

Practice Exam 2 Solutions

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1. Does the sequence $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converge or diverge? If it converges, find what the sequence converges to.

$$a_n = \frac{(n-1)!(n+1)}{n!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n-1)!(n+1)}{n!} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n-1)!(n+1)}{n(n-1)!} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + \frac{1}{n}}{1} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

The sequence converges to 1.

2. Does the sequence $\sum_{k=3}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\pi^k}$ converge or diverge? If it converges, find its sum exactly.

$$\sum_{k=3}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\pi^k} = \frac{1}{\pi^3} + \frac{1}{\pi^4} + \frac{1}{\pi^5} + \frac{1}{\pi^6} + \dots$$

This is a geometric series, with first term $a = \frac{1}{\pi^3}$ and multiplier $r = \frac{1}{\pi}$, so it can be written in the form

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} ar^k, \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{\pi^3}\right) \left(\frac{1}{\pi}\right)^k.$$

This series converges because $|r| = \left|\frac{1}{\pi}\right| < 1$. The sum of the series is

$$\frac{a}{1-r} = \frac{\frac{1}{\pi^3}}{1 - \frac{1}{\pi}}.$$

3. (a) Write the Taylor series for $f(x) = \ln(x)$ about $a=1$.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 f(x) = \ln(x) & f(1) = \ln(1) = 0 \\
 f'(x) = \frac{1}{x} = x^{-1} & f'(1) = 1^{-1} = 1 \\
 f''(x) = -x^{-2} & f''(1) = -1^{-2} = -1 \\
 f^{(3)}(x) = 2x^{-3} & f^{(3)}(1) = 2 \cdot 1^{-3} = 2 \\
 f^{(4)}(x) = -6x^{-4} & f^{(4)}(1) = -6 \cdot 1^{-4} = -6 \\
 f^{(5)}(x) = 24x^{-5} & f^{(5)}(1) = 24 \cdot 1^{-5} = 24 \\
 \vdots & \vdots
 \end{array}$$

$$\text{Taylor series: } \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n$$

$$= \frac{0}{0!} (x-1)^0 + \frac{1}{1!} (x-1)^1 + \frac{-1}{2!} (x-1)^2 + \frac{2}{3!} (x-1)^3 \\
 + \frac{-6}{4!} (x-1)^4 + \frac{24}{5!} (x-1)^5 + \dots$$

$$= \underbrace{0}_{=0} (x-1)^0 + 1(x-1)^1 - \frac{1}{2} (x-1)^2 + \frac{1}{3} (x-1)^3 \\
 - \frac{1}{4} (x-1)^4 + \frac{1}{5} (x-1)^5 - \dots$$

$$= \boxed{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right) (x-1)^n} .$$

3.(b) Find the number of terms in the Taylor series for $f(x) = \ln(x)$ about $a = 1$ that will guarantee an accuracy of at least 10^{-10} in the approximation of $\ln(1.1)$, and use this to approximate $\ln(1.1)$.

The Taylor series is an alternating series, so the error in using the n th partial sum as an approximation of the true sum is less than the absolute value of the $(n+1)$ st term; that is,

$$|R_n| < |a_{n+1}| = \left| (-1)^{n+2} \left(\frac{1}{n+1}\right) (x-1)^{n+1} \right| = \left(\frac{1}{n+1}\right) |x-1|^{n+1}.$$

We want the error for $x = 1.1$ to be less than 10^{-10} , so we want

$$\left(\frac{1}{n+1}\right) |1.1 - 1|^{n+1} \leq 10^{-10},$$

i.e.,

$$\left(\frac{1}{n+1}\right) (0.1)^{n+1} \leq 10^{-10}.$$

Note that $\left(\frac{1}{9+1}\right) (0.1)^{9+1} < 10^{-10}$, so $\boxed{n=9}$ works.

