

SEQUENCES AND SERIES

We take sequences in metric spaces

We take series in normed vector spaces in order to take summations

↳ Sometimes, we also need completeness, i.e. a Banach space

BASIC NOTATIONS

REMINERS (\mathbb{R} -valued sequences)

DEFINITION

Let $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ be a real-valued sequence

We say $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ converges to $l \in \mathbb{R}$, i.e. $x_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} l$ if $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N \geq 1$, s.t. $|x_n - l| < \varepsilon \quad \forall n \geq N$

CAUCHY'S CONDITION

In a complete vector space, to check for convergence, it is enough to check: $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N \geq 1$, s.t. $\forall m, n \geq N, |a_m - a_n| < \varepsilon$ (no need to know the limit l to compute)

PROPOSITION

- (1) If $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ is nondecreasing and bounded above by some $M < \infty$, then $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ converges to a limit $l \leq M$
- (2) If $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ is nonincreasing and bounded below by some $M > -\infty$, then $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ converges to a limit $l \geq M$

DEFINITION

Given two sequences $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ and $(b_n)_{n \geq 1}$ of real numbers, we say they are adjacent if one is increasing and the other is decreasing with $a_n - b_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$

PROPOSITION

If $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ and $(b_n)_{n \geq 1}$ are adjacent, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n$

DEFINITION

Let $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ and $(b_n)_{n \geq 1}$ be two real sequences. Here are some asymptotic notations (CSを勉強するボクは見て、笑った)

- (1) We say that a is dominated by b , denoted by $a_n = O(b_n)$, if \exists bounded sequence $c = (c_n)_{n \geq 1}$ and $N \in \mathbb{N}$, s.t. $a_n = c_n b_n \quad \forall n \geq N$
- (2) We say that a is negligible compared to b , i.e. $a_n = o(b_n)$, if \exists sequence $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_n)_{n \geq 1}$ that converges to 0 and $N \in \mathbb{N}$, s.t. $a_n = \varepsilon_n b_n \quad \forall n \geq N$

- (3) We say that a is equivalent to b , i.e. $a_n \sim b_n$ if \exists sequence $c = (c_n)_{n \geq 1}$ that converges to 1 and $N \in \mathbb{N}$, s.t. $a_n = c_n b_n \quad \forall n \geq N$

Remark: \sim is an equivalence relation in $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$, but

EXAMPLES

- (1) Define $a_n = \frac{1}{n}$, $b_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$ for $n \geq 1$, then $a_n = O(b_n)$ and $a_n \sim b_n$
- (2) Let $(a_n)_{n \geq 1} = (0, 1, 1, \dots)$ and $(b_n)_{n \geq 1} = (1, 1, \dots)$. Then, $a_n = O(b_n)$ and $a_n \sim b_n$
- (3) Let $a_n = n^2$, $b_n = 2^n$ for $n \geq 1$

DEFINITIONS

Let $(u_n)_{n \geq 0}$ be a sequence in a normed vector space $(W, \|\cdot\|)$

- Define $S_0 := 0$, $S_n = u_1 + \dots + u_n$ for $n \geq 1$
- The series with general term u_n is the sequence $(S_n)_{n \geq 1}$, denoted as $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ same notation but different meaning
- For $n \geq 0$, S_n is called the n^{th} partial sum of $\sum u_n$
- We say that the series $\sum u_n$ converges if the sequence $(S_n)_{n \geq 0}$ converges in $(W, \|\cdot\|)$. In this case, we write $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ for the limit
- In the case that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ converges, we define its n^{th} remainder by $R_n = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} u_k - \sum_{k=1}^n u_k = \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} u_k$

REMARK

$(S_n)_{n \geq 0}$ converges $\Leftrightarrow \sum (S_{n+1} - S_n)$ converges, since $\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (S_{n+1} - S_n) = S_N - S_0 = S_N$ ↗ Telescoping series

Shun/翔海 (@shun4mide)

