

CALCULUS

EARLY TRANSCENDENTAL FUNCTIONS

5th EDITION

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Improper Integral:

The integral is called improper in two cases

Case 1: If the integrated function is undefined at a point in the integral interval

Example:

The integral $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{x} dx$ is improper due to $x = 0$

Example:

The integral $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{x-1} dx$ is improper due to $x = 1$

Example:

The integral $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx$ is improper due to $x = 0$

Example:

The integral $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x}} dx$ is improper due to $x = 1$

Example:

The integral $\int_0^3 \frac{1}{x^2} dx$ is improper due to $x = 0$

Example:

The integral $\int_0^3 \frac{1}{(x-3)^2} dx$ is improper due to $x = 3$

Example:

The integral $\int_{-1}^2 \frac{1}{x^2} dx$ is improper due to $x = 0$

Case 2: If the integral interval contains ∞ , $-\infty$, or both

Example:

The integral $\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$ is improper due to ∞

Example:

The integral $\int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$ is improper due to $-\infty$

Example:

The integral $\int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$ is improper due to $-\infty, \infty$

Example:

The integral $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^2} dx$ is improper due to ∞

Example:

The integral $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x} dx$ is improper due to ∞

Example:

The integral $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx$ is improper due to ∞

How to calculate an improper integral

Example

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

$$\int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx = \lim_{R \rightarrow 0} \int_R^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx$$

$$= \lim_{R \rightarrow 0} 2\sqrt{x} \Big|_R^1$$

$$= \lim_{R \rightarrow 0} 2\sqrt{1} - 2\sqrt{R}$$

$$= 2\sqrt{1} - 2\sqrt{0}$$

$$= 2 - 0 = 2$$

So, the integral $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx$ is convergent to 2

Example:

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

$$\int_0^1 \frac{1}{x} dx = \lim_{R \rightarrow 0} \int_R^1 \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$= \lim_{R \rightarrow 0} \ln|x| \Big|_R^1$$

$$= \lim_{R \rightarrow 0} \ln|1| - \ln|R|$$

$$= \ln|1| - \ln|0|$$

$$= 0 + \infty$$

$$= \infty$$

$$\ln 0 = -\infty$$

$$|\ln|0|| = \infty$$

So, the integral $\int_0^1 \frac{1}{x} dx$ is divergent

Example: $\int_{-\infty}^1 e^x dx$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{-\infty}^1 e^x dx &= \lim_{R \rightarrow -\infty} \int_R^1 e^x dx \\
 &= \lim_{R \rightarrow -\infty} e^x \Big|_R^1 \\
 &= \lim_{R \rightarrow -\infty} e - e^R \\
 &= e - e^{-\infty} \\
 &= e - 0 = e
 \end{aligned}$$

$e^{-\infty} = 0$
 $e^\infty = \infty$

So, the integral $\int_{-\infty}^1 e^x dx$ is convergent to e

Example:

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx &= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^R \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx \\ &= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \tan^{-1} x \Big|_0^R\end{aligned}$$

$$= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \tan^{-1} R - \tan^{-1} 0$$

$$= \tan^{-1} \infty - \tan^{-1} 0$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{2} - 0 = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\tan^{-1} \infty = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\tan^{-1} 0 = 0$$

So, the integral $\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$ is convergent to $\frac{\pi}{2}$

Example:

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

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = 2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$$

$$= 2 \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^R \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$$

$$= 2 \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \tan^{-1} x \Big|_0^R$$

$$= 2 \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \tan^{-1} R - \tan^{-1} 0$$

$$= 2(\tan^{-1} \infty - \tan^{-1} 0)$$

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

So, the integral $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$ is convergent to π

Example:

$$\int_{-1}^2 \frac{1}{x^2} dx$$

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

The first integral

$$\int_{-1}^0 \frac{1}{x^2} dx = \lim_{R \rightarrow 0^-} \int_{-1}^R \frac{1}{x^2} dx$$

$$= \lim_{R \rightarrow 0^-} \left[-\frac{1}{x} \right]_{-1}^R$$

$$= \lim_{R \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{-1}{R} - \frac{-1}{-1}$$

$$= \lim_{R \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{-1}{R} - 1$$

$$\frac{1}{0} = \infty$$

So, the integral $\int_{-1}^0 \frac{1}{x^2} dx$ is divergent

So, the integral $\int_{-1}^2 \frac{1}{x^2} dx$ is divergent

Remark:

a) If $p \leq 1$, $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^p} dx$ is divergent

b) If $p > 1$, $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^p} dx$ is convergent to $\frac{1}{p-1}$

Example:

$$\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x}} dx$$

$$\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x}} dx = \int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^{1/3}} dx$$

Since $p = \frac{1}{3} \leq 1$, the integral $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x}} dx$ is divergent

Example: $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^5} dx$

Since $p = 5 > 1$, the integral $\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x}} dx$ is convergent
to $\frac{1}{5-1} = \frac{1}{4}$