

# Midterm 1 Review

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- Integration by parts ( $\int u dv = uv - \int v du$ ). (Derive this from the product rule.)
- What is a sequence? (A list of numbers  $a_1, a_2, \dots$ . Sometimes written as  $\{a_n\}$  or  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  or  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  or  $(a_n)_n$ ). Give an example of a recursively defined sequence.
- Definition: A sequence  $\{a_n\}$  has a *limit*  $L$  (written  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$ ) if
  1. for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,
  2. there is an integer  $N$  such that
  3. for every  $n > N$
  4.  $|a_n - L| < \varepsilon$ .

In other words, a sequence has a limit  $L$  if for any error  $\varepsilon > 0$  you may tolerate, there is a point after which the sequence is always within  $\varepsilon$  of  $L$ .

This is defining a limit of *sequences*, rather than the “continuous” limit from Math 1A. It is slightly different.

- Theorem: Let  $f$  be some function, and let  $\{a_n\}$  be a sequence where  $a_n = f(n)$ . If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L$  (this is a “continuous” limit), then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$  (this is a sequence limit).

In other words, you can treat sequence limits as continuous limits if the inside is a function which isn’t just defined on integers.

- What is the definition of  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \infty$ ? (Hint for more formal definition: a sequence tends toward infinity if for any  $M$ , the sequence is eventually always larger than  $M$ .)
- Limit laws: addition, subtraction, multiplication, constants, quotients, and powers work as you would expect for sequence limits.
- Squeeze theorem: works for sequences, too.
- Theorem: if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n| = 0$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ . (Why?)
- Theorem: if  $f$  is a function continuous at  $L$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = f(L)$ . (“Substitution.”)
- Write the definitions for an *increasing* sequence, a *decreasing* sequence, (and *monotonic*), *bounded above*, *bounded below*, (and *bounded sequence*).
- What does the Monotonic Sequence Theorem say? How does it use the Completeness Axiom of the real numbers?

- Definition: an (*infinite*) series for a sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is written as  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ , which is shorthand for  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^m a_n$ .  
More formally, a series is the limit of the sequence of partial sums  $\{\sum_{n=1}^m a_n\}_{m=1}^{\infty}$ . Sometimes  $\sum_{n=1}^m a_n$  is notated as  $s_m$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  as  $s$ .
- Definition: a series *converges* if the sequence of partial sums converges (to the *sum* of the series). A series *diverges* if it doesn't converge. (What is a series which diverges but does not tend to infinity?)
- What is a geometric series? What is the condition for a geometric series to converge? to diverge? What is the sum of a geometric series when it converges?
- The harmonic series: does it converge?
- Theorem (Test for Divergence): If the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is convergent, then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ . (So, if the limit is *not* zero or does not exist, the series is *divergent*.)
- Series laws: you can add and subtract convergent series to get another convergent series, and you can multiply a convergent series by a constant to get another convergent series. (But you cannot multiply two convergent series term-by-term to get a convergent series, for instance  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}}$  with itself.)
- Theorem (The Integral Test). Suppose  $f$  is a continuous, positive, decreasing function on  $[1, \infty)$ , and let  $a_n = f(n)$ . Then the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is convergent if and only if the improper integral  $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$  is convergent. (Remember: this is shorthand for  $\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^b f(x) dx$ .)
- What does "if and only if" mean?
- What is a  $p$ -series? When do they converge? when do they diverge? (How do you use the Integral Test to show this?)
- Definition: the *remainder* is the difference between the sum of a series and one of its partial sums. Notation:  $R_n = s - s_n$ . Why might we care about the remainder?
- An estimate for the remainder: if  $f$  and  $a_n$  are like those in the Integral Test,  $\int_{n+1}^{\infty} f(x) dx \leq R_n \leq \int_n^{\infty} f(x) dx$ . (Draw some pictures of rectangles to prove this to yourself.)
- Theorem (The Comparison Test): If  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  are two sequences such that  $0 \leq a_n \leq b_n$ , then
  1. If  $\sum b_n$  converges,  $\sum a_n$  converges, too; and
  2. If  $\sum a_n$  diverges, then  $\sum b_n$  diverges, too.
- Theorem (The Limit Comparison Test): If  $\sum a_n$  and  $\sum b_n$  are two series with positive terms, and if  $0 < \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} < \infty$  exists, then either both series converge or both series diverge.

In fact, the proof can be adapted to saying something stronger, that if  $\frac{a_n}{b_n}$  is eventually bounded below and above by a pair of positive numbers, then both series either converge or diverge.

- If a series  $\sum a_n$  converges by the comparison test against a convergent series  $\sum b_n$ , then remainders for  $\sum a_n$  can be estimated by using remainders for  $\sum b_n$ . Useful if remainders for  $\sum a_n$  are difficult to compute/estimate.
- An *alternating series* is a series whose terms are alternately positive and negative.
- Theorem (Alternating Series Test): If  $\sum a_n$  is an alternating series where  $b_n = |a_n|$  is monotonically decreasing and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$ , then the series  $\sum a_n$  is convergent. (This says *nothing* about whether an alternating series diverges; another test is necessary.)
- Theorem (Alternating Series Estimation): If  $\sum a_n$  is a convergent alternating series, then  $|R_n| \leq |a_{n+1}|$ . In other words, the difference between  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$  for a convergent alternating series is at most (plus or minus) the next term  $a_{n+1}$ .
- Definition: a series  $\sum a_n$  is *absolutely convergent* if  $\sum |a_n|$  is convergent. Theorem: all absolutely convergent series are also convergent. Definition: a series is *conditionally convergent* if it is convergent but not absolutely convergent. What are examples of absolutely and of conditionally convergent series?
- Theorem (The Ratio Test): If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = L$  and
  1.  $L < 1$ , then  $\sum a_n$  is absolutely convergent;
  2.  $L > 1$  or is infinite, then  $\sum a_n$  is divergent; or
  3.  $L = 1$ , then the series is either convergent or not convergent. (Examples both ways?)

In the proof for when  $L < 1$ , they choose some  $r$  such that  $L < r < 1$  and use the comparison test against a geometric series with that  $r$ . This could be useful to keep in mind.

In fact, the theorem can be adapted to saying that if  $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$  is eventually bounded above by a number less than 1, then  $\sum a_n$  is absolutely convergent. (This is true of the root test as well.)

- Theorem (The Root Test): This is similar to the ratio test, but now  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = L$ . (What is a proof?)
- What do the ratio and root tests say about  $p$ -series? About geometric series?
- Section 11.7 has a list of heuristics for choosing a test.
- For each test, (try to) come up with examples 1) which satisfy the test for each possible conclusion, and which 2) do not satisfy the test, but still converge/diverge.
- Try to make a map of some kind for dividing the Land of Series into Those that Converge and Those that Diverge.