

Please send mistakes or typos to xxchai@math.cuhk.edu.hk

1. Start with $\cos(A - B) = \cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B$, $\sin(A + B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$ and other elementary formulas, fill the blanks of 1a-1c and solve 1d.

1a. $\cos \alpha + \cos \beta = 2\cos\left(\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}\right)\cos\left(\frac{\alpha-\beta}{2}\right)$

Proof Let $A = \frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}$ and $B = \frac{\alpha-\beta}{2}$. Then $A + B = \alpha$ and $A - B = \beta$, since

$$\begin{aligned}\cos(A - B) &= \cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B \\ \cos(A + B) &= \cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B,\end{aligned}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned}\cos \alpha + \cos \beta &= \cos(A + B) + \cos(A - B) \\ &= [\cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B] + \\ &\quad + [\cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B] \\ &= 2\cos A \cos B \\ &= 2\cos\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}\cos\frac{\alpha - \beta}{2}.\end{aligned}$$

1b. $\sin \alpha + \sin \beta = 2\sin\left(\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}\right)\cos\left(\frac{\alpha-\beta}{2}\right)$

Proof Let $A = \frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}$ and $B = \frac{\alpha-\beta}{2}$. Then $A + B = \alpha$ and $A - B = \beta$, since

$$\begin{aligned}\sin(A - B) &= \sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B \\ \sin(A + B) &= \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B,\end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}\sin \alpha + \sin \beta &= \sin(A + B) + \sin(A - B) \\ &= [\sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B] + \\ &\quad [\sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B] \\ &= 2\sin A \cos B \\ &= 2\sin\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}\cos\frac{\alpha - \beta}{2}.\end{aligned}$$

1c. $\frac{1}{2}\cos\alpha + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\sin\alpha = _?$

Proof $\frac{1}{2}\cos\alpha + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\sin\alpha = \sin\frac{\pi}{6}\cos\alpha + \cos\frac{\pi}{6}\sin\alpha = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6} + \alpha\right)$.

1d. We introduce *complex numbers* to facilitate the calculation of trigonometric functions. i is called the square root of -1 , i.e. $i^2 = -1$. Use $\cos \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta}}{2}$ and $\sin \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}}{2}$ to reduce the product $\cos x \cos 2x \cos 3x$ to summations of trigonometric functions. Can you use 1a to do that?

Proof Use $\cos x = \frac{e^{ix} + e^{-ix}}{2}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \cos x \cos 2x \cos 3x &= \frac{1}{8}(e^{ix} + e^{-ix})(e^{2ix} + e^{-2ix})(e^{3ix} + e^{-3ix}) \\ &= \frac{1}{8}(e^{3ix} + e^{ix} + e^{-ix} + e^{-3ix})(e^{3ix} + e^{-3ix}) \\ &= \frac{1}{8}(e^{6ix} + e^{4ix} + e^{2ix} + 1 + 1 + e^{-2ix} + e^{-4ix} + e^{-6ix}) \\ &= \frac{1}{8}(e^{6ix} + e^{-6ix}) + \frac{1}{8}(e^{2ix} + e^{-2ix}) + \frac{1}{8}(e^{4ix} + e^{-4ix}) + \frac{1}{4} \\ &= \frac{1}{4}(\cos 6x + \cos 4x + \cos 2x + 1). \end{aligned}$$

Or use 1a, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \cos x \cos 2x \cos 3x &= (\cos x \cos 2x) \cos 3x \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\cos(x + 2x) + \cos(2x - x)) \cos 3x \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cos 3x \cos 3x + \frac{1}{2} \cos x \cos 3x \\ &= \frac{1}{4}(1 + \cos 6x) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2}(\cos(3x - x) + \cos(3x + x)) \\ &= \frac{1}{4}(\cos 6x + \cos 4x + \cos 2x + 1). \end{aligned}$$

2. Use *mathematical induction* to prove the Bernoulli inequality. If $x > -1$ and $x \neq 0$, then for all positive integer $n \geq 2$ that

$$(1 + x)^n > 1 + nx.$$

Use the binomial theorem to get a partial proof only for the case $x > 0$.

