

IMC 2020 Preparation Course

Lecture 1 - Analysis

University of Warwick

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1. Let $0 < a < b$. Prove that $\int_a^b (x^2 + 1)e^{-x^2} dx \geq e^{-a^2} - e^{-b^2}$.
2. a) A sequence $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ satisfies the recurrence relation $x_{n+1} = x_n \cos(x_n)$. Does it converge for every choice of x_1 ?
b) A sequence $(y_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ satisfies the recurrence relation $y_{n+1} = y_n \sin(y_n)$. Does it converge for every choice of y_1 ?
3. Consider the sequence $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ with $a_0 = 1$, $a_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ and $a_{n+1} = \frac{na_n^2}{1+(n+1)a_n}$ for $n > 1$. Show that the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n}$ converges and determine its value.
4. Consider the sequence $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} = (1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 1, \dots)$. Find all pairs of positive numbers (α, β) such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{k=1}^n a_k}{n^\alpha} = \beta$.
5. Find all functions $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ satisfying $f(f(f(n))) + 6f(n) = 3f(f(n)) + 4n + 2001$.
6. Show that the sequence $\sqrt{7}, \sqrt{7 - \sqrt{7}}, \sqrt{7 - \sqrt{7 + \sqrt{7}}}, \sqrt{7 - \sqrt{7 + \sqrt{7 - \sqrt{7}}}}, \dots$ converges, and calculate its limit.
7. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuously differentiable function that satisfies $f'(t) > f(f(t))$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Prove that $f(f(f(t))) \leq 0$ for all $t \geq 0$.
8. Let $P(x)$ be a polynomial with real coefficients such that, for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, the equation $P(x) = n$ has at least one rational root. Prove that $P(x) = ax + b$, where a, b are rational numbers.
9. Let $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} : [0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a sequence of continuously differentiable functions satisfying the recurrence $f_1 = 1$, $f'_{n+1} = f_n f_{n+1}$ on $(0, 1)$, and $f_{n+1}(0) = 1 \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$. Show that the pointwise limit of this sequence exists for every $x \in [0, 1)$, and determine its value.

10. Let $Q(x)$ be a polynomial of degree $n \geq 1$ with integer coefficients. Prove that $\max_{\{0 \leq x \leq 1\}} |p(x)| > \frac{1}{e^n}$.