Mathematics 1120H – Calculus II: Integrals and Series

TRENT UNIVERSITY, Winter 2020

Assignment #5 Speed of Convergence Due on Thursday, 19 March.

Some parts of this assignment effectively require the use of mathematical software such as Maple, Sagemath, or Mathematica. Doing those parts entirely by hand, or even with the help of a calculator, will require considerable time and patience. Recall that Trent University has a (now 50-seat) site license for Maple, and note that significant chunks of the functionality of both Sagemath and Mathematica are available for free via web interfaces. (Sagemath is free, in any event.)

It's a fact that $\frac{1}{e} = e^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{24} + \frac{1}{120} - \cdots$ (We'll see why

this series adds up to $\frac{1}{a}$ once we do Taylor series.)

1. What is the least value of k such that $\sum_{n=0}^{k} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{24} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^k}{k!}$ is within 0.0001 = 10⁻⁴ of $\frac{1}{e}$? Why? [2]

2. What is the least value of m such that $\sum_{n=0}^{k} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{24} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^k}{k!}$ is within $0.0001 = 10^{-4}$ of $\frac{1}{e}$ for all $k \ge m$? Why? [2]

It's also a fact that $\frac{\pi}{4} = e^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n+1} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \cdots$ (Again, we'll see why this series adds up to $\frac{\pi}{4}$ once we do Taylor series.)

3. What is the least value of k such that $\sum_{n=0}^{k} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n+1} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \dots + \frac{(-1)^k}{2k+1}$ is within 0.0001 = 10⁻⁴ of $\frac{\pi}{4}$? Why? [2]

The series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2}{(4n+1)(4n+3)}$ also adds up to $\frac{\pi}{4}$. (To see why, answer question 4.)

4. How are these two series adding up to $\frac{\pi}{4}$ related, besides having the same sum? [2]

5. What is the least value of k such that $\sum_{n=0}^{\kappa} \frac{2}{(4n+1)(4n+3)}$ is within 0.0001 = 10⁻⁴ of $\frac{\pi}{4}$? Why? [2]