

Recall the definitions

1. **Type-1 improper integrals.** Let f be a bounded, continuous function on $[c, \infty)$. How do we define the improper integral

$$\int_c^{\infty} f(x) dx ?$$

2. **Type-2 improper integrals.** Let f be a continuous function on $(a, b]$, possibly with $x = a$ as a vertical asymptote. How do we define the improper integral

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx ?$$

Computation

Calculate, using the definition of improper integral

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2 + x} dx$$

Hint: $\frac{1}{x^2 + x} = \frac{(x + 1) - (x)}{x(x + 1)}$

The most important improper integrals

Use the definition of improper integral to determine for which values of $p \in \mathbb{R}$ each of the following improper integrals converges.

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

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

3. $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} dx$

Quick review

For which values of $p \in \mathbb{R}$ is each of the following improper integrals convergent?

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

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

3. $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} dx$

Examples

1. Let f be continuous on $[a, \infty)$. Let $A = \int_a^\infty f(x) dx$

Then A may be $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{convergent (a number)} \\ \text{divergent} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{to } \infty \\ \text{to } -\infty \\ \text{"oscillating"} \end{array} \right. \end{array} \right.$

Give one example of each of the four results.

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Give one example of each of the four results.

2. Now do the same thing for "type 2" improper integrals.

Positive functions

- Let f be continuous on $[a, \infty)$. Let $A = \int_a^\infty f(x) dx$

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- Assume $\forall x \geq a, f(x) \geq 0$.

Which of the four options are still possible?

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Which of the four options are still possible?

- Assume $\exists M \geq a$, s.t. $\forall x \geq M, f(x) \geq 0$.

Which of the four options are still possible?

A “simple” integral

What is $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{x} dx$?

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What is $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{x} dx$?

1. $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{x} dx = (\ln |x|) \Big|_{-1}^1 = \ln |1| - \ln |-1| = 0$

2. $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{x} dx = 0$ because $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ is an odd function.

3. $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{x} dx$ is divergent.

What is wrong with this computation?

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{x} dx &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \left[\int_{-1}^{-\varepsilon} \frac{1}{x} dx + \int_{\varepsilon}^1 \frac{1}{x} dx \right] \\&= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \left[\ln |x| \Big|_{-1}^{-\varepsilon} + \ln |x| \Big|_{\varepsilon}^1 \right] \\&= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} [\ln |-\varepsilon| - \ln |\varepsilon|] \\&= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} [0] = 0\end{aligned}$$

Probability

A nonnegative function f defined on $(-\infty, \infty)$ is called a **probability density function** if

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 1.$$

The *mean* of a probability density function is defined as

$$\mu = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx.$$

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \begin{cases} Ce^{-kx} & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

1. For $k > 0$, find a constant C such that the function f is a probability density function.
2. Calculate the mean μ .

Collection of antiderivatives

Let f be a positive, continuous function with domain \mathbb{R} .

We know two ways to describe a collection of antiderivatives:

1. $G(x) + C$ for $C \in \mathbb{R}$, where G is any one antiderivative.
2. The collection of functions F_a for $a \in \mathbb{R}$, where

$$F_a(x) = \int_a^x f(t)dt$$

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These two collections are not always the same. Why not? Are they the same for some functions f ? When are they the same?

Hint:

► <https://tinyurl.com/137antiderivatives>

A simple BCT application

We want to determine whether $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x + e^x} dx$ is convergent or divergent.

We can try at least two comparisons:

1. Compare $\frac{1}{x}$ and $\frac{1}{x + e^x}$.
2. Compare $\frac{1}{e^x}$ and $\frac{1}{x + e^x}$.

Try both. What can you conclude from each one of them?

True or False - Comparisons

Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$.

Let f and g be continuous functions on $[a, \infty)$.

Assume that $\forall x \geq a, \quad 0 \leq f(x) \leq g(x)$.

What can we conclude?

1. IF $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx$ is convergent, THEN $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx$ is convergent.
2. IF $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx = \infty$, THEN $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx = \infty$.
3. IF $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx$ is convergent, THEN $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx$ is convergent.
4. IF $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx = \infty$, THEN $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx = \infty$.

True or False - Comparisons II

Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$.

Let f and g be continuous functions on $[a, \infty)$.

Assume that $\forall x \geq a, \quad f(x) \leq g(x)$.

What can we conclude?

1. IF $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx$ is convergent, THEN $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx$ is convergent.
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3. IF $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx$ is convergent, THEN $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx$ is convergent.
4. IF $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx = \infty$, THEN $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx = \infty$.

True or False - Comparisons III

Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$.

Let f and g be continuous functions on $[a, \infty)$.

Assume that $\boxed{\exists M \geq a \text{ s.t. } \forall x \geq M, \quad 0 \leq f(x) \leq g(x)}$.

