

## OPEN QUESTIONS

Remarks: No calculators allowed, provide explanations and calculations, grade =  $\frac{\text{Total score}}{9} + 1$ .

1. Consider the following series:  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n 4^n}{n^2 + 1} x^{2n}$ .

8pt      a. Show that the radius of convergence is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Also find the center of convergence.

**Answer:**

We apply the ratio test. Write  $a_n = \frac{n 4^n}{n^2 + 1} x^{2n}$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| &= \left| \frac{4^{n+1}}{4^n} \frac{n+1}{n} \frac{n^2+1}{(n+1)^2+1} \frac{x^{2n+2}}{x^{2n}} \right| \\ &= 4x^2 \frac{n+1}{n} \frac{n^2+1}{(n+1)^2+1} \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 + \frac{1}{n} = 1 \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2+1}{(n+1)^2+1} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + \frac{1}{n^2}}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{n^2}} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = 4x^2.$$

The boundaries of the interval of convergence are given by  $4x^2 = 1$ , hence  $x = \pm \frac{1}{2}$ .

The center is the middle of the interval:  $x = 0$ . The radius is the distance of the center to the boundaries:  $R = \frac{1}{2}$ .

10pt      b. Give the interval of convergence for this series.

**Answer:**

The series converges on  $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$ . We have to investigate the boundary points separately. Note that both at  $x = -\frac{1}{2}$  and at  $x = \frac{1}{2}$  the series is the same:  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n}{n^2+1}$ . Note that  $a_n = f(n)$  with  $f(x) = \frac{x}{1+x^2}$ . This function is positive for  $x \geq 1$ . It is also decreasing for  $x \geq 1$ :

$$f'(x) = \frac{x^2 + 1 - 2x^2}{(1 + x^2)^2} = \frac{1 - x^2}{(1 + x^2)^2} \leq 0$$

for  $x \geq 1$ .

So we can use the Integral Test.

First we determine an anti-derivative of  $f$ . Using the substitution  $u = 1 + x^2$  we find:

$$\int \frac{x}{1+x^2} dx = \int \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{u} du = \frac{1}{2} \ln |u| + C = \frac{1}{2} \ln |1+x^2| + C.$$

We find

$$\begin{aligned}\int_1^\infty \frac{x}{1+x^2} dx &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^t \frac{x}{1+x^2} dx \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2} \ln |1+t^2| - \frac{1}{2} \ln(2) \\ &= \infty.\end{aligned}$$

The integral diverges, hence so does the sum. We find that the power series diverges both at  $x = -\frac{1}{2}$  and at  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Therefore, the interval of convergence is  $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$ .

6pt

c. Let  $f(x)$  be the function defined by the series. Show that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x) - x \sin(2x)}{x^4} = \frac{32}{5} + \frac{4}{3} \left( = \frac{116}{15} \right).$$

**Answer:**

We have:

$$f(x) = 2x^2 + \frac{32}{5}x^4 + O(x^6)$$

Since  $\sin(y) = y - \frac{1}{6}y^3 + O(y^5)$ , we find that

$$x \sin(2x) = x(2x - \frac{1}{6}(2x)^3) + O(x^6) = 2x^2 - \frac{4}{3}x^4 + O(x^6).$$

So

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x) - x \sin(2x)}{x^4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\frac{32}{5} + \frac{4}{3})x^4 + O(x^6)}{x^4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{32}{5} + \frac{4}{3} + O(x^2) = \frac{32}{5} + \frac{4}{3}.$$

2. Consider the following function:  $f(x, y) = xye^x - y^2e^x$

3pt

a. Show that  $(-2, -1)$  is a critical point of  $f$ .

**Answer:**

The partial derivatives are:

$$\begin{aligned}f_x(x, y) &= ye^x + xye^x - y^2e^x = (y + xy - y^2)e^x \\ f_y(x, y) &= xe^x - 2ye^x = (x - 2y)e^x\end{aligned}$$

Plug in  $(-2, -1)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}f_x(-2, -1) &= (-1 + 2 - 1)e^{-2} = 0 \\ f_y(-2, -1) &= (-2 + 2)e^{-2} = 0.\end{aligned}$$

So  $(-2, -1)$  is indeed a critical point for  $f$ .

6pt

b. Find all other critical points of  $f$ , if any.

**Answer:**

At a critical point the partial derivatives should vanish. Since  $e^x$  is non-negative for all  $x$ , we get the following set of equations:

$$\begin{aligned}y + xy - y^2 &= 0 \\x - 2y &= 0\end{aligned}$$

From the second we find  $x = 2y$ . Plugging this into the first, we obtain:

$$y + 2y^2 - y^2 = y + y^2 = y(y + 1) = 0.$$

Hence  $y = 0$ , which implies  $x = 0$ , or  $y = -1$ , which implies  $x = -2$ . So only  $(0, 0)$  is another critical point of  $f$ .

- 7pt c. Does  $f$  have a local minimum, local maximum or neither at  $(-2, -1)$ ?

**Answer:**

To find the type we use the second derivative test. We calculate the second order partial derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned}f_{xx}(x, y) &= ye^x + (y + xy - y^2)e^x = (2y + xy - y^2)e^x \\f_{yy}(x, y) &= -2e^x \\f_{xy}(x, y) &= (1 + x - 2y)e^x\end{aligned}$$

We calculate  $D$  at  $(-2, -1)$ :

$$D = f_{xx}(-2, -1)f_{yy}(-2, -1) - (f_{xy}(-2, -1))^2 = -e^{-2} \cdot (-2e^{-2}) - (e^{-2})^2 = e^{-4} > 0,$$

so  $f$  has a local minimum or local maximum at this point. Since  $f_{xx}(-2, -1) = -e^{-2} < 0$ , it must be a local maximum.

3. Consider the sequence  $(a_n)$  defined by  $\begin{cases} a_0 = 8 \\ a_{n+1} = \sqrt{1 + a_n} \end{cases}$

- 5pt a. Show that the sequence is decreasing.

**Answer:**

We use induction. Base case:  $a_0 = 8, a_1 = 3$ , so indeed  $a_1 \leq a_0$ .

Now suppose that for some  $n$  we have that  $a_{n+1} \leq a_n$ . Then  $1 + a_{n+1} \leq 1 + a_n$ , and  $\sqrt{1 + a_{n+1}} \leq \sqrt{1 + a_n}$ , since the square root is an increasing function. It follows that  $a_{n+2} \leq a_{n+1}$ . From the base and the induction step we conclude that for all integer  $n \geq 0$  we have  $a_{n+1} \leq a_n$ . So the sequence is decreasing.

- 8pt b. Explain whether the sequence converges. In case of convergence, find the limit.

**Answer:**

Note that all elements of the sequence are positive; if  $a_n$  is positive for some  $n$ , then  $a_{n+1} = \sqrt{1 + a_n}$  is also positive. Since  $a_0$  is positive, it follows by induction that  $a_n > 0$  for all  $n$ .

So the sequence is bounded and decreasing, hence convergent by the Monotone Convergence Theorem. Call the limit  $L$ , then we have  $L = \sqrt{1 + L}$ . Hence  $L^2 = 1 + L$ , that is  $L^2 - L - 1 = 0$ . It follows that  $L = \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}$ . Since  $L > 0$ , we find  $L = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}$ .