

1. In class we proved the following lemma:

Lemma. For n and k natural numbers, suppose $a_n(k)$ is a complex number, and suppose for each n we have

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_n(k) = A_n$$

is finite. Furthermore, suppose for each n there is a positive number M_n such that

$$|a_n(k)| \leq M_n$$

for all n and k , and that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} M_n < \infty.$$

Then

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n(k) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n.$$

Show that this lemma implies Theorem 8.3 in the textbook.

2. We also proved Euler's product formula for the sine function:

$$\sin \pi z = \pi z \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{z^2}{n^2}\right).$$

Use this to prove the following formula of Wallis:

$$\sqrt{\pi} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{2k}{2k-1}.$$

3. Using only properties derived from the differential equation $y'' + y = 0$, prove that

$$\sin(A + B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$$

and

$$\cos(A + B) = \cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B$$

and, by defining $\tan x = \sin x / \cos x$,

$$\tan(A + B) = \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B}.$$

4. Prove that

$$\arctan x - \arctan y = \arctan \frac{x - y}{1 + xy}$$

(well, this is almost true – explain what the exceptions might be).

5. Use the preceding problem to show

$$\arctan \frac{120}{119} - \arctan \frac{1}{239} = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

and from this derive

$$4 \arctan \frac{1}{5} - \arctan \frac{1}{239} = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

Then, use the series for the arctangent function to obtain an estimate of π accurate to six decimal places.

6. Generalize Niven's proof of the irrationality of π as follows:

Lemma. Let f be a continuous function on the interval $[0, T]$ which is positive on $(0, T)$. Suppose there are antiderivatives $f_1(t), f_2(t), \dots$ with $f_1'(t) = f(t)$ and with $f_{n+1}'(t) = f_n(t)$ for all $n \geq 1$, such that $f_n(0)$ and $f_n(T)$ are integers for all $n \geq 1$. Then T is irrational.

Here is a sequence of steps that will result in a proof:

(a) Let P be the set of all polynomials $p(t)$ with real coefficients such that $g(0), g(T), g'(0), g'(T), \dots, g^{(n)}(0), g^{(n)}(T), \dots$ are all integers. Prove that, if $g \in P$, then

$$\int_0^T f(t)g(t) dt$$

is an integer where f is the function in the lemma (use repeated integration by parts – differentiate g and integrate f).

(b) If $g \in P$ and $h \in P$ then so are $g + h$ and gh .

(c) If p and q are integers, then $p - 2qt \in P$. Also (use induction),

$$g_n(t) = \frac{t^n(p - qt)^n}{n!} \in P$$

for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ (This should begin to be reminiscent of Niven's paper).

(d) Use part (a) to conclude that, if T is rational, say $T = p/q$, then

$$\int_0^T f(t)g_n(t) dt$$

is a positive integer for all values of n .

(e) If M is the maximum value of $g_1(t) = t(p - qt)$ on $[0, T]$ and L is the maximum value for $f(t)$ on $[0, T]$, prove the estimate

$$0 < \int_0^T f(t)g_n(t) dt \leq T \cdot L \cdot \frac{M^n}{n!}.$$

(f) Consider what happens as $n \rightarrow \infty$, reach a contradiction, and conclude that T must be irrational.

7. Prove that if $0 < T < \pi$ and if $\cos T$ and $\sin T$ are both rational, then T is irrational. (Apply the preceding problem to the function $q \cdot \sin t$ if $T = p/q$.)
8. Prove that if x is positive and rational and $x \neq 1$, then $\ln x$ is irrational. (Apply the above problem with $T = \ln x$ and $f(t) = q \cdot e^t$.) What is the contrapositive of this statement?
9. Let's get even more ambitious: Prove the following lemma:

Lemma. Suppose $g(x)$ is a polynomial with integer coefficients, and set $h(x) = x^n g(x)/n!$. Then $h^{(k)}(0)$ is an integer for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. Moreover, with the possible exception of the case $k = n$, the integer $h^{(k)}(0)$ is divisible by $n + 1$ (and if $g(0) = 0$, then $h^{(n)}$ must be divisible by $n + 1$ as well).

10. Prove that e is a transcendental number. This means that e is not a root of any non-zero polynomial over the integers, i.e., that

$$a_n e^n + a_{n-1} e^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 e + a_0 = 0$$

for integers a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n implies that $a_0 = a_1 = \dots = a_n = 0$.

Use the following outline of a proof of this by contradiction:

(a) Assume e is not transcendental and that e satisfies the relation above with (not all zero) coefficients a_0, \dots, a_n of degree n . Without loss of generality (why?), assume $a_0 \neq 0$. Define

$$f(x) = \frac{x^{p-1}(x-1)^p(x-2)^p(x-3)^p \dots (x-n)^p}{(p-1)!}$$

and

$$F(x) = f(x) + f'(x) + f^{(2)}(x) + \dots + f^{(np+p-1)}(x)$$

where p is a prime number greater than 2 to be named later. Show that

$$\frac{d}{dx}(e^{-x}F(x)) = -e^{-x}f(x)$$

and

$$a_k \int_0^k e^{-x} f(x) dx = a_k F(0) - a_k e^{-k} F(k).$$

(b) Show that

$$\sum_{k=0}^n a_k e^k \int_0^k e^{-x} f(x) dx = - \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{i=0}^{np+p-1} a_k f^{(i)}(k).$$

(c) Apply the lemma in the preceding problem to $f(x), f(x+1), \dots, f(x+n)$ (where you should use $p-1$ in place of the n in the lemma) to show that $f^{(i)}(k)$ is an integer for all values of i and k in the above sum, and that all of these integers are divisible by p except possibly for the single case $k=0$ and $i=p-1$.

(d) Show that

$$f^{(p-1)}(0) = (-1)^p (-2)^p \cdots (-n)^p,$$

so that $f^{(p-1)}(0)$ will not be divisible by p if we choose $p > n$. Furthermore if we choose $p > |a_0|$, then the double sum in (b) consists of a sum of multiples of p except for the term $-a_0 f^{(p-1)}(0)$. Why does this imply that both sides of (b) are (the same) non-zero integer(s)? (Why did p have to be prime?)

(e) Prove the following estimate:

$$\left| \sum_{k=0}^n a_k e^k \int_0^k e^{-x} f(x) dx \right| \leq \left(\sum_{k=0}^n |a_k| \right) e^n \frac{(n^{n+2})^{p-1}}{(p-1)!}.$$

(f) Explain why (e) contradicts (d) for sufficiently large p , and complete the proof.