

Seminar 4

1. Study if the following series are convergent or divergent:

(a) $\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1)}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot \dots \cdot 2n}.$

(c) $\sum_{n \geq 1} a^{\ln n}, a > 0.$

(b) ★ $\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1)}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot \dots \cdot 2n} \cdot \frac{1}{n^2}.$

(d) $\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{a^n n!}{n^n} a > 0.$

2. Study the convergence and the absolute convergence of the following series:

(a) $\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{\sqrt{n(n+1)}}.$

(b) $\sum_{n \geq 1} (-1)^n \sin \frac{1}{n}.$

(c) $\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\sin n}{n^2}.$

3. Prove by differentiating the geometric series that, for $|x| < 1$,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nx^n = \frac{x}{(1-x)^2}, \quad \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)x^n = \frac{2x^2}{(1-x)^3}.$$

4. Prove by integrating the geometric series that, for $|x| < 1$,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n} = -\ln(1-x), \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{x^n}{n} = \ln(1+x).$$

5. Prove that $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{2n+1} = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \dots = \arctan x$, for $x \in [-1, 1]$.

6. Find the radius of convergence and the convergence set for each of the following series:

(a) $\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{(x-2)^n}{(n+1)3^n}.$

(b) $\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{(x-1)^n}{n^p}, p > 0.$

(c) ★ $\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{nx^n}{2^n}.$

7. ★ [Python] Show numerically that $\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} = \ln 2$. Change the order of summation in this series – for example by first adding p positive terms, then q negative terms, and so on – and show numerically that the rearrangement gives a different sum (depending on p, q).

Homework questions are marked with ★.

Solutions should be handed in at the beginning of next week's lecture.