

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE  
MATHEMATICS SOCIETY

PAST YEAR PAPER SOLUTIONS

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**MA2108 Mathematical Analysis I**

AY 2012/2013 Sem 2

**Question 1**

- (i) We shall prove by induction on  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  that  $x_n \leq 3$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , with the base case  $n = 1$  being trivial. Suppose that we have  $x_k \leq 3$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . This implies that  $x_{k+1} = \frac{\sqrt{8x_k^2+9}}{3} \leq \frac{\sqrt{8(3)^2+9}}{3} = 3$ , so this completes the induction step. We are done.
- (ii) We shall first prove by induction on  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  that  $x_{n+1} \geq x_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since

$$x_2 = \frac{\sqrt{8x_1^2+9}}{3} = \sqrt{\frac{17}{9}} \geq 1 = x_1,$$

this shows that the base case  $n = 1$  is true. Now, suppose that we have  $x_{k+1} \geq x_k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . This implies that  $x_{k+2} = \frac{\sqrt{8x_{k+1}^2+9}}{3} \geq \frac{\sqrt{8x_k^2+9}}{3} = x_{k+1}$ , so this completes the induction step, and we are done.

Since  $(x_n)$  is bounded above and monotonically increasing, it is necessarily convergent by the Monotone Convergence Theorem. Let  $x$  denote the limit of  $(x_n)$ . Then we have

$$x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{8x_n^2+9}}{3} = \frac{\sqrt{8x^2+9}}{3},$$

which implies that  $\sqrt{8x^2+9} = 3x$ , or equivalently,  $x^2 = 9$ . Hence, we have either  $x = 3$  or  $x = -3$ . Furthermore, since  $\sqrt{8x^2+9}$  is non-negative, we must have  $x = 3$ . So  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 3$ .

**Question 2**

- (a) (i) For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , define  $x_n := \frac{(2n+1)!}{(n!)^2 5^n}$ . Then we have  $\frac{x_{n+1}}{x_n} = \frac{(2n+3)!}{((n+1)!)^2 5^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{(n!)^2 5^n}{(2n+1)!} = \frac{(2n+3)(2n+2)}{5(n+1)^2}$ . This implies that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x_{n+1}}{x_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n+3)(2n+2)}{5(n+1)^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2+\frac{3}{n})(2+\frac{2}{n})}{5(1+\frac{1}{n})^2} = \frac{4}{5} < 1$ , so  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x_n$  converges absolutely by the Ratio Test.
- (ii) For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , define  $y_n := n \left(1 + \frac{1}{4n}\right)^{-2n^2}$ . Then we have  $|y_n|^{1/n} = n^{\frac{1}{n}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{4n}\right)^{-2n}$ . Since  $\left(1 + \frac{1}{4n}\right)^{4n}$  is a subsequence of  $\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n$ , we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{4n}\right)^{4n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = e$ . Hence, we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |y_n|^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{\frac{1}{n}} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{4n}\right)^{-2n} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}} < 1$ , so  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} y_n$  converges absolutely by the Root Test.

- (b) Note that we have  $\frac{2n+1}{n^2(n+1)^2} = \frac{(n+1)^2 - n^2}{n^2(n+1)^2} = \frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{(n+1)^2}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . This implies that for all  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\sum_{n=1}^N \frac{2n+1}{n^2(n+1)^2} = \sum_{n=1}^N \left( \frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} \right) = 1 - \frac{1}{(N+1)^2}$ . Hence, we have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2n+1}{n^2(n+1)^2} = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{2n+1}{n^2(n+1)^2} \right) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{(N+1)^2} \right) = 1.$$

(c) We shall prove that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{(n+1)} a_n$  is divergent. Arguing by contradiction, suppose that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{(n+1)} a_n$  converges. Let us define  $b_n := \frac{1}{n}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Noting that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{(n+1)} b_n$  is convergent by the Alternating Series Test, it follows that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{(n+1)} (a_n - b_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{(n+1)} a_n - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{(n+1)} b_n$  is convergent.

