

## EXAMPLE SHEET 1

1. Let  $(x_n)$  be a real sequence with  $x_n \neq 0$  for all  $n$ . If  $x_n \rightarrow \infty$ , show that  $\frac{1}{x_n} \rightarrow 0$ . If  $x_n \rightarrow 0$ , does it follow that  $\frac{1}{x_n} \rightarrow \infty$ ? Now suppose that  $x_n \rightarrow \infty$  and that  $(y_n)$  is a real sequence with  $y_n \rightarrow y \in \mathbb{R}$ . If  $y > 0$ , prove that  $x_n y_n \rightarrow \infty$ .
2. Prove that  $x^n \rightarrow 0$  for  $x \in (0, 1)$ . (Do not assume the existence of the logarithm.)
3. Sketch the graphs of  $y = x$  and  $y = (x^4 + 1)/3$  and thereby illustrate the behavior of the real sequence  $(x_n)$  where  $x_{n+1} = (x_n^4 + 1)/3$ . For which of the three starting cases  $x_1 = 0$ ,  $x_1 = 1$  and  $x_1 = 2$  does the sequence converge? Prove your assertion.
4. Let  $x_1 > y_1 > 0$  and define  $x_{n+1} = (x_n + y_n)/2$ ,  $y_{n+1} = 2x_n y_n / (x_n + y_n)$  for  $n \geq 1$ . Show that  $x_n > x_{n+1} > y_{n+1} > y_n$  and deduce that the two sequences converge to a common limit. What is the limit?
5. The real sequence  $(x_n)$  is bounded but does not converge. Prove that it has two convergent subsequences with different limits.
6. For  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , let  $\{\alpha\} = \alpha - [\alpha]$  be the fractional part of  $\alpha$ . Suppose  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  is an irrational number, and define  $x_n = \{n\alpha\}$ . For any  $x \in [0, 1]$ , show that  $(x_n)$  has a subsequence converging to  $x$ .
7. For a fixed value of  $t > 0$ , define  $\exp(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{n!}$ , and let  $x_n = (1 + \frac{t}{n})^n$ . Using the binomial theorem, show that the sequence  $(x_n)$  is monotone increasing and is bounded above by  $\exp(t)$ . Show further that  $x_n \rightarrow \exp(t)$ .
8. Investigate the convergence of the following series. For those expressions containing the complex number  $z$ , find the values of  $z$  for which the series converges.

$$\sum_n \frac{\sin n}{n^2} \qquad \sum_n \frac{n^2 z^n}{5^n} \qquad \sum_n \frac{(-1)^n}{4 + \sqrt{n}} \qquad \sum_n \frac{z^n (1 - z)}{n}$$

9. Show that the series  $\sum_{n \geq 2} \frac{1}{n(\log n)^\alpha}$  converges for  $\alpha > 1$  and diverges otherwise. Does  $\sum_{n \geq 3} \frac{1}{n \log n \log \log n}$  converge?
10. The two series  $1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} - \dots$  and  $1 + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots$  have the same terms in different orders. Let  $s_n$  and  $t_n$  be the  $n$ th partial sums of these two series. Set  $h_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}$ . Show that  $s_{2n} = h_{2n} - h_n$  and  $t_{3n} = h_{4n} - \frac{1}{2}h_{2n} - \frac{1}{2}h_n$ . Show that  $(s_n)$  tends to a limit  $s > 0$  and  $(t_n)$  tends to  $\frac{3}{2}s$ .

11. Let  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ . Show that the series

$$\frac{z}{1-z^2} + \frac{z^2}{1-z^4} + \frac{z^4}{1-z^8} + \frac{z^8}{1-z^{16}} + \dots$$

converges to  $z/(1-z)$  if  $|z| < 1$ , converges to  $1/(1-z)$  if  $|z| > 1$ , and diverges if  $|z| = 1$ .

12. Prove that every real sequence has a monotone subsequence. Deduce the Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem.
13. Let  $x$  be a real number and suppose the real series  $\sum_n a_n$  converges, but does not converge absolutely. Prove the terms can be reordered so the resulting series converges to  $x$ . That is, there is a bijection  $\pi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\sum_n a_{\pi(n)} = x$ .
14. Can the open interval  $(0, 1)$  be written as a disjoint union of closed intervals of positive length?

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