# Problems on The Infinite Series

#### Problems on convergence 1

(v)

- 1. Give the  $\epsilon$ -definition of convergence of an infinite series  $\sum_{n \in I} a_n$ , where I is an infinite set.
- 2. If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges then prove that the sum is unique.
- 3. Prove that a necessary condition for the convergence of  $\sum_{n \in I} a_n$  is  $\lim_{n \to \infty} a_n = 0$ . Is that condition sufficient? Justify.
- 4. State and prove the necessary and sufficient condition for the convergence of an infinite series  $\sum a_n$ .
- 5. Show that if  $\sum_{n \in I} a_n$  converges, then there is a positive number M so that all the sums  $|\sum_{n \in I} a_n| \leq M$  for any finite subset  $I_0 \subset I$ .
- 6. Check the convergence of the following infinite series and find their sum, if converge

$$(i) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} \quad (ii) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{1+\frac{1}{n}}} \quad (iii) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4n^2 - 1} \quad (iv) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{n!\pi}{720}\right) \quad (v) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{n^2 + n + 1}\right)$$

$$(i) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n!)^2} \quad (vii) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2 - n + 1}{n!} \quad (viii) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{n!} \quad (ix) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4n(n+1)(2n+1)} \quad (x) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n} k}{n!}\right)$$

7. Prove that any rearrangement of terms of an infinite positive series does not change its sum.

#### $\mathbf{2}$ Problems on the series of non-negative terms

- 1. (Comparison Test) Let  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  be two series of positive terms. Check the convergence of  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ depending upon  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ ,
  - (i) If there is a natural number N such that  $a_n \leq kb_n$  for all  $n \geq N$ , and k is a fixed positive number. (ii) If there is a natural number N such that  $\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \leq \frac{b_{n+1}}{b_n}$  for all  $n \geq N$ . (iii) If  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = l$ , where l is a non-zero finite number. Also discuss the case when l = 0.
- 2. Determine for which value of  $\alpha$  the following series are convergent

(i) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{\alpha}}$$
 (ii) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\sqrt[n]{n} - 1\right)^{\alpha}$$
 (iii) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - n\sin\frac{1}{n}\right)^{\alpha}$$
 (iv) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{(2n-1)!!}{(2n)!!}\right)^{\alpha}$$

3. Prove that if a series ∑<sub>n=1</sub><sup>∞</sup> a<sub>n</sub> with positive terms converges, then ∑<sub>n=1</sub><sup>∞</sup> (p<sup>a<sub>n</sub></sup> - 1), where p > 1 also converges.
4. Suppose a series ∑<sub>n=1</sub><sup>∞</sup> a<sub>n</sub> of non-negative terms converges. Prove that the series ∑<sub>n=1</sub><sup>∞</sup> √a<sub>n</sub>a<sub>n-1</sub> also converges but not conversely. What can you say about the converse statement when {a<sub>n</sub>} is monotone decreasing.

5. Assume that a positive term sequence  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  diverges and  $\{S_n\}$  be its  $n^{th}$  partial sequence. Study the behaviour of

(i) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{1+a_n}$$
 (ii) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{1+na_n}$$
 (iii) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{1+n^2a_n}$$
 (iv) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{1+a_n^2}$$
 (v) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n \sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$$
 (vi) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{S_n^{\alpha}}$$
, where  $\alpha > 0$  (vii) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{S_n S_{n-1}^{\beta}}$$
, where  $\beta > 0$ 

6. Let  $\{a_n\}$  be a sequence of positive terms, diverging to infinity. What can you say about the convergence of the following series?

(i) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(a_n)^n}$$
 (ii)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(a_n)^{\log n}}$  (iii)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(a_n)^{\log \log n}}$ 

- 7. (Cauchy's Condensation Test) Let  $\{a_n\}$  be a monotone decreasing sequence of non-negative terms. Prove that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges (diverges) iff  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p^n a_{p^n}$  converges (diverges).
- 8. Test the convergence of the following series

(i) 
$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n (\log n)^{\alpha}}$$
, where  $\alpha > 0$  (ii)  $\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n (\log n) (\log(\log n))}$  (iii)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n!)}{(2n)!}$ 

9. (Logarithmic Test) Let  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  be a series of positive terms and  $\lim_{n \to \infty} n \log \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} = l$ . Prove that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges if l > 1 and diverges if l < 1. Also discuss the case when l = 1.