Proof Base case $n = 2$. Since $x \neq 0$,

$$1 + 2x + x^2 = (1 + x)^2 > 1 + 2x.$$

Assume that $n = k$ that $(1 + x)^n > 1 + nx$ holds, since $x + 1 > 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + x)^{k+1} &= (1 + x)^k(1 + x) > (1 + kx)(1 + x) \\ &= 1 + kx + x + kx^2 \\ &> 1 + (k + 1)x. \end{aligned}$$

So we have when $n = k + 1$, $(1 + x)^n > 1 + nx$ is true. By principle of mathematical induction, $(1 + x)^n > 1 + nx$ is true for all positive integers $n \geq 2$.

When $x > 0$, there is an quick proof:

$$(1 + x)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n C_k^n x^k 1^{n-k} = \sum_{k=0}^n C_k^n x^k > C_0^n x^0 + C_1^n x^1 = 1 + nx.$$

3a. $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (\sqrt{n} - \sqrt{n+1}) = ?$

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{n} - \sqrt{n+1}) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n} - \sqrt{n+1}}{1} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\sqrt{n} - \sqrt{n+1})(\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1})}{\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\sqrt{n})^2 - (\sqrt{n+1})^2}{\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-1}{\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1}} \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

3b. **Use the 3a** to find $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (n - \sqrt{n^2 + 2n}) = ?$

Solution 3a tells us that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (\sqrt{n^2 + 2n} - \sqrt{n^2 + 2n + 1}) = 0.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} &\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (n - \sqrt{n^2 + 2n}) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} [(n - \sqrt{n^2 + 2n + 1}) + (\sqrt{n^2 + 2n + 1} - \sqrt{n^2 + 2n})] \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (n - \sqrt{n^2 + 2n + 1}) + \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (\sqrt{n^2 + 2n + 1} - \sqrt{n^2 + 2n}) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (n - (n + 1)) + 0 \\ &= -1. \end{aligned}$$

3c. Determine the monotonicity of sequences $\{a_n\}$ given by

$$a_n = \frac{1}{1+n} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n+n}.$$

Does $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ exist? (hint: $\frac{1}{2n} \leq \frac{1}{n+k} \leq \frac{1}{n}$) Use this limit and by contradiction to prove that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n-1} + \frac{1}{n} \right)$$

does not exist.

Proof We calculate the difference

$$\begin{aligned} a_{n+1} - a_n &= \left(\frac{1}{1+(n+1)} + \frac{1}{2+(n+1)} + \dots + \frac{1}{(n+1)+(n+1)} \right) - \\ &\quad \left(\frac{1}{1+n} + \frac{1}{2+n} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n} \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2+n} + \frac{1}{3+n} + \dots + \frac{1}{2(n+1)} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{1+n} + \frac{1}{2+n} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2(n+1)} + \frac{1}{2n+1} - \frac{1}{n+1} \\ &= \frac{1}{2n+1} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)} > 0. \end{aligned}$$

So the sequence a_n is increasing. Since

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2n} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n} \leq a_n = \frac{1}{1+n} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n+n} \leq \frac{1}{n} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} = 1.$$

So by monotone convergence theorem, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ exists. Let $A = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$, then $\frac{1}{2} \leq A \leq 1$.

Let $S_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n-1} + \frac{1}{n}$, we suppose that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n$ exists. Then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_{2n}$ exists as well and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_{2n}.$$

But because $a_n = S_{2n} - S_n$,

$$0 < A = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (S_{2n} - S_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_{2n} - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = 0.$$

A contradiction. So the limit $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n$ does not exist.

3d. (relatively hard) The factorial $n!$ of n is defined to be $n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot n$. For $1 \leq k \leq n$, show that $(n+1-k)k \geq n$. Hence deduce that $(n!)^2 \geq n^n$. Use this to find that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n!}}$.

solution

$$\begin{aligned} (n+1-k)k - n &= nk - n + (1-k)k \\ &= n(k-1) + (1-k)k \\ &= (n-k)(k-1) \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

so for $1 \leq k \leq n$, $(n+1-k)k \geq n$. We list the inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \cdot n &= (n+1-1)1 \geq n \\ 2 \cdot (n-1) &= (n+1-2)2 \geq n \\ &\vdots \\ k \cdot (n+1-k) &= (n+1-k)k \geq n \\ &\vdots \\ n \cdot 1 &= (n+1-n)n \geq n. \end{aligned}$$