Now, it is easy to see that  $a_{2n} - b_{2n} = 0$  and  $a_{2n-1} - b_{2n-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1}} - \frac{1}{2n-1}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Furthermore, for each positive integer  $n > 1$ , we have  $\sqrt{2n-1} \geq \sqrt{3} \geq \frac{3}{2}$ , which implies that

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1}} - \frac{1}{2n-1} = \frac{\sqrt{2n-1} - 1}{2n-1} \geq \frac{3/2 - 1}{2n-1} = \frac{1}{2(2n-1)} \geq \frac{1}{4n}.$$

As the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4n} = 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$  is divergent, it follows from the comparison test that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1}} - \frac{1}{2n-1} \right)$  is divergent. Hence, the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{(n+1)} (a_n - b_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{(2n-1)} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1}} - \frac{1}{2n-1} \right) = - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n-1}} - \frac{1}{2n-1} \right)$$

diverges, which is a contradiction. So the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{(n+1)} a_n$  is divergent as desired.

### Question 3

(a) Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given, and set  $\delta = \min \left\{ \frac{1}{5}, \frac{\varepsilon}{35} \right\}$ . It follows that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $0 < |x-1| < \delta$ , we must have  $x-1 > -\delta \geq -\frac{1}{5}$ , which implies that

$$|4x-3| \geq 4x-3 = 4(x-1) + 1 > 4 \left( -\frac{1}{5} \right) + 1 = \frac{1}{5}.$$

Hence, for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $0 < |x-1| < \delta$ , we have

$$\left| \frac{x+1}{4x-3} - 2 \right| = \left| \frac{x+1-2(4x-3)}{4x-3} \right| = \left| \frac{-7(x-1)}{4x-3} \right| = \frac{7|x-1|}{|4x-3|} < \frac{7 \cdot (\varepsilon/35)}{1/5} = \varepsilon.$$

By the  $\varepsilon - \delta$  definition of limit, we must have  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x+1}{4x-3} = 2$  as desired.

(b) (i) For all non-zero  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , define  $f(x) := \cos\left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right)$  and  $x_n := \frac{1}{\sqrt{n\pi}}$ . Then it is easy to see that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 0$ ,  $x_n \neq 0$ , and  $f(x_n) = \cos\left(\frac{1}{x_n^2}\right) = \cos(n\pi) = (-1)^n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since the sequence  $(f(x_n)) = ((-1)^n)$  is divergent, it follows from the divergent criterion that the limit  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$  does not exist.

(ii) Let  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  be given. By the definition of  $[y]$ , we have  $[y] \leq y < [y] + 1$ . Thus, we have  $y-1 < [y] \leq y$ , so for all  $x > 0$ , we have

$$x^3 \left( \left\lceil \frac{1}{x^3} \right\rceil + \left\lceil \frac{2}{x^3} \right\rceil \right) > x^3 \left( \frac{1}{x^3} - 1 + \frac{2}{x^3} - 1 \right) = x^3 \left( \frac{3}{x^3} - 2 \right) = 3 - 2x^3, \text{ and}$$

$$x^3 \left( \left\lceil \frac{1}{x^3} \right\rceil + \left\lceil \frac{2}{x^3} \right\rceil \right) \leq x^3 \left( \frac{1}{x^3} + \frac{2}{x^3} \right) = 3.$$

As  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} 3 - 2x^3 = 3$ , it follows from Squeeze Theorem that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x^3 \left( \left\lceil \frac{1}{x^3} \right\rceil + \left\lceil \frac{2}{x^3} \right\rceil \right) = 3$ .