10. (*Raabe's Test*) Let  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  be a series of positive terms and  $\lim_{n \to \infty} n \left(\frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} - 1\right) = l$ . Prove that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges if l > 1 and diverges if l < 1. Also discuss the case when l = 1.

11. Study the behaviour of the following series

(i) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}}$$
 (ii)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a^{\log n}}, a > 0$  (iii)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a^{\log(\log n)}}, a > 0$  (iv)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a^{1+\frac{1}{2}+\ldots+\frac{1}{n}}, a > 0$  (v)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n^n}{e^n n!}$ 

- 12. If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  be a convergent series of positive terms, then what can you say about the convergence of the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \ldots + a_n}{n}?$
- 13. (Integral Test) Let f be a non-negative decreasing function on  $[1,\infty)$  such that the integral  $\int_{1}^{\Lambda} f(x) dx$ can be computed for all X > 1. If  $\lim_{X \to \infty} \int_{1}^{X} f(x) dx < \infty$  exists then the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n)$  converges and if If  $\lim_{X \to \infty} \int_{1}^{X} f(x) dx = \infty \text{ then the series } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n) \text{ diverges.}$
- 14. Let f be a positive and differentiable function on  $(0, \infty)$  such that f' decreases to zero. Show that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f'(n)$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{f'(n)}{f(n)}$  either both converge or diverge.
- 15. (Kummer's Test) Let  $\{a_n\}$  be a sequence of positive terms. Prove that (i) If there is a sequence  $\{b_n\}$  of positive numbers and a positive constant c such that  $b_n \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} - b_{n+1} \ge c$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges.

(ii) If there is a sequence  $\{b_n\}$  of positive numbers such that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{b_n}$  diverges and  $b_n \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} - b_{n+1} \le 0$  for all

 $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  diverges.

What can you say about the converse of this test? 16. Let  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  be the series of positive terms and  $\frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} = 1 + \frac{\alpha}{n} + \frac{\phi(n)}{n^{\lambda}}$ , where  $\lambda > 1$  and  $\{\phi_n\}$  is a bounded

sequence, then prove that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges if  $\alpha > 1$  and diverges if  $\alpha \le 1$ .

17. Discuss the convergence of the hypergeometric series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)...(\alpha+n-1)}{n!} \frac{\beta(\beta+1)...(\beta+n-1)}{\gamma(\gamma+1)...(\gamma+n-1)} x^n$ where  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta \gamma$  are positive constants and x > 0

#### 3 Problems on alternating series

- 1. (Leibnitz's Test) If  $\{a_n\}$  be a monotone decreasing sequence of positive real numbers and  $\lim_{n \to \infty} a_n = 0$ , then prove that the alternating series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} a_n$  converges.
- 2. (Dirichlet's Test) If  $\{a_n\}$  be a monotone sequence converging to 0 and the  $n^{th}$  partial sum of the series

 $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \text{ is bounded, then prove that the series } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n b_n \text{ converges. Also check the convergence of } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n^k b_n, \text{ for } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n^k b_n \text{ f$ 

all natural number k if an extra condition that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_{n+1} - a_n|$  is convergent be added.

3. (Abel's Test) Let  $\{a_n\}$  be a monotone convergent sequence and the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  is convergent. prove that

the series 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n b_n$$
 converges.

