

1. Evaluate the following series exactly if they converge, or explain why they diverge.

$$(a) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{5^n}{3 \cdot 2^{3n+2}}$$

*Geometric series.*  $r = \frac{5}{2^3} = \frac{5}{8} < 1$  so it converges.  $a = \frac{5^0}{3 \cdot 2^2} = \frac{1}{12}$ . So the limit is

$$\frac{a}{1-r} = \frac{\frac{1}{12}}{1-\frac{5}{8}} = \frac{2}{9}.$$

$$(b) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{5 \cdot 2^n}{7}$$

*Geometric series.*  $r = 2$  so diverges. (WARNING: Don't forget to make sure that  $r < 1$  before blindly using the formula  $\frac{a}{1-r}$ .)

$$(c) \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\ln(n^2)} - \frac{1}{\ln((n+1)^2)}$$

*Telescoping sum.*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\ln(n^2)} = 0$$

and therefore the sum converges to

$$\frac{1}{\ln(4^2)} - 0 = \frac{1}{\ln(16)}.$$

$$(d) \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \ln(n^2) - \ln((n+1)^2)$$

*Telescoping sum.*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln(n^2) = \infty$$

and therefore the sum diverges.

$$(e) 4 + 12 + \frac{36}{2} + \frac{108}{6} + \frac{4 \cdot 81}{24} + \dots$$

This is

$$4\left(1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \dots\right)$$

with  $x = 3$  plugged in. Thus it is  $4e^3$ .

$$(f) 7 - \frac{7^2}{2} + \frac{7^3}{3} - \frac{7^4}{4} + \dots$$

This is

$$x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} + \dots$$

with  $x = 7$  plugged in. You might be fooled and say it is  $\ln(1+7) = \ln(8)$ . Unfortunately, 7 is not in the interval of convergence of this power series... it diverges, by the ratio test.

$$(g) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{(13)^{2n}}{(2n)!} + (-1)^n \frac{9^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!}$$

The first sum is  $\cos(13)$  and the second sum is  $\sin(9)$ , thus the combo is  $\cos(13) + \sin(9)$ .

2. Let  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n t^n$  be a power series centered at 0.

(a) Write down power series centered at 0 for  $y'$ ,  $y''$ , and  $y'''$ .

$$y' = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n t^{n-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) a_{n+1} t^n.$$

(Note: either one is ok, both answer the question. But the latter will be more useful later on.)

$$y'' = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1) a_n t^{n-2} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} t^n.$$

$$y''' = \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} n(n-1)(n-2)a_n t^{n-3} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+3)(n+2)(n+1)a_{n+3} t^n.$$

- (b) Suppose that  $y(0) = 2$ ,  $y'(0) = 1$ , and  $y''(0) = 6$ . What does that say about the coefficients  $a_n$ ?

$$a_0 = y(0) = 2, a_1 = y'(0) = 1 \text{ and } a_2 = \frac{y''(0)}{2!} = 3.$$

- (c) Suppose that  $y$  solves the differential equation  $y''' - 2y'' + y' - 2y = 0$  with the initial conditions given above. Find  $a_n$  for  $n \leq 4$ .

(We add together the power series in the latter form above, so that they easily give us the coefficient of  $t^n$ .)

$$y''' - 2y'' + y' - 2y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} ((n+3)(n+2)(n+1)a_{n+3} - 2(n+2)(n+1)a_{n+2} + (n+1)a_{n+1} - 2a_n)t^n = 0$$

So each coefficient is zero. Solving for  $a_{n+3}$  we get

$$a_{n+3} = \frac{2(n+2)(n+1)a_{n+2} - (n+1)a_{n+1} + 2a_n}{(n+3)(n+2)(n+1)}$$

Plugging in  $n = 0$  we get

$$a_3 = \frac{2(2)(1)a_2 - (1)a_1 + 2a_0}{(3)(2)(1)} = \frac{12 - 1 + 4}{6} = \frac{15}{6}.$$

Plugging in  $n = 1$  we get

$$a_4 = \frac{(2)(3)(2)a_3 - (2)a_2 + 2a_1}{(4)(3)(2)} = \frac{12 \cdot \frac{15}{6} - 6 + 2}{24} = \frac{26}{24}.$$

3. Let  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(t-6)^n$  be a power series centered at 6.

(a) Write down power series centered at 6 for  $y'$  and  $(t+2)y$ .

$$y' = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n (t-6)^{n-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) a_{n+1} (t-6)^n$$

$$\begin{aligned} (t+2)y &= ((t-6) + 8)y = (t-6)y + 8y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (t-6)^{n+1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 8a_n (t-6)^n \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} (t-6)^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 8a_n (t-6)^n = 8a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (8a_n + a_{n-1}) (t-6)^n \end{aligned}$$

(Remember, the steps here are: recenter the polynomial  $(t+2)$  at 6, i.e. in the form  $(t-6) + 8$ . Then find each term individually. Then, to add them together, reindex so the coefficient of  $(t-6)^n$  is obvious. Then, when you add, keep track of small values of  $n$  separately; here,  $n=0$  is special, because it is not in the first sum.)

