

Integration by Parts

Given 2 differentiable functions u and v , the Product Rule states that

$$(uv)' = uv' + u'v.$$

By integrating both sides, we have

$$uv = \int (uv)' dx = \int uv' dx + \int u'v dx = \int u dv + \int v du.$$

Rearranging this expression, integration by parts for indefinite integral is

$$\int u dv = uv - \int v du.$$

Similarly, integration by parts for definite integral is

$$\int_a^b u(x)v'(x)dx = u(x)v(x)\Big|_a^b - \int_a^b v(x)u'(x)dx.$$

Remark:

We distinguish 3 cases:

Case 1: If $f(x) = x^a e^{bx}$, $x^a \sin bx$ or $x^a \cos bx$ then $u = x^a$ and the rest is dv .

Case 2: If $f(x) = x^a \ln x$, $x^a \sin^{-1} bx$, $x^a \cos^{-1} bx$, $x^a \tan^{-1} bx$ or $x^a \cot^{-1} bx$ then $x^a dx = dv$ and the rest is u .

Case 3: If $f(x) = e^{ax} \sin bx$ or $e^{ax} \cos bx$ then $u = e^{ax}$ or $dv = e^{ax} dx$.

Example

Evaluate the following integrals.

(a) $\int \ln x dx.$

(b) $\int x \ln x dx.$

$$(c) \quad \int x \cos 4x dx.$$

$$(d) \quad \int_0^{1/2} \cos^{-1} x dx.$$

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} (a) \quad \int \ln x dx &= x \ln x - \int x d \ln x \\ &= x \ln x - \int x \cdot \frac{1}{x} dx \\ &= x \ln x - \int 1 dx \\ &= x \ln x - x + C \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (b) \quad \int x \ln x dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int \ln x dx^2 \\ &= \frac{x^2}{2} \ln x - \frac{1}{2} \int x^2 d \ln x \\ &= \frac{x^2}{2} \ln x - \frac{1}{2} \int x^2 \cdot \frac{1}{x} dx \\ &= \frac{x^2}{2} \ln x - \frac{1}{2} \int x dx \\ &= \frac{x^2}{2} \ln x - \frac{x^2}{4} + C \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (c) \quad \int x \cos 4x dx &= \frac{1}{4} \int x d \sin 4x \\ &= \frac{x \sin 4x}{4} - \frac{1}{4} \int \sin 4x dx \\ &= \frac{x \sin 4x}{4} + \frac{1}{16} \cos 4x + C \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (d) \quad \int_0^{1/2} \cos^{-1} x dx &= x \cos^{-1} x \Big|_0^{1/2} - \int_0^{1/2} x d \cos^{-1} x \\ &= \frac{\pi}{6} - \int_0^{1/2} x \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \right) dx \\ &= \frac{\pi}{6} - \int_0^{1/2} \frac{(1-x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{2} d(1-x^2) \\ &= \frac{\pi}{6} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{-\frac{1}{2}} \Big|_0^{1/2} \\ &= \frac{\pi}{6} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Example

Find $\int xe^x dx$.

Solution

Bad Method:

$$\begin{aligned}\int xe^x dx &= \int e^x d\left(\frac{x^2}{2}\right) \\ &= e^x \left(\frac{x^2}{2}\right) - \int \frac{x^2}{2} de^x \\ &= e^x \left(\frac{x^2}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2} \int x^2 e^x dx.\end{aligned}$$

Try to decrease the power of x but not increase the power of x .

Good Method:

$$\begin{aligned}\int xe^x dx &= \int x de^x \\ &= xe^x - \int e^x dx \\ &= xe^x - e^x + C.\end{aligned}$$

Example

Find $\int e^x \cos x dx$.

Solution

Bad Method

$$\begin{aligned}\int e^x \cos x dx &= \int e^x d \sin x \\ &= e^x \sin x - \int \sin x de^x \\ &= e^x \sin x - \int e^x \sin x dx \\ &= e^x \sin x - \int \sin x de^x\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= e^x \sin x - \left(e^x \sin x - \int e^x d \sin x \right) \\
&= \int e^x d \sin x \\
&= \int e^x \cos x dx \quad \text{Do nothing.}
\end{aligned}$$

Method 1:

$$\begin{aligned}
\int e^x \cos x dx &= \int e^x d \sin x \\
&= e^x \sin x - \int \sin x d e^x \\
&= e^x \sin x - \int e^x \sin x dx \\
&= e^x \sin x + \int e^x d \cos x \\
&= e^x \sin x + \left(e^x \cos x - \int \cos x d e^x \right) \\
&= e^x \sin x + e^x \cos x - \int e^x \cos x dx \\
2 \int e^x \cos x dx &= e^x \sin x + e^x \cos x \\
\int e^x \cos x dx &= \frac{e^x \sin x + e^x \cos x}{2} + C
\end{aligned}$$

Method 2:

$$\begin{aligned}
\int e^x \cos x dx &= \int \cos x d e^x \\
&= e^x \cos x - \int e^x d \cos x \\
&= e^x \cos x + \int e^x \sin x dx \\
&= e^x \cos x + \int \sin x d e^x \\
&= e^x \cos x + e^x \sin x - \int e^x d \sin x \\
&= e^x \cos x + e^x \sin x - \int e^x \cos x dx \\
2 \int e^x \cos x dx &= e^x \cos x + e^x \sin x \\
\int e^x \cos x dx &= \frac{e^x \cos x + e^x \sin x}{2} + C
\end{aligned}$$

Trigonometric Integrals

Reduction Formulas

Assume n is a positive integer.

$$1. \int \sin^n x \, dx = -\frac{\sin^{n-1} x \cos x}{n} + \frac{n-1}{n} \int \sin^{n-2} x \, dx$$

$$2. \int \cos^n x \, dx = \frac{\cos^{n-1} x \sin x}{n} + \frac{n-1}{n} \int \cos^{n-2} x \, dx$$

$$3. \int \tan^n x \, dx = \frac{\tan^{n-1} x}{n-1} - \int \tan^{n-2} x \, dx, \quad n \neq 1$$

$$4. \int \sec^n x \, dx = \frac{\sec^{n-2} x \tan x}{n-1} + \frac{n-2}{n-1} \int \sec^{n-2} x \, dx, \quad n \neq 1$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \sin^n x \, dx &= \int \sin^{n-1} x \sin x \, dx = \int -\sin^{n-1} x \, d \cos x \\ &= -\sin^{n-1} x \cos x - \int -\cos x \, d \sin^{n-1} x \\ &= -\sin^{n-1} x \cos x + (n-1) \int \sin^{n-2} x \cos^2 x \, dx \\ &= -\sin^{n-1} x \cos x + (n-1) \int \sin^{n-2} x (1 - \sin^2 x) \, dx \\ &= -\sin^{n-1} x \cos x + (n-1) \int \sin^{n-2} x \, dx - (n-1) \int \sin^n x \, dx \\ n \int \sin^n x \, dx &= -\sin^{n-1} x \cos x + (n-1) \int \sin^{n-2} x \, dx \\ \int \sin^n x \, dx &= -\frac{1}{n} \sin^{n-1} x \cos x + \frac{n-1}{n} \int \sin^{n-2} x \, dx. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting $u = \frac{\pi}{2} - x$ into the reduction formula of $\int \sin^n x \, dx$ will give us the reduction formula of $\int \cos^n x \, dx$ (D.I.Y.)