So

$$\ln(1.1) \approx \sum_{n=1}^9 (-1)^{n+1} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right) (1.1-1)^n \approx \boxed{0.0953101798}.$$

4.(a) Determine whether the series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{\sqrt{k+3}}$ converges absolutely, converges conditionally, or diverges. Justify your answer.

By the alternating series test:

- Alternating series ✓
- $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{\sqrt{k+3}} = 0$ ✓
- $\left| \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{\sqrt{k+3}} \right| \geq \left| \frac{(-1)^{(k+1)+1}}{\sqrt{(k+1)+3}} \right|$ ✓

So the series converges.

Now consider the series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k+3}}$ (where all the terms are positive).

Integral test:

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+3}} dx = \int_4^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{u}} du = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} (2\sqrt{u} \Big|_4^b)$$

$$\begin{array}{l} u = x+3 \\ du = dx \end{array} \quad = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} (2\sqrt{b} - 4) = \infty$$

Since the integral diverges, the series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k+3}}$ diverges.

So $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{\sqrt{k+3}}$ converges conditionally.

4.(b) Determine an $n \geq 1$ such that the difference between the sum S of the series given in part (a) and its n th partial sum $S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{\sqrt{k+3}}$ is less than 0.001.

This is an alternating series, so, as in 3(b), we have

$$|R_n| < |a_{n+1}| = \left| \frac{(-1)^{(n+1)+1}}{\sqrt{(n+1)+3}} \right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+4}}.$$

We want $|R_n| < 0.001$, so we want

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n+4}} < 0.001 = \frac{1}{1000},$$

so $\sqrt{n+4} > 1000$, i.e., $n+4 > 1\,000\,000$.

So $\boxed{n = 999\,997}$ works.

5. Determine the radius and the interval of convergence of the series given below.

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{(k+5)2^k} (x+1)^k$$

Using the ratio test with the absolute values of the terms:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|a_{k+1}|}{|a_k|} &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(x+1)^{k+1}}{(k+6)2^{k+1}} \right| \cdot \left| \frac{(k+5)2^k}{(x+1)^k} \right| \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(x+1)^{k+1}}{(x+1)^k} \right| \cdot \left(\frac{2^k}{2^{k+1}} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{k+5}{k+6} \right) \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} |x+1| \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{k+5}{k+6} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} |x+1| \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{k+5}{k+6} \right) \sim \frac{\infty}{\infty} \end{aligned}$$

$$\stackrel{L'H}{=} \frac{1}{2} |x+1| \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{1} \right) = \frac{1}{2} |x+1|.$$

In order to converge, we need:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} |x+1| &< 1 \\ |x+1| &< 2 \\ -2 &< x+1 < 2 \\ -3 &< x < 1. \end{aligned}$$

So the radius of convergence is $\boxed{\frac{3}{2}}$.

5. — cont'd.

Test endpoints: $x = -3$:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{(k+5)2^k} (-2)^k &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1} (-1)^k (2)^k}{(k+5)2^k} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{-1}{k+5} \end{aligned}$$

Limit comparison test with $\sum \frac{1}{k}$:

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/k}{-1/(k+5)} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(-\frac{k+5}{k} \right) \stackrel{L'H}{=} -1.$$

Since $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k}$ diverges, so does $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{-1}{k+5}$.

$$\underline{x=1}: \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{(k+5)2^k} (2)^k = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k+5}$$

Alternating series test:

- Alternating series ✓
 - $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k+5} = 0$ ✓
 - $\left| \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k+5} \right| \geq \left| \frac{(-1)^{(k+1)+1}}{(k+1)+5} \right|$ ✓
- So $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k+5}$ converges.

