

**Problem 1**

*Prove: If  $\sum a_n$  converges and  $\sum b_n$  converges absolutely, then  $\sum a_n b_n$  converges. Is this statement still true if the word “absolutely” is removed?*

*Solution.* It is sufficient to show that  $\sum_n a_n b_n$  is absolutely convergent. Consider the series  $\sum_n |a_n b_n| = \sum_n |a_n| |b_n|$ . Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$  (by the contrapositive of the “crude” divergence test since  $\sum_n a_n$  converges), we have that  $a_n$  is bounded, and so  $|a_n|$  is bounded as well (the upper bound is just the max of the lower and upper bound of  $a_n$ , and it is bounded below by 0). Let  $|a_n| \leq M$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $|a_n| |b_n| < M |b_n|$ . We have that  $\sum_n M |b_n|$  converges, since if  $s_N = \sum_{n=1}^N |b_n|$ , then

$$\sum_n M |b_n| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M |b_0| + M |b_1| + \cdots + M |b_n| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M (|b_0| + |b_1| + \cdots + |b_n|) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M s_n$$

and since  $(s_n)$  converges (by the absolute convergence of  $b_n$ ), by our constant multiplication limit law,  $(M s_n) = \sum_n M |b_n|$  converges as well.

Now since  $0 \leq |a_n b_n| \leq M |b_n|$ , by the comparison test,  $\sum_n |a_n b_n|$  converges, thus  $\sum_n a_n b_n$  is absolutely convergent, which implies that  $\sum_n a_n b_n$  converges.



## Problem 2

For each series, find the set of  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  where the series converges.

- (a). *Solution.* Fix some arbitrary  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $a_n = c^{n^2}(x-1)^n$  and  $\alpha = \limsup_n |a_n|^{1/n}$ . We can compute

$$\alpha = \limsup_n \left| c^{n^2}(x-1)^n \right|^{1/n} = \limsup_n |c^n(x-1)| = |x-1| \limsup_n c^n$$

where we've brought the exponent  $n$  out in the first step, since  $|a^n b^n| = |ab|^n$ .

If  $x = 1$ , then  $\alpha = 0$ , so the series converges by the root test regardless of  $c$ . Now let  $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\}$ . We know that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c^n \rightarrow +\infty$  if  $c > 1$ , so  $\limsup_n c^n = +\infty$ , thus the series diverges for all  $x$ . Additionally,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c^n = 0$  if  $1 > c > 0$ , so  $\limsup_n c^n = 0$ , thus the series converges for all  $x$ . Finally, if  $c = 1$ ,  $a_n = (x-1)^n$  which is a geometric series: it will converge when  $|x-1| < 1 \implies 0 < x < 2$  and will diverge otherwise.

In summary:

- If  $c > 1$ ,  $x \in \{1\}$  makes the series converge
- If  $c = 1$ ,  $x \in (0, 2)$  makes the series converge
- If  $0 < c < 1$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  makes the series converge

- (b). *Solution.* Let  $a_n = \frac{x^n(1-x^n)}{n}$ . Let  $x \in \{0, 1\}$ . Then  $a_n = 0$  for all  $n$ , thus the series converges. Let  $x = -1$ . Then our series is  $\sum_n a_n = \sum_{n \text{ odd}} \frac{2}{n}$ . We can rewrite our sum to be  $\sum_n \frac{1}{2\lfloor(n-1)/2\rfloor+1}$  (since if  $n = 2k$ ,  $2\lfloor(n-1)/2\rfloor+1 = n-1$ : the odd number directly below it, and if  $n = 2k+1$ ,  $2\lfloor(n-1)/2\rfloor+1 = n$ : itself) and then since  $0 < 2\lfloor(n-1)/2\rfloor+1 < n$  so  $0 < \left|\frac{1}{n}\right| \leq \frac{1}{2\lfloor(n-1)/2\rfloor+1}$ , comparison test says this series diverges (since the harmonic series diverges to infinity).