$$\begin{aligned} \int \tan^n x \, dx &= \int \tan^{n-2} x \tan^2 x \, dx \\ &= \int \tan^{n-2} x (\sec^2 x - 1) \, dx \\ &= \int \tan^{n-2} x \sec^2 x \, dx - \int \tan^{n-2} x \, dx \\ &= \int \tan^{n-2} x \, d \tan x - \int \tan^{n-2} x \, dx \\ &= \frac{\tan^{n-1} x}{n-1} - \int \tan^{n-2} x \, dx. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int \sec^n x \, dx &= \int \sec^2 x \sec^{n-2} x \, dx \\
&= \tan x \sec^{n-2} x - \int (\tan x) \cdot (n-2) \sec^{n-3} x (\sec x \tan x) \, dx \\
&= \tan x \sec^{n-2} x - (n-2) \int \sec^{n-2} x (\sec^2 x - 1) \, dx \\
&= \tan x \sec^{n-2} x - (n-2) \int \sec^n x \, dx + (n-2) \int \sec^{n-2} x \, dx . \\
\therefore (n-1) \int \sec^n x \, dx &= \tan x \sec^{n-2} x + (n-2) \int \sec^{n-2} x \, dx \\
\therefore \int \sec^n x \, dx &= \frac{1}{n-1} \tan x \sec^{n-2} x + \frac{n-2}{n-1} \int \sec^{n-2} x \, dx .
\end{aligned}$$

Strategies for solving $\int \sin^m x \cos^n x \, dx$

Case 1 $m = 2k+1$ odd, n real

$$\begin{aligned}
\int \sin^{2k+1} x \cos^n x \, dx &= \int \sin^{2k} x \cos^n x \sin x \, dx && \text{(split off } \sin x) \\
&= \int (1 - \cos^2 x)^k \cos^n x \sin x \, dx && \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{rewrite the resulting even power} \\ \text{of } \sin x \text{ in terms of } \cos x \end{array} \right) \\
&= -\int (1 - \cos^2 x)^k \cos^n x \, d \cos x && \text{(substitute } u = \cos x)
\end{aligned}$$

Case 2 m real, $n = 2l+1$ odd

$$\begin{aligned}
\int \sin^m x \cos^{2l+1} x \, dx &= \int \sin^m x \cos^{2l} x \cos x \, dx && \text{(split off } \cos x) \\
&= \int \sin^m x (1 - \sin^2 x)^l \cos x \, dx && \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{rewrite the resulting even power} \\ \text{of } \cos x \text{ in terms of } \sin x \end{array} \right) \\
&= \int \sin^m x (1 - \sin^2 x)^l \, d \sin x && \text{(substitute } u = \sin x)
\end{aligned}$$

Case 3 both $m = 2k$ and $n = 2l$ nonnegative even integers

Use $\sin^2 x = \frac{1 - \cos 2x}{2}$ and $\cos^2 x = \frac{1 + \cos 2x}{2}$ to transform $\sin^{2k} x \cos^{2l} x$ into a polynomial in $\cos 2x$; i.e.,

$$\int \sin^{2k} x \cos^{2l} x \, dx = \frac{1}{2^{k+l}} \int (1 - \cos 2x)^k (1 + \cos 2x)^l \, dx$$

and apply the preceding strategies once again to powers of $\cos 2x$ greater than 1.

Example

Evaluate $\int \sin^3 x dx$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned}\int \sin^3 x dx &= \int \sin^2 x \cdot \sin x dx \\&= \int (1 - \cos^2 x) \cdot \sin x dx \\&= -\int (1 - u^2) du \quad u = \cos x; du = -\sin x dx \\&= -u + \frac{u^3}{3} + C \\&= -\cos x + \frac{\cos^3 x}{3} + C.\end{aligned}$$

By Reduction Formula,

$$\begin{aligned}\int \sin^3 x dx &= -\frac{\sin^2 x \cos x}{3} + \frac{2}{3} \int \sin x dx \\&= -\frac{\sin^2 x \cos x}{3} - \frac{2}{3} \cos x + C \\&= -\frac{(1 - \cos^2 x) \cos x}{3} - \frac{2}{3} \cos x + C \\&= -\frac{\cos x}{3} + \frac{\cos^3 x}{3} - \frac{2}{3} \cos x + C \\&= -\cos x + \frac{\cos^3 x}{3} + C.\end{aligned}$$

Example

Evaluate $\int \sin^2 x \cos^3 x dx$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned}\int \sin^2 x \cos^3 x dx &= \int \sin^2 x \cos^2 x \cdot \cos x dx \\&= \int \sin^2 x (1 - \sin^2 x) \cdot \cos x dx \\&= \int \sin^2 x (1 - \sin^2 x) d \sin x \\&= \int \sin^2 x - \sin^4 x d \sin x \\&= \frac{\sin^3 x}{3} - \frac{\sin^5 x}{5} + C\end{aligned}$$

Example

Evaluate $\int \sin^2 x \cos^2 x dx$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned}\int \sin^2 x \cos^2 x dx &= \int \left(\frac{1 - \cos 2x}{2} \right) \left(\frac{1 + \cos 2x}{2} \right) dx \\&= \frac{1}{4} \int 1 - \cos^2 2x dx \\&= \frac{1}{4} \int 1 - \frac{1 + \cos 4x}{2} dx \\&= \frac{1}{8} \int 1 - \cos 4x dx \\&= \frac{1}{8} \left(x - \frac{\sin 4x}{4} \right) + C\end{aligned}$$

THEOREM 7.1 Integrals of $\tan x$, $\cot x$, $\sec x$, and $\csc x$

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan x dx &= -\ln |\cos x| + C = \ln |\sec x| + C & \int \cot x dx &= \ln |\sin x| + C \\ \int \sec x dx &= \ln |\sec x + \tan x| + C & \int \csc x dx &= -\ln |\csc x + \cot x| + C\end{aligned}$$

Solution

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan x dx &= \int \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} dx \\&= -\int \frac{1}{\cos x} d \cos x \\&= -\ln |\cos x| + C \\&= \ln |\sec x| + C \\ \int \sec x dx &= \int \sec x \frac{\sec x + \tan x}{\sec x + \tan x} dx \\&= \int \frac{\sec^2 x + \sec x \tan x}{\sec x + \tan x} dx \\&= \int \frac{d(\sec x + \tan x)}{\sec x + \tan x} \\&= \ln |\sec x + \tan x| + C\end{aligned}$$

Substituting $u = \frac{\pi}{2} - x$ gives us the strategy for the integral $\int \cot x dx$ and $\int \csc x dx$. (D.I.Y.)