PROPOSITION

- (1) If the series $\sum u_n$ converges, then $(S_n)_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence
- (2) If $(W, \|\cdot\|)$ is a Banach space, then the series $\sum u_n$ converges iff $(S_n)_{n \geq 1}$ is Cauchy

Proof

CVG \Rightarrow Cauchy in general metric space

Cauchy \Rightarrow CVG in complete space

COROLLARY (CAUCHY'S CRITERION)

Suppose that $(W, \|\cdot\|)$ is a Banach space. The series $\sum u_n$ converges iff $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N \geq 1$, s.t. $\forall n \geq N, \forall k \geq 1, \overset{\text{Use norms}}{\|u_{n+1} + \dots + u_{n+k}\|} < \varepsilon$

Proof

For $n \geq 1, k \geq 1, S_{n+k} - S_n = u_{n+1} + \dots + u_{n+k}$. Then, by the above proposition, QED.

COROLLARY

If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ is a convergent series, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$

Proof

It is a satisfaction of the fact that $(S_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is a Cauchy sequence. \square

REMARK

The converse does not hold, $\sum \frac{1}{n} = \infty$

DEFINITION

Suppose that $(W, \|\cdot\|)$ is a Banach space, and let $\sum u_n$ be a series with general terms in W

- If the series $\sum \|u_n\|$ converges, we say that the series $\sum u_n$ converges absolutely (w/o norm)
- If the series $\sum u_n$ converges but not absolutely, then we say $\sum u_n$ converges conditionally

EXAMPLE

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} = \ln 2$ is convergent but not absolutely convergent

THEOREM

For a Banach space $(W, \|\cdot\|)$, if $\sum u_n$ converges absolutely, then $\sum u_n$ converges

Proof

$\forall n, k \geq 1$, we have $\|u_{n+1} + \dots + u_{n+k}\| \leq \|u_{n+1}\| + \dots + \|u_{n+k}\|$

\therefore Cauchy's condition for $\sum \|u_n\| \Rightarrow$ Cauchy's condition for $\sum u_n$ (Shows how useful Cauchy's criterion is)

APPLICATIONS

Useful in metric spaces like vector spaces of matrices or function spaces, we only need to examine numbers due to the norm.

SERIES WITH NONNEGATIVE TERMS

COMPARISON BETWEEN SERIES

PROPOSITION

Let $\sum u_n$ be a series with nonnegative terms, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ converges $\Leftrightarrow \overset{\text{sequence of partial sums}}{(S_n)_{n \geq 0}}$ is bounded from above

PROPOSITION (COMPARISON TEST)

Shun/翔海 (@shun4mide)

We consider two nonnegative series $\sum u_n$ and $\sum v_n$ satisfying $\forall n \geq 1, 0 \leq u_n \leq v_n$

(1) If $\sum v_n$ converges, then $\sum u_n$ converges

(2) If $\sum u_n$ diverges, then $\sum v_n$ diverges

Proof

Let $(S_n)_{n \geq 0}$ be the partial sums of $\sum u_n$ and $(T_n)_{n \geq 0}$ be the partial sums of $\sum v_n$. Then, $\forall n \geq 0, S_n \leq T_n$. Conclude by prop above. \square

THEOREM

Let $\sum u_n$ and $\sum v_n$ be series with nonnegative terms

(1) If $v_n = O(u_n)$, and $\sum u_n$ converges, then $\sum v_n$ converges

(2) If $u_n \sim v_n$, then $\sum u_n$ and $\sum v_n$ either both converge or both diverge

Proof

(2) is a direct consequence of (1), $\because v(n) = O(u_n)$ and $u_n = O(v_n) \Leftrightarrow u_n \sim v_n$

\therefore It suffices to prove (1)

Suppose $v_n = O(u_n)$

Let $M > 0$ and $N \geq 1$, s.t. $v_n \leq M u_n \quad \forall n \geq N$.