(b) Suppose that  $y$  solves the differential equation  $y' - (t+2)y = 15$ . Write down a recursive formula for the coefficients  $a_n$ .

$$y' - (t+2)y = (a_1 - 8a_0 - 15)(t-6)^0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((n+1)a_{n+1} - 8a_n - a_{n-1})(t-6)^n = 0$$

Each coefficient is zero. So our recursive formula is special at the start:

$$a_1 = 8a_0 + 15,$$

and then for  $n \geq 1$  is:

$$a_{n+1} = \frac{8a_n + a_{n-1}}{n+1}.$$

(Note: You will make fewer mistakes if you keep track of for which  $n$  the formula is valid. This formula right here is valid only for  $n \geq 1$ , not for  $n=0$ , where you have to use the formula  $a_1 = 8a_0 + 15$  instead.)

- (c) Find the first three non-zero terms of the general solution centered at 6.

For the general solution, we just let  $a_0$  be an independent variable, and solve everything in terms of it.

$$a_1 = 8a_0 + 15$$

$$a_2 = \frac{8a_1 + a_0}{2} = \frac{64a_0 + a_0 + 120}{2} = \frac{65}{2}a_0 + 60$$

(Warning: It is not good enough to leave it at  $a_2 = \frac{8a_1 + a_0}{2}$ . You have to solve in terms of  $a_0$ . The point is that  $a_0$  determines the initial conditions, from which everything else should be determined.)

So the first three terms are  $a_0 + (8a_0 + 15)(t - 6) + (\frac{65}{2}a_0 + 60)(t - 6)^2$ .

4. Suppose that  $y$  solves the differential equation  $y'' + ty' + y = 0$  with initial conditions  $y(0) = 1$  and  $y'(0) = 0$ .

- (a) Suppose that  $y = \sum a_n t^n$ . Find a recursive formula for the coefficients  $a_n$ .

$$y'' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+2)(n+1)a_{n+2}t^n$$

$$ty' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)a_{n+1}t^{n+1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} na_n t^n$$

$$y'' + ty' + y = ((2)(1)a_2 + a_0)t^0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((n+2)(n+1)a_{n+2} + na_n + a_n)t^n$$

so

$$a_2 = \frac{-a_0}{2}$$

and

$$a_{n+2} = \frac{-(n+1)a_n}{(n+2)(n+1)} = \frac{-a_n}{n+2}$$

for  $n \geq 1$ .

(Secretly, though, this formula also holds for  $n = 0$ . After all, looking at  $ty'$ , it is the case that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} na_n t^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} na_n t^n$ . But there are cases where trying to simplify like this will just screw you up or confuse you unless you're a careful person...)

- (b) Find the values of  $a_n$  for  $n \leq 8$ .

$$a_0 = y(0) = 1 \text{ and } a_1 = y'(0) = 0.$$

$$a_2 = \frac{-1}{2} \text{ and } a_3 = 0$$

$$a_4 = \frac{-a_2}{4} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 4} \text{ and } a_5 = 0.$$

$$a_6 = \frac{-a_4}{6} = \frac{-1}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6} \text{ and } a_7 = 0.$$

$$a_8 = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 8}.$$

(The pattern is clear if you needed to find  $a_n$  for all  $n$ .)

- (c) Approximate the value of  $y(0.1)$  to within  $10^{-6}$ . Justify your answer.

By the above, we have that  $y(t)$  is approximately equal to

$$1 - \frac{1}{2}t^2 + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 4}t^4 - \frac{1}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6}t^6 + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 8}t^8 - \dots$$

Plugging in  $t = 0.1 = 10^{-1}$ , we get an alternating series. Since  $\frac{1}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6}10^{-6} < 10^{-6}$  while  $\frac{1}{2 \cdot 4}10^{-4} > 10^{-6}$ , we see that the fourth term is the first one which is smaller than  $10^{-6}$ . So we should stop after the third term, which gives the approximation

$$y(0.1) \approx 1 - \frac{1}{2}10^{-2} + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 4}10^{-4}.$$