Strategies for solving $\int \tan^m x \sec^n x dx$

Case 1 $n = 2l$ even

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan^m x \sec^{2l} x dx &= \int \tan^m x \sec^{2l-2} x \sec^2 x dx && \text{(split off } \sec^2 x) \\ &= \int \tan^m x (\tan^2 x + 1)^{l-1} \sec^2 x dx && \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{rewrite the resulting even power} \\ \text{of } \sec x \text{ in terms of } \tan x \end{array} \right) \\ &= \int \tan^m x (\tan^2 x + 1)^{l-1} d \tan x && \text{(substitute } u = \tan x)\end{aligned}$$

Case 2 $m = 2k + 1$ odd

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan^{2k+1} x \sec^n x dx &= \int \tan^{2k} x \sec^{n-1} x \sec x \tan x dx && \text{(split off } \sec x \tan x) \\ &= \int (\sec^2 x - 1)^k \sec^{n-1} x \sec x \tan x dx && \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{rewrite the resulting even power} \\ \text{of } \tan x \text{ in terms of } \sec x \end{array} \right) \\ &= \int (\sec^2 x - 1)^k \sec^{n-1} x d \sec x && \text{(substitute } u = \sec x)\end{aligned}$$

Case 3 $m = 2k$ even and $n = 2l + 1$ odd

Rewrite the even power of $\tan x$ in terms of $\sec x$ to produce a polynomial in $\sec x$; i.e.,

$$\int \tan^{2k} x \sec^{2l+1} x dx = \int (\sec^2 x - 1)^k \sec^{2l+1} x dx$$

and apply reduction formula 4 to each term.

Remark: Substituting $u = \frac{\pi}{2} - x$ gives us the strategy for the integral $\int \cot^m x \csc^n x dx$. (D.I.Y.)

Example

Evaluate $\int \tan^2 x \sec x dx$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned}\int \tan^2 x \sec x dx &= \int (\sec^2 x - 1) \sec x dx \\ &= \int \sec^3 x dx - \int \sec x dx \\ &= \frac{\sec x \tan x}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \int \sec x dx - \int \sec x dx \\ &= \frac{\sec x \tan x}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\sec x + \tan x| + C\end{aligned}$$

Example

Evaluate $\int \tan x \sec^2 x \, dx$.

Solution

Method 1: $\int \tan x \sec^2 x \, dx = \int u \, du \quad u = \tan x; \, du = \sec^2 x \, dx$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{u^2}{2} + C_1 \\ &= \frac{\tan^2 x}{2} + C_1 \end{aligned}$$

Method 2: $\int \tan x \sec^2 x \, dx = \int v \, dv \quad v = \sec x; \, dv = \sec x \tan x \, dx$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{v^2}{2} + C_2 \\ &= \frac{\sec^2 x}{2} + C_2 = \frac{\tan^2 x}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + C_2 \end{aligned}$$

To evaluate the integrals $\int \sin mx \cos nx \, dx$, $\int \sin mx \sin nx \, dx$, or $\int \cos mx \cos nx \, dx$, use the corresponding identities

$$\sin A \cos B = \frac{1}{2} [\sin(A - B) + \sin(A + B)]$$

$$\sin A \sin B = \frac{1}{2} [\cos(A - B) - \cos(A + B)]$$

$$\cos A \cos B = \frac{1}{2} [\cos(A - B) + \cos(A + B)]$$

Example

Evaluate $\int \sin 4x \cos 5x \, dx$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \int \sin 4x \cos 5x \, dx &= \int \frac{1}{2} [\sin(-x) + \sin 9x] \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int (-\sin x + \sin 9x) \, dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\cos x - \frac{1}{9} \cos 9x \right) + C. \end{aligned}$$

Trigonometric Substitutions

The Integral

Contains ...

Corresponding Substitution

Useful Identity

$$a^2 - x^2$$

$$x = a \sin \theta, -\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, \text{ for } |x| \leq a$$

$$a^2 - a^2 \sin^2 \theta = a^2 \cos^2 \theta$$

$$a^2 + x^2$$

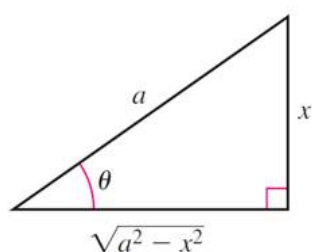
$$x = a \tan \theta, -\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$a^2 + a^2 \tan^2 \theta = a^2 \sec^2 \theta$$

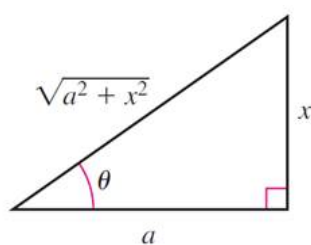
$$x^2 - a^2$$

$$x = a \sec \theta, \begin{cases} 0 \leq \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}, \text{ for } x \geq a \\ \frac{\pi}{2} < \theta \leq \pi, \text{ for } x \leq -a \end{cases}$$

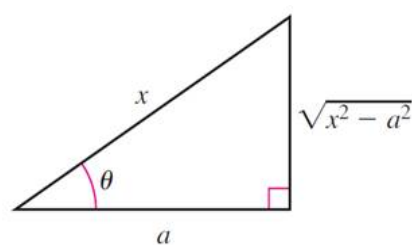
$$a^2 \sec^2 \theta - a^2 = a^2 \tan^2 \theta$$



$$x = a \sin \theta$$



$$x = a \tan \theta$$



$$x = a \sec \theta$$

Example

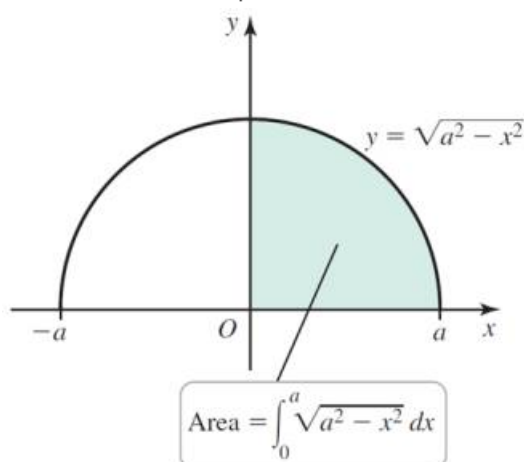
Verify that the area of a circle of radius a is πa^2 .

Solution

One-fourth of the area of a circle of radius a is

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^a \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \sqrt{a^2 - a^2 \sin^2 \theta} a \cos \theta d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{\pi/2} a^2 \cos^2 \theta d\theta \\ &= a^2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{1 + \cos 2\theta}{2} d\theta \\ &= \frac{a^2}{2} \left(\theta + \frac{\sin 2\theta}{2} \right) \Big|_0^{\pi/2} \\ &= \frac{\pi a^2}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= a \sin \theta, dx = a \cos \theta d\theta, \\ x = 0, \theta &= 0, x = a, \theta = \pi/2. \end{aligned}$$



The area of a circle of radius a is πa^2 .

Example

Evaluate

(a) $\int \frac{dx}{(16-x^2)^{3/2}}$

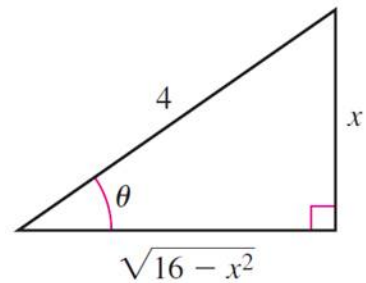
(b) $\int \frac{dx}{(1+x^2)^2}$.

