

Lecture 16

Mar. 11th, 2022

Recall: Integral Test

If $f(x)$ is decreasing on $[c, \infty)$ and integrable, then if $a_n = f(n)$ (for $n \geq c$), we have $\sum_{n=c}^{\infty} a_n$ converges exactly when the improper integral $\int_c^{\infty} f(x) dx$ converges.

• Note: $f(x)$ must be a positive function (ie. $f(x) > 0$)

ex/ Does $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n}$ converge?

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2}{2^x} \geq 0 \text{ for } x \geq 0$$

$\Rightarrow f(x)$ is > 0 for $x > 0$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n} \text{ since } \frac{0^2}{2^0} = 0$$

\rightarrow this satisfies condition that $f(x)$ is positive

Is the function decreasing?

$$f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{x^2}{2^x} \right) = \frac{d}{dx} (x^2 \cdot 2^{-x})$$

\downarrow

Quotient Rule

$$f'(x) = \frac{\frac{d}{dx}(x^2) \cdot 2^x - x^2 \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(2^x)}{(2^x)^2}$$

$$= \frac{2x \cdot 2^x - x^2 \cdot 2^x \ln(2)}{(2^x)^2}$$

$$= \frac{2x - x^2 \ln(2)}{2^x}$$

$$= \frac{2 - x \ln(2)}{2^x}$$

so $f'(x) < 0$ exactly when

$$2 - x \ln(2) < 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2 < x \ln(2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x > \frac{2}{\ln(2)} \approx 2.885 \dots$$

Thus $f'(x) < 0$ and so $f(x)$ is decreasing when $x \geq 3$

$$\text{Thus } \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2^2}{2^2} + \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n}$$



ex/
cont'd



So the original series converges exactly when $\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n}$ does.

We can apply the integral test to the last series because $f(x) = \frac{x^2}{2^x}$ satisfies the hypotheses we need on $[3, \infty)$.

ie. $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n}$ converges as $\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n}$ converges as $\int_3^{\infty} \frac{x^2}{2^x} dx$ does.

$$\int_3^{\infty} \frac{x^2}{2^x} dx = \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \int_3^c \frac{x^2}{2^x} dx = \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \int_3^c x^2 \cdot 2^{-x} dx$$

$$= \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \left[x^2 \cdot \frac{2^{-x}}{\ln(2)} \Big|_3^c - \int_3^c \frac{2x(-2^{-x})}{\ln(2)} dx \right] \quad \text{Parts} \quad \left[u = x^2, u' = 2x, v' = 2^{-x}, v = \frac{2^{-x}}{\ln(2)} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{-c^2 \cdot 2^{-c}}{\ln(2)} - \frac{-3^2 \cdot 2^{-3}}{\ln(2)} + \frac{2}{\ln(2)} \int_3^c x \cdot 2^{-x} dx \right]$$

Part II

$$\left[u = x, u' = 1, v' = 2^{-x}, v = \frac{2^{-x}}{\ln(2)} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{-c^2 \cdot 2^{-c}}{\ln(2)} + \frac{9 \cdot 2^{-3}}{\ln(2)} + \frac{2}{\ln(2)} \left(\frac{-x \cdot 2^{-x}}{\ln(2)} \Big|_3^c - \int_3^c \frac{2^{-x}}{\ln(2)} dx \right) \right]$$

$$= \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{-c^2 \cdot 2^{-c}}{\ln(2)} + \frac{9 \cdot 2^{-3}}{\ln(2)} + \frac{2}{\ln(2)} \left(\frac{-c \cdot 2^{-c}}{\ln(2)} - \frac{-3 \cdot 2^{-3}}{\ln(2)} + \frac{1}{\ln(2)} \int_3^c 2^{-x} dx \right) \right]$$

$$= \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{-c^2 \cdot 2^{-c}}{\ln(2)} + \frac{9 \cdot 2^{-3}}{\ln(2)} + \frac{-c \cdot 2^{-c+1}}{[\ln(2)]^2} + \frac{3 \cdot 2^{-3+1}}{[\ln(2)]^2} + \frac{2}{[\ln(2)]^2} \cdot \frac{2^{-x}}{\ln(2)} \Big|_3^c \right]$$

$$= \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{-c^2 \cdot 2^{-c}}{\ln(2)} + \frac{9 \cdot 2^{-3}}{\ln(2)} + \frac{-c \cdot 2^{-c+1}}{[\ln(2)]^2} + \frac{3 \cdot 2^{-2}}{[\ln(2)]^2} + \frac{2^{-c+1}}{[\ln(2)]^3} + \frac{2^{-3+1}}{[\ln(2)]^3} \right]$$

$\lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c}{2^{c-1}} \left[\frac{\infty}{\infty} \right] = \lim_{c \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c}{\ln(2) \cdot 2^{c-1}} = 0$

(in similar way) $\rightarrow 0$

$$= \frac{9 \cdot 2^{-3}}{\ln(2)} + \frac{3 \cdot 2^{-2}}{[\ln(2)]^2} + \frac{2^{-3+1}}{[\ln(2)]^3}$$

\Rightarrow the integral exists, and so $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n}$ converges.