

## 7.8 Improper Integrals

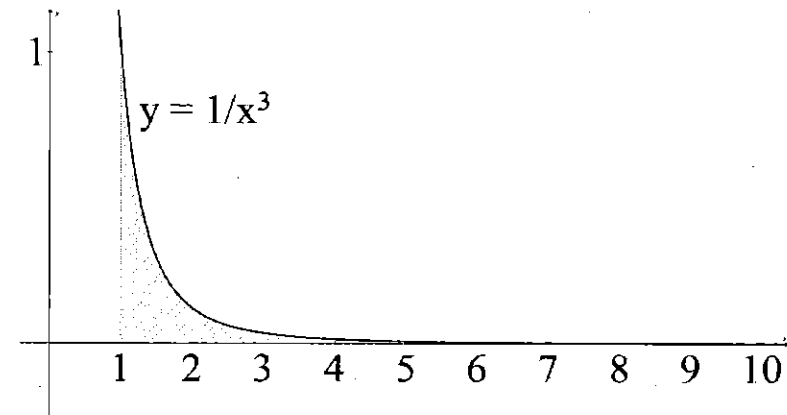
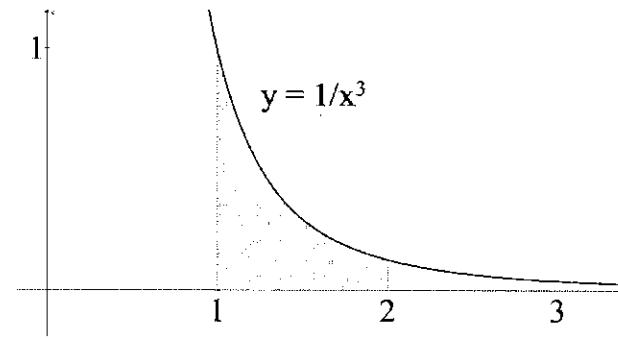
*Motivation:* Consider the function

$f(x) = \frac{1}{x^3}$ . Compute the area under the

function from...

1.  $x = 1$  to  $x = t$
2.  $x = 1$  to  $x = 10$
3.  $x = 1$  to  $x = 100$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_1^t \frac{1}{x^3} dx &= \int_1^t x^{-3} dx = \frac{1}{-2} x^{-2} \Big|_1^t \\ &= -\frac{1}{2x^2} \Big|_1^t \\ &= -\frac{1}{2t^2} - \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = -\frac{1}{2t^2} + \frac{1}{2}\end{aligned}$$



$$\int_1^{10} \frac{1}{x^3} dx = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{10^2} + \frac{1}{2} = 0.495$$

$$\int_1^{100} \frac{1}{x^3} dx = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{100^2} + \frac{1}{2} = 0.4975$$

**Def'n: Improper type 1 -**

*infinite integral of integration*

$$\int_a^{\infty} f(x) dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^t f(x) dx$$

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

If the limit exists and is finite, then we say the integral *converges*.

Otherwise, we say it *diverges*.

**Example:**

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^3} dx &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \int_1^t x^{-2} dx \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} x^{-2} \Big|_1^t \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{2x^2} \Big|_1^t \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{2t^2} - -\frac{1}{2} \right] \\ &= \underbrace{0}_{\text{}} + \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \boxed{\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

CONVERGES

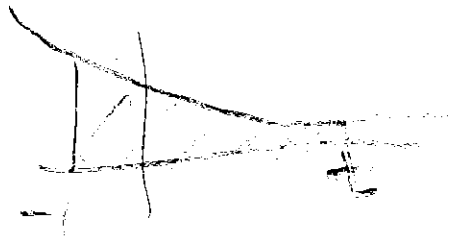
Example:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-1}^{\infty} e^{-2x} dx &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-1}^t e^{-2x} dx \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{1}{-2} e^{-2x} \Big|_{-1}^t \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2t} - -\frac{1}{2} e^{2} \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{2} e^2 \right]\end{aligned}$$

same as  $-\frac{1}{2} e^{-2t}$

$$= 0 + \frac{1}{2} e^2 = \frac{1}{2} e^2$$

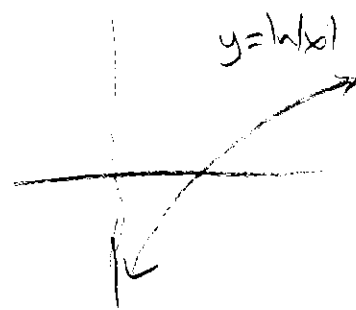
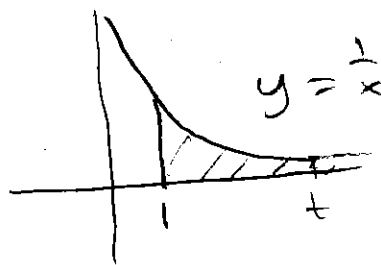
CONVERGES



