

## 7.8 Improper Integrals

### Type 1:

• If  $\int_a^t f(x) dx$  exists for every number  $t \geq a$ :

$$\int_a^{\infty} f(x) dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^t f(x) dx$$

• If  $\int_t^b f(x) dx$  exists for every number  $t \leq b$ :

$$\int_{-\infty}^b f(x) dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \int_t^b f(x) dx$$

The improper integrals above are called convergent if the limit exists & is finite; divergent otherwise.

• If both  $\int_a^{\infty} f(x) dx$  and  $\int_{-\infty}^a f(x) dx$  are convergent:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^a f(x) dx + \int_a^{\infty} f(x) dx \quad (\text{Any number may be used for } a).$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{1}{5-6x} dx &= \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left( \int_t^0 \frac{1}{5-6x} dx \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left( -\frac{1}{6} \ln |5-6x| \Big|_t^0 \right) \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left( -\frac{1}{6} \ln(5) + \frac{1}{6} \ln |5-6t| \right) = \boxed{\infty} \text{ Divergent} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2. \int_2^{\infty} e^{-2x} dx &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left( \int_2^t e^{-2x} dx \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left( -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2x} \Big|_2^t \right) \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left( -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-4} \right) = \boxed{\frac{1}{2} e^{-4}} \text{ Convergent} \end{aligned}$$

$$3. \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{5}{1+36x^2} dx = \frac{5}{6} \frac{\pi}{2} \cdot 2 = \boxed{\frac{5\pi}{6}} \text{ Convergent}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{5}{1+36x^2} dx &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left( \int_0^t \frac{5}{1+(6x)^2} dx \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{5}{6} \arctan(6x) \Big|_0^t \right) \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{5}{6} \arctan(6t) - \frac{5}{6} \arctan(0) \right) = \frac{5}{6} \frac{\pi}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{5}{1+(6x)^2} dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left( \frac{5}{6} \arctan(6x) \Big|_t^0 \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left( \frac{5}{6} \arctan(0) - \frac{5}{6} \arctan(6t) \right) = \frac{5}{6} \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$4. \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dx}{(x+6)(x^2+1)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \frac{dx}{(x+6)(x^2+1)} &= \int_0^t \left( \frac{1}{37} \frac{1}{x+6} - \frac{1}{37} \frac{x-6}{x^2+1} \right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{37} \int_0^t \left( \frac{1}{x+6} - \frac{x}{x^2+1} + \frac{6}{x^2+1} \right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{37} \left( \ln|x+6| - \frac{1}{2} \ln(x^2+1) + 6 \arctan(x) \right) \Big|_0^t \\ &= \frac{1}{37} \left( \ln \left( \frac{x+6}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} \right) + 6 \arctan(x) \right) \Big|_0^t \\ &= \frac{1}{37} \left( \underbrace{\ln \left( \frac{t+6}{\sqrt{t^2+1}} \right)}_{\xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 1} + 6 \underbrace{\arctan(t)}_{\xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \pi/2} - \ln(6) - \underbrace{6 \arctan(0)}_0 \right) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \boxed{\frac{1}{37} (3\pi - \ln 6)} \\ &\quad \text{Convergent.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{(x+6)(x^2+1)} = \frac{A}{x+6} + \frac{Bx+C}{x^2+1}$$

$$1 = A(x^2+1) + (x+6)(Bx+C)$$

$$x = -6: 1 = 37A \quad \boxed{A = 1/37}$$

$$x = 0: 1 = \frac{1}{37} + 6C; \quad \frac{36}{37} = 6C \quad \boxed{C = \frac{6}{37}}$$

$$x = 6: 1 = 1 + 12(6B + \frac{6}{37}) \quad \boxed{B = -\frac{1}{37}}$$

**Type 2:**

• If  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b)$  but discontinuous at  $x=b$ :

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow b^-} \int_a^t f(x) dx$$

• If  $f$  is continuous on  $(a, b]$  but discontinuous at  $x=a$ :

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow a^+} \int_t^b f(x) dx$$

Again these are convergent (if the limit exists & is finite) or divergent (otherwise)

• If  $f$  has a discontinuity at  $x=c \in (a, b)$  and both  $\int_a^c f(x) dx$  and  $\int_c^b f(x) dx$  converge, then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^c f(x) dx + \int_c^b f(x) dx$$

