

Numerical series

(three weeks)

(from Monday, 25 September 2017 to Friday, 13 October 2017)

Exercise 1

We consider the series $\sum \frac{1}{n}$ and we denote by $(S_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}^*}$ the sequence $\left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k}\right)$.

1. Show that, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$, $S_{2n} - S_n \geq \frac{1}{2}$.
2. Deduce that the series $\sum \frac{1}{n}$ is divergent.

Exercise 2

Let (u_n) be a real, positive and decreasing sequence.

We define $(v_n) = (2^n u_{2^n})$, $(S_n) = \left(\sum_{k=0}^n u_k\right)$ and $(T_n) = \left(\sum_{k=0}^n v_k\right)$.

1. Show that, for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\frac{1}{2}v_{k+1} \leq S_{2^{k+1}} - S_{2^k} \leq 2^k u_{2^k+1}$$

2. Deduce that

$$\frac{1}{2}(T_{n+1} - v_0) \leq S_{2^{n+1}} - S_1 \leq T_n$$

3. Deduce that $\sum u_n$ and $\sum v_n$ have the same nature.

4. Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.

Using the previous question, retrieve the general rule about Riemann series $\sum \frac{1}{n^\alpha}$.

Exercise 3

Study the nature of the series with the general term (u_n) in the following cases :

1. $u_n = \ln \left(\frac{n^2 + 2n + 1}{n^2 + 2n} \right)$

2. $u_n = (\ln(n))^{-\sqrt{n}}$

3. $u_n = e - \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n$

4. $u_n = \sqrt{n^3 + n + 1} - \sqrt{n^3 + n - 1}$

5. $u_n = \frac{2 \times 4 \times \dots \times 2n}{(n!)^2}$

6. $u_n = \frac{(n!)^\alpha}{n^n}$ where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$

7. $u_n = \left(\frac{n}{n+a}\right)^{n^2}$ where $a \in \mathbb{R}$

8. $u_n = \frac{n^2}{2n^2}$

9. $u_n = \frac{(n!)^2}{(2n)!} a^n$ where $a \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$

10. $u_n = \frac{n^{\ln(n)}}{(\ln(n))^n}$

Exercise 4

Let us consider the sequence $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}^*}$ defined for every $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ by

$$u_n = \ln((n-1)!) - \left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right) \ln(n) + n$$

1. Prove that

$$u_{n+1} - u_n = 1 - \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \ln\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)$$

2. Prove that

$$u_{n+1} - u_n \underset{+\infty}{\sim} -\frac{1}{12n^2}$$

3. Deduce that (u_n) is convergent. We denote by l its limit.

4. Show that

$$e^{u_n} = \frac{n!e^n}{n^n \sqrt{n}}$$

then deduce the following equivalent :

$$n! \underset{+\infty}{\sim} e^l n^n e^{-n} \sqrt{n}$$

Exercise 5

Let $a \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$ and $\sum u_n$ where $u_n = \ln\left(1 + \frac{(-1)^n}{n^a}\right)$

1. Discuss the nature of the series $\sum \frac{(-1)^n}{n^a}$ depending on the value of a .

2. We know that $u_n \underset{+\infty}{\sim} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^a}$. Can we then conclude that the series $\sum u_n$ and $\sum \frac{(-1)^n}{n^a}$ have the same nature? Justify your answer.

3. Find $k \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $u_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{n^a} + \frac{k}{n^{2a}} + o\left(\frac{1}{n^{2a}}\right)$.

4. Deduce the nature of $\sum u_n$ depending on the value of a .

Exercise 6

1. Let $N \in \mathbb{N}$, and let (u_n) and (v_n) be two strictly positive sequences such that, for all $n \geq N$,

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \leq \frac{v_{n+1}}{v_n}$$

Prove that $\sum v_n$ convergent $\implies \sum u_n$ convergent.

2. Let (u_n) be a strictly positive sequence such that $\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = 1 - \frac{\alpha}{n} + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$ where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.

- a. Let $(v_n) = \left(\frac{1}{n^\beta}\right)$ where $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$.

Show that $\frac{v_{n+1}}{v_n} = 1 - \frac{\beta}{n} + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$.

- b. We suppose that $\alpha > 1$. Prove that $\sum u_n$ is convergent.

N.B. : we may consider $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$ such $1 < \beta < \alpha$ and use the sequence (v_n) defined in the previous question.

- c. We suppose now that $\alpha < 1$. Prove that $\sum u_n$ is divergent.

N.B. : we may consider $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $\alpha < \beta < 1$ and use the sequence (v_n) defined in the question a.