Now consider when  $|x| > 1$ . Then we claim there exists an  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x^n(1-x^n) < -1$  for all  $n \geq N$ . We prove this by considering when  $n$  is positive and negative. Let  $x > 1$ . Note that there exists an  $N$  such that  $x^n > 2$  for all  $n \geq N$ : using the inequality from Problem 4(a) of Homework 6 since  $x > 1$ , we have that  $x^n > x^n - 1 \geq n(x-1)$  and then invoke Archimedean property to find  $N$  such that  $N(x-1) > 2$ , it's trivial to see that  $n \geq N$  also implies  $x^n > 2$ . Now if  $n \geq N$ , we have  $1 - x^n < -1$  and since  $x^n > 1$ , we have  $x^n(1-x^n) < 1 - x^n < -1$ . Now let  $x < -1$ . If  $n$  is even,  $x^n(1-x^n) = |x|^n(1-|x|^n)$ , and we have the same  $N$  from when  $x > 1$  to have  $x^n(1-x^n) < -1$ . If  $n$  is odd,  $x^n(1-x^n) = (-1)|x|^n(1-(-1)|x|^n) = -|x|^n(|x|^n+1)$ , and using the  $N$  from before, we have  $-|x|^n(|x|^n+1) < -2(x^n+1) < -2 < -1$ . This proves our claim. But then for all  $n \geq N$ , we have that

$$\frac{x^n(1-x^n)}{n} < \frac{-1}{n} < 0 \implies 0 < \frac{1}{n} = \left| \frac{1}{n} \right| < -\frac{x^n(1-x^n)}{n}$$

And so by the comparison test,  $\sum_n -a_n$  diverges. But this is true only if  $\sum_n a_n$  diverges, since if  $s_N = \sum_{n=1}^N a_n$  and  $s'_N = \sum_{n=1}^N -a_n$ , we have that  $s'_N = -\sum_{n=1}^N a_n = -s_N$ , and if  $s_N$  converged as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , constant multiplication limit law would tell us that  $s'_N$  would converge as well. Thus, if  $|x| > 1$ , we have that the series diverges.

Now consider when  $0 < x < 1$ . Consider  $\sum_k 2^k \frac{x^{2^k}(1-x^{2^k})}{2^k} = \sum_k x^{2^k}(1-x^{2^k})$ . We have  $0 < x^{2^k}(1-x^{2^k}) < x^{2^k} < x^k$  (where the inequality is due to the fact that  $x^a$  is monotonically decreasing when  $0 < x < 1$ , and  $2^k > k$ ), and  $\sum_k x^k$  converges since it is geometric series with ratio  $x < 1$ . Thus, by the comparison test, we have that  $\sum_k 2^k \frac{x^{2^k}(1-x^{2^k})}{2^k}$  converges as well. Finally,  $\frac{x^n(1-x^n)}{n}$  is monotonically decreasing and bounded below by 0: all the terms are positive, so  $a_n > 0$  for all  $n$ ; now see

$$\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = \frac{x^{n+1}(1-x^{n+1})n}{x^n(1-x^n)(n+1)} < x \frac{1-x^{n+1}}{1-x^n}$$

and  $x \frac{1-x^{n+1}}{1-x^n} \rightarrow x$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  (limit laws), thus for sufficiently large  $n$ , we have that  $\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} < x + \varepsilon$  where setting  $\varepsilon = 1 - x > 0$  gives  $\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} < 1$ , hence the series is monotonically decreasing past that point. Thus, by Cauchy

condensation, the series converges when  $0 < x < 1$  (technically, Cauchy Condensation only tells us that the series converges starting from our  $n$  where the series begins to be monotonically decreasing, but then we have the sum of a convergent series and a finite sum, which itself converges).

It remains to consider the case when  $-1 < x < 0$ . Now if  $n$  is odd, we have  $a_n = \frac{(-1)|x|^n(1+|x|^n)}{n} < \frac{-2|x|^n}{n}$ . Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n}{(1/|x|)^n} = 0$  by Rudin Theorem 3.20 (d), we have some  $N$  such that  $\left(\frac{1}{|x|}\right)^n > 2n > 0$  for all  $n \geq N$ , thus  $0 < 2|x|^n < \frac{1}{n}$ , thus  $|a_n| < \frac{2|x|^n}{n} < \frac{1}{n^2}$ . Furthermore, when  $n$  is even, we have  $a_n = \frac{|x|^n(1-|x|^n)}{n} < \frac{|x|^n(1+|x|^n)}{n} < \frac{1}{n^2}$  as well. Thus  $|a_n| < \frac{1}{n^2}$  for all  $n \geq N$ . And since  $\sum_n \frac{1}{n^2}$  is a convergent  $p$ -series ( $p > 1$ ), the comparison test tells us that  $\sum_n a_n$  converges as well.

