

Problem 1 Consider the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{(n+2)^2} - \frac{1}{(n+3)^2} \right]$$

(a) (2 points). What are the values of the partial sums s_1 , s_2 , and s_n ?

Solution:

$$s_1 = \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{16}$$

$$s_2 = \left(\frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{16}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{16} - \frac{1}{25}\right) = \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{25}$$

$$s_n = \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{(n+3)^2}$$

(b) (1 point). Use your answer from part (a) to find the sum of the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{(n+2)^2} - \frac{1}{(n+3)^2} \right]$$

Solution:

We use the definition of the sum of the series as the limit of the partial sums to write

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{(n+2)^2} - \frac{1}{(n+3)^2} \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{(n+3)^2} \right] = \frac{1}{9}$$

Problem 2 (3 points). Write the repeating demical $0.\overline{0351}$ ($= 0.0351351351\dots$) as the ratio of two integers.

Solution:

We write $0.\overline{0351}$ as a geometric series.

$$0.\overline{0351} = 0.0351 \left[1 + \frac{1}{1000} + \frac{1}{1000^2} + \dots \right] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{351}{10000} \left(\frac{1}{1000} \right)^n$$

So $a = \frac{351}{10000}$ and $r = \frac{1}{1000}$. Since $|r| < 1$ this converges to

$$\frac{a}{1-r} = \frac{\frac{351}{10000}}{1 - \frac{1}{1000}} = \frac{351}{10000} \frac{1000}{999} = \frac{351}{9900}$$

Problem 3 (3 points). Determine whether the following series converges or diverges.

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \ln(n)}$$

Solution:

Note: There is a typo in this problem as originally stated. If we start our index from $n = 1$, we get $a_1 = \frac{1}{1 \cdot \ln(1)}$, but $\ln(1)$ is undefined. To make sense of this series, we need to start out index from $n = 2$.

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n \ln(n)} = 0$, so the n -th term test tells us nothing. We must use a different test. We note that $f(x) = \frac{1}{x \ln(x)}$ is a continuous positive decreasing function such that $f(n) = \frac{1}{n \ln(n)}$, so we can apply the integral test using $\int_2^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x \ln(x)}$. We can evaluate this integral by using the u -substitution $u = \ln x$. Then $du = \frac{dx}{x}$. Also, when $x = 2$, $u = \ln 2$, and as $x \rightarrow \infty$, $u \rightarrow \infty$. So

$$\int_{\ln 2}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x \ln(x)} = \int_{\ln 2}^{\infty} \frac{du}{u}$$

This integral diverges, so the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \ln(n)}$ also diverges by the Integral Test.

Problem 4 (1 point). Suppose $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ is a series such that $a_n \geq 0$ for all n and such that the n -th partial sum s_n is bounded from above (i.e., there exists a real number M such that $s_n \leq M$ for all n). Explain why it must be true that the series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ converges.

Solution: Since $a_n \geq 0$, we have that $s_{n+1} = s_n + a_{n+1} \geq s_n$, so s_n is a nondecreasing sequence. Since s_n is also bounded from above, it must converge. Therefore, since we define the sum $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ to be the limit of the partial sums s_n , the series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ converges.