- 4.  $(D'Alembert's \ Ratio \ Test)$  Let  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  be a series of positive terms and  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = l$ . Prove that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges if l < 1 and diverges if l > 1. Also discuss the case when l = 1. Generalise this for the series of arbitrary terms.
- 5. (Cauchy's Root Test) Let  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  be a series of positive terms and  $\lim_{n \to \infty} (a_n)^{\frac{1}{n}} = l$ . Prove that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges if l < 1 and diverges if l > 1. Also discuss the case when l = 1. Generalise this for the series of arbitrary terms.
- 6. What do you mean by an absolutely convergent and an unconditionally convergent series? Prove that every absolutely convergent series is unconditionally convergent. Is the converse true? Justify.
- 7. What do you mean by a conditionally convergent series? Prove that every non-absolutely convergent series is conditionally convergent. Is the converse true? Justify.
- 8. Does the condition  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = 1$  imply that the convergence of  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is equivalent of the convergence of the

series 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$$
?

14.

- 9. Assume that a series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is absolutely convergent and define  $p_n = \frac{|a_n| + a_n}{2}$  and  $q_n = \frac{|a_n| a_n}{2}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Show that both the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_n$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} q_n$  is convergent. What can you say about  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_n$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} q_n$ , if  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is conditionally convergent?
- 10. Let  $\{a_n\}$  be a sequence of positive terms converging to 0. Prove that if the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n b_n$  converges then  $\lim_{n \to \infty} a_n (b_1 + b_2 + ... + b_n) = 0.$
- 11. Let  $\alpha$  be a given positive number. Prove that if the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n^{\alpha}}$  converges then  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n^{\alpha}} = 0.$
- 12. Does there exists a convergent series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  such that all the series of the form  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n^k$ , where  $k \in \{2, 3, 4, ...\}$ , diverge?
- 13. Decide whether the series are convergence, absolutely convergent, conditionally convergent, unconditionally convergent or divergent.

$$\begin{array}{l} (\mathrm{i}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} & (\mathrm{ii}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} & (\mathrm{iii}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{n}{n+2} & (\mathrm{iv}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{\sqrt{n}}}{n^{\alpha}}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \\ (\mathrm{v}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) & (\mathrm{vi}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2} \cos\left(n\alpha\right), \alpha \in \mathbb{R} & (\mathrm{vii}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{n\log n}{e^n} & (\mathrm{viii}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right) \\ (\mathrm{ix}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{\{\sqrt{n}\}}(n+1)^n}{n^{n+\frac{3}{2}}} & (\mathrm{x}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\sqrt[3]{n^3+1}-n\right) & (\mathrm{xi}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\sqrt{n+1}-\sqrt{n}}{n} & (\mathrm{xii}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{[\sqrt{n}]}n^n}{(n+1)^{n+1}} \\ (\mathrm{xiii}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin\left(n^{\frac{3}{2}}\right)}{n^{\frac{3}{2}}} & (\mathrm{xiv}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\frac{1}{2}+(-1)^n}{n} & (\mathrm{xv}) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^3 \left(\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \sin nt \, dt\right), \text{ where } f \in c^1[-\pi,\pi] \\ \\ \text{Find the sum of the series} \\ (\mathrm{i}) \left(\frac{4}{20}+\frac{4.7}{20.30}+\frac{4.7.10}{20.30.40}+\ldots\right) & (\mathrm{ii}) \left(\frac{1}{6}+\frac{5}{6.12}+\frac{5.8}{6.12.18}+\frac{5.8.11}{6.12.18.24}+\ldots\right) & (\mathrm{iii}) \left(\frac{1}{12.3}+\frac{3}{2.3.4}+\frac{5}{3.4.5}+\frac{7}{4.5.6}+\ldots\right) \\ (\mathrm{iv}) \left(\frac{1}{2.3.4}+\frac{1}{4.5.6}+\frac{1}{6.7.8}+\ldots\right) & (\mathrm{v}) \left(\frac{1}{3!}+\frac{4!}{4!}+\frac{9!}{5!}+\ldots\right) & (\mathrm{vi}) \left(\frac{1}{2.3}+\frac{2}{3.4}+\frac{2}{3.6.9}+\frac{1}{4.5}+\frac{1}{2.5}+\frac{1}{4.9}+\ldots\right) \\ (\mathrm{vii}) \left(\frac{5}{3.6}+\frac{1}{4^2}+\frac{5.8.11}{3.6.9+\frac{1}{4^3}+\frac{5.8.11}{3.6.9+\frac{1}{4^4}}+\ldots\right) & (\mathrm{viii}) \left(1-\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{3}+\frac{1}{4}+\frac{1}{5}-\frac{1}{6}-\frac{1}{7}+\ldots\right) & (\mathrm{ii}) \left(1+\frac{1}{9}+\frac{1}{25}+\frac{1}{49}+\ldots\right) \\ \end{array}$$