In summary: the series converges when  $x \in (-1, 1]$ , and diverges otherwise.

- (c). *Solution.* Fix some arbitrary  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $a_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n}} \left[ \frac{x+1}{2x+1} \right]^n$  and  $\alpha = \limsup_n |a_n|^{1/n}$ . Note that if  $x = -\frac{1}{2}$ , none of our terms exist, so we ignore that value. We can compute

$$\alpha = \limsup_n \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n}} \left[ \frac{x+1}{2x+1} \right]^n \right|^{1/n} = \limsup_n (n^{1/(2n)})^{-1} \left| \frac{x+1}{2x+1} \right| = \left| \frac{x+1}{2x+1} \right| \limsup_n (n^{1/(2n)})^{-1} = \left| \frac{x+1}{2x+1} \right|$$

where our final equality is due to  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{1/(2n)} = 1$ , and so  $\liminf_n n^{1/2n} = 1$  (lim inf agrees with convergent limits), and by Problem 8(c) from homework 4,  $\limsup_n (n^{1/(2n)})^{-1} = 1^{-1} = 1$  (we've also used the fact  $|a^n| = |a|^n$  for our first equality). When  $x > 0$ , we have  $|2x+1| = 2x+1 > x+1 = |x+1|$ . When  $-\frac{2}{3} < x < 0$ ,  $|2x+1| = -2x-1 < x+1 = |x+1|$ . When  $x < -\frac{2}{3}$ ,  $|2x+1| > |x+1|$ . Now, ratio test gives convergence when  $|x+1| < |2x+1|$ . Thus, when  $x \in (-\infty, -\frac{2}{3}) \cup (0, \infty)$ ,  $\alpha < 1$ , thus ratio test says the series converges. When  $x \in (-\frac{2}{3}, -\frac{1}{2}) \cup (-\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ ,  $\alpha > 1$ , thus the ratio test says the series diverges.

If  $x = -\frac{2}{3}$ , we have  $a_n = (-1)^n \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n}}$ . Note that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n}} = 0$ , and  $\frac{1}{\sqrt[n+1]{n+1}} < \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n}}$ , thus the series is monotonically decreasing. Thus, the alternating series test says the series converges.

Finally, if  $x = 0$ ,  $a_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n}}$ , thus  $\sum_n a_n$  diverges since this is a  $p$ -series where  $p = \frac{1}{2} < 1$ .

In summary: the series converges when  $x \in (-\infty, -\frac{2}{3}] \cup (0, \infty)$ .

- (d). *Solution.* Fix some arbitrary  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $a_n = \left[ \frac{(2n)!}{n(n!)^2} \right] (x-e)^n$  and define  $\bar{\alpha} = \limsup_n \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$  and  $\underline{\alpha} = \liminf_n \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$ .  $a_n = 0$  only when  $x = e$ . In this case,  $a_n = 0$ , thus  $\sum_n a_n$  converges. Now assume that  $x \neq e$ . We can compute

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \left| \frac{(2n+2)(2n+1)n}{(n+1)^2(n+1)} (x-e) \right| = |x-e| \frac{4n^2+2n}{n^2+2n+1}$$

We see  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = |x-e| \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4+2/n}{1+2/n+1/n^2} = 4|x-e|$  (applying limit laws for multiplication and division). Thus,  $\bar{\alpha} = \underline{\alpha} = 4|x-e|$  since the limit exists. Thus, the series converges when  $4|x-e| < 1 \implies |x-e| < \frac{1}{4} \implies e - \frac{1}{4} < x < e + \frac{1}{4}$  and diverges when  $4|x-e| > 1 \implies |x-e| > \frac{1}{4} \implies x-e > \frac{1}{4} \implies x > e + \frac{1}{4}$  and  $x-e < -\frac{1}{4} \implies x < e - \frac{1}{4}$  by the ratio test.

