

8.7 Improper integral

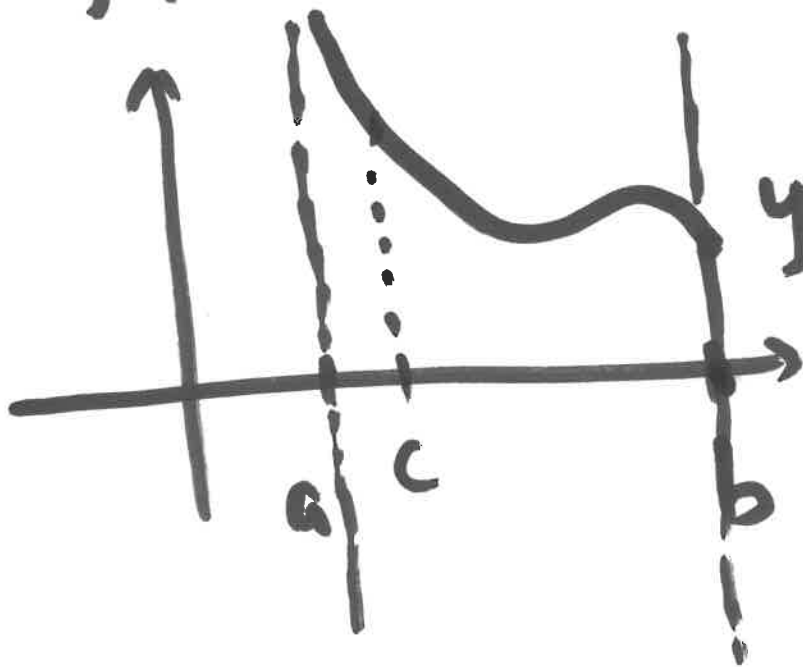
$$\textcircled{1} \int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{c \rightarrow a^+} \int_c^b f(x) dx$$

$f(x)$ is not bounded on $[a, b]$

(for example,

$y = f(x)$ not bounded

near $x = a$)



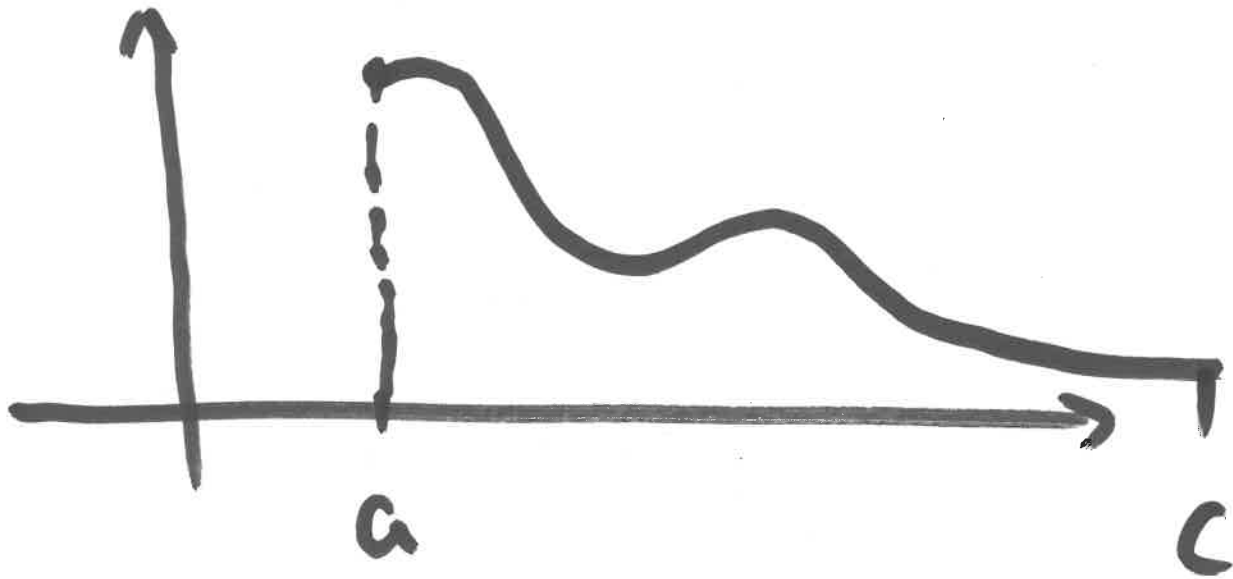
If limit exists, we say the
improper integral $\int_a^b f(x) dx$

converges, otherwise it

diverges.