1.  $\int_0^{\ln 8} \frac{1}{x^2} e^{-\frac{1}{x}} dx$  Special attention to the case  $x=0$  (function undefined)

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( \int_t^{\ln 8} \frac{1}{x^2} e^{-\frac{1}{x}} dx \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( e^{-\frac{1}{x}} \Big|_t^{\ln 8} \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( e^{-\frac{1}{\ln 8}} - e^{-\frac{1}{t}} \right) = \boxed{e^{-\frac{1}{\ln 8}}}$$

$$e^{-\frac{1}{t}} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow 0^+} e^{-\infty} = 0 \quad \text{Convergent}$$

2.  $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{|x|^{4/5}} dx$  Special attention to  $x=0$  (function undefined + branch function)

$$\int_{-1}^0 |x|^{-4/5} dx = \int_{-1}^0 (-x)^{-4/5} dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \left( \int_{-1}^t (-x)^{-4/5} dx \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \left( -5(-x)^{1/5} \Big|_{-1}^t \right)$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \left( -5(-x)^{1/5} + 5 \cdot 1^{1/5} \right) = \boxed{5}$$

$$\int_0^1 |x|^{-4/5} dx = \int_0^1 x^{-4/5} dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( \int_t^1 x^{-4/5} dx \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( 5x^{1/5} \Big|_t^1 \right)$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( 5 - 5 \cdot t^{1/5} \right) = \boxed{5}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{|x|^{4/5}} dx = \boxed{10} \quad (\text{Convergent}).$$

3.  $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{x^5} dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( \int_t^1 \frac{1}{x^5} dx \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( -\frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{x^4} \Big|_t^1 \right)$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{t^4} \right) = \boxed{\infty} \quad \text{Divergent}$$

4.  $\int_0^2 x^2 \ln x dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( \int_t^2 x^2 \ln x dx \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( \frac{8}{3} \ln 2 - \frac{8}{9} - \frac{1}{3} t^3 \ln t + \frac{1}{9} t^3 \right) = \boxed{\frac{8}{3} \ln 2 - \frac{8}{9}}$

$$\int_t^2 x^2 \ln x dx = \frac{1}{3} x^3 \ln x \Big|_t^2 - \int_t^2 \frac{1}{3} x^2 dx = \frac{8}{3} \ln 2 - \frac{1}{3} t^3 \ln t - \frac{1}{9} x^3 \Big|_t^2$$

$$= \frac{8}{3} \ln 2 - \frac{1}{3} t^3 \ln t - \frac{8}{9} + \frac{1}{9} t^3$$

$$u = \ln x; dv = x^2 dx$$

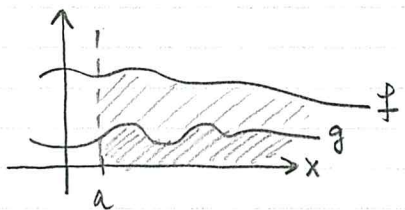
$$du = \frac{1}{x} dx; v = \frac{1}{3} x^3$$

$$\boxed{\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^3 \ln t = 0} : \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^3 \ln t = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\ln t}{\frac{1}{t^3}} \stackrel{0/0}{=} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\frac{1}{t}}{-\frac{3}{t^4}} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( -\frac{t^3}{3} \right) = 0$$

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## Comparison Theorem:

If  $f, g$  are continuous, and  $f(x) \geq g(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \geq a$ :



- If  $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$  is convergent, then  $\int_a^\infty g(x) dx$  is convergent.
- If  $\int_a^\infty g(x) dx$  is divergent, then  $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$  is divergent.

1.  $\int_1^\infty \frac{2+e^{-x}}{x} dx$       $f(x) = \frac{2+e^{-x}}{x} \geq \frac{2}{x} = g(x)$  for all  $x$

$$\int_1^\infty g(x) dx = \int_1^\infty \frac{2}{x} dx = 2 \ln x \Big|_1^\infty = \infty$$

$\Rightarrow \int_1^\infty \frac{2+e^{-x}}{x} dx$  is divergent by the Comparison Test