(c) $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2-6x}} dx$.

Solution

(a) Let $x = 4 \sin \theta$, $dx = 4 \cos \theta d\theta$.

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{dx}{(16-x^2)^{3/2}} &= \int \frac{4 \cos \theta}{(16-16 \sin^2 \theta)^{3/2}} d\theta \\ &= \int \frac{4 \cos \theta}{(16 \cos^2 \theta)^{3/2}} d\theta \\ &= \int \frac{4 \cos \theta}{64 \cos^3 \theta} d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{16} \int \frac{1}{\cos^2 \theta} d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{16} \int \sec^2 \theta d\theta \\ &= \frac{\tan \theta}{16} + C \\ &= \frac{x}{16 \sqrt{16-x^2}} + C \end{aligned}$$

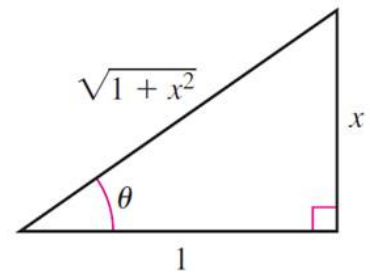


$$\begin{aligned} \sin \theta &= \frac{x}{4} \\ \tan \theta &= \frac{x}{\sqrt{16-x^2}} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Let $x = \tan \theta$, $dx = \sec^2 \theta d\theta$.

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{dx}{(1+x^2)^2} &= \int \frac{\sec^2 \theta}{(1+\tan^2 \theta)^2} d\theta \\ &= \int \frac{\sec^2 \theta}{\sec^4 \theta} d\theta \\ &= \int \frac{1}{\sec^2 \theta} d\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta \\
&= \int \frac{1 + \cos 2\theta}{2} d\theta \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \left[\theta + \frac{\sin 2\theta}{2} \right] + C \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} x + \frac{1}{4} 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta + C \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} x + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} + C \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} x + \frac{x}{2(1+x^2)} + C
\end{aligned}$$

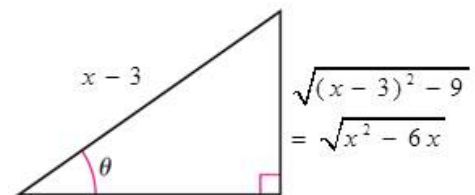


$$\begin{aligned}
\sin \theta &= \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} \\
\cos \theta &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}
\end{aligned}$$

(c) Clearly, $\sqrt{x^2 - 6x} = \sqrt{(x-3)^2 - 3^2}$.

Let $x-3 = 3 \sec \theta$, $d\theta = 3 \sec \theta \tan \theta d\theta$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 - 6x}} dx &= \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{(x-3)^2 - 3^2}} \\
&= \int \frac{3 \sec \theta \tan \theta}{\sqrt{9 \sec^2 \theta - 9}} d\theta \\
&= \int \frac{3 \sec \theta \tan \theta}{\sqrt{9 \tan^2 \theta}} d\theta \\
&= \int \frac{3 \sec \theta \tan \theta}{3 \tan \theta} d\theta \\
&= \int \sec \theta d\theta \\
&= \ln |\sec \theta + \tan \theta| + C \\
&= \ln \left| \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - 6x}}{3} + \frac{x-3}{3} \right| + C \\
&= \ln |\sqrt{x^2 - 6x} + x - 3| - \ln 3 + C \\
&= \ln |\sqrt{x^2 - 6x} + x - 3| + C_1
\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
\tan \theta &= \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - 6x}}{3} \\
\sec \theta &= \frac{x-3}{3}
\end{aligned}$$

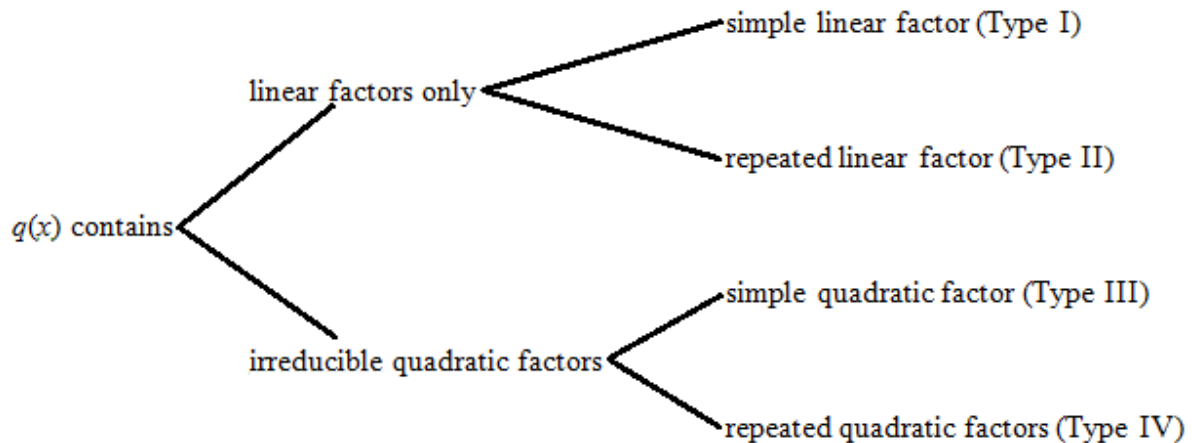
Partial Fractions

Rational function	$\frac{3x}{x^2 + 2x - 8}$	$\xrightarrow{\text{method of partial fractions}}$	Partial fraction decomposition
			$\frac{1}{x - 2} + \frac{2}{x + 4}$
Difficult to integrate	$\int \frac{3x}{x^2 + 2x - 8} dx$		Easy to integrate
			$\int \left(\frac{1}{x - 2} + \frac{2}{x + 4} \right) dx$

Suppose $f(x) = p(x)/q(x)$, where p and q are polynomials with no common factors. If $\deg p \geq \deg q$, by long division, $p(x)$ can be written as $p(x) = q(x)d(x) + r(x)$ where d and r are polynomials with $\deg r < \deg q$. Hence

$$f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} = d(x) + \frac{r(x)}{q(x)}.$$

The proper rational function $\frac{r(x)}{q(x)}$ (if $\deg p \geq \deg q$) or $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$ (if $\deg p < \deg q$) is categorized into the following partial fractions.



Type I

PROCEDURE Partial Fractions with Simple Linear Factors

Suppose $f(x) = p(x)/q(x)$, where p and q are polynomials with no common factors and with the degree of p less than the degree of q . Assume that q is the product of simple linear factors. The partial fraction decomposition is obtained as follows.

- Step 1. Factor the denominator q** in the form $(x - r_1)(x - r_2) \cdots (x - r_n)$, where r_1, \dots, r_n are real numbers.
- Step 2. Partial fraction decomposition** Form the partial fraction decomposition by writing
- $$\frac{p(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{A_1}{(x - r_1)} + \frac{A_2}{(x - r_2)} + \cdots + \frac{A_n}{(x - r_n)}.$$
- Step 3. Clear denominators** Multiply both sides of the equation in Step 2 by $q(x) = (x - r_1)(x - r_2) \cdots (x - r_n)$, which produces conditions for A_1, \dots, A_n .
- Step 4. Solve for coefficients** Solve for the undetermined coefficients A_1, \dots, A_n in Step 3 by substitution or comparing coefficients.

