

Differential and Integral Calculus : Recitations

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1 Instructor Information

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Part I

Sequences and Series

1 Sequences

Recitation 1 – Exercise 1.

Prove:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n^2 + n + 1}{n^2 + 3} = 2$$

Recitation 1 – Solution 1.

Let

$$\varepsilon > 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{2n^2 + n + 1}{n^2 + 3} - 2 \right| &= \left| \frac{2n^2 + n + 1 - 2n^2 - 6}{n^2 + 3} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{n - 5}{n^2 + 3} \right| \\ &\leq \left| \frac{n - 5}{n^2} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{n} \\ &< \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, let $N = \left\lceil \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \right\rceil + 1$. Hence, for this N , $|a_n - L| < \varepsilon$.

Therefore, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n^2 + n + 1}{n^2 + 3} = 2$. □

Recitation 1 – Exercise 2.

Prove

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^3 + \sin n + n}{2n^4} = 0$$

Recitation 1 – Solution 2.

Let $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{n^3 + \sin n + n}{2n^4} \right| &\leq \left| \frac{n^3 + 1 + n}{2n^4} \right| \\ &\leq \left| \frac{3n^3}{2n^4} \right| = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, let $N = \left\lceil \frac{3}{2\varepsilon} \right\rceil + 1$. Hence, for this N , $|a_n - L| < \varepsilon$.

Therefore, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^3 + \sin n + n}{2n^4} = 0$

□

Recitation 1 – Exercise 3.

Calculate $\sqrt[3]{n^3 + 3n} - n$.

Recitation 1 – Solution 3.

$$a^n - b^n = (a - b) \cdot (a^{n-1} + a^{n-2}b + \cdots + ab^{n-2} + b^{n-1})$$

Therefore, let

$$\begin{aligned} a &= \sqrt[3]{n^3 + 3n} \\ b &= \sqrt[3]{n^3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a - b &= \frac{a^3 - b^3}{a^2 + ab + b^2} \\ \therefore \sqrt[3]{n^3 + 3n} - n &= \frac{n^3 + 3n - n^3}{(n^3 + 3n)^{2/3} + (n^3 + 3n)^{1/3}n + n^2} \\ &= \frac{3}{\left(\frac{n^3 + 3n}{n^{3/2}}\right)^{2/3} + \left(\frac{n^3 + 3n}{n^3}\right)^{1/3} + n} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the limit is 0.

Recitation 1 – Exercise 4.

Prove

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{n^n} = 0$$

Recitation 1 – Solution 4.

$$0 \leq \frac{n!}{n^n} = \frac{1}{n} \frac{2}{n} \cdots \frac{n}{n} \leq \frac{1}{n}$$

Therefore, by the Sandwich Theorem, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{n^n} = 0$.

Recitation 1 – Exercise 5.

Let $a_1 = 3$, $a_{n+1} = 1 + \sqrt{6 + a_n}$. Prove that a_n converges and find its limit.

Recitation 1 – Solution 5.

If possible, let $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = l$.

$$a_{n+1} = 1 + \sqrt{6 + a_n}$$

Taking the limit on both sides,

$$\begin{aligned} l &= 1 + \sqrt{6 + l} \\ \therefore l - 1 &= \sqrt{6 + l} \\ \therefore l &= \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{29}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{As } a_n \geq 0, l = \frac{3 + \sqrt{29}}{2}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_2 &= 1 + \sqrt{6 + a_1} \\ &= 1 + \sqrt{6 + 3} \\ &= 4 \\ \therefore a_2 &> a_1 \end{aligned}$$

If possible, let $a_n \geq a_{n-1}$.

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} a_{n+1} &= 1 + \sqrt{6 + a_n} \\ &\geq 1 + \sqrt{6 + a_{n+1}} = a_n \end{aligned}$$

Therefore by induction, $\{a_n\}$ is monotonically increasing.

