

**Math 213 Advanced Calculus – Final Exam – Solutions**

1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL
20	20	20	20	20	100

*Please do not write anything inside the above boxes!*

Check that there are 5 questions on your exam booklet. Write your name on top of every page. Show your work in reasonable detail. A correct answer without proper or too much reasoning may not get any credit.

**Q-1)** Consider the infinite series

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n!)^3}{(3n)!} x^n.$$

- i) Find the radius of convergence.
  - ii) Decide if the series converges at the end points.
- [10+10 points]

**Solution:**

$$a_n = \frac{(n!)^3}{(3n)!} x^n.$$

$$a_{n+1} = \frac{(n!)^3 (n+1)^3}{(3n)! (3n+1)(3n+2)(3n+3)} x^{n+1}.$$

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \left( \frac{n+1}{3n+1} \right) \left( \frac{n+1}{3n+2} \right) \left( \frac{n+1}{3n+3} \right) |x|$$

$$= \left( \frac{1+1/n}{3+1/n} \right) \left( \frac{1+1/n}{3+2/n} \right) \left( \frac{1+1/n}{3+3/n} \right) |x|.$$

$$\text{Then } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{|x|}{3^3}.$$

Therefore the series converges absolutely for  $|x| < 27$ .

Since  $\left( \frac{n+1}{3n+1} \right) > \frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\left( \frac{n+1}{3n+2} \right) > \frac{1}{3}$  and  $\left( \frac{n+1}{3n+3} \right) = \frac{1}{3}$ , at the end points when  $|x| = 27$  we will have

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| > 1, \text{ and hence } |a_{n+1}| > |a_n| > \dots > |a_1| > 0.$$

Then we see that the general term does not converge to zero as  $n$  goes to  $\infty$ . Hence the series diverges at the endpoints.

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**Q-2)** Let  $f_n(x) = \left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)^n$ , where  $x \in [0, 1]$  and  $n = 1, 2, \dots$

**i)** Show that  $f_n(x)$  is increasing as  $n$  increases.

You may find Bernoulli's inequality useful:  $(1 + \delta)^\alpha \leq 1 + \alpha\delta$ , for  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  and  $\delta > -1$ .

**ii)** For each  $n$ , find the maximum of  $h_n(x) = e^x - \left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)^n$ , where  $x \in [0, 1]$ .

**iii)** Prove or disprove that the sequence  $\{f_n(x)\}$  converges to  $e^x$  uniformly on  $[0, 1]$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .  
[7+6+7 points]

**Solution:**

Using Bernoulli's inequality, we can write

$$\left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{n+1}} \leq 1 + \frac{n}{n+1} \frac{x}{n} = 1 + \frac{x}{n+1}.$$

Taking the  $n + 1$ -st power of all sides, we get

$$\left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)^n \leq \left(1 + \frac{x}{n+1}\right)^{n+1},$$

which shows that  $f_n(x)$  increases as  $n$  increases.

To find the maximum of  $h_n(x)$  we take its derivative.

$$h'_n(x) = e^x - \left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)^{n-1} > e^x - \left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)^n > 0.$$

Thus  $h_n(x)$  is strictly increasing and takes its maximum at the right end point  $x = 1$ .

Using the previous results, we observe that

$$\left|e^x - \left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)^n\right| < e - \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = e - f_n(1).$$

We know that  $f_n(1)$  converges to  $e$  as  $n$  goes to infinity. Therefore, for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , we can find an index  $N$  such that for all  $n \geq N$ , we have  $|e - f_n(1)| < \epsilon$ . Combining this with the above inequalities, we conclude that the same  $N$  works for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ , and hence the convergence is uniform.

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**Q-3)** Let  $f(x) = 1 - x^2$  for  $x \in [-\pi, \pi]$ , and extend  $f$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  periodically.

- i) Find all the Fourier coefficients  $a_k(f)$  and  $b_k(f)$  of  $f$ .
- ii) Does the Fourier series of  $f$  converge? To what function does it converge? Why?
- iii) Find the value of the sum  $1 - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{16} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n^2} + \dots$ .

[7+6+7 points]

**Solution:**

By direct computation we find that  $a_0(f) = 2 - \frac{2}{3}\pi^2$ , and  $a_n(f) = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{4}{n^2}$ . Since  $f$  is even, all  $b_n(f) = 0$ .

The Fourier series of  $f$  converges uniformly by the Weierstrass M-test, so it converges to  $f$ , by Fourier's theorem.

Evaluating the identity  $f(x) = (Sf)(x)$  at  $x = 0$  we get

$$\frac{\pi^2}{12} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n^2} \approx 0.8224670336.$$

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**Q-4)** Let  $f(x) = |x|$  for  $x \in [-\pi, \pi]$ , and extend  $f$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  periodically.

- i) Find all the Fourier coefficients  $a_k(f)$  and  $b_k(f)$  of  $f$ .
- ii) Does the Fourier series of  $f$  converge? To what function does it converge? Why?
- iii) Find the value of the sum  $1 + \frac{1}{3^4} + \frac{1}{5^4} + \frac{1}{7^4} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(2n-1)^4} + \cdots$ .

[7+6+7 points]

**Solution:**

Clearly  $f$  is of bounded variation, so its Fourier series converges to  $f$ . This is calculated in the book as an example and we have

$$|x| = \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(2n-1)x}{(2n-1)^2}.$$

Since  $f$  is continuous, Parseval's identity

$$\frac{a_0(f)^2}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n(f)^2 + b_n(f)^2] = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f^2(x) dx$$

gives, after simplifications,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^4} = \frac{\pi^4}{96} \approx 1.014678032.$$

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**Q-5)** Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function. Prove that for any  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a (classical) polynomial  $P(x)$  such that  $|f(x) - P(x)| < \epsilon$ , for all  $x \in [a, b]$ .  
[20 points]

**Solution:**

By Fejer's theorem, every continuous function can be uniformly approximated by a Cesaro sum which is a trigonometric polynomial. Being a trigonometric polynomial, a Cesaro sum is an analytic function of  $x$  and can be uniformly approximated by Taylor polynomials. Putting these together, we can uniformly approximate  $f$ .