

AP Series Problems (Solutions)

1.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\frac{(n+2)x^{n+1}}{3^{n+2}}}{\frac{(n+1)x^n}{3^{n+1}}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+2)x}{(n+1)3} \right| = \left| \frac{x}{3} \right| < 1$$

At $x = -3$, the series is $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{n+1}{3}$, which diverges.

At $x = 3$, the series is $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n+1}{3}$, which diverges.

Therefore, the interval of convergence is $-3 < x < 3$.

4 : $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 : \text{sets up ratio test} \\ 1 : \text{computes limit} \\ 1 : \text{conclusion of ratio test} \\ 1 : \text{endpoint conclusion} \end{array} \right.$

2.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad f(2) &= 1; f'(2) = \frac{2!}{3}; f''(2) = \frac{3!}{3^2}; f'''(2) = \frac{4!}{3^3} \\ f(x) &= 1 + \frac{2}{3}(x-2) + \frac{3!}{2!3^2}(x-2)^2 + \frac{4!}{3!3^3}(x-2)^3 + \\ &\quad + \dots + \frac{(n+1)!}{n!3^n}(x-2)^n + \dots \\ &= 1 + \frac{2}{3}(x-2) + \frac{3}{3^2}(x-2)^2 + \frac{4}{3^3}(x-2)^3 + \\ &\quad + \dots + \frac{n+1}{3^n}(x-2)^n + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(b)} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\frac{n+2}{3^{n+1}}(x-2)^{n+1}}{\frac{n+1}{3^n}(x-2)^n} \right| &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+2}{n+1} \cdot \frac{1}{3} |x-2| \\ &= \frac{1}{3} |x-2| < 1 \text{ when } |x-2| < 3 \end{aligned}$$

The radius of convergence is 3.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(c)} \quad g(2) &= 3; g'(2) = f(2); g''(2) = f'(2); g'''(2) = f''(2) \\ g(x) &= 3 + (x-2) + \frac{1}{3}(x-2)^2 + \frac{1}{3^2}(x-2)^3 + \\ &\quad + \dots + \frac{1}{3^n}(x-2)^{n+1} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

(d) No, the Taylor series does not converge at $x = -2$ because the geometric series only converges on the interval $|x-2| < 3$.

3 : $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 : \text{coefficients } \frac{f^{(n)}(2)}{n!} \text{ in} \\ \quad \text{first four terms} \\ 1 : \text{powers of } (x-2) \text{ in} \\ \quad \text{first four terms} \\ 1 : \text{general term} \end{array} \right.$

3 : $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 : \text{sets up ratio} \\ 1 : \text{limit} \\ 1 : \text{applies ratio test to} \\ \quad \text{conclude radius of} \\ \quad \text{convergence is 3} \end{array} \right.$

2 : $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 : \text{first four terms} \\ 1 : \text{general term} \end{array} \right.$

1 : answer with reason

3.

$$(a) P_6(x) = 7 + \frac{1!}{3^2} \cdot \frac{1}{2!} (x-2)^2 + \frac{3!}{3^4} \cdot \frac{1}{4!} (x-2)^4 + \frac{5!}{3^6} \cdot \frac{1}{6!} (x-2)^6$$

- 3 : {
 1 : polynomial about $x = 2$
 2 : $P_6(x)$
 <-1> each incorrect term
 <-1> max for all extra terms,
 + ..., misuse of equality

$$(b) \frac{(2n-1)!}{3^{2n}} \cdot \frac{1}{(2n)!} = \frac{1}{3^{2n}(2n)}$$

1 : coefficient

(c) The Taylor series for f about $x = 2$ is

$$f(x) = 7 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n \cdot 3^{2n}} (x-2)^{2n}$$

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\frac{1}{2(n+1)} \cdot \frac{1}{3^{2(n+1)}} (x-2)^{2(n+1)}}{\frac{1}{2n} \cdot \frac{1}{3^{2n}} (x-2)^{2n}} \right|$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{2n}{2(n+1)} \cdot \frac{3^{2n}}{3^2 3^{2n}} (x-2)^2 \right| = \frac{(x-2)^2}{9}$$

$L < 1$ when $|x-2| < 3$.

Thus, the series converges when $-1 < x < 5$.

$$\text{When } x = 5, \text{ the series is } 7 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3^{2n}}{2n \cdot 3^{2n}} = 7 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n},$$

which diverges, because $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$, the harmonic series, diverges.

$$\text{When } x = -1, \text{ the series is } 7 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-3)^{2n}}{2n \cdot 3^{2n}} = 7 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n},$$

which diverges, because $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$, the harmonic series, diverges.

The interval of convergence is $(-1, 5)$.

- 5 : {
 1 : sets up ratio
 1 : computes limit of ratio
 1 : identifies interior of
 interval of convergence
 1 : considers both endpoints
 1 : analysis/conclusion for
 both endpoints

4.

$$(a) \left| \frac{(-1)^{n+1} (n+1)x^{n+1}}{n+2} \cdot \frac{n+1}{(-1)^n n x^n} \right| = \frac{(n+1)^2}{(n+2)(n)} \cdot |x|$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^2}{(n+2)(n)} \cdot |x| = |x|$$

The series converges when $-1 < x < 1$.

$$\text{When } x = 1, \text{ the series is } -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{3} - \frac{3}{4} + \dots$$

This series does not converge, because the limit of the individual terms is not zero.

$$\text{When } x = -1, \text{ the series is } \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{4} + \dots$$

This series does not converge, because the limit of the individual terms is not zero.

Thus, the interval of convergence is $-1 < x < 1$.

- 5 : {
 1 : sets up ratio
 1 : computes limit of ratio
 1 : identifies radius of convergence
 1 : considers both endpoints
 1 : analysis/conclusion for
 both endpoints

5.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \ln\left(\frac{1}{1+3x}\right) &= \ln\left(\frac{1}{1-(-3x)}\right) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-3x)^n}{n} \text{ or } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{3^n}{n} x^n \end{aligned}$$

We must have $-1 \leq -3x < 1$, so interval of convergence is $-\frac{1}{3} < x \leq \frac{1}{3}$.

$$\text{(b)} \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n} = \ln\left(\frac{1}{1-(-1)}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

(d) Some p such that $\frac{1}{2} < p \leq 1$ because the

p -series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$ diverges for $p \leq 1$ and the

p -series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2p}}$ converges for $2p > 1$.

2 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 : \text{series} \\ 1 : \text{interval of convergence} \end{array} \right.$

1 : answer

3 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 : \text{correct } p \\ 1 : \text{reason why } \sum \frac{1}{n^p} \text{ diverges} \\ 1 : \text{reason why } \sum \frac{1}{n^{2p}} \text{ converges} \end{array} \right.$