Example

Evaluate $\int \frac{2x^3 - 4x^2 - x - 3}{x^2 - 2x - 3} dx$.

Solution

Since the degree of the numerator is greater than the degree of the denominator, we first perform the long division.

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x \\ x^2 - 2x - 3 \overline{) 2x^3 - 4x^2 - x - 3} \\ \underline{2x^3 - 4x^2 - 6x} \\ 5x - 3 \end{array}$$

We have $\frac{2x^3 - 4x^2 - x - 3}{x^2 - 2x - 3} = \frac{2x(x^2 - 2x - 3) + (5x - 3)}{x^2 - 2x - 3} = 2x + \frac{5x - 3}{x^2 - 2x - 3}$.

Since $x^2 - 2x - 3 = (x + 1)(x - 3)$, therefore we find constants A and B such that

$$\frac{5x - 3}{x^2 - 2x - 3} = \frac{A}{x + 1} + \frac{B}{x - 3} = \frac{A(x - 3) + B(x + 1)}{(x + 1)(x - 3)}.$$

Therefore $A(x - 3) + B(x + 1) = 5x - 3$. (1)

If we put $x = 3$ in (1), we get $4B = 12$. $B = 3$.

If we put $x = -1$ in (1), we get $-4A = -8$. $A = 2$.

So, we have $\frac{2x^3 - 4x^2 - x - 3}{x^2 - 2x - 3} = 2x + \frac{5x - 3}{x^2 - 2x - 3} = 2x + \frac{2}{x+1} + \frac{3}{x-3}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{2x^3 - 4x^2 - x - 3}{x^2 - 2x - 3} dx &= \int 2x + \frac{2}{x+1} + \frac{3}{x-3} dx \\ &= \int 2x dx + \int \frac{2}{x+1} dx + \int \frac{3}{x-3} dx \\ &= x^2 + 2 \ln|x+1| + 3 \ln|x-3| + C\end{aligned}$$

Example

Evaluate $\int \frac{x^2 + 4x + 1}{(x-1)(x+1)(x+3)} dx$.

Solution

Clearly, this is a Type I integral. Therefore we find constants A , B and C such that

$$\frac{x^2 + 4x + 1}{(x-1)(x+1)(x+3)} = \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{B}{x+1} + \frac{C}{x+3} = \frac{A(x+1)(x+3) + B(x-1)(x+3) + C(x-1)(x+1)}{(x-1)(x+1)(x+3)}.$$

$$\text{Therefore } x^2 + 4x + 1 = A(x+1)(x+3) + B(x-1)(x+3) + C(x-1)(x+1). \quad (2)$$

If we put $x = 1$ in (2), we get $1 + 4 + 1 = 8A$, $A = \frac{3}{4}$.

If we put $x = -1$ in (2), we get $1 - 4 + 1 = -4B$, $B = \frac{1}{2}$.

If we put $x = -3$ in (2), we get $9 - 12 + 1 = 8C$, $C = -\frac{1}{4}$.

So, we have $\frac{x^2 + 4x + 1}{(x-1)(x+1)(x+3)} = \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{x+3}$

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{x^2 + 4x + 1}{(x-1)(x+1)(x+3)} dx &= \frac{3}{4} \int \frac{dx}{x-1} + \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{dx}{x+1} - \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{dx}{x+3} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \ln|x-1| + \frac{1}{2} \ln|x+1| - \frac{1}{4} \ln|x+3| + C\end{aligned}$$

Type II

PROCEDURE Partial Fractions for Repeated Linear Factors

We can write

$$q(x) = (x - r_1)^{m_1} \cdots (x - r_k)^{m_k}$$

where some $m_i > 1$. For example, $(x+1)^2$, $x^3(x-2)(x+4)^2$, \cdots etc. Suppose the repeated linear factor $(x-r)^m$ appears in the denominator of a proper rational function in reduced form. The partial fraction decomposition has a partial fraction for each power of $(x-r)$ up to and including the m -th power; that is, the partial fraction decomposition contains the sum

$$\frac{A_1}{(x-r)} + \frac{A_2}{(x-r)^2} + \frac{A_3}{(x-r)^3} + \cdots + \frac{A_m}{(x-r)^m},$$

where A_1, \cdots, A_m are constants to be determined by substitution or comparing coefficients.

Example

Evaluate $\int \frac{6x+7}{(x+2)^2} dx$.

Solution

Clearly, this is a Type II integral. Therefore we find constants A and B such that

$$\frac{6x+7}{(x+2)^2} = \frac{A}{x+2} + \frac{B}{(x+2)^2} = \frac{A(x+2)+B}{(x+2)^2}.$$

Therefore $6x+7 = A(x+2)+B$. (3)

From (3), we have $6x+7 = Ax+(2A+B)$. Hence

$$\begin{cases} A = 6 \\ 2A + B = 7 \end{cases} \Rightarrow A = 6 \text{ and } B = -5.$$

So, we have $\frac{6x+7}{(x+2)^2} = \frac{6}{x+2} - \frac{5}{(x+2)^2}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{6x+7}{(x+2)^2} dx &= 6 \int \frac{dx}{x+2} - 5 \int \frac{dx}{(x+2)^2} \\ &= 6 \ln|x+2| + \frac{5}{x+2} + C \end{aligned}$$

Example

Evaluate $\int \frac{2x+4}{x^3-2x^2} dx$.

Solution

Since $x^3 - 2x^2 = x^2(x-2)$, this is a Type II integral. Therefore we find constants A, B and C such that

$$\frac{2x+4}{x^2(x-2)} = \frac{A}{x} + \frac{B}{x^2} + \frac{C}{x-2} = \frac{Ax(x-2) + B(x-2) + Cx^2}{x^2(x-2)}.$$

$$\text{Therefore } 2x+4 = Ax(x-2) + B(x-2) + Cx^2. \quad (4)$$

From (4), we have $2x+4 = (A+C)x^2 + (-2A+B)x - 2B$. Hence

$$\begin{cases} A+C=0 \\ -2A+B=2 \\ -2B=4 \end{cases} \Rightarrow A=B=-2 \text{ and } C=2.$$

So, we have $\frac{2x+4}{x^2(x-2)} = \frac{-2}{x} + \frac{-2}{x^2} + \frac{2}{x-2}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{2x+4}{x^2(x-2)} dx &= -2 \int \frac{dx}{x} - 2 \int \frac{dx}{x^2} + 2 \int \frac{dx}{x-2} \\ &= -2 \ln|x| + \frac{2}{x} + 2 \ln|x-2| + C \end{aligned}$$

Type III

PROCEDURE Partial Fractions with Simple Irreducible Quadratic Factors

For example, $q(x)$ can be written as

$$x^2 + 1, x^2(x^2 + 4)(x^2 + x + 1), \dots \text{etc.}$$

Suppose a simple irreducible factor $ax^2 + bx + c$ appears in the denominator of a proper rational function in reduced form. The partial fraction decomposition contains a term of the form

$$\frac{Ax + B}{ax^2 + bx + c},$$

where A and B are constants to be determined by substitution or comparing coefficients.

