

Math 1B Section 112 Quiz #6

Thursday, 4 October 2007

GSI: Theo Johnson-Freyd
<http://math.berkeley.edu/~theo/jf>

Name: _____

1. **True or False** (1 pt each) For each of the following statements, decide if it is true or false. You do not need to show work: I will grade only your answers.

(a) If a sequence $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is strictly *increasing*, and there's a number M bounding the sequence from *above* (i.e. $a_n \leq M$ for every n), then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ exists.

True *This is the (an equivalent) statement of the monotonic sequences theorem.*

(b) Let $f(x)$ be a function, and define the sequence $a_n = f(n)$. If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L$.

False *It's true that if $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$ exists, then this limit equals $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ (which necessarily converges). But just because a sequence converges does not mean that the function converges (e.g. $f(x) = \sin(\pi x)$).*

(c) A geometric series converges if and only if the ratio between successive terms is positive.

False *The ratio must be strictly more than -1 and strictly less than $+1$.*

2. (3 pts) Use the divergence test to show that the following series diverges. (You will need to actually compute a limit, or explain why the limit is not defined.)

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

We use the divergence test: the limit $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n^3}{2n^3 + 1} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{-1/4}{2n^3 + 1} \right) = \frac{1}{2} + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{-1/4}{2n^3 + 1} \right) = \frac{1}{2} + 0 \neq 0$. Thus, since the limit is not 0, the series necessarily diverges.

3. (4 pts) Sum the following telescoping series:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3}{(3n-2)(3n+1)} = \frac{3}{4} + \frac{3}{28} + \frac{3}{70} + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{3}{(3n-2)(3n+1)} &= \frac{1}{3n-2} - \frac{1}{3n+1} \\ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3}{(3n-2)(3n+1)} &= \frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{7} - \frac{1}{10} + \dots \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$