



### Some thoughts and advice:

- You should expect to spend at least 1 – 2 hours on problem sets. A lot of practice problem-solving is essential to understand the material and skills covered in class. Be organised and do not leave problem sets until the last-minute. Instead, get a good start on the problems as soon as possible.
- When approaching a problem think about the following: *do you understand the words used to state the problem? what is the problem asking you to do? can you restate the problem in your own words? have you seen a similar problem worked out in class? is there a similar problem worked out in the textbook? what results/skills did you see in class that might be related to the problem?*

If you are stuck for inspiration, use the course **pi**azza forum (accessible via the course Canvas site), come to office hours, or send me an email. However, don't just ask for the solution - provide your thought process, the difficulties you are having, and ask a coherent question in complete English sentences. Remember the 3RA approach to asking questions outlined in the course syllabus.

- Form study groups - get together and work through problem sets. **This will make your life easier!** You can use **pi**azza to arrange meet-ups. However, you must write your solutions *on your own* and *in your own words*.
- If you would like more practice then there are (hundreds of) problems in the supplementary course textbooks mentioned in the syllabus, or you can check out **khanacademy.org**.
- You **are not allowed** to use any additional resources. If you are concerned then please ask.

1. Use the Direct Comparison Test to determine whether the following series are convergent or divergent.

- (a)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\pi}{5n-2}$
- (b)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2+\sin(n)}{n^3+2n+1}$
- (c)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{\sqrt{n^5+3n^2+10}}$
- (d)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^n}$
- (e)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{5n+2}{(1+n^2)^2}$

2. In this problem you will show that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$  converges. In fact,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{\pi^2}{6}$ , though we will have to wait some time to see why this is true.

(a) Consider the series  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n-1)}$ .

i. Show that  $\sum_{n=2}^m \frac{1}{n(n-1)} = 1 - \frac{1}{m}$ , for  $m = 2, 3, 4, \dots$

ii. Conclude that  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n-1)}$  converges and determine its limit.

(b) By comparing the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$  with  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ , where  $a_1 = 1$ ,  $a_n = \frac{1}{n(n-1)}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , show that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$  converges.

3. True/False (no justification needed)

(a) If  $0 < a_n < \frac{1}{n}$ , for each  $n$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is divergent.

- (b) The series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2+1}$  is convergent
- (c) If  $\sum a_n$  and  $\sum b_n$  are both divergent then  $\sum a_n b_n$  is divergent.
- (d) If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is a series of positive terms and the associated partial sums satisfy  $s_m < 10^{100}$ , for every  $m$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is convergent.
4. In this problem you will give another proof that the Harmonic Series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$  is divergent. Denote by  $H_m$  the  $m^{\text{th}}$  partial sum of the Harmonic Series:

$$H_m = \sum_{n=1}^m \frac{1}{n} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{m}$$

- (a) Using the fact that there are 9 single digit natural numbers, show that

$$H_9 > \frac{9}{10}$$

- (b) Using the fact that there are 90 double digit natural numbers, show that

$$H_{99} > \frac{9}{10} + \frac{90}{100} = 2 \left( \frac{9}{10} \right)$$

- (c) Use a similar argument as above to show that

$$H_{999} > 3 \left( \frac{9}{10} \right)$$

- (d) Show that, for any natural number  $k$ ,

$$H_{10^k-1} > k \left( \frac{9}{10} \right)$$

- (e) Deduce that the sequence  $(H_k)$  is unbounded and that the Harmonic Series is divergent.