

Homework 3 for Math 1530

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Problem 27. Let $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots > 0$. Prove that if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} - 1 \right) > 1,$$

then the series $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots$ converges.

Proof. Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} - 1 \right) > 1$, then there exists a r_1 such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} - 1 \right) > r_1 > 1$. Then there exists an $N_1 > 0$, such that for $\forall n > N_1$, $\frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} > 1 + \frac{r_1}{n}$.

We take r_2 such that $1 < r_2 < r_1$. And we consider function $f(x) = 1 + r_1 x - (1+x)^{r_2}$, which satisfies $f(0) = 0$. Also, $f'(x) = r_1 - r_2(1+x)^{r_2-1} > 0$ in a small neighborhood of $x = 0$. Then there exists an $N_2 > 0$ such that for $\forall n > N_2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} &> 1 + \frac{r_1}{n} > \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^{r_2} = \frac{(n+1)^{r_2}}{n^{r_2}} \\ \Rightarrow (n+1)^{r_2} a_{n+1} &< n^{r_2} a_n \end{aligned}$$

as x substituted by $\frac{1}{n}$. Then for $n > N_2$, we have

$$a_n < \frac{N_2^{r_2} a_{N_2}}{n^{r_2}}$$

By comparison test, $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$ converges since $r_2 > 1$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1/n^{r_2}$. \square

Problem 28. Provide an example of a convergent series $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots$, where $a_n > 0$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ such that the limit $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n}$ does not exist.

Proof. We already know that series $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{2^3} \dots = 1$, which is convergent. Now we rearrange this series as

$$a_1 = \frac{1}{2^2}, a_2 = \frac{1}{2}, a_3 = \frac{1}{2^4}, a_4 = \frac{1}{2^3}, a_5 = \frac{1}{2^6}, \dots$$

by substituting the positions between $2n$ th and $(2n-1)$ th. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} &= 2, n \text{ is odd} \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} &= \frac{1}{8}, n \text{ is even} \end{aligned}$$

which means the limit does not exist. \square

Problem 29. Prove that there is a sequence of positive integers $n_1 < n_2 < n_3 < \dots$ such that the sequence $a_k = \sin n_k$ converges.

Proof. Based on Bolzano-Weierstrass Theorem, we can know that bounded sequence has a convergent subsequence. Also, $\sin n$ is dense in $[-1, 1]$, then there exists a subsequence that converges to any value in $[-1, 1]$. Suppose we want a subsequence that converges to $g \in [-1, 1]$. First, for $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, there exists n_1 such that $\|\sin n_1 - g\| < \varepsilon$. Then, starting from n_1 , we could find a $n_2 > n_1$ such that $\|\sin n_2 - g\| < \varepsilon$ since $\sin n$ is dense in $[-1, 1]$. Repeating this process, and we can find $n_1 < n_2 < n_3 < \dots$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_k = \sin n_k = g \in [-1, 1] \setminus \{0\}$. \square

Problem 30. Prove that the series

$$\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(\log n)(\log \log n)^p}$$

diverges if $0 < p \leq 1$ and converges if $p > 1$.

Proof. Based on Cauchy condensation test, the convergence of $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is equivalent to the convergence of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^n a_{2^n}$. Then we only need to consider $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} 2^n a_{2^n}$ in this case, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} 2^n a_{2^n} &= \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} 2^n \frac{1}{2^n (\ln 2^n) (\ln \ln 2^n)^p} \\ &= \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(\ln 2^n) (\ln(n \ln 2))^p} \\ &= \frac{1}{\ln 2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n (\ln n + \ln(\ln 2))^p} \end{aligned}$$

we denote this sum by A . And we have

$$\frac{1}{\ln 2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n (\ln n)^p} \leq A \leq \frac{1}{\ln 2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n (\frac{1}{2} \ln n)^p} = \frac{2^p}{\ln 2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n (\ln n)^p}$$

since $\frac{1}{2} \ln n < \ln n + \ln(\ln 2) < \ln n$, for $n > 4$. And we already know that $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n (\ln n)^p}$ converges if $p > 1$, and diverges if $0 < p \leq 1$. So A converges if $p > 1$, and diverges if $0 < p \leq 1$. \square

