# Calculus II Improper integrals

**Todor Milev** 

2019

#### Outline

- Improper Integrals
  - Type I: Infinite Intervals
  - Type II: Discontinuous Integrands
  - A Comparison Test for Improper Integrals

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# Improper Integrals

- The definition of  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ , where f is defined on [a, b], has two requirements:
  - $\bullet$  [a, b] is a finite interval.
  - $\bullet$  f has no infinite discontinuities in [a, b].

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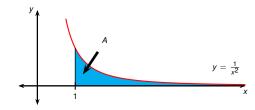
#### Definition (Improper Integral)

The integral

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx$$

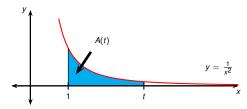
is called improper if one or more of the endpoints a and b is infinite, or if f has an infinite discontinuity on [a, b].

• Consider the region A that lies under  $y = 1/x^2$ , above the x-axis, and to the right of x = 1.



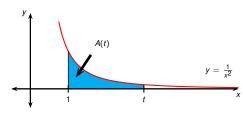
- Consider the region A that lies under  $y = 1/x^2$ , above the x-axis, and to the right of x = 1.
- To find its area, approximate with A(t), the area of the region under  $1/x^2$ , above the x-axis, right of x = 1, and left of x = t.

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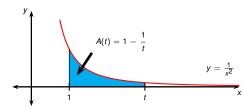
$$A(t) = \int_1^t \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{x^2} = \left[ -\frac{1}{x} \right]_1^t =$$



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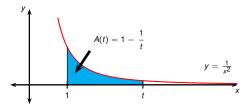
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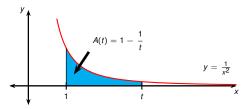
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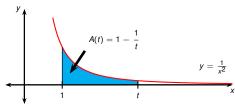
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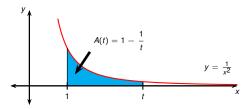
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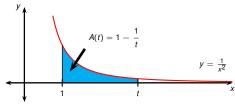
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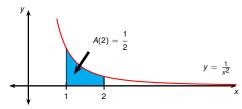
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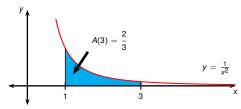
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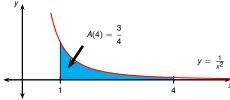
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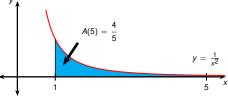
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$$y = \frac{1}{x^{2}}$$

- Notice A(t) < 1 no matter how large t is.
- Also notice  $\lim_{t\to\infty} A(t) = \lim_{t\to\infty} \left(1 \frac{1}{t}\right) = 1$ .
- We say that the area A is equal to 1 and write  $\int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2} dx = \lim_{t \to \infty} \int_{1}^{t} \frac{1}{x^2} dx = 1.$

#### Definition (Improper Integral of Type I)

• If  $\int_a^t f(x) dx$  exists for every  $t \ge a$ , then

$$\int_{a}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \lim_{t \to \infty} \int_{a}^{t} f(x) dx$$

if the limit exists.

② If  $\int_t^b f(x) dx$  exists for every  $t \le b$ , then

$$\int_{-\infty}^{b} f(x) dx = \lim_{t \to -\infty} \int_{t}^{b} f(x) dx$$

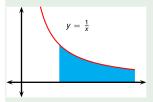
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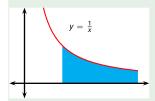
 $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$  and  $\int_{-\infty}^b f(x) dx$  are called convergent if the corresponding limit exists and divergent if it doesn't exist.

**1** If both  $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$  and  $\int_{-\infty}^a f(x) dx$  are convergent, then we define

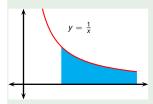
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{a} f(x) dx + \int_{a}^{\infty} f(x) dx.$$

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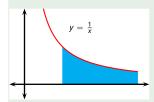




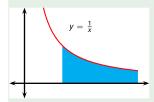
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$$= \lim_{t \to \infty} (\ln t - \ln 1)$$

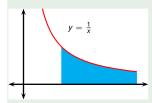


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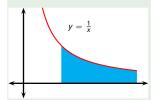
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$$= \lim_{t \to \infty} [\ln x]_{1}^{t}$$

$$= \lim_{t \to \infty} (\ln t - \ln 1)$$

$$= \lim_{t \to \infty} \ln t = \infty$$

Determine whether  $\int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x} dx$  is convergent or divergent.



Infinite area

$$\int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x} dx = \lim_{t \to \infty} \int_{1}^{t} \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$= \lim_{t \to \infty} [\ln x]_{1}^{t}$$

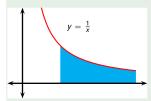
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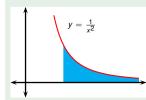
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Therefore the improper integral is divergent.

