

Sequences and Infinite Series

(Problem Set)

- One problem to always consider is the proof to theorems / mathematical facts. Such is the case with the very many convergence tests. Take for instance the limit comparison test. You might have a good intuitive sense as to what the test means. But just that isn't a proof. -

Q₁ : Prove that the Harmonic - Series is divergent.

Q₂ : Use limit comparison test for :

(a) $\sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n-3}$

(b) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-n}}{n^2}$

(c) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{3^n + 1}$

(d) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^4 + e^n}$

(e) $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\ln n}$

(f) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{n^4 + 1}$

(g) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n \sin^2 n}{n^3 + 1}$

(h) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^n + 1}{n 2^n - 1}$

Q₃ : Ratio - Test

$$\begin{array}{ll} \textcircled{a} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n)!} & \textcircled{c} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n!)^2}{(2n)!} \\ \textcircled{b} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{r^n n!}, r > 0 & \textcircled{d} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n^3 + 1} \end{array}$$

Q₄ : Alternating Series test

$$\begin{array}{ll} \textcircled{a} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{\sqrt{n}} & \textcircled{b} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{2n+1} \end{array}$$

Q₅ : Test convergences:

$$\textcircled{a} \sum (-1)^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{n^2} \right)$$

$$\textcircled{b} \sum \frac{(-1)^{n-1} \tan^{-1}(1/n)}{n^2}$$

$$(c) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{8^n}{n!}$$

$$(e) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n(n+1)}{\sqrt{n^3+2n^2}}$$

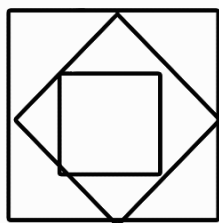
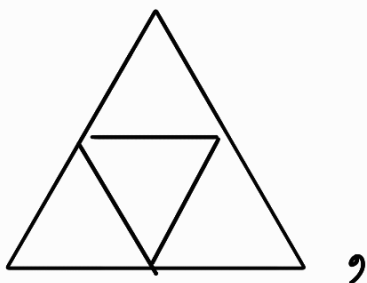
$$(d) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n 2^n}{3^n}$$

$$(f) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin n}{n^2}$$

$$(g) \sum_n \frac{n^3}{e^{\sqrt{n}}}$$

$$(h) \sum_k \frac{(-1)^k}{\ln k}$$

Q₆: Explore sequen. describing
embedded shapes such as:



(Think fractals...)

Try finding the infinite sum.

Q₇: Tower of Hanoi;

Search the web for the problem of the tower of Hanoi.

Try working out the least amount of steps needed to solve the puzzle as a function of n (no. of discs).

- Note: Not explicitly linked to series but a good counting problem that requires intuition and counting, well - —

Q₈: Consider the iterative scheme;

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$$

with $F_0 = 0$; $F_1 = 1$

Compute $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{n+1}}{F_n}$.