3. Study the nature of $\sum u_n$ where $u_n = \frac{2 \times 4 \times \dots \times 2n}{3 \times 5 \times \dots \times (2n+1)}$.

4. Discuss, depending on the value of $a \in \mathbb{R}$, the nature of $\sum u_n$ where $u_n = \frac{n \times n!}{(a+1) \times \dots \times (a+n)}$.

Exercise 7

The purpose of this exercise is to determine the nature of the series with the general term :

$$u_n = (-1)^n n^\alpha \left(\ln \left(\frac{n+1}{n-1} \right) \right)^\beta$$

where $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ and $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0, 1\}$.

1. Show that

$$\ln \left(\frac{n+1}{n-1} \right) = \frac{2}{n} \left(1 + \frac{1}{3n^2} + o\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right) \right)$$

2. Deduce that

$$u_n = (-1)^n \frac{2^\beta}{n^{\beta-\alpha}} \left(1 + \frac{\beta}{3n^2} + o\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right) \right)$$

3. Show that in case $\beta \leq \alpha$, then the series $\sum u_n$ diverges.

4. We focus now on the case $\beta > \alpha$.

a. Check that

$$u_n = (-1)^n \frac{2^\beta}{n^{\beta-\alpha}} + v_n \quad \text{with} \quad v_n = (-1)^n \frac{\beta 2^\beta}{3n^{2+\beta-\alpha}} + o\left(\frac{1}{n^{2+\beta-\alpha}}\right).$$

b. Prove that the series $\sum v_n$ converges absolutely.

c. Show that the series of general term $w_n = (-1)^n \frac{2^\beta}{n^{\beta-\alpha}}$ converges.

d. Deduce that $\sum u_n$ converges.

Exercise 8

Let $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{R}^2$. We consider the series $\sum u_n$ where $u_n = \frac{\ln(1+n^\alpha)}{n^\beta}$.

1. Show that the series $\sum \frac{1}{n^\alpha (\ln(n))^\beta}$ converges iff $((\alpha > 1) \text{ or } (\alpha = 1 \text{ and } \beta > 1))$.

N.B. : we will separate the cases $\alpha < 0$ and $\alpha \geq 0$. For the later, we will use the results of the exercise 2.

2. Assume that $\alpha < 0$. Find an equivalent of $\ln(1+n^\alpha)$ near $+\infty$. Deduce an equivalent of u_n near $+\infty$. Conclude about the nature of $\sum u_n$ in this case.
3. Assume that $\alpha > 0$. Show that $\ln(1+n^\alpha) \underset{+\infty}{\sim} \alpha \ln(n)$. Deduce an equivalent of u_n near $+\infty$. Conclude about the nature of $\sum u_n$ in this case.
4. Assume that $\alpha = 0$. Find an equivalent of u_n near $+\infty$. Conclude about the nature of $\sum u_n$ in this case.
5. Conclude about the nature of $\sum u_n$ depending α and β .

Exercise 9

In this exercise, we propose to compare d'Alembert rule with Cauchy rule.

1. Show Cesàro theorem : let (u_n) be a sequence which converges to $\ell \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n u_k \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} \ell$$

2. Deduce that if $u_{n+1} - u_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} \ell \in \mathbb{R}$ then $\frac{u_n}{n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} \ell$.

3. Deduce (for a strictly positive sequence (u_n)) that

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} \ell \in \mathbb{R}_+^* \implies \sqrt[n]{u_n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow +\infty} \ell$$

4. What do you conclude about d'Alembert and Cauchy rules?

5. Let $(a, b) \in (\mathbb{R}_+^*)^2$ with $a \neq b$ and (u_n) defined by
$$\begin{cases} u_{2p} = a^p b^p \\ u_{2p+1} = a^{p+1} b^p \end{cases}$$

Compare for this sequence d'Alembert rule with Cauchy rule.

Exercise 10

In this exercise, we propose to prove Abel's rule.

Let (u_n) and (v_n) be two sequences such that

- (u_n) is decreasing and converges to 0.
- The sequence $(V_n) = \left(\sum_{k=0}^n v_k \right)$ is bounded.

1. Show that (u_n) converges iff $\sum (u_n - u_{n+1})$ converges.

2. Show that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\sum_{k=0}^n u_k v_k = \left(\sum_{k=0}^n (u_k - u_{k+1}) V_k \right) + u_{n+1} V_n$$

3. Deduce that $\sum u_n v_n$ converges.

4. Let $\theta \in \mathbb{R} \setminus 2\pi\mathbb{Z}$. Determine the nature of $\sum \frac{\cos(n\theta)}{n}$.