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 &= 3 \\ \therefore a_1 &\leq 5 \end{aligned}$$

If possible, let $a_n \leq 5$.
Therefore,

$$a_{n+1} = 1 + \sqrt{6 + a_n} \leq q + \sqrt{11} \leq 5$$

Therefore by induction, $\{a_n\}$ is bounded from above by 5.

1.1 Limit of a Function by Heine

Definition 1.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = l$$

if for every sequence x_n , such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = l$$

Theorem 1. *If f is continuous at x_0 and $x_n \rightarrow x_0$, then*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n\right) = f_{x_0}$$

Recitation 2 – Exercise 1.

Calculate $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{n}$.

Recitation 2 – Solution 1.

Let

$$f(x) = x^{1/x}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^{1/x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{\ln x}{x}} \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

1.2 Sub-sequences

Recitation 2 – Exercise 2.

Find all partial limits and $\overline{\lim}$ and $\underline{\lim}$ of

$$a_n = \left(\cos \frac{\pi n}{4} \right)^n$$

Recitation 2 – Solution 2.

Let $k, z \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \frac{\pi n}{4} &= \cos \frac{\pi(n+k)}{4} \\ \therefore \frac{\pi n}{4} &= \frac{\pi(n+k)}{4} + 2\pi z \\ \therefore \pi n &= \pi(n+k) + 8\pi z \\ \therefore k &= 8z \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} a_{8k} &= \left(\cos \frac{\pi \cdot 8k}{4} \right)^{8k} \\ &= (\cos(2\pi k))^{8k} \\ &= 1 \\ a_{8k+1} &= \left(\cos \frac{\pi \cdot (8k+1)}{4} \right)^{8k+1} \\ &= \left(\cos \frac{\pi}{4} \right)^{8k+1} \\ &= \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)^{8k+1} \\ a_{8k+2} &= \left(\cos \frac{\pi \cdot (8k+2)}{4} \right)^{8k+2} \\ &= \left(\cos \frac{\pi}{2} \right)^{8k+2} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{8k} &= 1 \\ \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{8k+1} &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)^{8k+1} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{8k+2} &= 0 \\
\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{8k+3} &= 0 \\
\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{8k+4} &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (-1)^{8k+4} \\
&= 1 \\
\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{8k+5} &= 0 \\
\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{8k+6} &= 0 \\
\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{8k+7} &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\{a_n\}$ has two partial limits, 0 and 1.

$$\begin{aligned}
\overline{\lim} a_n &= 1 \\
\underline{\lim} a_n &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

2 Series

Definition 2 (Convergence of a series). Let $\{a_n\}$ be a sequence. Let S_n be a sequence of partial sums of a_n , s.t.

$$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$$

The series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$ is said to converge to l if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = l$$

that is,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n a_k = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n$$

Recitation 2 – Exercise 3.

Does $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k$ where $-1 < q < 1$ converge?

Recitation 2 – Solution 3.

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^n q^k \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - q^{n+1}}{1 - q} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - q}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the series converges.

Recitation 2 – Exercise 4.

Does $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k(k+1)}$ converge?

Recitation 2 – Solution 4.

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k(k+1)} &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1} \right) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1} \right) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1} \right) \\ &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Recitation 2 – Exercise 5.

Does $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{k} \right)^k$ converge?

Recitation 2 – Solution 5.

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{k} \right)^k &= e \\ \therefore \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{k} \right)^k &\neq 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the necessary condition is not satisfied. Hence, the series does not converge.

2.1 Comparison Tests for Positive Series

Theorem 2 (First Comparison Test). *If $a_n \geq 0$, $b_n \geq 0$, and $a_n \leq b_n$, then*

- 1. If $\sum b_n$ converges, then $\sum a_n$ converges.*
- 2. If $\sum a_n$ diverges, then $\sum b_n$ diverges.*

Theorem 3 (Second Comparison Test). *If $a_n \geq 0$, $b_n \geq 0$ and*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = l$$

where $0 < l < \infty$, then $\sum a_n$ and $\sum b_n$ converge or diverge simultaneously.