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Infinite area



Finite area

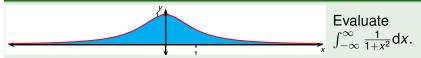
$$\int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x} dx = \lim_{t \to \infty} \int_{1}^{t} \frac{1}{x} dx$$

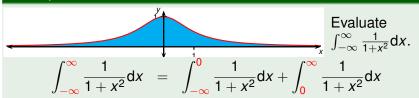
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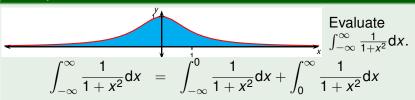
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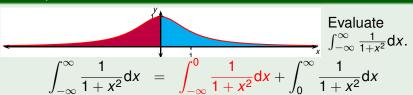
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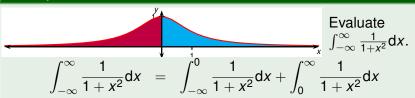




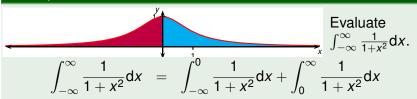




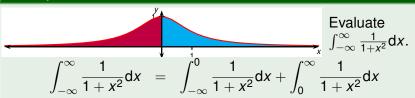
$$\int_{-\infty}^{0} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \lim_{t \to -\infty} \int_{t}^{0} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$$



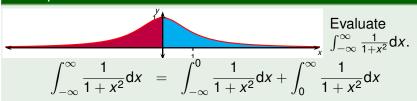
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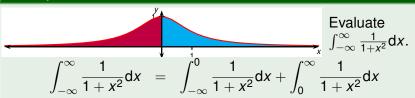
$$\int_{-\infty}^{0} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \lim_{t \to -\infty} \int_{t}^{0} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \lim_{t \to -\infty} [?]$$



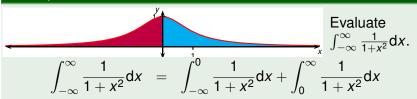
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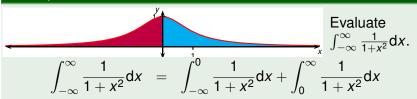
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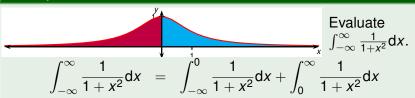
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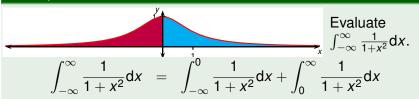
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$$= \lim_{t \to -\infty} \left(\arctan 0 - \arctan t\right) = \lim_{t \to -\infty} \left(0 - \arctan t\right)$$



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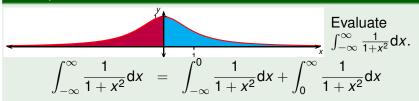
$$= 0 - \left( ? \right)$$



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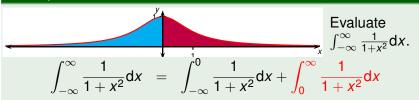
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$$= 0 - \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi}{2}$$



Evaluate the two integrals separately:

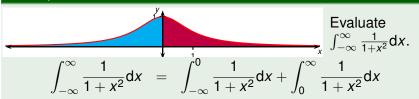
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2019

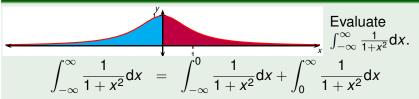


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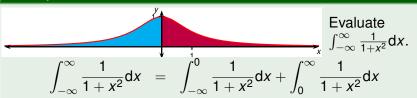
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2019



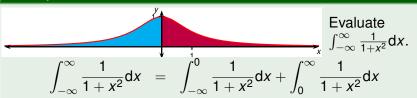
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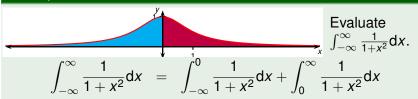
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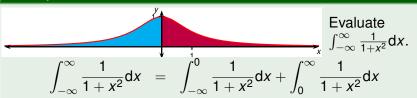
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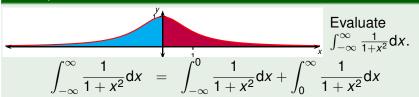
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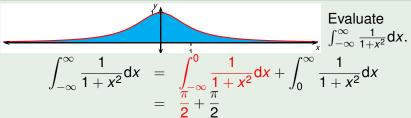
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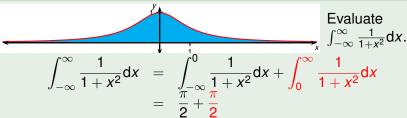
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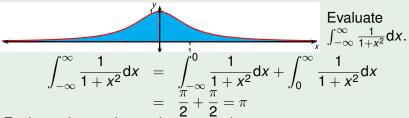
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For what values of *p* is the integral  $\int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^{p}} dx$  convergent?

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9/18

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9/18

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- Therefore  $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^p} dx$  is divergent if p < 1.

#### **Theorem**

 $\int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^{p}} dx$  converges if p > 1 and diverges if  $p \le 1$ .

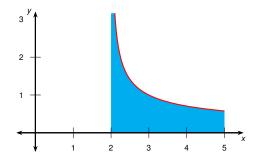
# Type II: Discontinuous Integrands

We can use the same approach if the function f is discontinuous at one of the endpoints a and b in the integral  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ .

For example,  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{x-2}}$  is discontinuous at 2, so we might wonder if the integral

$$\int_2^5 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-2}} \mathrm{d}x$$

exists.



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Improper integrals

2019

# Definition (Improper Integral of Type II)

 $\bigcirc$  If f is continuous on [a, b) and discontinuous at b, then

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx = \lim_{t \to b^{-}} \int_{a}^{t} f(x) dx$$

if the limit exists.

② If f is continuous on (a, b] and discontinuous at a, then

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx = \lim_{t \to a^{+}} \int_{t}^{b} f(x) dx$$

if the limit exists.

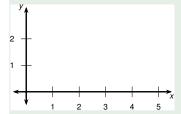
 $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  is called convergent if the corresponding limit exists and divergent if it doesn't exist.

If f has a discontinuity at c, where a < c < b, and both  $\int_a^c f(x) dx$  and  $\int_c^b f(x) dx$  are convergent, then we define

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

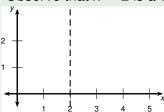
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Find 
$$\int_2^5 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-2}} dx$$
.



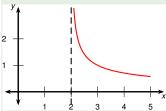
Find 
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Observe that x = 2 is a vertical asymptote for the integrand.



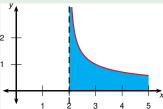
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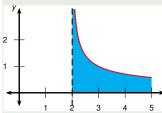


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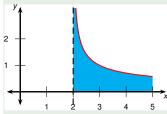


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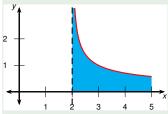
$$\int_{2}^{5} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-2}} dx = \lim_{t \to 2^{+}} \int_{t}^{5} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-2}} dx$$

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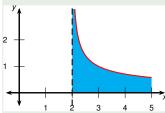
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$$\int_{2}^{5} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-2}} dx = \lim_{t \to 2^{+}} \int_{t}^{5} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-2}} \frac{dx}{dx}$$
$$= \lim_{t \to 2^{+}} \left[ \frac{2\sqrt{x-2}}{t} \right]_{t}^{5}$$

Find 
$$\int_2^5 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-2}} dx$$
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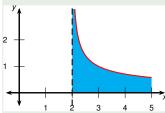


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$$= \lim_{t \to 2^{+}} 2 \left( \sqrt{5-2} - \sqrt{t-2} \right)$$

Find 
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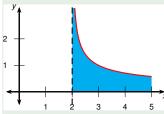


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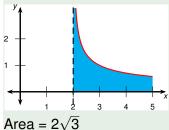
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Evaluate 
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Todor Milev

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Evaluate  $\int_0^3 \frac{1}{x-1} dx$ . Observe that x=1 is a vertical asymptote for the integrand.

**Todor Miley** 

Improper integrals

Evaluate  $\int_0^3 \frac{1}{x-1} dx$ .

$$\int_0^3 \frac{1}{x-1} dx = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{x-1} dx + \int_1^3 \frac{1}{x-1} dx$$

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Observe that x = 1 is a vertical asymptote for the integrand.

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Therefore the integral diverges.

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- Therefore the integral diverges.
- If we had not noticed the vertical asymptote, we might have made the following mistake:

$$\int_0^3 \frac{dx}{x-1} = [\ln|x-1|]_0^3 = \ln 2 - \ln 1 = \ln 2.$$

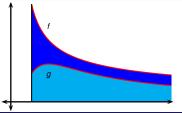
# A Comparison Test for Improper Integrals

Sometimes it's impossible to find the exact value of an integral, but we still want to know if it's convergent or divergent. For such cases, we can sometimes use the following theorem.

# Theorem (Comparison Theorem)

Suppose f and g are continuous and  $f(x) \ge g(x) \ge 0$  for  $x \ge a$ .

- If  $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$  is convergent, then  $\int_a^\infty g(x) dx$  is convergent.
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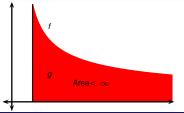
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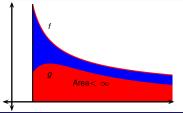
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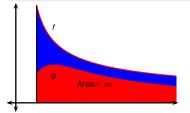
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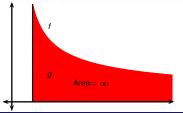
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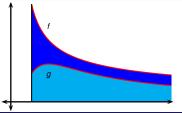
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# A Comparison Test for Improper Integrals

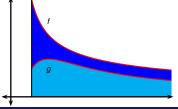
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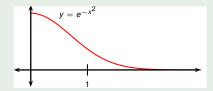
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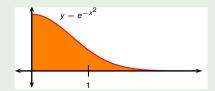
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A similar theorem holds for Type II improper integrals.

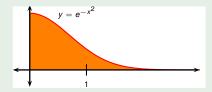




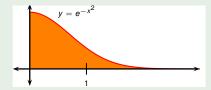


Show that  $\int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx$  is convergent.

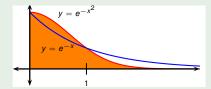
• The antiderivative of  $e^{-x^2}$  isn't an elementary function.