If  $x = e + \frac{1}{4}$ , we have  $a_n = \left[ \frac{(2n)!}{n(n!)^2} \right] \left( \frac{1}{4} \right)^n$ . Then,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left( \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} - 1 \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left( \frac{1}{|x-e|} \frac{1+2/n+1/n^2}{4+2/n} - 1 \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+2+1/n-n-1/2}{1+1/(2n)} = 2 > 1$ , thus by Raabe's test, the series converges.

If  $x = e - \frac{1}{4}$ , we have  $a_n = \left[ \frac{(2n)!}{n(n!)^2} \right] \left( -\frac{1}{4} \right)^n$ . But we have already proven  $\sum_n |a_n|$  converges (above), and so the series converges absolutely, thus this series converges.

In summary: the series converges when  $x \in [e - \frac{1}{4}, e + \frac{1}{4}]$ .

### Problem 3

Discuss the series whose  $n$ th terms are shown below:

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= (-1)^n \frac{n^n}{(n+1)^{n+1}}, & b_n &= \frac{n^n}{(n+1)^{n+1}}, \\ c_n &= (-1)^n \frac{(n+1)^n}{n^n}, & d_n &= \frac{(n+1)^n}{n^{n+1}}. \end{aligned}$$

*Solution.*  $a_n$  will converge. We have that

$$\frac{n^n}{(n+1)^{n+1}} = \left( \frac{n}{n+1} \right)^n \cdot \frac{1}{n+1} < \frac{1}{n+1}$$

Then, since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+1} = 0$ , by Squeeze test, we have that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^n}{(n+1)^{n+1}} = 0$  as well (since it is bounded below by 0). Furthermore, note that  $|a_{n+1}| = \frac{(n+1)^{2(n+1)}}{n^n(n+2)^{n+2}} |a_n|$ , and since  $\frac{(n+1)^{2(n+1)}}{n^n(n+2)^{n+2}} < 1$  for all  $n$ ,  $|a_n|$  is monotonically decreasing. Thus, applying the alternating series test, we get that  $\sum_n a_n$  converges.

Note that  $b_n$  fails to converge. Let  $s_n = \frac{1}{nb_n} = \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{n^{n+1}} = \left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right)^{n+1}$ . By the definition of  $e$  in Rudin, we have that  $s_n \rightarrow e$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus, for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have that there exists  $N$  such that for all  $n \geq N$  such that  $|s_n - e| < \varepsilon$ . Let  $\varepsilon = 1$ . Thus,  $0 < e - 1 < s_n < 1 + e$ . Rearranging, we get that  $0 < \frac{1}{1+e} \frac{1}{n} < b_n$ . Thus, by the comparison test, since  $\sum_n \frac{1}{n}$  diverges to infinity, we must have that  $b_n$  diverges as well. This means that although  $a_n$  is convergent, it is not absolutely convergent.

Note that  $c_n$  fails to converge. Since  $\frac{n+1}{n} > 1$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $\left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right)^n > 1$ . Thus  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right)^n \geq 1 > 0$  if the limit exists. Regardless, this implies  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n \neq 0$ , and so the crude divergence test tells us  $\sum_n c_n$  fails to converge (and so fails to absolutely converge).

Note that  $d_n$  fails to converge. We have  $d_n = \frac{(n+1)^n}{n^{n+1}} = \left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right)^n \cdot \frac{1}{n}$ . Since  $\left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right)^n > 1$  for all  $n$ , we have that  $d_n > \frac{1}{n} = \left| \frac{1}{n} \right| > 0$ . Thus, by the comparison test,  $\sum_n d_n$  diverges to infinity, since the harmonic series also diverges to infinity (and so  $\sum_n d_n$  also fails to absolutely converge).



**Problem 4**

Suppose  $x_1 \geq x_2 \geq x_3 \geq \cdots$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 0$ . Show that the following series converges:

$$x_1 - \frac{1}{2}(x_1 + x_2) + \frac{1}{3}(x_1 + x_2 + x_3) - \frac{1}{4}(x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4) \pm \cdots$$

*Solution.* Let  $s_n = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n}{n}$ . Note that since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 0$ , we have that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = 0$  as well, by Problem 8(a) from homework 3. Furthermore, note that  $s_n$  is monotonically decreasing: for the sake of contradiction, assume the opposite, that is, there exists a  $s_k$  such that  $s_k > s_{k-1}$  (maybe assume that this is the first such  $k$ ). Then

$$s_k = \frac{x_1}{k} + \frac{x_2}{k} + \cdots + \frac{x_{k-1}}{k} + \frac{x_k}{k} > \frac{x_1}{k-1} + \frac{x_2}{k-1} + \cdots + \frac{x_{k-1}}{k-1} = s_{k-1}$$

