

**Homework/Worksheet 10 - Due: Wednesday, November 15**

1. Find the radius of convergence and interval of convergence of the series.

(a)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^n}{\sqrt{n}}$

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

(c)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{10^n x^n}{n!}$

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

**Problem 1a.** Using the ratio test:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\frac{(-1)^{n+1} x^{n+1}}{\sqrt{n+1}}}{\frac{(-1)^n x^n}{\sqrt{n}}} \right| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^n (-1) x^{n+1}}{\sqrt{n+1}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n}}{(-1)^n x^n} \right| \\ &= |x| \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n+1}} \\ &= |x|. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, we have convergence when  $|x| < 1$ , and divergence for  $|x| > 1$

$$\begin{aligned} &\implies -1 < x < 1 \\ &\therefore R = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Testing the endpoints we see

When  $x = -1$

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n (-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{2n}}{\sqrt{n}} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}. \end{aligned}$$

Since this is a p-series with  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ , we have divergence for  $x = -1$

When  $x = 1$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}}.$$

Using the AST we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have convergence when  $x = 1$

**Conclusion.** For the power series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^n}{\sqrt{n}}$ ,  $R = 1$ ,  $I = (-1, 1]$

**Problem 1b.** By the ratio test

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+1)x^n x}{e^n e} \cdot \frac{e^n}{nx^n} \right| \\ &= |x| \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{en} \\ &= \frac{|x|}{e}.\end{aligned}$$

Consequently, we have convergence when  $\frac{1}{e}|x| < 1$ , and divergence for  $\frac{1}{e}|x| > 1$

$$\begin{aligned}\implies -e < x < e \\ \therefore R = e.\end{aligned}$$

Testing the endpoints we see

When  $x = -e$

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n(-e)^n}{e^n} \\ = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n(-1)^n.\end{aligned}$$

Which is divergent

When  $x = e$

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{ne^n}{e^n} \\ = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n.\end{aligned}$$

Which is also divergent

**Conclusion.** The power series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{nx^n}{e^n}$  has  $R = e$ ,  $I = (-e, e)$

**Problem 1c.** Using the ratio test

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{10^n 10x^n x}{n!(n+1)} \cdot \frac{n!}{x^n 10^n} \right| \\ &= 10|x| \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+1} \\ &= 0 \\ \therefore R &= \infty.\end{aligned}$$

**Conclusion.** The power series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{10^n x^n}{n!}$  has  $R = \infty$  and  $I = \mathbb{R} \implies$  convergence  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$

**Problem 1d.** Using the ratio test

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(2n+2)(2n+1)(2n)!x^n}{n^{2n}n^2} \cdot \frac{n^{2n}}{(2n)!x^n} \right| \\ &= |x| \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n+2)(2n+1)}{n^2} \\ &= 4|x|.\end{aligned}$$

Consequently, we have convergence when  $4|x| < 1$ , and divergence for  $4|x| > 1$

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{4} < x < \frac{1}{4} \\ \therefore R = \frac{1}{4}.\end{aligned}$$

Testing the endpoints we see

When  $x = -\frac{1}{4}$

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2n)! \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)^n}{n^{2n}} \\ = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2n)! (-1)^n \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^n}{n^{2n}}.\end{aligned}$$

Using Sterling's approximation  $n! \approx \sqrt{2\pi n} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n \Rightarrow (2n)! \approx \sqrt{4\pi n} \left(\frac{2n}{e}\right)^{2n}$  we can rewrite the series as

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{4\pi n} \left(\frac{2n}{e}\right)^{2n} (-1)^n \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^n}{n^{2n}} \\ = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{4\pi n} \left(\frac{n^2}{e^2}\right)^n (-1)^n}{n^{2n}} \\ = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{4\pi n} \left(\frac{1}{e^2}\right)^n (-1)^n.\end{aligned}$$

Which we see is an alternating series. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{4\pi n} \left(\frac{1}{e^2}\right)^n \\ = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\sqrt{\pi}\sqrt{n}}{e^{2n}} \\ \stackrel{H}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\sqrt{\pi}}{2e^{2n}2\sqrt{n}} \\ = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2e^{2n}\sqrt{n}} \\ = 0.\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have convergence at  $x = -\frac{1}{4}$

**Conclusion.** The power series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2n)!x^n}{n^{2n}}$  has  $R = \frac{1}{4}$  and  $I = [-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}]$

When  $x = \frac{1}{4}$ , again we use Sterling's approximation to get the new series

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{4\pi n} \left(\frac{2n}{e}\right)^{2n} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^n}{n^{2n}} \\ = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{e^{2n}} \sqrt{4\pi n}.\end{aligned}$$

Using the root test

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\sqrt{4\pi(n+1)}}{e^{2n}e^2} \cdot \frac{e^{2n}}{\sqrt{4\pi n}} \right| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{4\pi n + 4\pi}}{e^2} \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi n}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{4(\pi n + \pi)}}{e^2} \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi n}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\sqrt{\pi n + \pi}}{e^2} \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi n}} \\ &= \frac{1}{e^2} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{\pi n + \pi}}{\sqrt{\pi n}} \\ &= \frac{1}{e^2}.\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we also have convergence at  $x = \frac{1}{4}$

2. Find the power series for each function with the given center  $a$ , and identify its interval of convergence.

(a)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ ;  $a = 1$

(b)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x^2}$ ;  $a = 0$

(c)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2-x}$ ;  $a = 1$

**Remark.** A function of the form  $\frac{1}{1-x}$  has the power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots$ . A function of the form  $\frac{1}{1-(x-a)}$  has a power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (x-a)^n$  where  $a$  is the center. Additionally, these series converge when  $|x| < 1$  and  $|x-a| < 1$  respectively

**Problem 2a.** We can rewrite the function as

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1-(1-x)}.$$

Which means we have the power series

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (x-1)^n = 1 + (x-1) + (x-1)^2 + (x-1)^3 + \dots \text{ for } |x-a| < 1.$$

This implies the series will converge for

$$\begin{aligned} |x-1| &< 1 \\ \implies -1 &< x-1 < 1 \\ \implies 0 &< x < 2. \end{aligned}$$

**Conclusion.** When  $x = 0$ , the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n$  diverges. When  $x = 2$  we have  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 1$ , which also diverges. Therefore  $I = (0, 2)$

**Problem 2b.** For the function

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x^2}.$$

We have the power series

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^{2n} \text{ for } |x^2| < 1.$$

This implies the series will converge for

$$\begin{aligned} |x^2| &< 1 \\ \implies x^2 &< 1 \\ \implies -1 &< x < 1. \end{aligned}$$

**Conclusion.** When  $x = -1$  the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 1$  diverges. For  $x = 1$ , the series will also diverge. Thus  $I = (-1, 1)$

**Problem 2d.** We can rewrite the function as

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{2-x} \\ &= \frac{1}{2(1-\frac{x}{2})}. \end{aligned}$$

This implies we have the power series

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^n \quad \text{for } \left|\frac{x}{2}\right| < 1 \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} x^n \quad \text{for } \left|\frac{x}{2}\right| < 1. \end{aligned}$$

This implies the series will converge for

$$-2 < x < 2.$$

**Conclusion.** When  $x = -2$  the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2}(-1)^n$  will diverge. For  $x = 2$ , the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2}$  will diverge. Thus we have  $I = (-2, 2)$