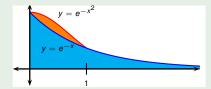
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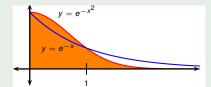
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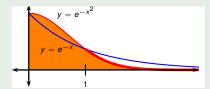
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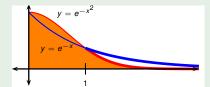
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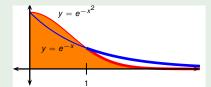
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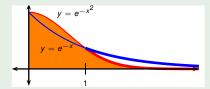
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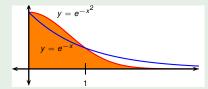
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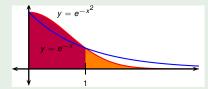
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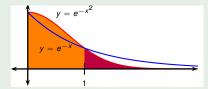
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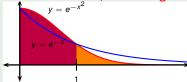
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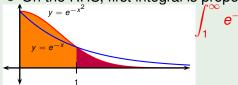


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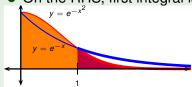
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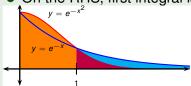
Todor Milev

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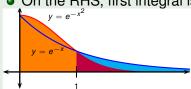
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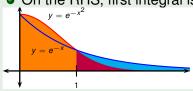
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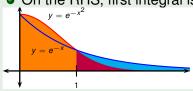


sproper - no effect on converge
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sproper - no effect on converge  

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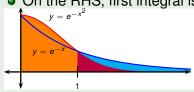
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2019

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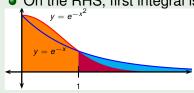
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2019

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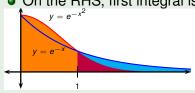
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$$= \lim_{t \to \infty} \int_{1}^{t} e^{-x} dx$$

$$= \lim_{t \to \infty} \left[ -e^{-x} \right]_{1}^{t}$$

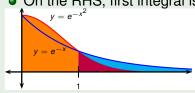
$$= \lim_{t \to \infty} \left( -e^{-t} - \left( -e^{-1} \right) \right)$$

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## Example

- The antiderivative of  $e^{-x^2}$  isn't an elementary function.
- If integral were  $\int_0^\infty e^{-x} dx$ , we'd have no problem integrating.
- Notice that  $0 \le e^{-x^2} \le e^{-x}$  for  $x \ge 1$  (because  $-x^2 < -x$  for x > 1 and the exponent is an increasing function).
- Split  $\int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx = \int_0^1 e^{-x^2} dx + \int_1^\infty e^{-x^2} dx$ .
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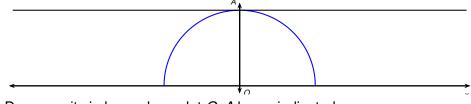
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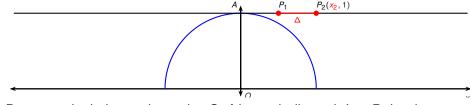
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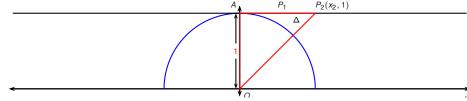
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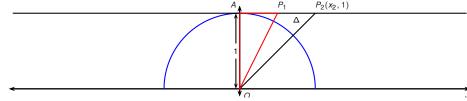
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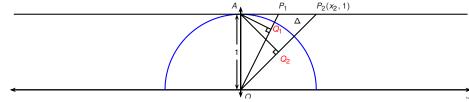
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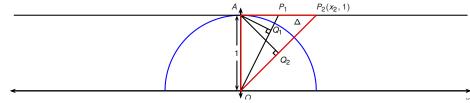
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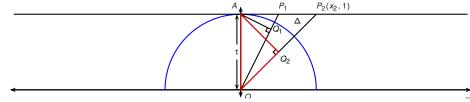
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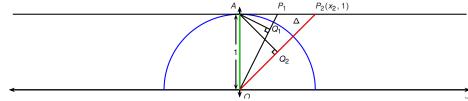
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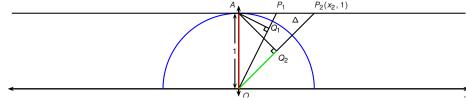


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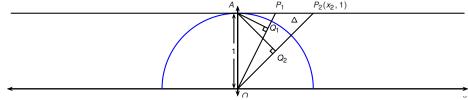


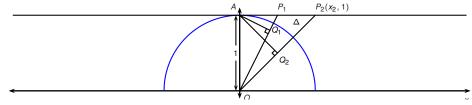
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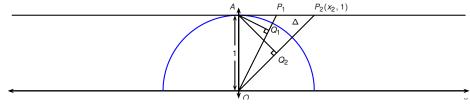




