

MATH 2031 Introduction to Real Analysis

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Tutorial Note 21 Review on Riemann Integral

Proper integral

Let $f(x)$ be a function which is bounded on a closed and bounded interval $[a, b]$.

(I) Definition (partition):

- (i) A partition P of $[a, b]$ is a finite set $\{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ such that $a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = b$.
- (ii) Denote $m_j = \inf\{f(x) | x \in [x_{j-1}, x_j]\}$ and $M_j = \sup\{f(x) | x \in [x_{j-1}, x_j]\}$.

(II) Definition (Riemann sums):

Given a partition $P = \{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ of $[a, b]$ and a function f bounded on $[a, b]$,

- (i) A Riemann sum of f is $S = \sum_{j=1}^n f(t_j) \Delta x_j$, where every $t_j \in [x_{j-1}, x_j]$.
- (ii) A lower Riemann sum of f is $L(f, P) = \sum_{j=1}^n m_j \Delta x_j$, where every $t_j \in [x_{j-1}, x_j]$.
- (iii) A upper Riemann sum of f is $U(f, P) = \sum_{j=1}^n M_j \Delta x_j$, where every $t_j \in [x_{j-1}, x_j]$.

Remark:

Since f is bounded, $|f(x)| < K$ on $[a, b]$. So we have

$$-K \leq m_j \leq f(t_j) \leq M_j \leq K \quad \Rightarrow \quad -K(b-a) \leq L(f, P) \leq S \leq U(f, P) \leq K(b-a).$$

(III) Definition (refinement):

- (i) Given partitions P_1, P_2 of the same interval $[a, b]$, we say that P_2 is a refinement of P_1 iff $P_1 \subseteq P_2$.
- (ii) Given partitions P_1, P_2 of the same interval $[a, b]$, we say that $P_1 \cup P_2$ is the common refinement of P_1 and P_2 .

(IV) Refinement theorem:

If $P \subseteq \tilde{P}$, then

$$\underbrace{L(f, P) \leq L(f, \tilde{P})}_{\text{Lower sum increasing}} \leq \underbrace{U(f, \tilde{P}) \leq U(f, P)}_{\text{Upper sum decreasing}}$$

Remark:

The above inequality gives

$$U(f, \tilde{P}) - L(f, \tilde{P}) \leq U(f, P) - L(f, P).$$

(V) **Integral criterion:**

Let $f(x)$ be bounded on $[a, b]$. Then

$$f(x) \text{ is Riemann integrable on } [a, b] \iff \left(\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \text{ partition } P \text{ of } [a, b] \text{ such that } U(f, P) - L(f, P) < \varepsilon \right)$$

Remark:

We may rewrite $U(f, P) - L(f, P)$ as follows:

$$U(f, P) - L(f, P) = \sum_{j=1}^n M_j \Delta x_j - \sum_{j=1}^n m_j \Delta x_j = \sum_{j=1}^n (M_j - m_j) \Delta x_j$$

(VI) **Definition:**

- (i) A set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is of measure zero iff $\left(\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \text{ intervals } (a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2) \cdots \text{ such that } S \subseteq \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} (a_k, b_k) \text{ and } \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (b_k - a_k) < \varepsilon \right)$.
- (ii) A property is said to hold almost everywhere (a.e.) iff it holds except on a set of measure zero.

Remarks:

- (i) Countable sets are of measure zero, but uncountable sets may or may not be of measure zero. (The set of irrational numbers in $[a, b]$ for $a < b$ has measure $b - a$, while the Cantor set is uncountable but of measure zero)
- (ii) A countable union of measure zero sets is also of measure zero.
- (iii) Subsets of a measure zero set are again of measure zero.
- (iv) The limit of a sequence of Riemann integrable functions on $[a, b]$ may not be a Riemann integrable function.

