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**I:** (25 points) Consider the function  $e^{-x}$ .

a) Find the 4-th order Taylor polynomial  $P_4(x)$  for  $e^{-x}$  and the corresponding remainder in Lagrange form.

$$e^{-x} = \sum_{k=0}^4 (-1)^k \frac{x^k}{k!} - \frac{e^{-c} x^5}{5!}$$

where  $c$  is some number between 0 and  $x$ .

b) Using the above result compute an approximate value, call it  $A$ , for  $\frac{1}{e}$   
The approximate value is

$$\sum_{k=0}^4 (-1)^k \frac{1}{k!} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{24} = \frac{3}{8}$$

c) Give an estimate on how accurate the value computed in b) approximates  $\frac{1}{e}$ , i.e., give a bound on

$$\left| \frac{1}{e} - A \right| ,$$

using the remainder found in a).

The remainder is negative, so we have that

$$\frac{1}{e} < \frac{3}{8}$$

On the other hand since  $c$  is between 0 and 1

$$\frac{e^{-c}}{5!} < \frac{1}{5!}$$

we find that

$$\frac{3}{8} - \frac{1}{120} < \frac{1}{e} < \frac{3}{8} .$$

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**II:** Decide whether the following series converge or diverge. State which convergence test you are going to use.

a) (8 points)

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{[k!]^2}{(3k)!}$$

The ratio test yields

$$\frac{a_{k+1}}{a_k} = \frac{[(k+1)!]^2(3k)!}{[k!]^2(3k+3)!} = \frac{(k+1)^2}{(3k+3)(3k+2)(3k+1)} \rightarrow 0$$

as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence the series converges.

b) (8 points)

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{3^{k^2}}{k!}$$

Apply again the ratio test

$$\frac{a_{k+1}}{a_k} = \frac{3^{k^2} 3^{2k} 3 \cdot k!}{3^{k^2} (k+1)!} = \frac{3^{2k+1}}{(k+1)} \rightarrow \infty$$

as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence the series diverges.

c) (9 points)

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

The root test yields

$$(2 + (-1)^k)^{1/k} \left(1 - \frac{1}{k}\right)^k \rightarrow \frac{1}{e}$$

as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Since  $1/e < 1$  the series converges.

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**III:** a) (9 points) Consider the alternating series

$$L = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k 10^{-k^2}$$

Find the smallest value of  $N$  so that the  $N$ -th partial sum  $s_N$  satisfies  $|L - s_N| < 10^{-16}$ .

You know from alternating series theory that

$$|L - s_n| < 10^{-(n+1)^2}$$

This immediately yields that  $n = 3$ .

b) (8 points) Find the power series expansion for  $\sinh x := \frac{1}{2}(e^x - e^{-x})$ .

$$e^x = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!}$$

and

$$e^{-x} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{x^k}{k!}$$

In the difference  $e^x - e^{-x}$  the even terms cancel and we get

$$\sinh(x) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2m+1}}{(2m+1)!}$$

c) (8 points) Sum the series

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k+2)2^{-k}$$

Write the series as

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k2^{-k} + 2 \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^{-k}$$

The second term is a simple geometric series and sums up to  $2 \times \frac{1}{1-1/2} = 4$ .  
For the first terms differentiating the geometric series we get that

$$\frac{1}{(1-x)^2} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} kx^{k-1}$$

so that

$$\frac{x}{(1-x)^2} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} kx^k$$

Hence

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k2^{-k} = \frac{1/2}{(1-1/2)^2} = 2$$

So the whole series sums up to 6.

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**IV:** Find the interval of convergence of the following power series. State which convergence test you are going to use for computing the radius of convergence.

a) (7 points)

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{k!}}{k^k} x^k$$

Ratio test yields

$$\frac{a_{k+1}}{a_k} = \frac{\sqrt{(k+1)!}}{(k+1)^{k+1}} \frac{k^k}{\sqrt{k!}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k+1}} \left( \frac{k}{k+1} \right)^k \rightarrow 0$$

as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , since the sequence

$$\left( \frac{k}{k+1} \right)^k \rightarrow \frac{1}{e}$$

as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .

b) (8 points)

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{1}{k^3} \left( \frac{x+3}{2} \right)^k$$

Ratio test yields

$$\frac{a_{k+1}}{a_k} = \left| \frac{x+3}{2} \right| < 1$$

and hence we know that the series converges absolutely for all  $x$  that satisfies the inequalities

$$-2 < x + 3 < 2 \quad \text{or} \quad -5 < x < -1 .$$

At  $x = -1$  the series is

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{1}{k^3}$$

which converges, in fact absolutely by the  $p$ -test. At  $x = -5$  the series is

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^3}$$

which converges by the  $p$ -test. Hence the interval of convergence is

$$-5 \leq x \leq -1 .$$

c) (10 points)

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{3 + (-1)^k}{k} (x - 1)^k$$

What function does this series represent in its open interval of convergence?

The interval of convergence is

$$0 < x < 2 .$$

The series does not converge at 0 nor does it converge at 2.

It represents the function

$$-3 \ln(2 - x) - \ln(x) .$$

You can see this in several ways. Differentiate the power series to get

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (3 + (-1)^k)(x - 1)^{k-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (3 - (-1)^k)(x - 1)^k$$

which is a sum of two geometric series. The first one sums to

$$\frac{3}{(1 - (x - 1))}$$

and the second one sums to

$$-\frac{1}{(1 + (x - 1))}$$

Hence in total

$$\frac{3}{(2-x)} - \frac{1}{x}$$

Now we compute the antiderivative and get

$$-3 \ln(2-x) - \ln x + C$$

and hence

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{3 + (-1)^k}{k} (x-1)^k = -3 \ln(2-x) - \ln x + C$$

The power series vanishes at  $x = 1$  and hence  $C = 0$ .