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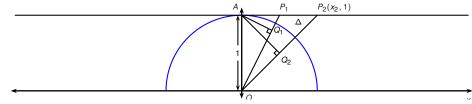
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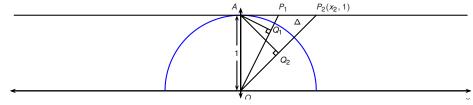
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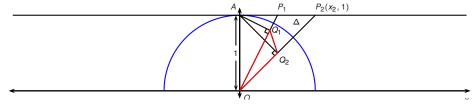
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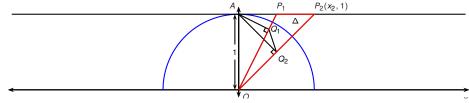
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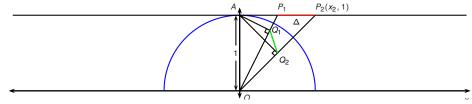
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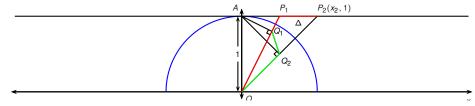
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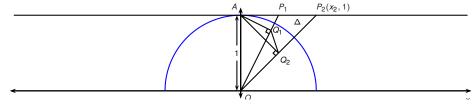
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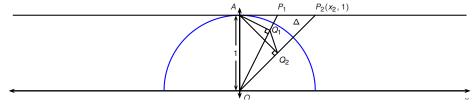
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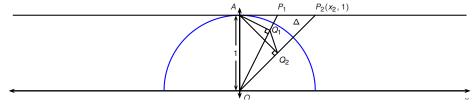
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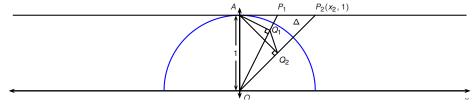
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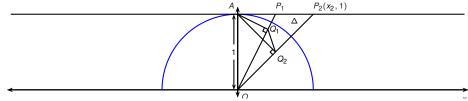
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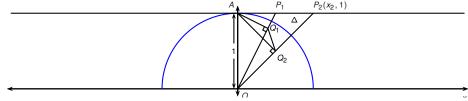
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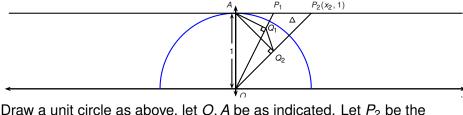
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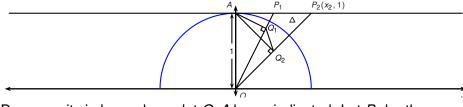
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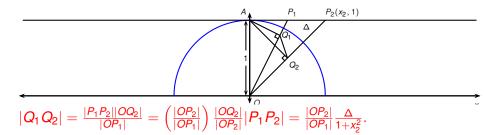
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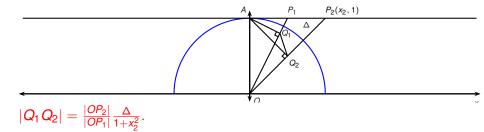


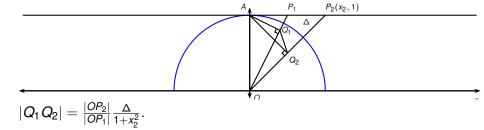
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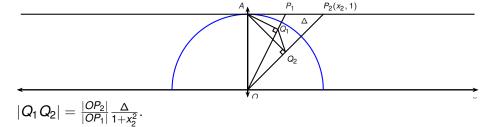
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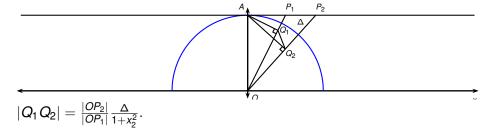




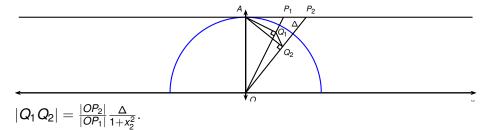
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$$P_2 \rightarrow P_1$$



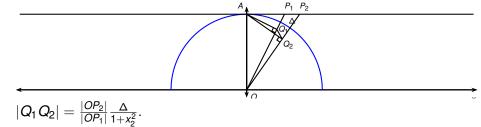
If we let 
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, i.e.,  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ ,



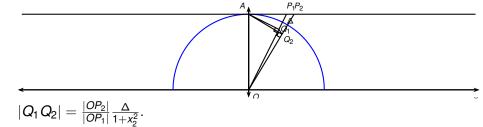
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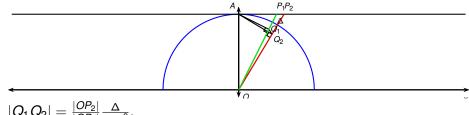
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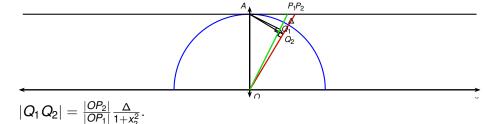


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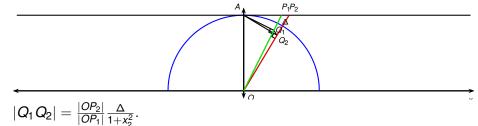


$$|Q_1 Q_2| = \frac{|OP_2|}{|OP_1|} \frac{\Delta}{1 + x_2^2}.$$

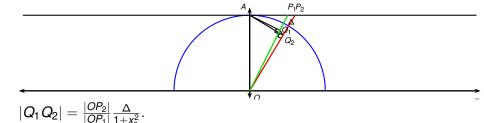
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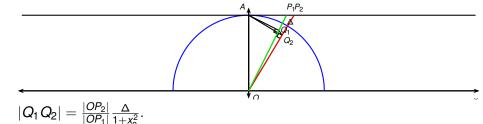