Recitation 3 – Exercise 1.

Suppose the sequence a_n satisfies the condition

$$a_{n+1} - a_n > \frac{1}{n}$$

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Prove that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \infty$.

Recitation 3 – Solution 1.

$$\begin{aligned} a_{n+1} &= a_{n+1} - a_n + a_n - a_{n-1} + a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} + \cdots + a_2 - a_1 + a_1 \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n (a_{k+1} - a_k) + a_1 \\ &\geq \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} + a_1 \end{aligned}$$

As the harmonic series diverges, $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} + a_1$ diverges.

Therefore, by the First Comparison Test, $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (a_{k+1} - a_k)$ diverges.

Recitation 3 – Exercise 2.

Check the convergence of $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n + \sin n}{n^3 + \cos \pi n}$.

Recitation 3 – Solution 2.

The series is non-negative. Therefore, the comparison tests are applicable.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n + \sin n}{n^3 + \cos \pi n} &\leq \frac{n + 1}{n^3 - 1} \\ \therefore \frac{n + \sin n}{n^3 + \cos \pi n} &\leq \frac{2n}{n^3 - \frac{n^3}{2}} \leq \frac{4}{n^2} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by the First Comparison Test, as $\frac{4}{n^2}$ converges, $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n + \sin n}{n^3 + \cos \pi n}$ also converges.

Recitation 3 – Exercise 3.

Let $a_n \geq 0$ and suppose that $\sum a_n$ converges. Prove that $\sum a_n^2$ converges. Is it true without the assumption $a_n \geq 0$?

Recitation 3 – Solution 3.

As $\sum a_n$ converges, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$.

Therefore, $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$, such that $\forall n > N$, $a_n < 1$.

Therefore, $\forall n > N$, $a_n^2 \leq a_n$. Hence, as $\sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges, $\sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} a_n^2$ also converges. Hence, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ also converges.

This is not true without the assumption $a_n \geq 0$, as the argument $a_n^2 \leq a_n$ does not hold.

Recitation 3 – Exercise 4.

For which α does $\sum (\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n})^{\alpha/2}$ converge?

Recitation 3 – Solution 4.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum (\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n})^{\alpha/2} &= \sum \left(\frac{n+1-n}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} \right)^{\alpha/2} \\ &= \sum \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} \right)^{\alpha/2} \end{aligned}$$

The series is positive. Therefore, the comparison tests are applicable.

Comparing with $\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^{\alpha/2}$,

$$\frac{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}}\right)^{\alpha/2}}{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^{\alpha/2}} = \left(\frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}}\right)^{\alpha/2}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}}\right)^{\alpha/2} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\alpha/2}$$

$\sum \frac{1}{n^{\alpha/2}}$ converges if and only if $\frac{\alpha}{4} > 1$, i.e. if and only if $\alpha > 4$.

By the Second Comparison Test, $\sum \frac{1}{n^{\alpha/4}}$ and the series converge or diverge simultaneously.

Therefore, the series converges for $\alpha > 4$.

Recitation 3 – Exercise 5.

Check the convergence of $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin \frac{1}{n}$.

Recitation 3 – Solution 5.

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \sin \frac{1}{n} \geq 0$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin \frac{1}{n}}{\frac{1}{n}} = 1$$

Therefore, by Second Comparison Test, $\sum \frac{1}{n}$ and $\sum \sin \frac{1}{n}$ diverge simultaneously.

2.2 d'Alembert Criteria (Ratio Test)

Definition 3 (Absolute and conditional convergence). The series $\sum a_n$ is said to converge absolutely if $\sum |a_n|$ converges. The series $\sum a_n$ is said to converge conditionally if it converges but $\sum |a_n|$ diverges.

Theorem 4. *If the series $\sum a_n$ converges absolutely then it converges.*

Theorem 5 (d'Alembert Criteria (Ratio Test)). 1. If

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n-1}}{a_n} \right| = L < 1$$

then $\sum a_n$ converges absolutely.

