

# MATH 56 WORKSHEET : Asymptotics & Convergence Types

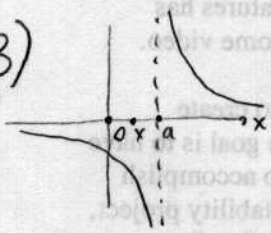
3/26/11  
Barnett

A)

$I_s = \frac{\log n}{n} = O(n^{-1/2})$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ? [prove it]

Say  $C > 0$  is fixed. Is  $C^{-n} = O(\frac{1}{n!})$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ?

B)

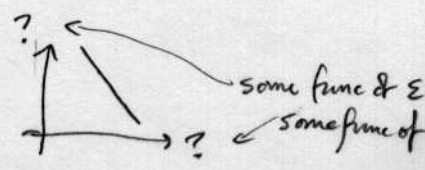


Let  $a > 0$ . Write the Taylor series for  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-a}$  about  $x_0 = 0$ :  
[Hint:  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (\frac{x}{a})^k = ?$ ]

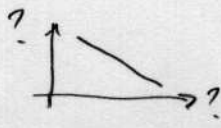
Fixing  $x$ , derive a bound on  $\epsilon$ , the error in  $n$ -term Taylor series; writing in  $O$  notation:

Make a conjecture on convergence rate given  $|x|$  (dist. from expansion pt),  $a$  (dist. of singularity from expansion pt)

C) What axes show algebraic convergence as straight line?



How about exponential conv.?



Interpret the slopes.

BONUS: What if  $\epsilon$  shrinks so fast as to double the # correct digits as  $n \rightarrow n+1$ ?

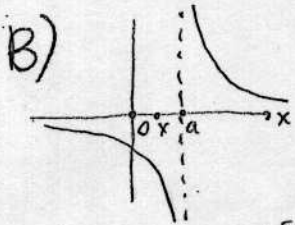
MATH 56 WORKSHEET : Asymptotics & Convergence Types  
 SOLUTIONS

3/26/13  
 Barrett

A) Is  $\frac{\log n}{n} = O(n^{-1/2})$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ? [prove it]  
 $f(n) \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = \frac{\log n \rightarrow \infty}{n^{1/2} \rightarrow \infty} \xrightarrow{\text{l'Hôpital}} \frac{n^{-1}}{1/2 n^{-1/2}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}} \rightarrow 0$  so yes.  
 (it's even little-o).

Say  $C > 0$  is fixed. Is  $C^{-n} = o(\frac{1}{n!})$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ?

$\frac{f}{g} = \frac{C^{-n}}{1/n!} = \frac{n!}{C^n}$  can't use l'Hôp since  $\frac{d}{dn}(n!) = ??$  Use:  $n!$  grows faster than exponential.  
 $\neq 0 \Rightarrow$  no.



B) Let  $a > 0$ . Write the Taylor series for  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-a}$  about  $x=0$ :

[Hint:  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (\frac{x}{a})^k = \frac{1}{1-x/a}$ ]  $\frac{1}{1-x/a} = \frac{a}{a-x}$  ← is  $(-a)$  times what we want

so  $f(x) = -\frac{1}{a} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (\frac{x}{a})^k = -\frac{1}{a} [1 + \frac{x}{a} + \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \dots]$   
 $= -\frac{1}{a} - \frac{x}{a^2} - \frac{x^2}{a^3} - \dots$

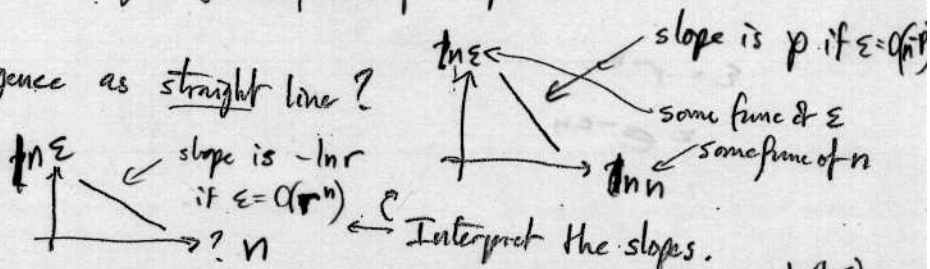
Fixing  $x$ , derive a bound on  $\varepsilon$ , the error in  $n$ -term Taylor series; writing in  $O$  notation:

$\varepsilon = -\sum_{k>n} \frac{x^k}{a^{k+1}}$  so  $|\varepsilon| \leq \frac{1}{a} \sum_{k>n} |\frac{x}{a}|^k = \frac{1}{a} |\frac{x}{a}|^{n+1} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |\frac{x}{a}|^k$   
 =  $\frac{1}{a} \frac{1}{1-|x/a|} |\frac{x}{a}|^{n+1} = O(|\frac{x}{a}|^{n+1}) = O(|\frac{x}{a}|^n)$   
 (indep. of  $n$ ) brought out geom series

Make a conjecture on convergence rate given  $|x|$  (dist. from expansion pt),  $a$  (dist. of singularity from expansion pt):  
 rate  $r = \frac{|x|}{a} = \frac{\text{dist from expansion pt}}{\text{singularity dist from expansion pt}}$

C) What axes show algebraic convergence as straight line?

How about exponential conv.?



BONUS: What if  $\varepsilon$  shrinks so fast as to double the # correct digits as  $n \rightarrow n+1$ ?  $\frac{\ln \varepsilon}{2^n}$  or  $\frac{\ln(\ln \varepsilon)}{n}$