What can we conclude?

1. IF $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx$ is convergent, THEN $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx$ is convergent.
2. IF $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx = \infty$, THEN $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx = \infty$.
3. IF $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx$ is convergent, THEN $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx$ is convergent.
4. IF $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx = \infty$, THEN $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx = \infty$.

What can you conclude?

Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Let f be a continuous, **positive** function on $[a, \infty)$. In each of the following cases, what can you conclude about

$\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$? Is it convergent, divergent, or we do not know?

1. $\forall b \geq a, \exists M \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $\int_a^b f(x) dx \leq M$.

2. $\exists M \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $\forall b \geq a, \int_a^b f(x) dx \leq M$.

3. $\exists M > 0$ s.t. $\forall x \geq a, f(x) \leq M$.

4. $\exists M > 0$ s.t. $\forall x \geq a, f(x) \geq M$.

Use BCT to determine whether each of the following is convergent or divergent

1. $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1 + \cos^2 x}{x^{2/3}} dx$

2. $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1 + \cos^2 x}{x^{4/3}} dx$

3. $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\arctan x^2}{1 + e^x} dx$

BCT calculations

Use BCT to determine whether each of the following is convergent or divergent

1. $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1 + \cos^2 x}{x^{2/3}} dx$

4. $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx$

2. $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1 + \cos^2 x}{x^{4/3}} dx$

5. $\int_2^{\infty} \frac{(\ln x)^{10}}{x^2} dx$

3. $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\arctan x^2}{1 + e^x} dx$

Rapid questions: convergent or divergent?

1. $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2} dx$

4. $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{x^2} dx$

7. $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{3}{x^2} dx$

2. $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx$

5. $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx$

8. $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2 + 3} dx$

3. $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x} dx$

6. $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{x} dx$

9. $\int_1^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{x^2} + 3 \right) dx$

Slow questions: convergent or divergent?

1. $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{x^3 + 2x + 7}{x^5 + 11x^4 + 1} dx$

5. $\int_0^1 \frac{\sin x}{x^{3/2}} dx$

2. $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + x + 1}} dx$

6. $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx$

3. $\int_0^1 \frac{3 \cos x}{x + \sqrt{x}} dx$

7. $\int_2^{\infty} \frac{(\ln x)^{10}}{x^2} dx$

4. $\int_0^1 \sqrt{\cot x} dx$

A harder calculation

For which values of $a > 0$ is the integral

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\arctan x}{x^a} dx$$

convergent?

A variation on LCT

This is the theorem you have learned:

Theorem (Limit-Comparison Test)

Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Let f and g be positive, continuous functions on $[a, \infty)$.

- IF the limit $L = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ exists and $L > 0$
- THEN $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx$ and $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx$
are both convergent or both divergent.

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What if we change the hypotheses to $L = 0$?

1. Write down the new theorem (different conclusion).
2. Prove it.

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What if we change the hypotheses to $L = 0$?

1. Write down the new theorem (different conclusion).
2. Prove it.

Hint: If $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = 0$, what is larger $f(x)$ or $g(x)$?

A variation on LCT - 2

This is the theorem you have learned:

Theorem (Limit-Comparison Test)

Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Let f and g be positive, continuous functions on $[a, \infty)$.

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- THEN $\int_a^\infty f(x)dx$ and $\int_a^\infty g(x)dx$ are both convergent or both divergent.

What if we change the hypotheses to $L = \infty$?

1. Write down the new theorem (different conclusion).
2. Prove it.

Absolute Convergence

Definition

The integral $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$ is called **absolutely convergent** when $\int_a^\infty |f(x)| dx$ converges.

Prove that

- IF an improper integral is absolutely convergent
- THEN it is convergent

Hint: Consider the functions

$$f_+(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{if } f(x) \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } f(x) \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad f_-(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } f(x) \geq 0 \\ |f(x)| & \text{if } f(x) \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Write $f(x)$ and $|f(x)|$ in terms of $f_+(x)$ and $f_-(x)$. Use BCT.

Dirichlet integral

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin x}{x} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

1. Is $\int_0^1 f(x) dx$ an improper integral?

2. Show that $\int_1^\infty \frac{\cos x}{x^2} dx$ is absolutely convergent.

Hint: Use BCT.

3. The same argument is inconclusive for $\int_1^\infty f(x) dx$. Why?

4. Show that $\int_1^\infty f(x) dx$ is convergent

Hint: Use the definition of improper integral, not comparison tests. Use integration by parts with $u = \frac{1}{x}$ and $dv = \sin x dx$.

Note: It is possible to prove that $\int_1^\infty \frac{\sin x}{x} dx$ is not absolutely convergent.