**Question 4**

- (a) For each  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , we see that  $x^2 + 2 - (4x - 3) = x^2 - 4x + 5 = (x - 2)^2 + 1 > 0$ , which implies that  $x^2 + 2 \neq 4x - 3$ . Based on this, let us take any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , and any rational sequence  $(x_n)$  and irrational sequence  $(y_n)$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n$ . Then we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n^2 + 2 = a^2 + 2$ , and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(y_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 4y_n - 3 = 4a - 3$ . As  $a^2 + 2 \neq 4a - 3$ , we must have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) \neq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(y_n)$ . So  $f$  is not continuous at  $x = a$ . Since  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  is arbitrary, we see that  $f$  is not continuous at any point of  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- (b) Define  $\varepsilon := g(a) - h(a) > 0$ . As  $g$  and  $h$  are continuous at  $x = a$ , it follows that there exist  $\delta_1, \delta_2 > 0$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|x - a| < \delta_1$ , we have  $|g(x) - g(a)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ , and for all  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|y - a| < \delta_2$ , we have  $|h(y) - h(a)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . Let  $\delta := \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\} > 0$ . It follows that for all  $x \in (a - \delta, a + \delta)$ , we have  $|x - a| < \delta$ , which implies that  $|g(x) - g(a)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$  and  $|h(x) - h(a)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . This implies that  $g(x) - g(a) > -\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$  and  $h(a) - h(x) > -\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ , so we have

$$g(x) - h(x) = g(x) - g(a) + g(a) - h(a) + h(a) - h(x) > -\frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \varepsilon - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = 0.$$

The desired follows.

**Question 5**

We shall prove that  $g$  is uniformly continuous on  $[1, 2]$ . Note that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $x \neq 2$ , we have  $|g(x)| = \left| (x - 2)^2 \sin\left(\frac{x^2}{2 - x}\right) \right| \leq (x - 2)^2$ . As  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (x - 2)^2 = 0$ , it follows from Squeeze Theorem that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} |g(x)| = 0$ , and hence  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} g(x) = 0$ . Therefore, by defining  $g(2) = 0$ , it is easy to see that the newly defined function  $g$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ , and hence on  $[1, 2]$ . Since  $[1, 2]$  is closed and bounded, we must have  $g$  to be uniformly continuous on  $[1, 2]$ , and hence on  $[1, 2)$  as required.

**Question 6**

- (a) Let  $a := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  and  $b := \limsup b_n$ , and  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given. As  $(a_n)$  is convergent, it follows that there exists some  $N_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|a_n - a| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$  for all  $n \geq N_1$ . This implies that for all  $n \geq N_1$ , we have  $a - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} < a_n < a + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . Furthermore, since  $b = \limsup b_n$ , it follows that there exists some  $N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $b_n < b + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$  for all  $n \geq N_2$ , and there are infinitely many  $n$ 's such that  $b_n > b - \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . Let  $N := \max\{N_1, N_2\}$ . Then it is easy to see that  $a_n + b_n < a + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + b + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = a + b + \varepsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$ , and there are infinitely many  $n$ 's (greater than  $N_1$ ) such that  $a_n + b_n > a - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + b - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = a + b - \varepsilon$ . Since  $\varepsilon > 0$  is arbitrary, this shows that  $\limsup(a_n + b_n) = a + b = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n + \limsup b_n$  as desired.
- (b) Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given. As the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |x_{n+1} - x_n|$  is convergent, it follows that from the Cauchy criterion for series that there exists some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  greater than 1, such that for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $m > n \geq N$ , we have  $\sum_{k=n}^{m-1} |x_{k+1} - x_k| < \varepsilon$ . This implies that for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $m > n \geq N$ , we have

$$|x_m - x_n| = |x_m - x_{m-1} + x_{m-1} - x_{m-2} + \cdots + x_{n+1} - x_n| \leq \sum_{k=n}^{m-1} |x_{k+1} - x_k| < \varepsilon.$$

As  $\varepsilon > 0$  is arbitrary, this implies that the sequence  $(x_n)$  is Cauchy, so it is convergent as desired.

