

Notesheet. Section 7.4: Improper Integrals Part II

Math 1220

Definition 1. If there is a real number c such that *both* of $\int_{-\infty}^c f(x) dx$ and $\int_c^{\infty} f(x) dx$ are convergent, then we say $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx$ is

Furthermore, we compute it as

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

Otherwise, if $\int_{-\infty}^c f(x) dx$ or $\int_c^{\infty} f(x) dx$ are divergent for some c , then we say

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx \text{ is}$$

Challenge 2. Evaluate $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{2x}{x^2+1} dx$ if it converges. Also try $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{2x}{(x^2+1)^2} dx$.

Challenge 3. Determine if $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x dx$ converges. Before using any calculus, what does your intuition tell you?

Challenge 4. True or False? $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-t}^t f(x) dx$?

Challenge 5. Evaluate $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx$ if it converges.

Challenge 6. Using some of what we have already seen, for which real numbers p is the following integral convergent?

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

Remark 7. *Later we will use the fact that*

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

for many probability problems.