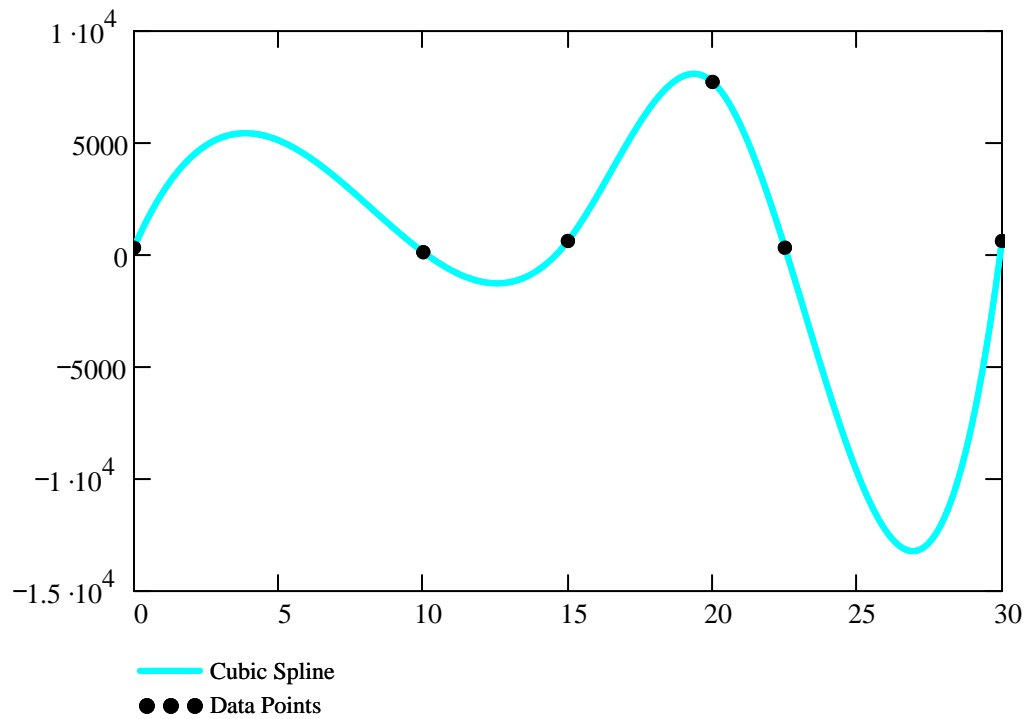
$v := \text{cspline}(X, Y)$

$f_{\text{cubic}}(x) := \text{interp}(v, X, Y, x)$

$$AV_3 := \int_a^b f_{\text{cubic}}(x) dx$$

$AV_3 = 6928.386$

**Figure 4: Cubic Spline Interpolation**





### *Conclusions*

Below is a table showing all the results for comparison purposes.

		0	
AV =	0	38443.1	rapezoidal Rule
	1	151251.755	Polynomial Interpolation
	2	38444.302	Linear Splines
	3	6928.386	Cubic Splines

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