Example

Evaluate $\int \frac{2x^2 + 2x + 1}{x^3 + x^2 + x} dx$.

Solution

Since $x^3 + x^2 + x = x(x^2 + x + 1)$, this is a Type III integral. Therefore we find constants A , B and C such that

$$\frac{2x^2 + 2x + 1}{x^3 + x^2 + x} = \frac{A}{x} + \frac{Bx + C}{x^2 + x + 1} = \frac{A(x^2 + x + 1) + (Bx + C)x}{x(x^2 + x + 1)}.$$

$$\text{Therefore } 2x^2 + 2x + 1 = A(x^2 + x + 1) + (Bx + C)x. \quad (5)$$

From (5), we have $2x^2 + 2x + 1 = (A + B)x^2 + (A + C)x + A$. Hence

$$\begin{cases} A + B = 2 \\ A + C = 2 \\ A = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow A = B = C = 1.$$

So, we have $\frac{2x^2 + 2x + 1}{x^3 + x^2 + x} = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{x + 1}{x^2 + x + 1}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\int \frac{2x^2 + 2x + 1}{x^3 + x^2 + x} dx &= \int \frac{dx}{x} + \int \frac{x+1}{x^2 + x + 1} dx \\
&= \ln|x| + \int \frac{x+1}{\left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}} dx \\
&= \ln|x| + \int \frac{x+\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}}{\left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}} dx \\
&= \ln|x| + \int \frac{x+\frac{1}{2}}{\left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}} dx + \int \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}} dx \\
&= \ln|x| + \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{1}{\left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}} d\left(\left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{1}{\left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^2} dx \\
&= \ln|x| + \frac{1}{2} \ln\left|\left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}\right| + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}\left(x+\frac{1}{2}\right)\right) + C \\
&= \ln|x| + \frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2 + x + 1| + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2x+1}{\sqrt{3}}\right) + C
\end{aligned}$$

Type IV

PROCEDURE Partial Fractions for Repeated Irreducible Quadratic Factors

For example, $q(x)$ can be written as

$$(x^2 + 1)^2, x^2(x-1)(x^2 + 4)^3(x^2 + x + 4)^4, \dots \text{etc.}$$

Suppose the repeated irreducible factor $(ax^2 + bx + c)^m$ appears in the denominator of a proper rational function in reduced form. The partial fraction decomposition has a partial fraction for each power of $(ax^2 + bx + c)$ up to and including the m -th power; that is, the partial fraction decomposition contain the sum

$$\frac{A_1x + B_1}{(ax^2 + bx + c)} + \frac{A_2x + B_2}{(ax^2 + bx + c)^2} + \frac{A_3x + B_3}{(ax^2 + bx + c)^3} + \dots + \frac{A_mx + B_m}{(ax^2 + bx + c)^m},$$

where $A_1, B_1, \dots, A_m, B_m$ are constants to be determined by substitution or comparing coefficients.

Example

Evaluate $\int \frac{dx}{x^5 + 2x^3 + x}$.

Solution

Since $x^5 + 2x^3 + x = x(x^2 + 1)^2$, this is a Type IV integral. Therefore we find constants A, B, C, D , and E such that

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

$$\text{Therefore } 1 = A(x^2 + 1)^2 + (Bx + C)x(x^2 + 1) + (Dx + E)x. \quad (6)$$

From (6), we have $1 = (A + B)x^4 + Cx^3 + (2A + B + D)x^2 + (C + E)x + A$. Hence

$$\begin{cases} A + B = 0 \\ C = 0 \\ 2A + B + D = 0 \\ C + E = 0 \\ A = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow A = 1, B = -1, C = 0, D = -1 \text{ and } E = 0.$$

So, we have $\frac{1}{x^5 + 2x^3 + x} = \frac{1}{x} - \frac{x}{x^2 + 1} - \frac{x}{(x^2 + 1)^2}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{dx}{x^5 + 2x^3 + x} &= \int \frac{dx}{x} - \int \frac{x}{x^2 + 1} dx - \int \frac{x}{(x^2 + 1)^2} dx \\ &= \ln|x| - \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d(x^2 + 1)}{x^2 + 1} - \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d(x^2 + 1)}{(x^2 + 1)^2} \\ &= \ln|x| - \frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2 + 1| + \frac{1}{2(x^2 + 1)} + C \end{aligned}$$

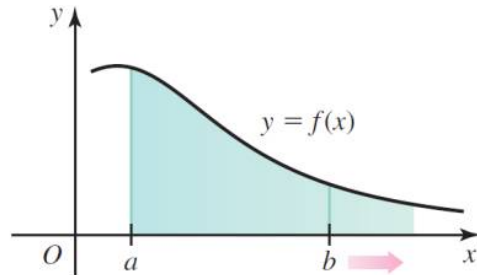
Improper Integrals

DEFINITIONS Improper Integrals over Infinite Intervals

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

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

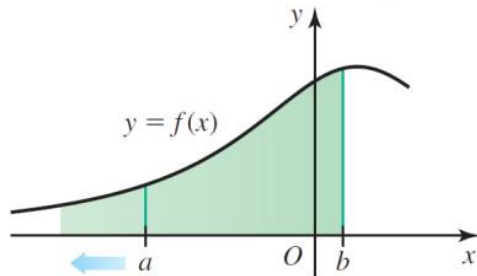
provided the limit exists.



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

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

provided the limit exists.

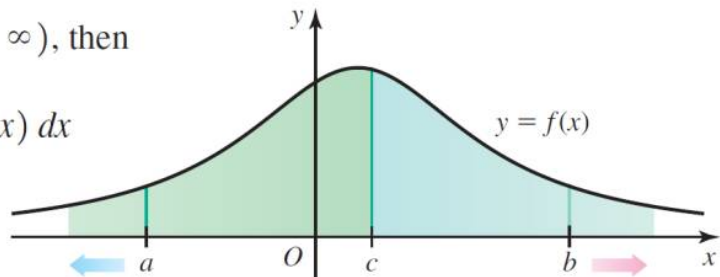


3. If f is continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$, then

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

$$+ \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_c^b f(x) dx,$$

provided both limits exist, where c is any real number.



In each case, if the limit exists, the improper integral is said to **converge**; if it does not exist, the improper integral is said to **diverge**.

Remark: $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx \neq \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-a}^a f(x) dx$ even $\lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-a}^a f(x) dx$ exists.