**Question 7**

- (a) (i) By setting  $x = 0$ , we have  $f(0) + f(2(0)) = 2f(0) = 0$ , so this implies that  $f(0) = 0$ .
- (ii) Firstly, we see that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have  $f\left(\frac{x}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = 0 = f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + f(x)$ , which implies that  $f(x) = f\left(\frac{x}{4}\right)$ . This implies that  $f\left(\frac{x}{4^n}\right) = f(x)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . As  $f$  is continuous at  $x = 0$ , and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{y}{4^n} = 0$  for all  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ , it follows from the sequential criterion for continuity that  $f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f\left(\frac{x}{4^n}\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f\left(\frac{x}{4^n}\right) = f(0) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . The desired follows.
- (b) Fix any  $c \in (0, 1)$ . We would like to show that  $h$  is continuous at  $x = c$ . To this end, let us take any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and assume without loss of generality that  $h(c) - \frac{\varepsilon}{2}, h(c) + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \in (a, b)$ . As the range of  $h$  is  $(a, b)$ , it follows that there exist  $c_1, c_2 \in (0, 1)$  such that  $h(c_1) = h(c) - \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ , and  $h(c_2) = h(c) + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . Furthermore, since  $h$  is increasing on  $(0, 1)$ , we must have  $c_1 < c < c_2$ .

Now, let us set  $\delta := \min\{c - c_1, c_2 - c\} > 0$ , and let us take any  $x \in (0, 1)$  such that  $0 < |x - c| < \delta$ . If  $x < c$ , then we must have  $x - c > -\delta \geq c_1 - c$ , so this implies that  $x > c_1$ . Hence, we have  $h(x) \geq h(c_1)$ , which implies that  $0 \leq h(c) - h(x) \leq h(c) - h(c_1) = \frac{\varepsilon}{2} < \varepsilon$ , and hence  $|h(x) - h(c)| < \varepsilon$ . Similarly, when  $x > c$ , we also have  $|h(x) - h(c)| < \varepsilon$ . So this shows that  $h$  is continuous at  $x = c$ , and the desired follows.

**Question 8**

- (a) Since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = 1$ , it follows that there exists some  $N > 0$ , such that for all  $x > N$ , we have  $|f(x) - 1| < 1$ . This implies that for all  $x > N$ , we have  $|f(x)| \leq |f(x) - 1| + |1| < 2$ . Furthermore, since  $f$  is continuous on  $[0, \infty)$  (hence continuous on  $[0, N]$ ), it is bounded on  $[0, N]$ , so there exists some  $K > 0$ , such that  $|f(x)| \leq K$  for all  $x \in [0, N]$ . By setting  $M = \max\{2, K\}$ , it is easy to see that  $|f(x)| \leq M$  for all  $x \in [0, \infty)$  and this shows that  $f$  is bounded on  $[0, \infty)$  as desired.
- (b) Since  $g$  is uniformly continuous on  $[1, \infty)$ , it follows that there exists some  $\delta > 0$ , such that for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  satisfying  $|x - y| < \delta$ , we have  $|g(x) - g(y)| < 1$ . Let us fix any  $K \in (0, \delta)$  and  $x \in [1, \infty)$ . By defining  $N := \left\lfloor \frac{x-1}{K} \right\rfloor$ , where  $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  denotes the floor function, it follows that  $N \leq \frac{x-1}{K} < N+1$ , or equivalently,  $0 \leq x - (1 + NK) < K$ . As  $K < \delta$  by assumption, this implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & |g(x) - g(1)| \\
 &= |g(x) - g(1 + NK) + g(1 + NK) - g(1 + (N-1)K) + \cdots + g(1 + K) - g(1)| \\
 &\leq |g(x) - g(1 + NK)| + |g(1 + NK) - g(1 + (N-1)K)| + \cdots + |g(1 + K) - g(1)| \\
 &= \underbrace{1 + 1 + \cdots + 1}_{(N+1) \text{ times}} \\
 &= N + 1 \\
 &\leq \frac{x-1}{K} + 1 \\
 &< \left(\frac{1}{K} + 1\right)x.
 \end{aligned}$$

As  $|g(1)| \leq |g(1)|x$ , this implies that

$$|g(x)| \leq |g(x) - g(1)| + |g(1)| < \left(\frac{1}{K} + 1\right)x + |g(1)| = \left(\frac{1}{K} + 1 + |g(1)|\right)x.$$

Hence, the desired follows by setting  $M = \frac{1}{K} + 1 + |g(1)|$ .