Then we have

$$\frac{x_k}{k} > \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_{k-1}}{k-1} - \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_{k-1}}{k} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_{k-1}}{k(k-1)}$$

Or

$$x_k > \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_{k-1}}{k-1} \geq \frac{(k-1)x_{k-1}}{k-1} = x_{k-1}$$

but this contradicts the assumption that  $x_n$  are monotonically decreasing, thus  $s_k \leq s_{k-1}$ .

Now let  $b_n = (-1)^{n+1}$ . Note that  $b_1 + b_2 + \cdots + b_N$  is bounded (ie. it always either 0 or 1). Thus, we can apply Dirichlet's Theorem to the series  $\sum_n s_n b_n$ , which says that

$$\sum_n s_n b_n = x_1 - \frac{1}{2}(x_1 + x_2) + \frac{1}{3}(x_1 + x_2 + x_3) - + \cdots$$

converges.





**Problem 5**

(a). Prove: if  $a_n \geq a_{n+1} \geq 0$  for all  $n$ , and  $\sum a_n$  converges, then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} na_n = 0$ .

(b). Prove: If  $\sum (b_n^2/n)$  converges,  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N b_j \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

[Hint: In part (a), it's enough to prove that  $\frac{1}{2}na_n \rightarrow 0$ .]

(a). *Solution.* Since  $a_n \geq a_{n+1} \geq 0$  for all  $n$  and  $\sum a_n$  converges, the Cauchy Condensation Test gives  $\sum_k 2^k a_{2^k}$  converges as well. Since  $a_n$  monotonically decreases and is always positive, we have  $2^k a_n \leq 2^k a_{2^k}$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $2^k \leq n$ . Note that for any  $k$ ,  $n < 2^{k+1}$  implies  $\frac{n}{2} < 2^k$ . Thus,  $0 \leq \frac{n}{2} a_n < 2^k a_n \leq 2^k a_{2^k}$  for  $2^k \leq n < 2^{k+1}$ . Note that  $2^k a_{2^k} \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus, given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $K$  such that  $0 < 2^k a_{2^k} < \varepsilon$  for all  $k \geq K$ . Then if  $n \geq 2^K$ , there exists  $k \geq K$  such that  $2^k \leq n < 2^{k+1}$ , and so  $\frac{1}{2}na_n < 2^k a_{2^k} < \varepsilon$ . Thus  $\frac{1}{2}na_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . But then  $na_n \rightarrow 0$  as well; this is easy to see: if  $na_n$  diverged, then  $\frac{1}{2}na_n$  would diverge as well (one can simply consider  $\varepsilon/2$  and get breaking of convergence), and if  $na_n$  converges to a value, the constant multiplication limit law tells us that  $\frac{1}{2}na_n$  would converge to half that value, and so  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} na_n = 0$ .

(b). *Solution.* We first prove that if  $a_n > 0$  and  $\sum a_n$  converges, then  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N na_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus, let  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = L$ . We see that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N na_n &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^n a_n \\ &\leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{n=j}^N a_n \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N na_n &\leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{n=j}^{\infty} a_n \\ \implies \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N na_n &\leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \left( L - \sum_{n=1}^{j-1} a_n \right) \\ \implies \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N na_n &\leq L - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{n=1}^{j-1} a_n \end{aligned}$$

If  $s_j = \sum_{n=1}^{j-1} a_n$ , by Problem 8(a) from homework 3, we have that  $c_j \rightarrow L$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ , thus  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N c_n \rightarrow L$ . Thus, by Squeeze theorem, we have that  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N na_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

Now, applying this, we get that  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N nb_n^2 \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ . Now, note that  $\frac{1}{N} \sqrt{\sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{n=1}^N b_n^2}$  (this is done by Cauchy-Schwartz). Thus, using triangle inequality, we arrive at

$$0 \leq \left| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N b_n \right| \leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N |b_n| \leq \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N b_n^2}$$

and so by Squeeze theorem, since  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N b_n^2 \rightarrow 0$  (and so its square root certainly does), we have that  $\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N b_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , as desired.



