

## Mathematics 1b - Solution Set 3

Do: §8.3 # 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 19, 20

1) Graph of the picture shows  $a_n$  as the area of shaded boxes each under the curve, with width of 1 and height of  $a_n$  (thus the area is the value  $a_n$ ). Therefore,  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{1.3}}$  (i.e., the sum of the areas of all these boxes)  $< \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^{1.3}} dx$ . The integral converges with  $p = 1.3 > 1$ , so the series converges.

2) The figures for the two series are as follows:  $\sum_{i=1}^5 a_i$  is the area of the shaded boxes with width 1 and height  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_5$ . This spans the interval on the graph from  $x = 1$  to  $x = 6$ .  $\sum_{i=2}^6 a_i$  is the set of shaded boxes with width 1 and height  $a_2, a_3, \dots, a_6$  - they all lie under the graph of  $f(x)$ . By looking at these graphs, we can see that the sum of areas of the first set of shaded boxes (and therefore the sum of the first 5 terms of  $a_i$ ) is greater than the area under the curve (the integral of  $f(x)$ ), while the areas of the second set of shaded boxes summates to a value less than the integral. Therefore,  $\sum_{i=1}^5 a_i > \int_1^6 f(x) dx > \sum_{i=2}^6 6a_i$ .

3) a) We cannot say anything about  $\sum a_n$ . If  $a_n > b_n$  for all  $n$  and  $\sum b_n$  is convergent, then  $\sum a_n$  could be convergent or divergent.

b) If  $a_n < b_n$  for all  $n$ , then  $\sum a_n$  is convergent.

4) a) If  $a_n > b_n$  for all  $n$ , then  $\sum a_n$  is divergent.

b) We cannot say anything about  $\sum a_n$  for similar reasons as in question 3a.

10)  $\frac{1}{2n-1} > \frac{1}{2n} = \frac{1}{2} * \frac{1}{n}$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , so  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n-1}$  diverges by comparison with  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$ , which diverges because it is a nonzero constant multiple of the divergent harmonic series.

19)  $\frac{n+1}{n^2} > \frac{n}{n^2} = \frac{1}{n}$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , so  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n+1}{n^2}$  diverges by comparison with the harmonic series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$ .

20)  $\frac{4+3^n}{2^n} > \frac{3^n}{2^n} = (\frac{3}{2})^n$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , so  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4+3^n}{2^n}$  diverges by comparison with the divergent geometric series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (\frac{3}{2})^n$ .

Plus:

### Problem on $p$ -series

In this problem you will learn about a family of series known as  $p$ -series. This is an important problem, and we will use the result of your work repeatedly both in class and on exams.

A  $p$ -series is a series of the form

$$\frac{1}{1^p} + \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} + \dots + \frac{1}{n^p} + \dots$$

1. If  $p < 0$  then the series diverges by the  $n$ th term test. Explain.

The series would be the same as  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-p}$  (with  $-p$  being a positive value), which diverges because of the  $n$ th term, or divergence, test ( $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{\text{positive value}} \neq 0$ ).

2. Show that if  $p > 1$  then  $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^b \frac{1}{x^p} dx$  is finite.

$\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^b \frac{1}{x^p} = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left. \frac{-1}{(p-1)x^{p-1}} \right|_1^b = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{-1}{(p-1)b^{p-1}} - \frac{-1}{(p-1)(1)} \right)$ . If  $p > 1$ , the definite integral is finite because  $b$  remains in the denominator and causes the first term to approach zero as  $b$  approaches infinity. Thus, if  $p > 1$ , the definite integral is finite.

Show that if  $p = 1$  then  $\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^b \frac{1}{x^p} dx = \infty$ .

If  $p = 1$ , then the integral would be  $\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \ln|x| \Big|_1^b$ , which is infinite because  $\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \ln b = \infty$ .

Show that if  $0 < p < 1$  then  $\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^b \frac{1}{x^p} dx = \infty$ .

If  $0 < p < 1$ , then  $p - 1 < 0$  and  $\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{b^{p-1}} = \infty$ . Therefore,  $\lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^b \frac{1}{x^p} = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left. \frac{-1}{(p-1)x^{p-1}} \right|_1^b = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{-1}{(p-1)b^{p-1}} - \frac{-1}{(p-1)(1)} \right) = \infty - (\text{a finite number}) = \infty$ .

Conclude that  $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} dx$  diverges for  $0 < p < 1$  and converges for  $p > 1$ .

Based on the Integral Test,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$  converges when  $p > 1$  because  $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^p}$  converges for those values of  $p$ . Similarly, the series diverges when  $0 < p < 1$  because the integral diverges for those values of  $p$ .

3. Conclude from your work in parts (a) and (b) that  $\frac{1}{1^p} + \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n^p} + \cdots$  converges if  $p > 1$  and diverges if  $p < 1$ .

We showed above that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$  diverges if  $0 < p < 1$ . Using the same argument, the series also diverges if  $p < 0$ , and if  $p = 0$  the series becomes  $\sum 1$ , which diverges. Therefore,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$  diverges if  $p < 1$  and converges if  $p > 1$ . We showed that diverges if  $p < 1$ .