Example:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x} dx &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \int_1^t \frac{1}{x} dx \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \ln|x| \Big|_1^t \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \ln(t) - \underbrace{\ln(1)}_0 \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \ln(t) = \infty\end{aligned}$$

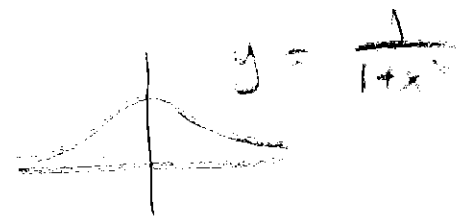
DIVERGES



Def'n:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \lim_{r \rightarrow -\infty} \int_r^0 f(x) dx + \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^t f(x) dx$$

In this case, we say it *converges* only if both limits separately exist and are finite.



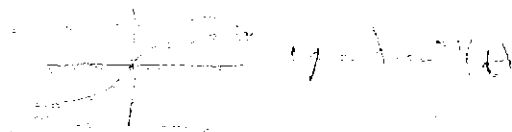
Example:

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

$$= \lim_{r \rightarrow -\infty} \left[ \int_r^0 \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx \right] + \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \int_0^t \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx \right]$$

$$= \lim_{r \rightarrow -\infty} \left[ \underbrace{\tan^{-1}(0)}_0 - \tan^{-1}(r) \right] + \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \tan^{-1}(t) - \underbrace{\tan^{-1}(0)}_0 \right]$$

$$= -(-\pi/2) + \pi/2 = \boxed{\pi}$$



**Def'n: Improper type 2 -  
infinite discontinuity**

If  $f(x)$  has a discontinuity at  $x = a$ , then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow a^+} \int_t^b f(x) dx$$

If  $f(x)$  has a discontinuity at  $x = b$ , then

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

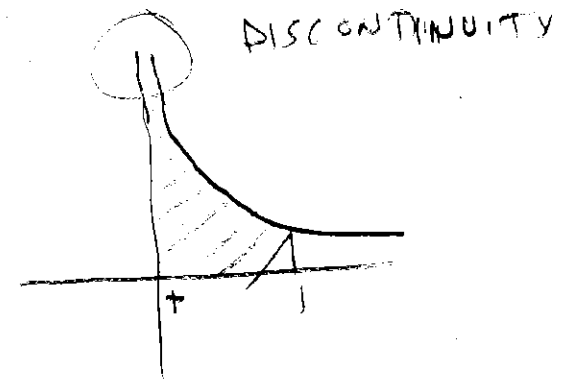
If the limit exists and is finite, then we say the integral *converges*.

Otherwise, we say it *diverges*.

**Example:**

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left[ \int_t^1 x^{-1/2} dx \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left[ 2x^{1/2} \Big|_t^1 \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left[ 2\sqrt{1} - 2\sqrt{t} \right] \\ &= 2 - 0 = \boxed{2} \end{aligned}$$

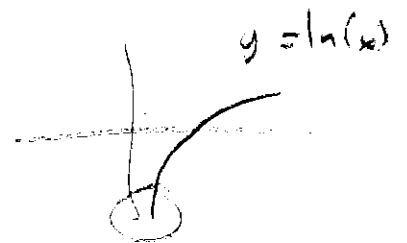
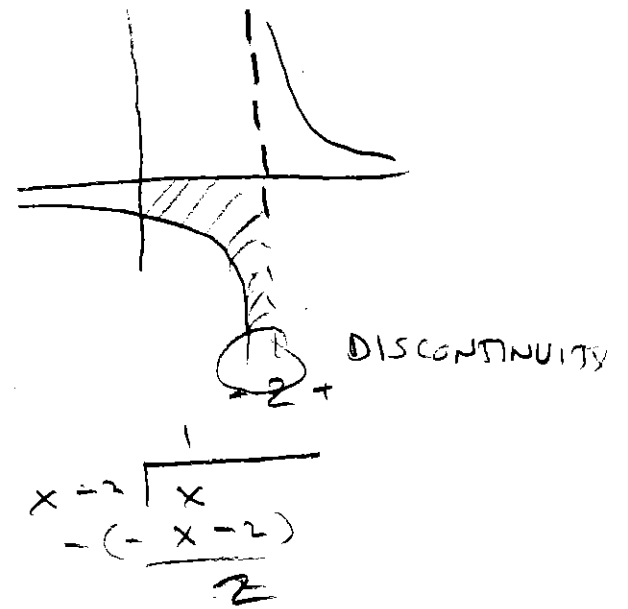
**CONVERGES**



Example:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^2 \frac{x}{x-2} dx &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 2^-} \left[ \int_0^t \frac{x}{x-2} dx \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 2^-} \left[ \int_0^t \left( 1 + \frac{2}{x-2} \right) dx \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 2^-} \left[ x + 2 \ln|x-2| \Big|_0^t \right] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 2^-} \left[ \underbrace{(t^2 + 2 \ln|t-2|)}_0 - (0 + 2 \ln(2)) \right] \\ &\quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{-\infty}\end{aligned}$$

DIVERGES



If  $f(x)$  has a discontinuity at  $x = c$  which is **between**  $a$  and  $b$ , then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{r \rightarrow c^-} \int_a^r f(x) dx + \lim_{t \rightarrow c^+} \int_t^b f(x) dx$$

In this case, we say it *converges* only if both limits separately exist and are finite.

