7.7, #16. The statement is true. $y^2 - 1$ is concave-up on [0, 1] since the graph of $(y^2 - 1)$ is a parabola opening upwards. Thus the midpoint rule underestimates $\int_0^1 (y^2 - 1) dy$.

7.7, #17. The statement is false. The trapezoid rule is exact whenever the graph of f(x) is a line.

7.7, #18. The statement is false. It can happen that $\text{LEFT}(4) \ge \int_a^b f(x) \, dx$ if f(x) is not monotonic on [a, b]. For example, let f be the saw-tooth function



Then LEFT(2)=0, whereas LEFT(4)= $\int_0^4 f(x) dx = 2$.

7.7, #19. The statement is true. The magnitude of the error in using left or right sums depend on the magnitude of the first derivative.

7.8, #2. $\int_{1}^{b} \frac{x}{4+x^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} \ln(4+x^2) \Big|_{1}^{b} = (1/2)(\ln(4+b^2) - \ln 5)$ goes to infinity as $b \to \infty$. Thus the improper integral diverges.

7.8, #3. $\int_0^b e^{-x} x \, dx = e^{-x} (-1-x) \Big|_0^b = e^{-b} (-1-b) + 1$. This has limit 1 as $b \to \infty$ since e^{-b} goes to zero much faster than -1-b goes to $-\infty$. Thus the improper integral converges.

7.8, #4.
$$\int_{b}^{0} \frac{e^{x}}{1+e^{x}} dx = \ln(1+e^{x}) \Big|_{b}^{0} = \ln 2 - \ln(1+e^{b})$$
. This has limit $\ln 2$ as $b \to -\infty$.