2.  $\int_0^\infty \frac{\arctan x}{2+e^x} dx$

$$f(x) = \frac{\arctan x}{2+e^x} < \frac{\pi/2}{2+e^x} < \frac{2}{2+e^x} < \frac{2}{e^x} = g(x) \quad \int_0^\infty \frac{2}{e^x} dx = -2e^{-x} \Big|_0^\infty = 2$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} f(x) \leq g(x) \text{ for all } x \geq 0 \\ \int_0^\infty g(x) dx \text{ converges} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \int_0^\infty \frac{\arctan x}{2+e^x} dx \text{ converges by the Comparison Test .}$$

3.  $\int_1^\infty \frac{5}{\sqrt{x^6+4}} dx$

Choose a function to compare:  $\int_1^\infty g(x) dx$

A.  $g(x) = 5\sqrt{x}$

B.  $g(x) = \frac{5}{\sqrt{x}}$

C.  $g(x) = \frac{5}{x^3}$

D.  $g(x) = \frac{5}{4x}$

C.  $g(x) = \frac{5}{x^3} \geq \frac{5}{\sqrt{x^6+4}} = f(x)$

$$\int_1^\infty g(x) dx = \int_1^\infty \frac{5}{x^3} dx = -\frac{5}{2x^2} \Big|_1^\infty = \frac{5}{2} < \infty \text{ Convergent! } \Rightarrow \int_1^\infty f(x) dx \text{ converges by Comparison Test .}$$

4.  $\int_0^\infty \frac{4}{4x+e^{4x}} dx$

Choose a function to compare:  $\int_1^\infty g(x) dx$

A.  $g(x) = \frac{4}{4x}$

B.  $g(x) = \frac{4}{e^{4x}}$

C.  $g(x) = \frac{4}{e^{8x}}$

D.  $g(x) = 4e^{4x}$

A.?  $\frac{4}{4x+e^{4x}} \leq \frac{4}{4x}$ ;  $\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln x \Big|_0^+ = \infty - (-\infty) = \infty$

So  $f(x) \leq g(x)$  and  $\int_0^\infty g(x) dx = \infty \dots$  Tells us nothing about  $f$ !

B.?  $\frac{4}{4x+e^{4x}} \leq \frac{4}{e^{4x}}$ ;  $\int_0^\infty \frac{4}{e^{4x}} dx = -e^{-4x} \Big|_0^\infty = 1 < \infty!$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} f(x) = \frac{4}{4x+e^{4x}} \leq g(x) = \frac{4}{e^{4x}} \\ \int_0^\infty g(x) dx = 1 < \infty \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \int_0^\infty f(x) dx \text{ converges by Comparison Test }$$

## Limit Comparison Test:

If  $f, g$  are positive continuous functions on  $[a, \infty)$  and if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = L$  exists and is finite ( $0 < L < \infty$ )

then:

$$\boxed{\int_a^{\infty} f(x) dx} \quad \& \quad \boxed{\int_a^{\infty} g(x) dx}$$

either both converge or both diverge.

1.  $\int_{10}^{\infty} \frac{8}{\sqrt{x-9}} dx$  Converge or diverge? Use Limit Comparison.  $f(x) = \frac{8}{\sqrt{x-9}}$

Example of  $g(x)$ :  $g(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$   $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{8}{\sqrt{x-9}}}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} 8 \frac{\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x-9}} = 8 < \infty$

$$\int_{10}^{\infty} g(x) dx = \int_{10}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx = 2\sqrt{x} \Big|_{10}^{\infty} = \infty \text{ Divergent}$$

$\Rightarrow \int_{10}^{\infty} \frac{8}{\sqrt{x-9}} dx$  is divergent by the Limit Comparison Test.

2.  $\int_5^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x+4}}{2x^5} dx$  Same question.

$$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x+4}}{2x^5}$$

Suggestion:  $g(x) = \frac{1}{x^{5-1/2}} = \frac{1}{x^{9/2}}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x+4}}{2x^5} \cdot x^{9/2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x+4}}{2\sqrt{x}} = \frac{1}{2} < \infty$$

$$\int_5^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^{9/2}} dx = -\frac{2}{7} x^{-7/2} \Big|_5^{\infty} = -\frac{2}{7} \frac{1}{x^{7/2}} \Big|_5^{\infty} = \frac{2}{7} \frac{1}{5^{7/2}} < \infty \text{ Convergent!}$$

$\Rightarrow \int_5^{\infty} f(x) dx$  also converges by Limit Comparison Test.