

Fun with a limit

(a) Compute $\int_0^1 \ln x \, dx$.

(b) Write the integral in part (a) as a limit of right Riemann sums.

(c) Below is a (correct) proof of the fact that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{n!}}{n} = e^{-1}.$$

Give reasons for *each* numbered step.

$$\frac{\sqrt[n]{n!}}{n} = \exp \left[\ln \left(\frac{\sqrt[n]{n!}}{n} \right) \right] \quad (1)$$

$$= \exp \left[\frac{1}{n} \ln n! - \ln n \right] \quad (2)$$

$$= \exp \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \ln k - \ln n \right] \quad (3)$$

$$= \exp \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \ln \left(\frac{k}{n} \right) \right] \quad (4)$$

$$\rightarrow e^{-1}, \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \quad (5)$$

Bonus: A classic result in analysis is that if (a_n) is a sequence of positive real numbers such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = l,$$

then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{a_n} = l.$$

Use this result to give another proof of the fact that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n]{n!}}{n} = e^{-1}.$$