(VII) **Lebesgue's Theorem**

Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bounded function. Then

$$f \text{ is integrable on } [a, b] \iff f \text{ is continuous a.e. on } [a, b]$$

(VIII) **Monotone Function Theorem**

If f is increasing on (a, b) , then f has countably many points of discontinuity on (a, b) . Hence we have

$$S_f = \{x_0 \in [a, b] \mid f \text{ is discontinuous at } x_0\} \text{ is countable.}$$

(IX) **Fundamental theorem of Calculus**

- (i) If f is integrable on $[a, b]$, continuous at $x_0 \in [a, b]$ and $F(x) = \int_c^x f(t)dt$, where $c \in [a, b]$, then F is differentiable at x_0 and $F'(x_0) = f(x_0)$.
- (ii) If G is differentiable on $[a, b]$ and G' is integrable on $[a, b]$, then $\int_a^b G'(x)dx = G(x) \Big|_a^b = G(b) - G(a)$. (G' may not be continuous.)

Problem 1 (2008 Q5) (c.f. 2011 Q6)

For $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, let $f_n : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ be Riemann integrable functions. Prove that $g : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $g(0) = 0$ and

$$g(x) = f_n(x) \quad \text{for } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } x \in \left(\frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n}\right]$$

is Riemann integrable on $[0, 1]$ by using integrable criterion.

Solution:

For every $\varepsilon > 0$, by Archimedean principle, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $n > \frac{3}{\varepsilon}$.

Choose a number $0 < \delta < \min \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{N-1} - \frac{1}{N}, \frac{\varepsilon}{6(N-1)} \right) \right\}$ and take the partition

$$P_0 = \left\{ \frac{1}{N} < \frac{1}{N} + \delta < \frac{1}{N-1} - \delta < \dots < \frac{1}{2} + \delta < 1 - \delta < 1 \right\}.$$

Since for all $n \in \{1, 2, \dots, N-1\}$, f_n is integrable on $\left(\frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n}\right]$, there exist partitions P_n on $\left(\frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n}\right]$ such that

$$U(f_n, P_n) - L(f_n, P_n) < \frac{\varepsilon}{3(N-1)}.$$

Now consider the partition $P = \bigcup_{n=0}^{N-1} P_n$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} U(g, P) - L(g, P) &\leq \frac{1}{N} + 2\delta(N-1)(1-0) + \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} (U(f_n, P_n) - L(f_n, P_n)) \\ &< \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + 2(N-1)\frac{\varepsilon}{6(N-1)} + (N-1)\frac{\varepsilon}{3(N-1)} \\ &= \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} = \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Thus by integrable criterion, we get g is integrable.

Problem 2 (adopted form 2010 Q4)

Let $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ be a Riemann integrable function. Let $\{r_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ be a strictly increasing sequence on $(0, 1]$. Prove that $g : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ defined by

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{if } x \in [0, 1] \setminus \{r_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\} \\ 1 & \text{if } x \in \{r_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\} \end{cases}$$

is Riemann integrable on $[0, 1]$.

Solution:

Since the sequence $\{r_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is increasing and bounded, by monotonic sequence theorem, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r_n$ exists, say $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r_n = r$. i.e.

For all $\varepsilon_0 > 0$, $\exists N_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for every $n > n_0$, $|r - r_n| < \varepsilon_0$.

(If $r = 1$, then replace $|r - r_n| < \varepsilon_0$ by $1 - r_n < \varepsilon_0$).

For every $\varepsilon > 0$, by definition of limit, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $|r - r_n| < \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$.

Choose a number $0 < \delta < \min \left\{ \frac{1}{2}(r_{N-1} - r_N), \frac{\varepsilon}{6(N-1)} \right\}$ and take a partition

$$P_0 = \{r_1 - \delta < r_1 + \delta < r_2 - \delta < \dots < r_N - \delta < r_N < r < 1\}.$$

(Or $P_0 = \{r_1 - \delta < r_1 + \delta < r_2 - \delta < \dots < r_N - \delta < r_N < r = 1\}$ if $r = 1$.)

Since $f(x)$ is integrable on $[0, 1]$, there exists a partition P_1 on $[0, 1]$ such that

$$U(f, P_1) - L(f, P_1) < \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

Now consider the partition $P = P_0 \cup P_1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} U(g, P) - L(g, P) &\leq r - r_N + 2\delta(N-1)(1-0) + (U(f, P_1) - L(f, P_1)) \\ &< \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + 2(N-1)\frac{\varepsilon}{6(N-1)} + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} \\ &= \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} = \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Then by integrable criterion, we get g is integrable.

