

Lecture 2: Improper integrals part 2, area between 2 curves

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Ex)

$$\int_0^6 \frac{1}{x} dx \quad x \text{ can't equal } 0, \text{ so sub in } t$$

$$\sim \int_t^6 \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$= \ln(x)$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (\ln 6 - \ln t) \rightarrow -\infty$$

$$= \ln 6 - \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \ln t$$

$$= \ln 6 - (-\infty)$$

$$= \infty \quad \text{area is infinite!}$$

This is one type of an improper integral.

We call integrals $\int_a^b f(x) dx = \infty$ **divergent** (the area under the curve is infinite).

If $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ is finite despite $f(x)$ being discontinuous on $[a, b]$ then we call the integral **convergent**.

Another type of improper integral is when one or more bounds are $\pm\infty$.

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx, \quad a \text{ and/or } b \text{ equals } \pm\infty$$

Ex)

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

Again, introduce the variable t , and take the limit as t approaches ∞ .

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^t \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \ln x$$

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

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

$$= \infty$$

$$\text{So, } \int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x} dx \text{ diverges.}$$

Sometimes, you'll have an integral that you can't solve immediately with the

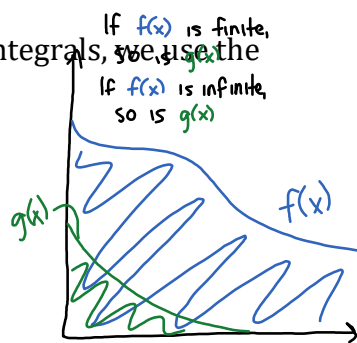
methods we know, such as $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{1}{\sin x} dx$.

To determine convergence/divergence of these integrals, we use the Comparison Theorem:

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

a) If $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ converges, so does $\int_a^b g(x) dx$.

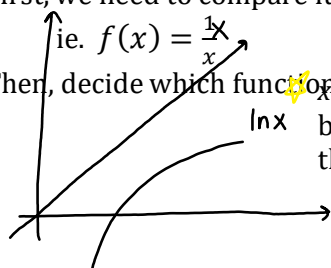
b) If $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ diverges, so does $\int_a^b g(x) dx$.



Ex) Is $\int_2^{\infty} \frac{1}{\ln(x)} dx$, divergent or convergent?

First, we need to compare it to an easier function that we can actually integrate,

ie. $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$
Then, decide which function is larger (sketch).
x is bigger than ln x, so dividing 1 by ln x results in a larger fraction than dividing 1 by x.



true for both the functions and the integrals

$$\frac{1}{\ln x} \geq \frac{1}{x}, \quad x \geq 2$$

So, if we can show that $\int_2^{\infty} \frac{1}{x} dx$ diverges, then $\int_2^{\infty} \frac{1}{\ln(x)} dx$ diverges too.

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_2^t \frac{1}{x} dx \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} (\ln(t) - \ln(2)) \\ &= \infty \end{aligned}$$

improper because $x \neq 0$

Ex)

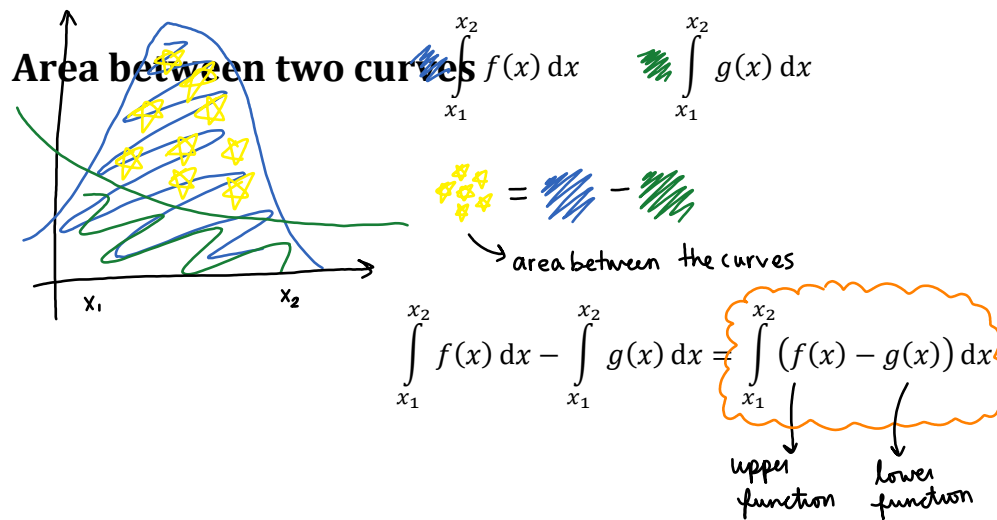
$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^1 \frac{e^{1/x}}{x^3} dx \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \int_t^1 \frac{e^{1/x}}{x^3} dx \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \int_t^1 \frac{e^u}{u^3} \cdot -u^2 du \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \frac{1}{x} \\ du &= -\frac{1}{x^2} dx \\ dx &= -x^2 du \\ x &= \frac{1}{u} \end{aligned}$$

NOTE: we need that $t \rightarrow 0^+$ (from right), otherwise

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} e^{\frac{1}{t}} = 0, \text{ because } \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{1}{t} = -\infty.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= -\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_{\frac{1}{t}}^1 \frac{e^u}{\frac{1}{u}} du & f(x) &= u & g'(x) &= e^u \\
& & f'(x) &= 1 & g(x) &= e^u \\
&= -\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_{\frac{1}{t}}^1 u \cdot e^u du \\
&= -\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left(u \cdot e^u - \int_{1/t}^1 e^u du \right) \\
&\vdots \\
&= \infty
\end{aligned}$$



Steps to finding the area between 2 curves:

- 1) Find intersection points between functions (equate the 2 curves).
- 2) Determine for sure which function is "on top".
- 3) Subtract functions (upper-lower).
- 4) Compute integral.