

10 Improper Integrals: Solutions

A. TYPE 2

$$\int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \int_t^1 x^{1/2} dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \left[2x^{1/2} \right]_t^1 = 2 \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \left[1 - t^{1/2} \right] = 2$$

B. Using $u = x^2$: TYPE 1

$$\int_0^\infty x e^{-x^2} dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^t x e^{-x^2} dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{t^2} e^{-u} \frac{du}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[1 - e^{-t^2} \right] = \frac{1}{2}$$

C. DIVERGES, TYPE 1

$$\int_{-\infty}^{-1} \frac{dx}{x} = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \int_t^{-1} \frac{dx}{x} = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left[\ln |x| \right]_t^{-1} = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \ln 1 - \ln(-t) = -\infty$$

D. DIVERGES, TYPE 1

$$\int_0^\infty e^x dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^t e^x dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[e^x \right]_0^t = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^t - 1 = +\infty$$

E. Use $u = 5 - x$ to clarify which limit is improper: TYPE 2

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^5 \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{5-x}} dx &= \int_5^0 u^{-1/3} (-du) = \int_0^5 u^{-1/3} du = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \int_t^5 u^{-1/3} du = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left[\frac{3}{2} u^{2/3} \right]_t^5 \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} (5^{2/3} - t^{2/3}) = \frac{3}{2} 5^{2/3} \end{aligned}$$

F. Split at discontinuity at $c = 2$. Use $u = w - 2$ to show one integral diverges. Thus the original integral diverges.

DIVERGES, TYPE 2

$$\int_0^5 \frac{w}{w-2} dw = \int_0^2 \frac{w}{w-2} dw + \int_2^5 \frac{w}{w-2} dw$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^2 \frac{w}{w-2} dw &= \int_{-2}^0 \frac{u+2}{u} du = 2 + 2 \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \int_{-2}^t \frac{du}{u} \\ &= 2 + 2 \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \left[\ln |u| \right]_{-2}^t = 2 + 2 \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} (\ln(-t) - \ln 2) = -\infty \end{aligned}$$

G. TYPE 1

$$\int_{-\infty}^0 2^r dr = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left[\frac{2^r}{\ln 2} \right]_t^0 = \frac{1}{\ln 2} \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} 1 - 2^t = \frac{1}{\ln 2} (1 - 0) = \frac{1}{\ln 2}$$

H. Use $u = \sqrt{y}$ and then integrate by parts with $w = u$ and $dv = e^{-u} du$:

TYPE 1

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^\infty e^{-\sqrt{y}} dy &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^t e^{-\sqrt{y}} dy = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\sqrt{t}} e^{-u} (2u) du = 2 \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\sqrt{t}} u e^{-u} du \\ &= 2 \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left(-u e^{-u} \Big|_0^{\sqrt{t}} + \int_0^{\sqrt{t}} e^{-u} du \right) = 2 \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left(-\sqrt{t} e^{-\sqrt{t}} + [-e^{-u}]_0^{\sqrt{t}} \right) \\ &= 2 \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left(-\sqrt{t} e^{-\sqrt{t}} - e^{-\sqrt{t}} + 1 \right) = 2(0 + 0 + 1) = 2\end{aligned}$$

I. Split at discontinuity $x = 1$ and compute each improper integral using $u = x - 1$:

TYPE 2

$$\int_0^9 \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x-1}} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x-1}} dx + \int_1^9 \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x-1}} dx = -\frac{3}{2} + 6 = \frac{9}{2}$$

because

$$\int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x-1}} dx = \int_{-1}^0 u^{-1/3} du = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \left[\frac{3}{2} u^{2/3} \right]_{-1}^t = \frac{3}{2} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} (t^{2/3} - 1) = -\frac{3}{2}$$

and

$$\int_1^9 \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x-1}} dx = \int_0^8 u^{-1/3} du = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left[\frac{3}{2} u^{2/3} \right]_t^8 = \frac{3}{2} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} (8^{2/3} - t^{2/3}) = \frac{3}{2}(4 - 0) = 6$$

J. Use trig. identity but discover that one term dominates.

DIVERGES, TYPE 1

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^\infty \sin^2 \alpha d\alpha &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty 1 - \cos 2\alpha d\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^t 1 - \cos 2\alpha d\alpha \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[\alpha - \frac{\sin 2\alpha}{2} \right]_0^t = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[t - \frac{\sin 2t}{2} - 0 \right] = \infty\end{aligned}$$