Improper integral

Now we focus on functions $f(x)$ which are either unbounded or defined on an interval which is not closed or not bounded.

(I) Definition (Local Integrability):

Let I be an interval. A function $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is locally integrable if f is integrable on every closed and bounded subinterval of I . We denote this by $f \in L_{loc}(I)$.

(II) Definition (Improper Integrals):

Case 1: Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$, $b \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$, $I = [a, b)$, $f \in L_{loc}(I)$.

The improper integral of f on $[a, b)$ is

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

provided that the limit exists in \mathbb{R} .

In this case, we say that f is improper integrable on $[a, b)$.

Case 2: Let $a \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$, $b \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$, $I = (a, b)$, $x_0 \in I$, $f \in L_{loc}(I)$.

The improper integral of f on (a, b) is

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = \lim_{c \rightarrow a^+} \int_c^{x_0} f(x)dx + \lim_{d \rightarrow b^-} \int_{x_0}^d f(x)dx$$

provided that the limit exists in \mathbb{R} .

In this case, we say that f is improper integrable on (a, b) .

Remark:

This definition is independent of the choice of x_0 .

Case 3: Let $a \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$, $b \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$, I be an interval with endpoints a, b , $I_0 = I \cap (-\infty, c)$, $I_1 = I \cap (c, +\infty)$ for $c \in (a, b)$. $f \in L_{loc}(I_0)$, $f \in L_{loc}(I_1)$

The improper integral of f on I is

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

provided that both integrals on the RHS exist in \mathbb{R} .

In this case, we say that f is improper integrable on I .

In each case, if the improper integral is a number, we say that the improper integral converges, otherwise it diverges.

(III) Tests for Improper integral:

p-test:

For $0 < a < \infty$, $\int_a^{+\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} dx < +\infty \iff p > 1$;

Also $\int_0^a \frac{1}{x^p} dx < +\infty \iff p < 1$.

Comparison test:

Suppose $0 \leq f(x) \leq g(x)$ on interval I and $f, g \in L_{loc}(I)$.

If g is improper integrable on I , then f is also improper integrable on I .

Limit Comparison test:

Suppose $f(x), g(x) > 0$ on $(a, b]$ and $f, g \in L_{loc}((a, b])$.

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} \frac{g(x)}{f(x)} = \begin{cases} L > 0 \\ 0 \\ +\infty \end{cases}$, then $\begin{cases} \text{either both } \int_a^b f(x)dx, \int_a^b g(x)dx \text{ converge or both diverge} \\ \int_a^b f(x)dx \text{ converges} \Rightarrow \int_a^b g(x)dx \text{ converges} \\ \int_a^b f(x)dx \text{ diverges} \Rightarrow \int_a^b g(x)dx \text{ diverges} \end{cases}$

For an interval $[a, b)$, we take $\lim_{x \rightarrow b^-} \frac{g(x)}{f(x)}$ and the results are similar.

Absolute Convergence test:

Let $f \in L_{loc}(I)$. If $|f|$ is improper integrable on I , then f is improper integrable on I .

Cauchy Principal Value of Integrals

P.V. (I) **Definition:**

Let $f \in L_{loc}(\mathbb{R})$. The principal value of $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx$ is

$$P.V. \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx = \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-c}^c f(x)dx$$

P.V. (II) **Theorem:**

If the improper integral $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx$ exists in \mathbb{R} ,

then $P.V. \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx$ exists and equals the improper integral $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx$.

P.V. (III) **Definition:**

Let I be an interval with endpoints a, b , let $c \in (a, b)$, $I_0 = I \cap (-\infty, c)$, $I_1 = I \cap (c, +\infty)$. Let $f \in L_{loc}(I_0)$, $f \in L_{loc}(I_1)$.

