

Problems from the Textbook: **Mathematical Methods in the Physical Sciences Second Edition** © 1983 by Mary L. Boas, Solutions Provided by James Pate Williams, Jr.

PROBLEMS, SECTION 2

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{4} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{4}{16} + \cdots$$

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

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{n+5} = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{2}{7} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{4}{9} + \cdots$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{4}}{5} + \cdots$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2n(2n+1)}{3n+5} = \frac{2 \cdot 3}{8} + \frac{4 \cdot 5}{11} + \frac{6 \cdot 7}{14} + \frac{8 \cdot 9}{17} + \cdots = \frac{6}{8} + \frac{20}{11} + \frac{42}{14} + \frac{72}{17} + \cdots$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n!)^2}{(2n)!} = \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{(2)^2}{4!} + \frac{(6)^2}{6!} + \frac{(24)^2}{8!} + \cdots = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{4}{24} + \frac{36}{720} + \frac{576}{40,320} + \cdots$$

$$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{5} + \frac{4}{7} + \frac{8}{9} + \frac{16}{11} + \cdots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{2n+3}$$

$$\frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4} + \frac{1}{4 \cdot 5} + \frac{1}{5 \cdot 6} + \cdots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n+1)(n+2)}$$

$$\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{16} - \frac{1}{25} + \cdots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(n+1)^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{7} + \frac{2}{9} + \frac{3}{11} + \frac{4}{13} + \cdots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2n+5}$$

$$\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} - \frac{1}{32} + \cdots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{2^{n+1}}$$

$$\frac{\ln 2}{2} - \frac{\ln 3}{3} + \frac{\ln 4}{4} - \frac{\ln 5}{5} + \cdots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} \ln(n+1)}{n+1}$$

PROBLEMS, SECTION 4

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

$$|S - S_4| = \left| S - \sum_{n=1}^4 \frac{1}{2^n} \right| = \left| 1 - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{16} \right| = |1 - 0.9375| = 0.0625$$

$$|S - S_5| = \left| 1 - 0.9375 - \frac{1}{32} \right| = |0.0625 - 0.03125| = 0.03125$$

$$|S - S_6| = \left| 0.03125 - \frac{1}{64} \right| = 0.016525$$

$$|S - S_7| = \left| 0.01625 - \frac{1}{128} \right| = 0.0084375$$

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{5^n} < \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n}$$

$$|S - S_4| = \left| S - \sum_{n=1}^4 \frac{1}{5^n} \right| = \left| 0.25 - \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{25} - \frac{1}{125} - \frac{1}{625} \right| = |0.25 - 0.2496| = 0.0004$$

$$|S - S_5| = \left| 0.0004 - \frac{1}{3,125} \right| = 0.00008$$

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{20} + \cdots$$

$$\frac{1}{n(n+1)} = \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} < \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$$

$$|S - S_4| = |1 - 0.883333 \dots| = 0.1666 \dots$$

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{24} + \cdots$$

$$\frac{1}{n!} < \frac{1}{2^n} \forall n \geq 3$$

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n2^n} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{24} + \frac{1}{64} + \dots$$

$$\frac{1}{n2^n} < \frac{1}{2^n} \forall n \geq 2$$

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n + 3^n} = \frac{1}{2+3} + \frac{1}{4+9} + \frac{1}{8+27} + \frac{1}{16+81} + \dots = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{13} + \frac{1}{35} + \frac{1}{97} + \dots$$

$$2^n + 3^n > 2^n \forall n \geq 1$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{2^n + 3^n} < \frac{1}{2^n} \forall n \geq 1$$

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = 1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{25} + \frac{1}{36} + \dots$$

$$T = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{32} + \frac{1}{64} + \dots$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{n^2} \geq \frac{1}{2^n}$$

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n+1)^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{(n+1)^2} < \frac{1}{n(n+1)}$$

$$S = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 - 1} = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{15} + \frac{1}{24} + \dots$$

$$\frac{1}{n^2 - 1} = \frac{1}{(n+1)(n-1)} \forall n \geq 2$$

PROBLEMS, SECTION 5

$$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{4}{5} + \frac{9}{10} - \frac{16}{17} + \frac{25}{26} - \frac{36}{37} + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} n^2}{n^2 + 1}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^{n+1} n^2}{n^2 + 1} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2n}{2n} \right) = 1 \therefore \text{the series diverges}$$

$$\sqrt{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{4}}{3} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{6}}{5} + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{n+1}}}{1} = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n+3}{n^2+10n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+3}{n^2+10n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2n+10} = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n^2}{(n+1)^2}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^n n^2}{(n+1)^2} \right| = \frac{2n}{2n+2} = \frac{2}{2} = 1 \therefore \text{the series diverges}$$

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

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{n!+1} \approx \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \ln n - n}{n \ln n - n + 1} = \frac{\ln n + 1 - 1}{\ln n + 1 - 1} = 1 \therefore \text{the series diverges}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n!}{(n+1)!}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{(n+1)!} \approx \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \ln n - n}{(n+1) \ln(n+1) - (n+1)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n + 1 - 1}{\ln(n+1) + 1 - 1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n}{\ln(n+1)}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n}}{\frac{1}{n+1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n} = 1 \therefore \text{the series diverges}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n}{\sqrt{n^3+1}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^n n}{\sqrt{n^3 + 1}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n(n^3 + 1)^{-1/2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| (n^3 + 1)^{-1/2} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot 3n^3(n^3 + 1)^{-3/2} \right| > 0$$

$\therefore$ the series diverges

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\ln n}{n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n}}{1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0$$

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

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3^n}{2^n + 3^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3^n \ln 3}{2^n \ln 2 + 3^n \ln 3} = 0$$

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

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2 - 1}{n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n}{2n} = 1 \therefore \text{the series diverges}$$