(x) 
$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \ldots\right)$$
 (xi)  $\left(1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{16} + \ldots\right)$  (xii)  $\left(\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{3}\frac{1}{5^3} + \frac{1}{5}\frac{1}{5^5} + \ldots\right)$ 

## 4 Problems on Cauchy product of infinite series

If atleast one of the following convergent series ∑<sup>∞</sup><sub>n=0</sub> a<sub>n</sub> and ∑<sup>∞</sup><sub>n=0</sub> b<sub>n</sub> be absolutely convergent then prove that the series of their Cauchy product ∑<sup>∞</sup><sub>n=0</sub> (∑<sup>n</sup><sub>k=0</sub> a<sub>k</sub>b<sub>n-k</sub>) converges. Moreover if ∑<sup>∞</sup><sub>n=1</sub> a<sub>n</sub> = A and ∑<sup>∞</sup><sub>n=1</sub> b<sub>n</sub> = B, then prove that ∑<sup>∞</sup><sub>n=0</sub> (∑<sup>n</sup><sub>k=0</sub> a<sub>k</sub>b<sub>n-k</sub>) = AB.
 Prove that if the Cauchy product ∑<sup>∞</sup><sub>n=0</sub> (∑<sup>n</sup><sub>k=0</sub> a<sub>k</sub>b<sub>n-k</sub>) of two convergent series ∑<sup>∞</sup><sub>n=0</sub> a<sub>n</sub> = A and ∑<sup>∞</sup><sub>n=0</sub> b<sub>n</sub> = B, converges to C then C = AB.

3. Prove that the Cauchy product of two convergent series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$  and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$  converges iff

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \left( b_n + b_{n-1} + \dots + b_{n-k+1} \right) = 0$$
4. Find the sum of the series
(i)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} nx^{n-1}$ ,  $|x| < 1$  (ii)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n} x^k y^{n-k} \right)$ ,  $|x| < 1$ ,  $|y| < 1$  (iii)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{k(k+1)(n-k+1)!} \right)$ 
5. Fin the sum of the Cauchy product for the following series
(i)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n!}$ , and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n n!}$  (ii)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{1}{n}$ , and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{3^n}$  (iii)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)x^n$ , and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (n+1)x^n$ 
(iv)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n}}{(n!)^2}$ , and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n}}{(n!)^2}$ 

6. What do you mean by a double series and its convergence?

# 5 Problems on rearrangement of infinite series

- 1. If  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$  be a series of arbitrary terms and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$  is obtained from  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$  by grouping its terms then prove that the convergence of  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$  implies to the convergence of  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$  to the same sum. What can you say about the convergence of  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ , when  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$  is convergent?
- 2. Prove that the rearrangement series of an absolutely convergent series converges to the same sum.
- 3. Show that the series  $1 \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \frac{1}{4} + \dots$  converges to  $\log 2$ . Also find the rearrangements of the above series so that the rearrangement series converge to  $\frac{3}{2}\log 2$ , 0 and  $\frac{1}{2}\log 12$  respectively.
- 4. Rearrange the terms of  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1}{n^p}$ ,  $p \in (0,1)$  to increase its sum by l.

## 6 Problems on infinite products

1. Find the value of (i)  $\prod_{n=2}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^2}\right)$  (ii)  $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{e^{\frac{1}{n}}}{1 + \frac{1}{n}}\right)$  (iii)  $\prod_{n=2}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n^2} + \frac{1}{n^4} + \frac{1}{n^6} + ...\right)$ 2. Study the convergence of (i)  $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} n \sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$  (ii)  $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \sqrt[n]{n}$  (iii)  $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} n \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)$