Then, $\forall n \geq N, \sum_{k=1}^n v_k = \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} v_k + \sum_{k=N}^n v_k \leq \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} v_k + M \sum_{k=N}^n u_k$

Since $\sum u_n$ converges and $(\sum_{k=N}^n u_k)_{n \geq N}$ is bounded from above $\therefore \sum v_n$ converges \square

REMARK

Define $u_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2}$ and $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$, $n \geq 1$. It is clear that $u_n = O(v_n)$, but $\sum u_n$ converges and $\sum v_n$ diverges \therefore "non-negative" is a really important
Same with $u_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2} + \frac{1}{n}$ and $v_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2}$, with $u_n \sim v_n$.

EXAMPLE

Let's study the behavior of $\sum \frac{1}{n^2}$.

For $k \geq 2, \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1} = \frac{1}{k(k+1)} \leq \frac{1}{k^2} < \frac{1}{k(k-1)} = \frac{1}{k-1} - \frac{1}{k}$

$\therefore \sum_{n=1}^N (\frac{1}{n-1} - \frac{1}{n}) = \frac{1}{n-1} - \frac{1}{N} \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n-1} \quad \forall n \geq 2$

$\therefore \sum \frac{1}{n^2}$ converges

Moreover, $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k^2} \geq 1 + \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k^2} \geq 1 + \frac{1}{2} = 1.5$

Consider $R_n = \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^2}$. We know that $\sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} (\frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1}) = \frac{1}{n+1} \leq R_n \leq \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} (\frac{1}{k-1} - \frac{1}{k}) = \frac{1}{n}$ } We can try and consider the denominator
 $\therefore R_n \sim \frac{1}{n}$ as $n \rightarrow +\infty$

PROPOSITION (RIEMANN SERIES)

Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. The Riemann series $\sum \frac{1}{n^\alpha}$. We note $\sum \frac{1}{n^\alpha}$ converges $\Leftrightarrow \alpha > 1$

Proof

For $\alpha > \beta, n \geq 1$, define $\frac{1}{n^\alpha} \geq \frac{1}{n^\beta}$

• $\alpha = 1$: $\sum \frac{1}{n}$ is divergent, so $\forall \alpha < 1, \sum \frac{1}{n^\alpha}$ is divergent

To check divergence, see $\frac{1}{k} = \int_k^{k+1} \frac{1}{x} dx \geq \int_k^{k+1} \frac{1}{x^\alpha} dx = \ln(k+1) - \ln(k) \quad \forall k \geq 1$

$\therefore \forall n \geq 1, \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} \geq \sum_{k=1}^n (\ln(k+1) - \ln(k)) = \ln(n+1) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} +\infty$

$\therefore \sum \frac{1}{n}$ diverges

• $\alpha > 1$. For $k \geq 2$, we have $\frac{1}{k^\alpha} \leq \int_{k-1}^k \frac{1}{x^\alpha} dx = \frac{1}{1-\alpha} (\frac{1}{k^{\alpha-1}} - \frac{1}{(k-1)^{\alpha-1}})$

Moreover, $\sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k^\alpha} \leq \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{1-\alpha} (\frac{1}{k^{\alpha-1}} - \frac{1}{(k-1)^{\alpha-1}}) = \frac{1}{1-\alpha} (\frac{1}{n^{\alpha-1}} - \frac{1}{1^{\alpha-1}}) = \frac{1}{1-\alpha} (\frac{1}{n^{\alpha-1}} - 1)$

REMARK (Studying the remainder) - integral trick

Let us study the remainder $\sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^\alpha} = \frac{1}{n^\alpha} + \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^\alpha} \leq \frac{1}{n^\alpha} + \frac{1}{\alpha-1} \frac{1}{n^{\alpha-1}}$

Similarly, $\forall n \geq 2, \frac{1}{k^\alpha} \geq \int_k^{k+1} \frac{1}{x^\alpha} dx = \frac{1}{1-\alpha} (\frac{1}{(k+1)^{\alpha-1}} - \frac{1}{k^{\alpha-1}}) \Rightarrow \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^\alpha} \geq \frac{1}{\alpha-1} \frac{1}{n^{\alpha-1}}$

$\therefore R_n \sim \frac{1}{\alpha-1} \frac{1}{n^{\alpha-1}}$

The integral trick again from the previous part