Problem 31. Prove that if the series $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots$ converges, where $a_n > 0$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, then the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{a_n}}{n} \quad \text{converges.}$$

Proof. Based on Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have

$$\left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{a_n}}{n} \right|^2 \leq \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \right) \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \right)$$

As we know, both series on the right side are convergent. Thus $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{a_n}}{n}$ converges. \square

DEFINITION. Let $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots > 0$. We define the infinite product by

$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_1 a_2 \dots a_n.$$

We say that the infinite product *converges* if the limit is finite and *positive*. If the limit does not exist, equals 0 or ∞ then we say that the product *diverges*.

Problem 32. Prove that if $a_n > 0, n = 1, 2, \dots$, then the product $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + a_n)$ converges if and only if the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges. **Hint:** You can use the inequality $e^x \geq 1 + x$ without proving it.

Proof. Denote $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + a_n)$ by A .

(1) If the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \ln A &= \ln(1 + a_1) + \dots + \ln(1 + a_n) \\ &\leq \ln e^{a_1} + \dots + \ln e^{a_n} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges, then $\ln A$ converges. Thus, A converges since log function is continuous.

(2) If $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + a_n)$ converges, we can prove following inequality by induction

$$1 + \sum_{n=1}^N a_n \leq \prod_{n=1}^N (1 + a_n)$$

For $N = 1$, $1 + a_1 \leq 1 + a_1$, so it holds. Assume it also holds for $N = k$, then for $N = k + 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{N+1} a_n &\leq \prod_{n=1}^N (1 + a_n) + a_{N+1} \\ &\leq \prod_{n=1}^N (1 + a_n) + \prod_{n=1}^N (1 + a_n) a_{N+1} \\ &= \prod_{n=1}^{N+1} (1 + a_n) \end{aligned}$$

So We can know

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \leq \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + a_n) - 1$$

which implies that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges. □

Problem 33. Prove that if $0 < a_n < 1, n = 1, 2, \dots$, then the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges if and only if the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n / (1 - a_n)$ converges.

Proof. (1) If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges, then it implies that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ then $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N_1 > 0$ such that $\forall n > N_1, a_n < \varepsilon$. Since it is true for arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$, then there exist an $N_2 > 0$, such that $a_n < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$. Also, since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges, then $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N_3 > 0$, such that for $\forall n > N_3, \forall m > 0, |a_n + \dots + a_{n+m}| < \varepsilon$. Now we set $N = \max\{N_1, N_2, N_3\}$, we have

$$\left| \frac{a_n}{1 - a_n} + \dots + \frac{a_{n+m}}{1 - a_{n+m}} \right| \leq \frac{1}{2} (a_n + \dots + a_{n+m}) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$$

since $a_n < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ for $n > N$. Then we proved that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n/(1 - a_n)$ converges.

(2) If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n/(1 - a_n)$ converges, then we have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n| < \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n/(1 - a_n)$$

since $0 < a_n < 1$ for $\forall n$. So $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges. \square

Problem 34. Prove that if $0 < a_n < 1$, then the product $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - a_n)$ converges if and only if the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges.

Proof. (1) If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges, then we have

$$\ln \left(\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - a_n) \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \ln(1 - a_n) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$$

since $\ln(1 - x) < -x$, $0 < x < 1$. Also, log function is continuous and we have that $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - a_n)$ converges.

(2) If $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - a_n)$ converges, we can know $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} 1/(1 - a_n)$ also converges, since $0 < a_n < 1$ which means $1 - a_n \neq 0$. Using inequality $e^{-x} > 1 - x$, we have $e^x < \frac{1}{1-x}$. Then we have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n < \ln \left(\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - a_n} \right)$$

Then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges. The proof is complete. \square