Consider $f(x) = x$. Since x is an odd function, $\int_{-a}^a f(x) dx = 0$. Hence $\lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-a}^a f(x) dx = 0$. But

$$\int_0^b f(x) dx = \frac{b^2}{2} \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } b \rightarrow \infty, \text{ that means } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx \text{ diverges.}$$

Example

Evaluate the following integrals

a) $\int_0^{\infty} x e^{-x} dx$

b) $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{1+x^2}$

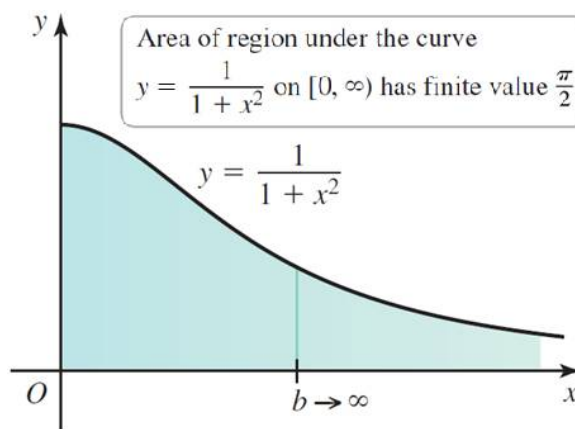
Solution

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{a) } \int_0^{\infty} x e^{-x} dx &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^b x e^{-x} dx \\
 &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^b -x d e^{-x} \\
 &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left((-x e^{-x}) \Big|_0^b + \int_0^b e^{-x} dx \right) \\
 &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left(-\frac{b}{e^b} + (-e^{-x}) \Big|_0^b \right) \\
 &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left(-\frac{b}{e^b} + 1 - e^{-b} \right) \quad \because \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b}{e^b} = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e^b} = 0 \text{ by L'Hospital's Rule} \\
 &= 1.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{b) } \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dx}{1+x^2} &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^b \frac{dx}{1+x^2} \\
 &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left(\tan^{-1} x \right) \Big|_0^b \\
 &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left(\tan^{-1} b - \tan^{-1} 0 \right) \\
 &= \frac{\pi}{2} - 0 = \frac{\pi}{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\frac{1}{1+x^2}$ is an even function,

$$\int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{dx}{1+x^2} = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dx}{1+x^2}. \text{ Hence } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{1+x^2} = 2 \times \frac{\pi}{2} = \pi.$$



Example (p-test)

Consider the family of functions $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^p}$, where p is real number. For what values of p does

$$\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx \text{ converge?}$$

Solution

Assuming $p \neq 1$.

$$\begin{aligned}\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^p} dx &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^b \frac{1}{x^p} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{1-p} \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} (x^{1-p}) \Big|_1^b \\ &= \frac{1}{1-p} \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} (b^{1-p} - 1).\end{aligned}$$

Case 1: $p > 1$.

$$\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^p} dx = \frac{1}{1-p} \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} (b^{1-p} - 1) = \frac{1}{p-1}.$$

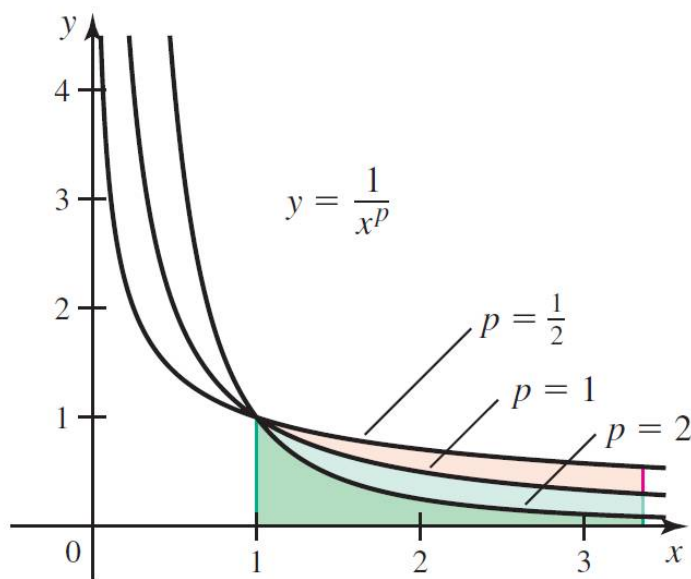
Case 2: $p < 1$.

$$\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^p} dx = \frac{1}{1-p} \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} (b^{1-p} - 1) = \infty.$$

Case 3: $p = 1$.

$$\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^b \frac{1}{x} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} (\ln x) \Big|_1^b = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} (\ln b) = \infty.$$

In conclusion, $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^p} dx = \frac{1}{p-1}$ if $p > 1$, and it diverges if $p \leq 1$.



$$\int_1^\infty \frac{dx}{x^p} = \frac{1}{p-1}, \text{ if } p > 1.$$

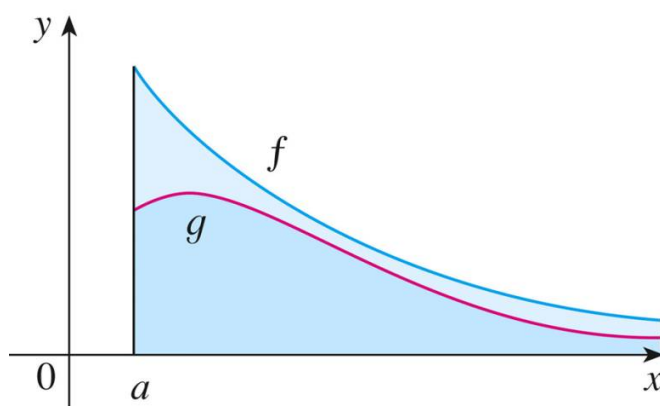
Comparison test

Assume f and g are continuous functions with $0 \leq g(x) \leq f(x)$ for $x \geq a$. Then

$$0 \leq \int_a^\infty g(x) dx \leq \int_a^\infty f(x) dx. \text{ Furthermore}$$

a) $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$ converges, then $\int_a^\infty g(x) dx$ converges.

b) $\int_a^\infty g(x) dx$ diverges, then $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$ diverges.



Example

Determine whether the following integral converges or not.

a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^x \frac{dt}{\sqrt{1+t^3}}$

b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \int_2^x \frac{dt}{\ln t}$

c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^x \frac{\sin t}{t} dt$

Solution

a) Since $\sqrt{t^3} < \sqrt{1+t^3}$ for $t > 1$, $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+t^3}} < \frac{1}{t^{3/2}}$. By comparison test,

$$\int_1^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+t^3}} dt < \int_1^x \frac{1}{t^{3/2}} dt.$$

By p -test, $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{t^{3/2}} dt$ converges. Hence $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+t^3}} dt$ converges.

b) Since $\ln t \leq t$ for $t \geq 1$, $\frac{1}{t} \leq \frac{1}{\ln t}$. By comparison test,

$$\int_2^x \frac{1}{t} dt < \int_2^x \frac{1}{\ln t} dt.$$

By p -test, $\int_2^\infty \frac{1}{t} dt$ diverges. Hence $\int_2^\infty \frac{1}{\ln t} dt$ diverges.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c) } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^x \frac{\sin t}{t} dt &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^x \frac{-d \cos t}{t} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left. \frac{-\cos t}{t} \right|_1^x + \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^x \cos t \, dt^{-1} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-\cos x}{x} + \cos 1 - \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^x \frac{\cos t}{t^2} dt \\ &= \cos 1 - \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^x \frac{\cos t}{t^2} dt \end{aligned}$$

Since $0 \leq \frac{1-\cos t}{t^2} \leq \frac{2}{t^2}$ for $1 \leq t$, we have $\int_1^x \frac{1-\cos t}{t^2} dt \leq \int_1^x \frac{2}{t^2} dt$ which is convergent. Hence

$\int_1^\infty \frac{1-\cos t}{t^2} dt$ converges. Since $\int_1^x \frac{\cos t}{t^2} dt = \int_1^x \frac{1}{t^2} dt - \int_1^x \frac{1-\cos t}{t^2} dt$, $\int_1^\infty \frac{\cos t}{t^2} dt$ converges.

