

# Midterm #3 Study Guide

## Math 157 (Calculus II), Fall 2025

### 1. Sequences and series [§11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5, 11.6, 11.7]

- (a) Sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} = a_1, a_2, \dots$  is list of numbers,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  defined like  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$  [§11.1]
- (b) Series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is “infinite sum”  $a_1 + a_2 + \dots$  of terms  $a_n$ ; its value is  $s = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$  where  $s_n = a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n$  is the  $n$ th partial sum [§11.2]
- (c) Important series: geometric series [§11.2]  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1}$  converges if and only if  $|r| < 1$  (and  $= \frac{a}{1-r}$  if it converges);  $p$ -series [§11.3]  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$  converges if and only if  $p > 1$
- (d) Many tests for convergence / divergence of series:
  - i. (Divergence test [§11.2]) If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ , series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  diverges.
  - ii. (Integral test [§11.3]) If  $f(x)$  continuous, decreasing, and positive, with  $a_n = f(n)$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges if and only if  $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$  converges. In this case, have error bounds for remainder  $R_n = s - s_n$ :  $\int_{n+1}^{\infty} f(x) dx \leq R_n \leq \int_n^{\infty} f(x) dx$ .
  - iii. (Comparison tests [§11.4] for positive term series) If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  converges &  $a_n \leq b_n$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges. If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  diverges &  $a_n \geq b_n$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  diverges. If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n}$  exists & is  $\neq 0$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges if and only if  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  converges.
  - iv. (Alternating series test [§11.5]) Alternating series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} b_n$  converges as long as  $b_{n+1} \leq b_n$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$ . In this case, have error bound:  $|R_n| \leq b_{n+1}$ .
  - v. (Ratio test [§11.6]) For series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ , let  $L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|a_{n+1}|}{|a_n|}$ . If  $L < 1$ , series converges. If  $L > 1$  (including  $\infty$ ), series diverges. If  $L = 1$ , test is inconclusive.

### 2. Power series and Taylor series [§11.8, 11.9, 11.10, 11.11]

- (a) The ratio test tells us that any power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$  has a radius of convergence  $R$  such that it converges when  $|x-a| < R$  and diverges when  $|x-a| > R$  [§11.8]
- (b) Power series representations of functions  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$ ; getting a representation for one function from another via algebraic manipulations (like substitution) [§11.9]
- (c) Differentiate, integrate, and multiply power series like they are polynomials [§11.9, 11.10]
- (d) Taylor series of  $f(x)$  at  $x = a$  is  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n$ , where  $f^{(n)}$  is  $n$ th derivative [§11.10]
- (e) Important Taylor series [§11.10]:  $\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$  ( $R = 1$ );  $e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$  ( $R = \infty$ );  $\sin(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1} x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!}$  ( $R = \infty$ );  $\cos(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!}$  ( $R = \infty$ )
- (f) Taylor polynomial  $T_n(x)$ :  $n$ th partial sum of series;  $f(x) \approx T_n(x)$  if  $x \approx a$  [§11.10, 11.11]