

Section 7.8

Definition: Integrals with infinite limits of integration are improper integrals.

1. If $f(x)$ is continuous on $[a, \infty)$, then

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

2. If $f(x)$ is continuous on $(-\infty, b]$, then

$$\int_{-\infty}^b f(x) dx = \lim_{a \rightarrow -\infty} \int_a^b f(x) dx.$$

3. If $f(x)$ is continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$, then

$$\int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^c f(x) dx + \int_c^\infty f(x) dx,$$

where c is any real number.

In parts 1 and 2, if the limit is finite the improper integral **converges** and the limit is the **value** of the improper integral. If the limit fails to exist, the improper integral **diverges**. In part 3, the integral on the left-hand side of the equation **converges** if both improper integrals on the right-hand side converge, otherwise it **diverges** and has no value.

Exercise 1. Does the improper integral $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x} dx$ converge or diverge?

Exercise 2. Evaluate $\int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$.

Exercise 3. For what values of p does the integral $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^p} dx$ converge? When the integral does converge, what is its value?

Definition: Integrals of functions that become infinite at a point within the interval of integration are improper integrals.

1. If $f(x)$ is continuous on $(a, b]$, then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{c \rightarrow a^+} \int_c^b f(x) dx.$$

2. If $f(x)$ is continuous on $[a, b)$, then

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

3. If $f(x)$ is continuous on $[a, c) \cup (c, b]$, then

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

In parts 1 and 2, if the limit is finite the improper integral **converges** and the limit is the **value** of the improper integral. If the limit fails to exist the improper integral **diverges**. In part 3, the integral on the left-hand side of the equation **converges** if both integrals on the right-hand side have values, otherwise it **diverges**.

Exercise 4. Evaluate $\int_0^3 \frac{1}{(x-1)^{2/3}} dx$.

Exercise 5. Evaluate $\int_1^4 \frac{1}{x-2} dx$.

Class Exercise 1. Evaluate the integral or state that it diverges.

(a) $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^{1.001}} dx$

(b) $\int_0^4 \frac{1}{\sqrt{4-r}} dr$

(c) $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx$

(d) $\int_{-\infty}^{-2} \frac{2}{x^2-1} dx$

(e) $\int_0^1 \frac{\theta+1}{\sqrt{\theta^2+2\theta}} d\theta$

(f) $\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{(1+x)\sqrt{x}} dx$

(g) $\int_1^2 \frac{1}{s\sqrt{s^2-1}} ds$

(h) $\int_0^\infty \frac{16\tan^{-1}x}{1+x^2} dx$

(i) $\int_{-\infty}^0 \theta e^\theta d\theta$

(j) $\int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-|x|} dx$

Exercise 6. Does the integral $\int_1^\infty e^{-x^2} dx$ converge?

Theorem: Let f and g be continuous on $[a, \infty)$ with $0 \leq f(x) \leq g(x)$ for all $x \geq a$. Then

1. $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$ converges if $\int_a^\infty g(x) dx$ converges

2. $\int_a^\infty g(x) dx$ diverges if $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$ diverges

Exercise 7. Does $\int_1^\infty \sin^2 x/x^2 dx$ converge or diverge?

Exercise 8. Does $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2-0.1}} dx$ converge or diverge?

Theorem: If the positive functions f and g are continuous on $[a, \infty)$ and if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = L, \quad 0 < L < \infty,$$

then

$$\int_a^\infty f(x) dx \text{ and } \int_a^\infty g(x) dx \text{ both converge or both diverge.}$$

Exercise 9. Show that $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$ converges by comparison with $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^2} dx$. Find and compare the two integral values.

Exercise 10. Show that $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{e^x-5} dx$ converges.

Class Exercise 2. Use integration, the direct comparison test, or the limit comparison test to determine whether the integral converges or diverges.

(a) $\int_0^{\pi/2} \tan \theta d\theta$

(b) $\int_{-\infty}^\infty 2xe^{-x^2} dx$

(c) $\int_0^\pi \frac{1}{\sqrt{t+\sin t}} dt$

(d) $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^3+1} dx$

(e) $\int_0^2 \frac{1}{1-x} dx$

(f) $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{1+e^\theta} d\theta$

(g) $\int_1^\infty \frac{\sqrt{x+1}}{x^2} dx$

(h) $\int_\pi^\infty \frac{2+\cos x}{x} dx$

(i) $\int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{1}{e^x+e^{-x}} dx$

(j) $\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{(1+y^2)(1+\tan^{-1}y)} dy$

Homework: 15, 19, 25-45 (every 4th), 57, 61. 63. 67