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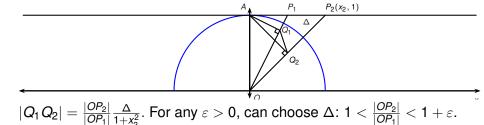


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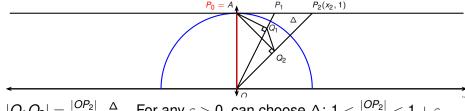


If we let  $P_2 \to P_1$ , i.e.,  $\Delta \to 0$ , we get  $\frac{|OP_2|}{|OP_1|} \to 1$ . In strict mathematical language: for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that when  $\Delta < \delta$  we have that  $1 > \frac{|OP_2|}{|OP_1|} > 1 - \varepsilon$ . Furthermore, the choice of  $\delta$  can be made independent of the value of  $x_2$ : to prove that one analyzes the expression  $\frac{|OP_2|}{|OP_1|} = \sqrt{\frac{1+x_2^2}{1+(x_2-\Delta)^2}}$ . We leave the tedious but otherwise easy details to the interested student.

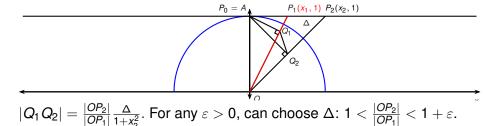


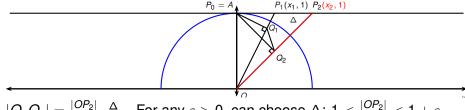
Fix a large number N and let  $\Delta$  be such that  $n = \frac{N}{\Lambda}$  is integer.

2019

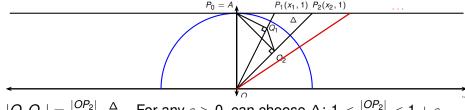


 $|Q_1Q_2|=rac{|OP_2|}{|OP_1|}rac{\Delta}{1+x_2^2}.$  For any  $\varepsilon>0$ , can choose  $\Delta$ :  $1<rac{|OP_2|}{|OP_1|}<1+\varepsilon.$ 



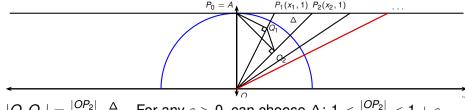


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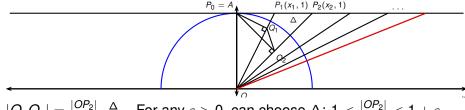


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2019

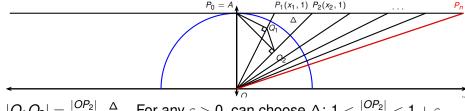


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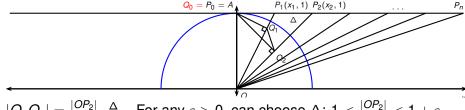


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2019

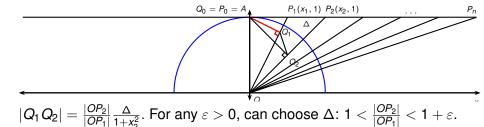


 $|Q_1Q_2| = \frac{|OP_2|}{|OP_1|} \frac{\Delta}{1+x_2^2}$ . For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , can choose  $\Delta$ :  $1 < \frac{|OP_2|}{|OP_1|} < 1 + \varepsilon$ . Fix a large number N and let  $\Delta$  be such that  $n = \frac{N}{2}$  is integer. Let

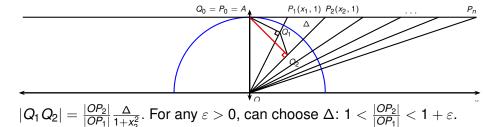


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Fix a large number N and let  $\Delta$  be such that  $n = \frac{N}{\Delta}$  is integer. Let  $P_0 = (0,1), P_1 = (\Delta,1), P_2 = (2\Delta,1), \dots, P_n = (n\Delta,1),$  and let  $Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_n$  be as indicated.



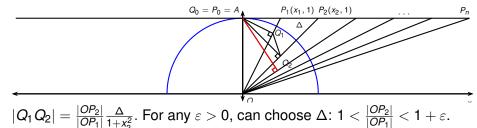
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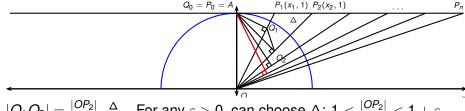
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2019

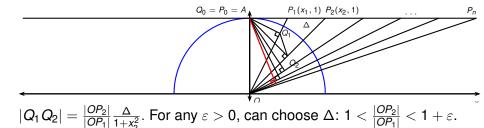


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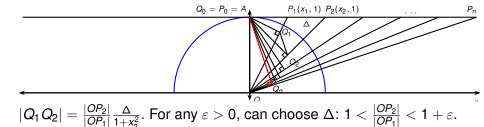


