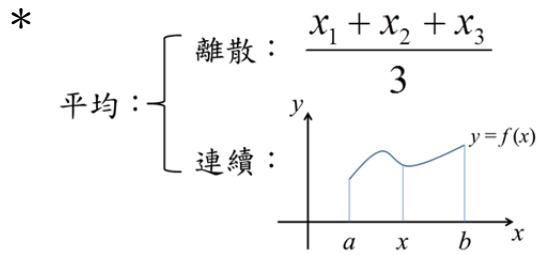


## §6-5 Average Value of a Function



\* 公式：

The average  $f_{ave}$  of a function  $y = f(x)$  on  $[a, b]$  is

$$f_{ave} = \frac{\int_a^b f(x) dx}{b-a}.$$

\* 註記：

$$(b-a)f_{ave} = \text{長方形面積} = \text{曲線底下由 } b \text{ 到 } a \text{ 的 (有向) 面積} = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

\* The Mean Value Theorem for Integrals :

If  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ , then  $\exists$  a  $c$  in  $[a, b]$  s.t.

$$f(c) = f_{ave} = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx.$$

\* Show that the average velocity of a car over a time interval  $[t_1, t_2]$  is the same as the average of its velocities during the trip. (平均速度 = 瞬間速度的平均值)

**Proof :**

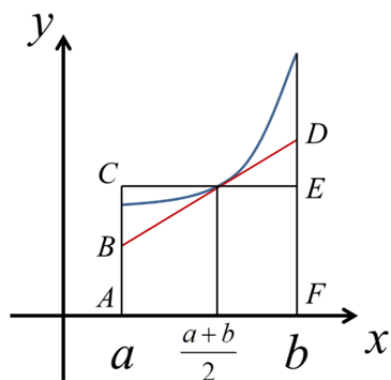
$$\text{平均速度} = \frac{s(t_2) - s(t_1)}{t_2 - t_1}, \text{ where } s(t) = \text{position function.}$$

$$\text{瞬間速度的平均值} = \frac{\int_{t_1}^{t_2} s'(t) dt}{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{s(t_2) - s(t_1)}{t_2 - t_1}.$$

**Example 1 :**

Use the diagram to show that if  $f$  is concave upward on  $[a, b]$ , then

$$f_{ave} > f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right).$$



**Solution :**

$$\begin{aligned} f_{ave} &= \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(x) dx \\ &> \frac{1}{b-a} \times (\text{area of trapezoid } ABDF) \\ &= \frac{1}{b-a} \times (\text{area of rectangle } ACEF) \\ &= \frac{1}{b-a} \times \left[ f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \times (b-a) \right] \\ &= f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$