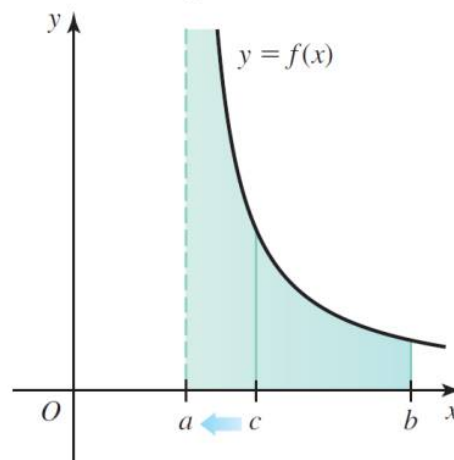
Hence $\int_1^\infty \frac{\sin t}{t} dt$ converges.

DEFINITIONS Improper Integrals with an Unbounded Integrand

1. Suppose f is continuous on $(a, b]$ with $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = \pm \infty$. Then

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

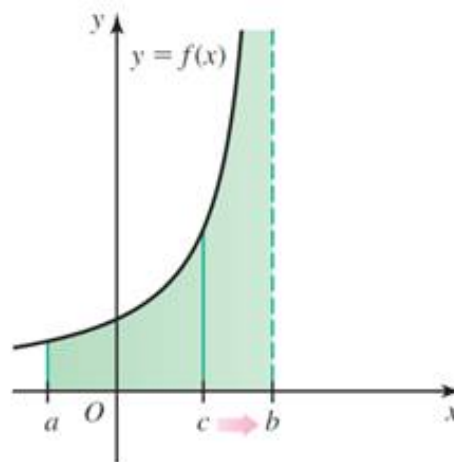
provided the limit exists.



2. Suppose f is continuous on $[a, b)$ with $\lim_{x \rightarrow b^-} f(x) = \pm \infty$. Then

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

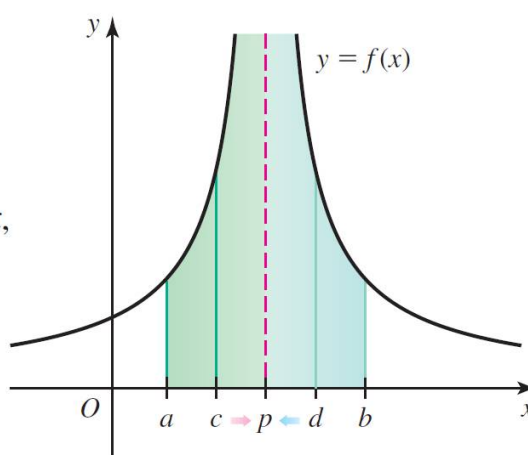
provided the limit exists.



3. Suppose f is continuous on $[a, b]$ except at the interior point p where f is unbounded. Then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^p f(x) dx + \int_p^b f(x) dx,$$

provided the improper integrals on the right side exist.



In each case, if the limit exists, the improper integral is said to **converge**; if it does not exist, the improper integral is said to **diverge**.

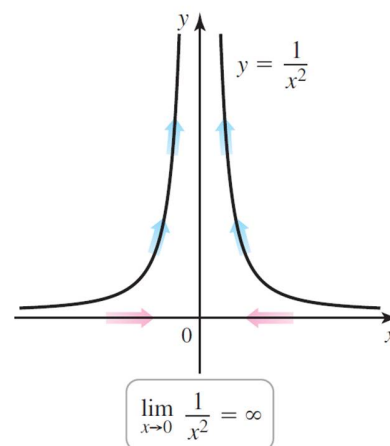
Question. Is $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{x^2} dx = \frac{-1}{x} \Big|_{-1}^1 = -1 - 1 = -2$ correct?

Answer. No. Actually, this is an improper integral. Indeed,

$$\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{x^2} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow 0^-} \int_{-1}^b \frac{1}{x^2} dx + \lim_{a \rightarrow 0^+} \int_a^1 \frac{1}{x^2} dx. \quad \text{It diverges as}$$

$$\lim_{a \rightarrow 0^+} \int_a^1 \frac{1}{x^2} dx = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-1}{x} \Big|_a^1 = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0^+} \left(-1 + \frac{1}{a} \right) = \infty. \quad \text{When we}$$

calculate the definite integral $\int_a^b f(x) dx$, please check whether f is defined on $[a, b]$.

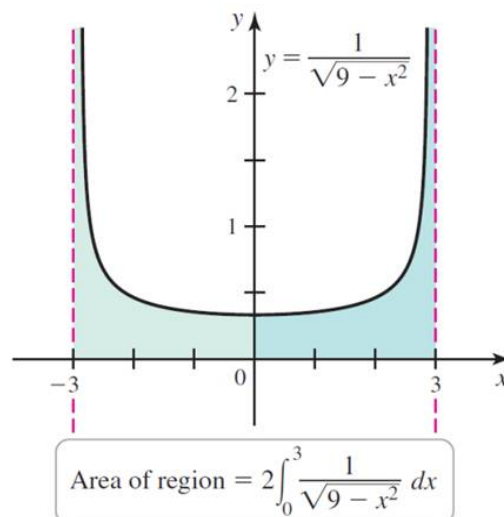


Example

Find the area of the region R between the graph of $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{9-x^2}}$ and the x -axis on the interval $(-3, 3)$ (if it exists).

Solution

Clearly, $f(x)$ has vertical asymptotes at $x = \pm 3$. Since $f(x)$ is an even function, the area of R is



$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-3}^3 \frac{1}{\sqrt{9-x^2}} dx &= 2 \int_0^3 \frac{1}{\sqrt{9-x^2}} dx \\ &= 2 \lim_{c \rightarrow 3^-} \int_0^c \frac{1}{\sqrt{9-x^2}} dx \\ &= 2 \lim_{c \rightarrow 3^-} \int_{x=0}^{x=c} \frac{3 \cos t}{\sqrt{9-9 \sin^2 t}} dt \quad \begin{array}{l} x = 3 \sin t \\ dx = 3 \cos t dt \end{array} \\ &= 2 \lim_{c \rightarrow 3^-} \int_{x=0}^{x=c} 1 dt \\ &= 2 \lim_{c \rightarrow 3^-} t \Big|_{x=0}^{x=c} \\ &= 2 \lim_{c \rightarrow 3^-} \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{x}{3} \right) \Big|_{x=0}^{x=c} \\ &= 2 \lim_{c \rightarrow 3^-} \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{c}{3} \right) - \sin^{-1} 0 = \pi \end{aligned}$$