Taking products, we have

$$(1 \cdot n)(2 \cdot (n-1)) \cdots (n \cdot 1) = n!n! \geq n^n.$$

So $\frac{1}{(n!)^2} \leq \frac{1}{n^n} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{n!} \leq n^{-\frac{1}{2}n} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} \leq n^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ which gives

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} \leq n^{-\frac{1}{2}}.$$

By squeeze theorem,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} = 0.$$

4. Limits and functions

4a. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x+\sin x} = _?$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x+\sin x} = _?$

solution

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x+\sin x} &= \lim_{y \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sqrt{y^2+1}}{-y+\sin(-y)} \\ &= \lim_{y \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sqrt{y^2+1}/y}{[-y+\sin(-y)]/y} \\ &= \lim_{y \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sqrt{1+(\frac{1}{y})^2}}{-1+\frac{\sin(-y)}{y}} \\ &= \frac{1}{-1+0} = -1. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x+\sin x} = 1$.

4b. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x+x^2+\cdots+x^n-n}{x-1} = _?$

solution For all $n \geq 1$, we have

$$\frac{x^n - 1}{x - 1} = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^{n-1}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x + x^2 + \dots + x^n - n}{x - 1} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x - 1) + (x^2 - 1) + \dots + (x^n - 1)}{x - 1} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} [1 + (1 + x) + \dots + (1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^{n-1})] \\ &= 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n \\ &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

4c. It is known that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1$. Find

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(3 \tan x) - \cos(\tan x)}{x^2}$$

and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x \cos 2x \cos 3x}{1 - \cos x}.$$

solution we use $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1$ to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{x^2} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\cos^2 \frac{x}{2} + \sin^2 \frac{x}{2}) - (\cos^2 \frac{x}{2} - \sin^2 \frac{x}{2})}{x^2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sin^2 \frac{x}{2}}{4 \cdot (\frac{x}{2})^2} = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sin \frac{x}{2}}{\frac{x}{2}} \right) = \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} &\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(3 \tan x) - \cos(\tan x)}{x^2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1 - \cos(\tan x)}{\tan^2 x} - \frac{9(1 - \cos(\tan 3x))}{(3 \tan x)^2} \right] \frac{\sin^2 x}{(\cos^2 x)} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos(\tan x)}{\tan^2 x} - 9 \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos(\tan 3x)}{(3 \tan x)^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} - 9 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = -4. \end{aligned}$$

We already proved that

$$\cos x \cos 2x \cos 3x = \frac{1}{4}(\cos 6x + \cos 4x + \cos 2x + 1).$$

So

$$\begin{aligned}
& \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x \cos 2x \cos 3x}{1 - \cos x} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \frac{1}{4}(\cos 6x + \cos 4x + \cos 2x + 1)}{1 - \cos x} \\
&= \frac{1}{4} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos 6x}{1 - \cos x} + \frac{1}{4} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos 4x}{1 - \cos x} + \frac{1}{4} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos 2x}{1 - \cos x} \\
&= \frac{1}{4} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos 6x}{(6x)^2} \cdot \frac{(6x)^2}{x^2} \cdot \frac{x^2}{1 - \cos x} \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos 4x}{(4x)^2} \cdot \frac{(4x)^2}{x^2} \cdot \frac{x^2}{1 - \cos x} \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos 2x}{(2x)^2} \cdot \frac{(2x)^2}{x^2} \cdot \frac{x^2}{1 - \cos x} \\
&= \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot 6^2 \cdot 2 + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4^2 \cdot 2 + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2^2 \cdot 2 = 14.
\end{aligned}$$

4d. $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\ln(x^3 + 2x + 3)}{\ln(x^8 + 2018x + 1)} = ?$

solution

$$\begin{aligned}
& \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\ln(x^3 + 2x + 3)}{\ln(x^8 + 2018x + 1)} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\ln(x^3 + 2x + 3) - \ln(x^3) + \ln(x^3)}{\ln(x^8 + 2018x + 1) - \ln(x^8) + \ln(x^8)} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{3 \ln x + \ln \frac{x^3 + 2x + 3}{x^3}}{8 \ln x + \ln \frac{x^8 + 2018x + 1}{x^8}} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{3 + \ln(1 + 2x^{-2} + 3x^{-3}) / \ln x}{8 + \ln(1 + 2018x^{-7} + x^{-8}) / \ln x} \\
&= \frac{3}{8}.
\end{aligned}$$