

Math 111-002 201710
Quiz # 4 - Answers

1. Decide whether each integral is convergent or divergent. Evaluate those that are convergent.

(a) $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx.$

Answer. The integral is improper on both limits, so we need to split it. Most commonly this is done at $x = 0$, since it simplifies our calculations. We have, since $\arctan 0 = 0$,

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^M \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \arctan x \Big|_0^M = \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \arctan M = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

Now since $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ is an even function, we have $\int_{-\infty}^0 \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$, so

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

and then

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

(b) $\int_2^{\infty} \frac{5+e^{-x}}{x} dx$

Answer. We have, since the exponential is always positive,

$$\frac{5+e^{-x}}{x} \geq \frac{5}{x}.$$

Then, by comparison,

$$\int_2^{\infty} \frac{5+e^{-x}}{x} dx \geq \int_2^{\infty} \frac{5}{x} dx = \infty.$$