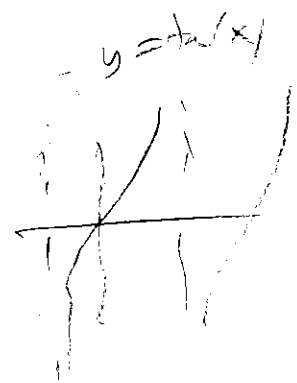
Example:

$$\int_0^{\pi} \frac{1}{\cos^2(x)} dx = \int_0^{\pi} \sec^2(x) dx$$

$\cos(x) = 0$  AT  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}^-} \left[ \int_0^r \sec^2(x) dx \right] + \lim_{t \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}^+} \left[ \int_t^{\pi} \sec^2(x) dx \right] \\ &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}^-} \left[ \tan(x) \Big|_0^r \right] + \lim_{t \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}^+} \left[ \tan(x) \Big|_t^{\pi} \right] \\ &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}^-} \left[ \underbrace{\tan(r) - 0}_{+\infty} \right] + \lim_{t \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}^+} \left[ \underbrace{0 - \tan(t)}_{+\infty} \right] \end{aligned}$$

STOP



DIVERGES

## Limits Refresher

1. If stuck, plug in values "near"  $t$ .
2. Know your basic functions/values:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t^a} = 0, \quad \text{if } a > 0.$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e^{at}} = 0, \quad \text{if } a > 0.$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t^a = \infty, \quad \text{if } a > 0.$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \ln(t) = \infty.$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \ln(t) = -\infty.$$

3. For indeterminate forms, use algebra and/or L'Hopital's rule

Examples:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 1} \frac{t^2 + 2t - 3}{t - 1} \stackrel{\frac{0}{0}}{=} \lim_{t \rightarrow 1} \frac{(t-1)(t+3)}{(t-1)} = 4$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(t)}{t} \stackrel{\frac{\infty}{\infty}}{=} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/t}{1} = 0$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t^2 e^{-3t} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t^2}{e^{3t}} \stackrel{\frac{\infty}{\infty}}{=} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2t}{3e^{3t}} \stackrel{\frac{\infty}{\infty}}{=} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{e^{3t}} = 0$$



Example: (LIKE HW)

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

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

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

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} e^u \Big|_0^{-t^2} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} e^{-t^2} - -\frac{1}{2} e^0 \right]$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} e^{-t^2} + \frac{1}{2} \right]$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$$

CONVERGES

Example:

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

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \int_0^t x e^{-2x} dx \right]$$

$$u = x \quad dv = e^{-2x} dx$$
$$du = dx \quad v = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2x}$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} x e^{-2x} \Big|_0^t - \int_0^t -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2x} dx \right]$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \left( -\frac{1}{2} t e^{-2t} - 0 \right) - \frac{1}{4} e^{-2x} \Big|_0^t \right]$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{t}{e^{2t}} - \left( \frac{1}{2} e^{-2t} - \frac{1}{4} \right) \right]$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{t}{2e^{2t}} - \frac{1}{2e^{2t}} + \frac{1}{4} \right] = \boxed{\frac{1}{4}}$$

$\downarrow$   
 $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty}$   
L'HOSPITAL'S  
 $\frac{1}{4e^{2t}}$

CONVERGES

Aside:

A few general notes on **comparison**:

Suppose you have two functions  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  such that

$$0 \leq g(x) \leq f(x)$$

for all values of  $x$ .

(a) If  $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$  converges,  
then  $\int_a^\infty g(x) dx$  converges.

(b) If  $\int_a^\infty g(x) dx$  diverges,  
then  $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$  diverges.

You can verify that

$$\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^p} dx, \quad \text{converges for } p > 1.$$

$$\int_1^\infty e^{px} dx, \quad \text{converges for } p < 0.$$

You can compare off of these to  
sometimes quickly tell if an integral  
converges/diverges (without computing)

Example:

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^4 + x} dx \text{ converges}$$

because

1.  $\frac{1}{x^4 + x} < \frac{1}{x^4}$  for all  $x > 1$ , and
2.  $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^4} dx$  converges.

Example:

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{2 + \cos(x)}{x} dx \text{ diverges}$$

because

1.  $\frac{2 + \cos(x)}{x} > \frac{1}{x}$  for all  $x > 1$ , and
2.  $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x} dx$  diverges.