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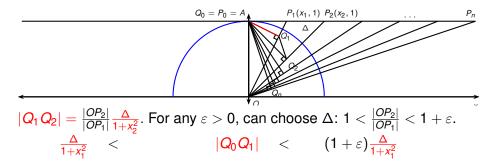
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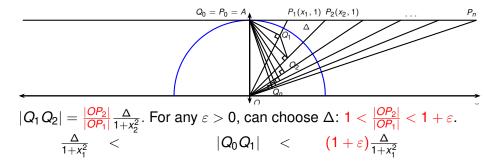


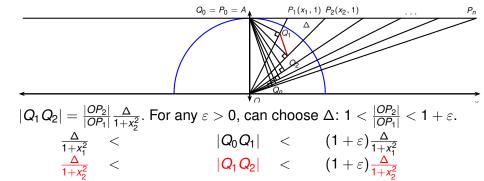
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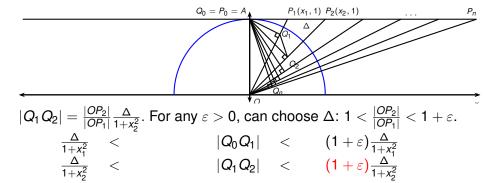


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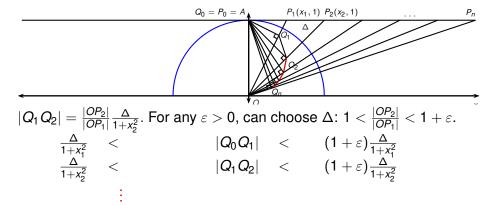




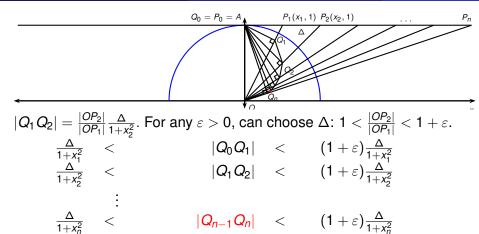




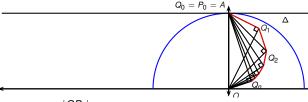
Todor Milev Improper integrals 2019



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Todor Milev



$$|Q_1Q_2|=\frac{|\mathit{OP}_2|}{|\mathit{OP}_1|}\frac{\Delta}{1+x_2^2}. \text{ For any } \varepsilon>0, \text{ can choose } \Delta \text{: } 1<\frac{|\mathit{OP}_2|}{|\mathit{OP}_1|}<1+\varepsilon.$$

$$\frac{\Delta}{1+x_1^2} < \frac{\Delta}{1+x_2^2} <$$

$$|Q_1Q_2|$$
 <

$$|Q_0Q_1| < (1+\varepsilon)\frac{\Delta}{1+x_1^2} \ |Q_1Q_2| < (1+\varepsilon)\frac{\Delta}{1+x_2^2}$$

$$\frac{\Delta}{1+x_0^2}$$
 <

$$|Q_{n-1}Q_n|$$

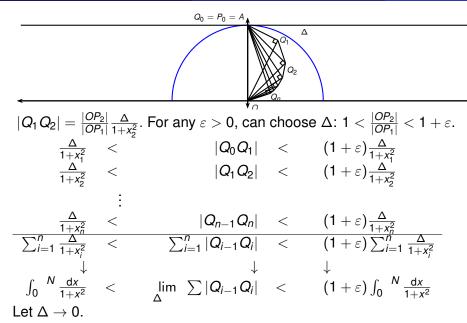
$$(1+\varepsilon)\frac{\Delta}{1+x_n^2}$$

$$\frac{\Delta}{1+x_{n}^{2}} < |Q_{n-1}Q_{n}| < (1+\varepsilon)\frac{\Delta}{1+x_{n}^{2}} \\ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\Delta}{1+x_{i}^{2}} < \sum_{i=1}^{n} |Q_{i-1}Q_{i}| < (1+\varepsilon)\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\Delta}{1+x_{i}^{2}}$$

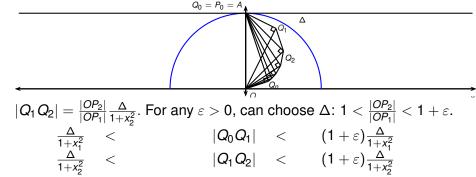
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} |Q_{i-1}Q_i|$$

$$(1+\varepsilon)\sum_{i=1}^{n}\frac{\Delta}{1+x_i^2}$$

2019

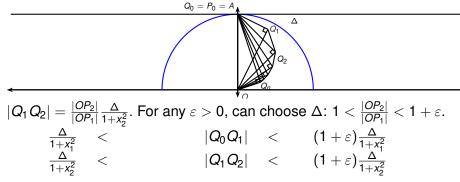


Todor Miley Improper integrals



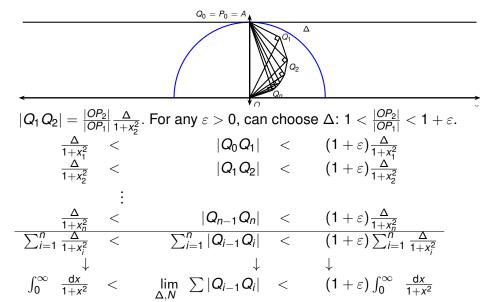
Let  $\Delta \to 0$ . Next take  $N \to \infty$ .