Therefore the interval of convergence is

$$\boxed{-3 < x \leq 1}.$$

6. Use the limit comparison test to determine whether the following series converges or not.

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{3k^2 + 5k}{3^k(k^2 + 1)}$$

Limit comparison test with $\sum \frac{1}{3^k}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{3k^2 + 5k}{3^k(k^2 + 1)}}{\frac{1}{3^k}} &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3k^2 + 5k}{3^k(k^2 + 1)} \cdot 3^k \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3k^2 + 5k}{k^2 + 1} \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3 + \frac{5}{k}}{1 + \frac{1}{k^2}} \quad \left[\text{multiply by } \frac{1/k^2}{1/k^2} \right] \\ &= 3. \end{aligned}$$

Now $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{3^k}$ is a geometric series with $r = \frac{1}{3}$,

and $|\frac{1}{3}| < 1$, so it converges. The limit

comparison test shows that $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{3k^2 + 5k}{3^k(k^2 + 1)}$ and

$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{3^k}$ have the same behavior (since $0 < 3 < \infty$),

so $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{3k^2 + 5k}{3^k(k^2 + 1)}$ also converges.

7. Use a Taylor polynomial of order 2 for $f(x) = \cos x$ to compute $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - 1}{x^2}$.

We know $\cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots$,

so

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - 1}{x^2} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots) - 1}{x^2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{x^2} \right) \left(-\frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots \right) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(-\frac{1}{2!} + \frac{x^2}{4!} - \frac{x^4}{6!} + \dots \right) \\ &= \boxed{-\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

(Note: Here we just used the whole Taylor series. If you wanted to use the Taylor polynomial of order 2, that would be just $1 - \frac{x^2}{2!}$.)

8. Determine whether the following series converge or diverge. Justify your answers.

$$(a) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k e^{-k^2}$$

Integral test:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^{\infty} x e^{-x^2} dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int_1^{\infty} e^{-u} du \\ &\quad \begin{array}{l} u = x^2 \\ du = 2x dx \\ \frac{1}{2} du = x dx \end{array} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left(-e^{-u} \Big|_1^b \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left(-e^{-b} + e^{-1} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (0 + e^{-1}) = \frac{1}{2e}. \end{aligned}$$

Since the integral converges, so does the series.

$$8. (b) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{2 + \cos k}{k^2}$$

Direct comparison test with $\sum \frac{3}{k^2}$:

Since $-1 \leq \cos k \leq 1$ for all k ,
we have $1 \leq 2 + \cos k \leq 3$ for all k ,

so

$$0 < \frac{2 + \cos k}{k^2} \leq \frac{3}{k^2} \quad \text{for all } k.$$

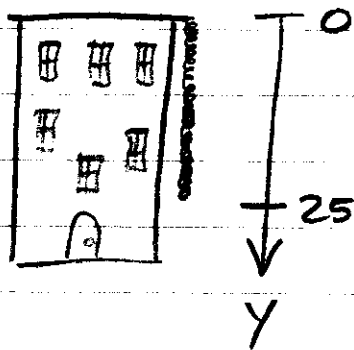
Furthermore, $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{3}{k^2} = 3 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^2}$, and

$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^2}$ converges by the p -test (here

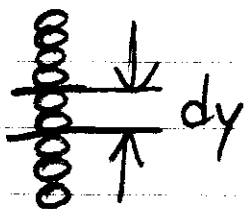
$p = 2 > 1$), so $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{3}{k^2}$ also converges.

Therefore $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{2 + \cos k}{k^2}$ converges.

9. A 25-foot chain weighs 4 pounds per foot and is hanging over the side of a building. How much work is done lifting the chain onto the roof?



We will divide up the chain into short pieces. Each piece has a constant weight and moves a constant distance (nearly).



For each short piece of the chain:

$$\text{length} = dy$$

$$\text{so force} = \text{weight} = 4 dy$$

$$\text{distance} = y$$

(since the piece at $y=20$ has to be moved 20 feet, for example)

$$\text{so work} = \text{force} \cdot \text{distance} = 4y dy$$

Now, adding all the pieces together with an integral:

$$W = \int_0^{25} 4y dy = 2y^2 \Big|_0^{25} = \boxed{1250 \text{ ft-lb}}$$

↑
Don't forget appropriate units!