## Problem 6

Define  $f(\theta) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2k-1} \sin((2k-1)\theta)$ . Determine the domain of  $f$ , namely, the set of all real  $\theta$  where the series converges, by completing the steps below.

(a). Obtain the following identities, valid for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  at all points where  $\sin \theta \neq 0$ :

$$C_n(\theta) = \cos(\theta) + \cos(3\theta) + \cos(5\theta) + \cdots + \cos((2n-1)\theta) = \frac{\sin(2n\theta)}{2\sin\theta},$$

$$S_n(\theta) = \sin(\theta) + \sin(3\theta) + \sin(5\theta) + \cdots + \sin((2n-1)\theta) = \frac{1 - \cos(2n\theta)}{2\sin\theta},$$

[Suggestion: Use geometric sums of complex numbers, with  $e^{it} = \cos(t) + i\sin(t)$ .]

(b). Prove that the domain of  $f$  is the interval  $(-\infty, +\infty)$ .

(c). Find a sequence  $(\theta_n)$  such that  $\theta_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $S_n(\theta_n) \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Explain why your solution in part (b) is correct in spite of the evident unboundedness of the sequence  $(S_n(\theta_n))$ .

(a). *Solution.* We have  $\sum_{k=1}^n e^{i(2k-1)\theta} = C_n(\theta) + iS_n(\theta)$ . We can rewrite our sum as  $\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} e^{i(2k+1)\theta}$ . But this is a geometric series with common ratio  $e^{2i\theta}$  and initial value  $e^{i\theta}$ , thus

$$C_n(\theta) + iS_n(\theta) = e^{i\theta} \frac{1 - (e^{2i\theta})^n}{1 - e^{2i\theta}} = \frac{1 - \cos(2n\theta) - i\sin(2n\theta)}{e^{-i\theta} - e^{i\theta}}$$

But note that

$$\frac{1}{e^{-i\theta} - e^{i\theta}} = \frac{1}{\cos(-\theta) + i\sin(-\theta) - \cos(\theta) - i\sin\theta} = \frac{1}{-2i\sin(\theta)} = \frac{i}{2\sin\theta}$$

Thus

$$C_n(\theta) + iS_n(\theta) = \frac{\sin(2n\theta)}{2\sin\theta} + i \frac{1 - \cos(2n\theta)}{2\sin\theta}$$

For equality, the real components must equal the real components, and the imaginary components must equal the imaginary components, thus since  $C_n(\theta)$  and  $S_n(\theta)$  are strictly real-valued functions, we have

$$C_n(\theta) = \frac{\sin(2n\theta)}{2\sin\theta}, \quad S_n(\theta) = \frac{1 - \cos(2n\theta)}{2\sin\theta}$$

as desired.

(b). *Solution.* We seek to show that the series converges for all  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ . Recall that  $|\sin(x)| \geq \frac{2x}{\pi}$  (Piazze @331), and so  $\frac{1}{2k-1} \sin((2k-1)\theta)$

Fix some  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $S_n(\theta) = \frac{1 - \cos(2n\theta)}{2\sin\theta} \leq$ , thus  $|\sum_k \sin((2k-1)\theta)| = |S_n(\theta)| \leq \frac{1}{2\sin\theta}$ . Thus  $S_n(\theta)$  is a bounded sequence. Additionally,  $\frac{1}{2k-1} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , and is monotonically decreasing. Thus, we can apply Dirichlet's theorem to get that  $\sum_k \frac{\sin((2k-1)\theta)}{2k-1}$  converges. Since  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$  was arbitrary, we have that  $f(\theta)$  has domain  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .

(c). *Solution.* Consider  $(\theta_n) = \frac{1}{n}$ . Then  $S_n(\theta_n) = \frac{1 - \cos 2}{2\sin \frac{1}{n}}$ . We have that  $\sin(\frac{1}{n}) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  (since  $\sin(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ ). Thus  $S_n(\theta_n) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , since we are just multiplying a divergent sequence by a constant.

This doesn't change the convergence of part (b): notably,  $f(\theta) = S_n(\theta)/(2k-1)$ : this reciprocal term is "controlling" the growth of  $S_n(\theta)$ . So divergence here does not give divergence for  $f(\theta)$ .

