

1. Explain why the integral is improper. Decide whether convergent or divergent—justify your conclusion.

If convergent, evaluate:

$$(a) \int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x}} dx, \quad (b) \int_0^{+\infty} \sin(x) dx.$$

Solution: (a) Improper because of the $-\infty$. We calculate

$$= \lim_{T \rightarrow -\infty} \left[(-2)(1-x)^{\frac{1}{2}} \Big|_T^0 \right] = \lim_{T \rightarrow -\infty} \left[(-2)(1-T)^{\frac{1}{2}} + (-2) \right] = -\infty.$$

Divergent

(b) Improper because of the $+\infty$. We calculate

$$= \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \left[-\cos(x) \Big|_0^T \right] = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} [-\cos(T) + 1].$$

This limit does not exist. Diverges.

2. Use comparison or analysis of asymptotic behaviour to decide whether convergent or divergent.

$$(a) \int_1^{+\infty} \frac{\arctan(x)}{x^{\frac{7}{6}}}, \quad (b) \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\cos(x)}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}, \quad (c) \int_{10}^{+\infty} \frac{[x^3 + 3x^2 - 2x + 4]^{\frac{2}{3}}}{[5x^6 + 3x^3 + 1]^{\frac{1}{2}}}.$$

Solution: (a) Improper, interval is infinite. Integrand is positive valued and bounded above on $[1, \infty)$:

$$\frac{\arctan(x)}{x^{\frac{7}{6}}} < \frac{\frac{\pi}{2}}{x^{\frac{7}{6}}},$$

and the integral of the upper bound converges. Convergent.

(b) Improper, integrand is singular at $x = 0$. Excluding the singular point, on the interval of integration, the integrand is positive and we have an upper bound:

$$\frac{\cos(x)}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} \leq \frac{1}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}},$$

also the integral of the upper bound converges. Convergent.

(c) As $x \rightarrow +\infty$, the integrand behaves like

$$\frac{x^2}{\sqrt{5}x^3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}x},$$

the integral of which diverges, so the original integral is divergent.