2. If

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n-1}}{a_n} \right| = L > 1$$

(including $L = \infty$), then $\sum a_n$ converges diverges.

3. If $L = 1$, the test does not apply.

Recitation 3 – Exercise 6.

Check the convergence of $\sum \frac{(-1)^n \cdot n^{1000}}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1)}$.

Recitation 3 – Solution 6.

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^n \cdot n^{1000}}{1 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1)} \right| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^{1000}}{1 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1)}$$

Therefore, by the d'Alembert Criteria (Ratio Test),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} &= \frac{\frac{(n+1)^{1000}}{1 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n+1)}}{\frac{n^{1000}}{1 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1)}} \\ &= \left(\frac{n+1}{n} \right)^{1000} \cdot \frac{1}{2n+1} \\ \therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n+1}{n} \right)^{1000} \cdot \frac{1}{2n+1} &= 0 \\ \therefore \left(\frac{n+1}{n} \right)^{1000} \cdot \frac{1}{2n+1} &< 1 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by the d'Alembert Criteria (Ratio Test), the series converges absolutely, and hence converges.

2.3 Cauchy Criteria (Cauchy Root Test)

Theorem 6 (Cauchy Criteria (Cauchy Root Test)). 1. If

$$\overline{\lim} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = L < 1$$

then $\sum a_n$ converges absolutely.

2. If

$$\overline{\lim} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = L > 1$$

(including $L = \infty$), then $\sum a_n$ diverges.

3. If $L = 1$, the test does not apply.

Recitation 3 – Exercise 7.

Check the convergence of $\sum \left(1 - \frac{2}{n}\right)^{n^2}$.

Recitation 3 – Solution 7.

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[n]{\left(1 - \frac{2}{n}\right)^{n^2}} &= \left(1 - \frac{2}{n}\right)^n \\ \therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{2}{n}\right)^n &= e^{-2} \\ \therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{2}{n}\right)^{n^2} &< 1 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by the Cauchy Criteria (Cauchy Root Test), $\sum \left(1 - \frac{2}{n}\right)^{n^2}$ converges.

2.4 Leibniz's Criteria

Definition 4 (Alternating series). The series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} a_n$, where all $a_n > 0$ or all $a_n < 0$ is called an alternating series.

Theorem 7 (Leibniz's Criteria for Convergence). If an alternating series $\sum (-1)^{n-1} a_n$ with $a_n > 0$ satisfies

1. $a_{n+1} \leq a_n$, i.e. $\{a_n\}$ is monotonically decreasing.

$$2. \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$$

then the series $(-1)^{n-1}a_n$ converges.

Recitation 3 – Exercise 8.

Prove or disprove: There exists $\{a_n\}$, such that $\sum a_n$ converges and $\sum(1 + a_n)a_n$ diverges.

Recitation 3 – Solution 8.

$$\text{Let } a_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}}.$$

Therefore, by Leibniz's Criteria for Convergence, $\sum \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}}$ converges.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum(1 + a_n)a_n &= \sum \left(1 + \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}}\right) \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}} \\ &= \sum \left(\frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{n}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, as $\sum \frac{1}{n}$ diverges, and $\sum \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}}$ converges, $\sum \left(\frac{1}{n} + \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$ diverges.

2.5 Integral Test

Theorem 8 (Integral Test). *If $f(x) : [1, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is monotonically decreasing. Then, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n)$ and $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$ converge or diverge simultaneously.*

Recitation 3 – Exercise 9.

Check the convergence of $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \ln n}$

Recitation 3 – Solution 9.

Let

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x \ln x}$$

$f(x)$ is monotonically decreasing. Therefore, the Integral Test is applicable. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_2^{\infty} \frac{1}{x \ln x} dx &= \int_{\ln 2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{y} dy \\ &= \ln y|_{\ln 2}^{\infty} \\ &= \infty\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by the integral test, $\sum \frac{1}{n \ln n}$ diverges.