$$\textcircled{2} \int_a^\infty f(x) dx = \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^c f(x) dx$$

↑
interval is infinite



To determine an improper integral converges/diverges:

- Identify the problematic integral bound(s)
- If you can compute in def. integral, then evaluate limit explicitly.

ex 1 $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} dx \quad (p > 0)$

$$= \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^c \frac{1}{x^p} dx$$

① $p \neq 1$

$$\int_1^c \frac{1}{x^p} dx = \frac{1}{1-p} \cdot \frac{1}{x^{p-1}} \Big|_1^c$$
$$= \frac{1}{1-p} \left(\frac{1}{c^{p-1}} - 1 \right)$$

$$p > 1$$

$$\lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1-p} \left(\frac{1}{c^{p-1}} - 1 \right) = \frac{1}{p-1}$$

(exists).

$$p < 1$$

$$\lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1-p} \left(\frac{1}{c^{p-1}} - 1 \right) = \infty$$

(DNE)

$\swarrow = (1-p)$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad p = 1$$

$$\int_1^c \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln|x| \Big|_1^c = \ln c$$

$$\lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \ln c = \infty \quad (\text{DNE})$$

$c \rightarrow \infty$

answer: $p > 1 \Rightarrow$ Converges

$p \leq 1 \Rightarrow$ diverges

ex 2

$$\int_{\boxed{0}}^1 \frac{1}{x^p} dx$$

($p > 0$)

$$= \lim_{c \rightarrow 0^+} \int_c^1 \frac{1}{x^p} dx$$

① $p \neq 1$

$$\int_c^1 \frac{1}{x^p} dx = \frac{1}{1-p} \cdot \frac{1}{x^{p-1}} \Big|_c^1$$

$$= \frac{1}{1-p} \left(1 - \frac{1}{c^{p-1}} \right)$$

$$p > 1 \quad \lim_{c \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{1-p} \left(1 - \frac{1}{c^{p-1}} \right) = \infty$$

(DNE)

$$p < 1 \quad \lim_{c \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{1-p} \left(1 - \frac{1}{c^{p-1}} \right) = \frac{1}{1-p}$$

$\hookrightarrow = c^{1-p}$ (exists)

$$\textcircled{2} \quad p = 1 \quad \int_c^1 \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln|x| \Big|_c^1 = -\ln c$$

$$\lim_{c \rightarrow 0^+} (-\ln c) = \infty \quad \text{(DNE)}$$

answer :

$p < 1 \Rightarrow$ converges

$p \geq 1 \Rightarrow$ diverges

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} dx$$

$$0 < p < 1$$

$$p = 1$$

$$p > 1$$

div

div

conv

$$\int_0^1 \frac{1}{x^p} dx$$

conv

div

div

ex 3

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x e^{-x^2} dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} x e^{-x^2} dx + \int_{-\infty}^0 x e^{-x^2} dx$$

$$= \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^c x e^{-x^2} dx$$

$$+ \lim_{c \rightarrow -\infty} \int_c^0 x e^{-x^2} dx$$

$$\int x e^{-x^2} dx = -\frac{1}{2} \int e^u du$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} u = -x^2 \\ du = -2x dx \end{array} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} e^u + C$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} e^{-x^2} + C$$

Say $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty}$ converges when

BOTH limits exist.

Otherwise it diverges.

$$\textcircled{1} \int_0^c x e^{-x^2} dx$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} e^{-x^2} \Big|_0^c$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} (e^{-c^2} - 1)$$

$$\lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{1}{2} (e^{-c^2} - 1) = \frac{1}{2} \quad (\text{exists})$$

$$\textcircled{2} \int_c^0 x e^{-x^2} dx$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} e^{-x^2} \Big|_c^0$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} (1 - e^{-c^2})$$

$$\lim_{c \rightarrow -\infty} -\frac{1}{2} (1 - e^{-c^2}) = -\frac{1}{2}$$

(exists)

Conclusion: $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x e^{-x^2} dx$ conv.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x e^{-x^2} dx = \int_0^{\infty} x e^{-x^2} dx + \int_{-\infty}^0 x e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0$$