

**Assignment 20: Infinite Series (8.2–7)**  
**Please provide a handwritten response.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**1a.** To find the partial sum  $S_{10}$  of the infinite series  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^{0.9}}$  execute

`Sum[1./k^(0.9), {k, 1, 10}]`

and record the result in the table. By changing the **10** to **100**, etc. complete the second column of the table.

$n$	$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k^{0.9}}$	$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{5}{k^{1.1}}$
10		
100		
1000		
10000		
100000		

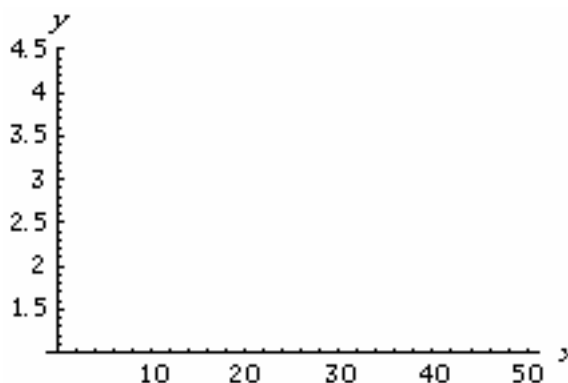
**1b.** Likewise modify the command in part **a** to find the partial sums of the infinite series  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{5}{k^{1.1}}$  and complete the third column. Notice that in each row, the entry in the second column is smaller than that in the third; can this be the case for all  $n$ ? Why?

**1c.** Add one more row to the bottom of the table corresponding to  $n = 10^8$  and fill it in; are the results consistent with your answer to part **b**?

**2a.** The text explains that the harmonic series  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k}$  diverges. To get an idea of how quickly or slowly it does so, execute `s[n_] = Sum[1./k, {k, 1, n}]`; followed by

`psums = Table[{n, s[n]}, {n, 1, 50}];`

to construct a list called `psums` of ordered pairs  $\left(n, \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k}\right)$  where the “y-value” is the  $n^{\text{th}}$  partial sum of the harmonic series. Then execute `ListPlot[psums]` and roughly sketch the result on the axes at right.

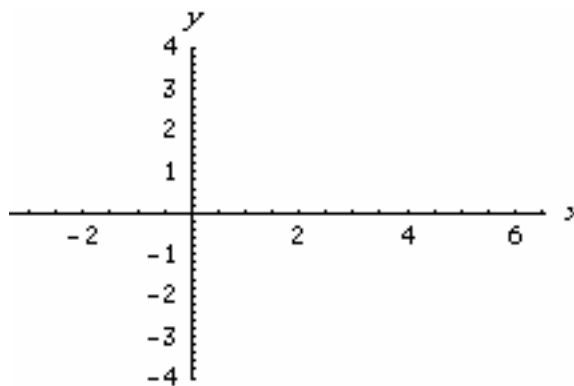


**2b.** Execute `Clear[psums]` and repeat the last two commands in part **a** with **50** replaced by **500**; would you say that the partial sums are approaching  $\infty$  quickly?

**3a.** To find the Taylor polynomial with  $c = \frac{\pi}{2}$  and  $n = 4$  for  $\cos x$  (Exercise 18, Section 8.7), execute

`Series[Cos[x], {x, Pi/2, 4}]`

and record the result below; what do you think the final term means?



**3b.** We can remove this final term using

`Normal`; execute `tp[x_] = Normal[%]` and enter the result below.

**3c.** Now plot the cosine function and the Taylor polynomial over  $-\pi \leq x \leq 2\pi$  by executing

`Plot[{Cos[x], tp[x]}, {x, -Pi, 2Pi}]`

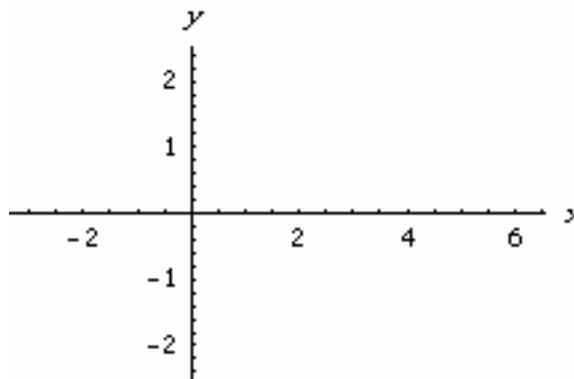
Sketch the result on the axes at right, labeling the graphs; on roughly what interval are the two graphs indistinguishable on your computer screen?

**3d.** Change the **4** in part **a** to **8** and then execute `Clear[tp]` followed by the commands in parts **a–c** once again. For the new Taylor polynomial, sketch its graph with labeling on your graph above, and answer the question in part **c** again.

**3e.** To measure the error in this Taylor approximation, execute

`Plot[Cos[x] - tp[x], {x, -Pi, 2Pi}, PlotRange->All]`

and sketch the result on the axes at right. How large (positive or negative) does the error become, and for what value(s) of  $x$  is the error greatest?



**3f.** By increasing  $n$  still further while keeping everything else the same, can we reduce the maximum error in part **e** to less than 0.1? Experiment to find how large a value of  $n$  is needed.

**3g.** Try to answer part **f** with  $\cos x$  changed to  $\tan^{-1} x$  (denoted `ArcTan[x]`),  $c$  to 0 and the interval to  $-1.5 \leq x \leq 1.5$ . Can you find  $n$  large enough? Why?