Todor Milev

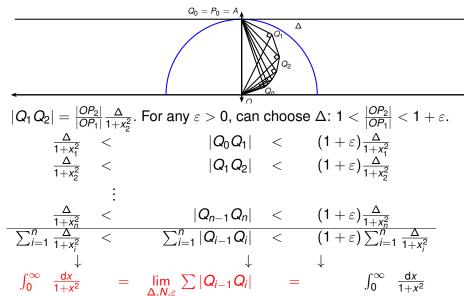


$$\begin{array}{c|ccccc} \frac{\Delta}{1+x_n^2} & < & |Q_{n-1}Q_n| & < & (1+\varepsilon)\frac{\Delta}{1+x_n^2} \\ \hline \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\Delta}{1+x_i^2} & < & \sum_{i=1}^n |Q_{i-1}Q_i| & < & (1+\varepsilon)\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\Delta}{1+x_i^2} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ \int_0^\infty \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{1+x^2} & < & \lim_{\Delta,N} \sum |Q_{i-1}Q_i| & < & (1+\varepsilon)\int_0^\infty \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{1+x^2} \end{array}$$

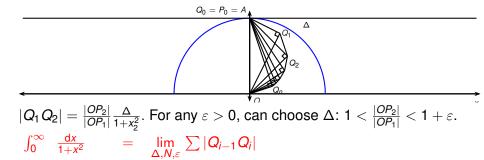
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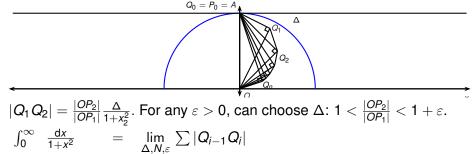


Let  $\Delta \to 0$ . Next take  $N \to \infty$ . Finally take  $\varepsilon \to 0$ 

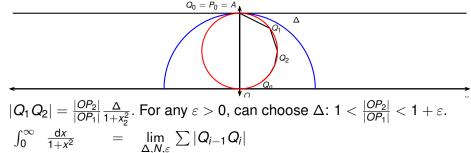


Let  $\Delta \to 0$ . Next take  $N \to \infty$ . Finally take  $\varepsilon \to 0$ , use squeeze thm.

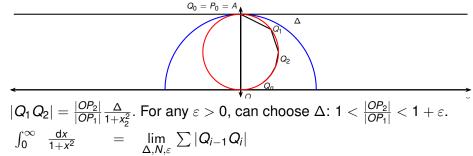




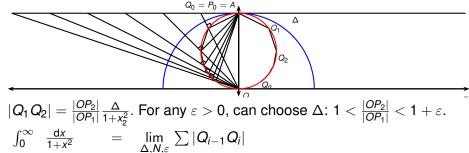
The points  $Q_1, Q_2, \ldots$  see the segment *OA* from an angle of  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ .



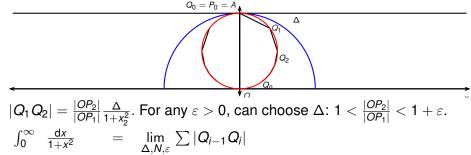
The points  $Q_1, Q_2, \ldots$  see the segment OA from an angle of  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ . Therefore, by Euclidean geometry, the points  $Q_1, Q_2, \ldots$  lie on the circle C with radius  $\frac{1}{2}$  and center  $(0, \frac{1}{2})$ .



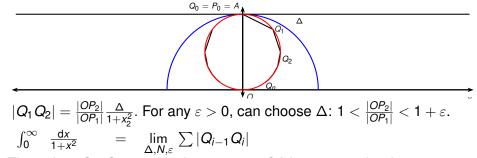
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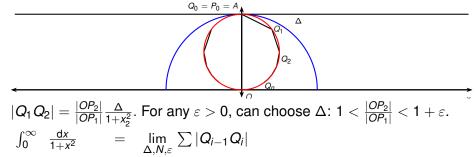
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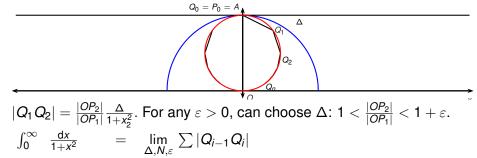
Todor Milev Improper integrals 2019



The points  $Q_1, Q_2, \ldots$  see the segment *OA* from an angle of  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ . Therefore, by Euclidean geometry, the points  $Q_1, Q_2, \ldots$  lie on the circle C with radius  $\frac{1}{2}$  and center  $(0,\frac{1}{2})$ . Therefore  $\sum |Q_{i-1}Q_i|$ approximates half of the circumference of the circle C. By symmetry,

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as desired.



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