Define the principal value of the improper integral $\int_a^b f(x)dx$ as

$$P.V. \int_a^b f(x)dx = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \left(\int_a^{c-\varepsilon} f(x)dx + \int_{c+\varepsilon}^b f(x)dx \right)$$

Remark:

You should check carefully before applying the Fundamental theorem, which require that the primitive function of $f(x)$ is differentiable. It may happen that your integral is improper.

Problem 3 Determine whether the following improper integral converges or not, then determine whether their principal value converges or not.

- (i) $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} dx$
(ii) $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx$

Solution:

- (i) Since $\frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x}$ is continuous on $[-1, 1] \setminus \{0\}$,

$$\int_{-1}^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} dx = \int_{-1}^0 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} dx + \int_0^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} dx.$$

Consider $\int_0^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} dx$. As $x \rightarrow 0$, $\frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} \sim \frac{\sin(x)}{x}$.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\left(\frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} \right)}{\left(\frac{\sin(x)}{x} \right)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{\sin(x)} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(y)}{y} = 1.$$

As

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} = 1,$$

then consider

$$\int_0^1 dx = x \Big|_0^1 = 1.$$

Thus by limit comparison test, $\int_0^1 dx$ converges implies $\int_0^1 \frac{\sin(x)}{x} dx$ converges and this then implies $\int_0^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} dx$ converges.

Since

$$\frac{\sin(\sin(-x))}{-x} = 1 \cdot \frac{\sin(-\sin(x))}{x} = \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x},$$

the integrand is even. Then

$$\int_{-1}^0 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} dx$$

also converges.

So $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} dx$ converges and hence the principle value converges $\left(\text{to } 2 \int_0^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x} dx \right)$.

- (ii) Similar to the above, we get

$$\int_{-1}^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx = \int_{-1}^0 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx + \int_0^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx.$$

Consider $\int_0^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx$. As $x \rightarrow 0$, $\frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} \sim \frac{\sin(x)}{x^2}$.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\left(\frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} \right)}{\left(\frac{\sin(x)}{x^2} \right)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{\sin(x)} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(y)}{y} = 1.$$

And consider the limit

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\left(\frac{\sin(x)}{x^2}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} = 1.$$

Since

$$\int_0^1 \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln(x) \Big|_0^1 = +\infty,$$

by limit comparison test, $\int_0^1 \frac{\sin(x)}{x^2} dx$ diverges and so $\int_0^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx$ diverges. Hence $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx$ diverges.

Since

$$\frac{\sin(\sin(-x))}{(-x)^2} = \frac{\sin(-\sin(x))}{x^2} = -\frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2},$$

the integrand is odd.

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} P.V. \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx &= \lim_{c \rightarrow 0} \left(\int_c^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx + \int_{-1}^c \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx \right) \\ &= \lim_{c \rightarrow 0} \left(\int_c^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx + \int_{-1}^{-c} \frac{\sin(\sin(-x))}{(-x)^2} d(-x) \right) \\ &= \lim_{c \rightarrow 0} \left(\int_c^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx - \int_c^1 \frac{\sin(\sin(x))}{x^2} dx \right) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Problem 4 Determine the value of the improper integral $\int_0^\infty \frac{dt}{1-t^4}$.

Solution:

Consider $\int_1^\infty \frac{dt}{1-t^4}$. Using the substitution $t = \frac{1}{x}$,

$$\int_1^\infty \frac{dt}{1-t^4} = \int_1^0 \frac{-\frac{1}{x^2}}{1-\left(\frac{1}{x^4}\right)} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{x^2}{x^4-1} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{-t^2}{1-t^4} dt.$$

Therefore we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty \frac{dt}{1-t^4} &= \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{1-t^4} + \int_1^\infty \frac{dt}{1-t^4} \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{1-t^4} + \int_0^1 \frac{-t^2}{1-t^4} dt \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{1-t^2}{1-t^4} dt \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{1}{1+t^2} dt \\ &= \arctan x \Big|_0^1 \\ &= \arctan 1 - \arctan 0 \\ &= \frac{\pi}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the improper integral $\int_0^\infty \frac{dt}{1-t^4}$ converges to $\frac{\pi}{4}$.