

The infinite series $\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{|\sin(n)|^n}{n}$ on the Lviv Scottish book is bounded

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“In 2017, I managed to solve a problem from the “Lviv Scottish book . The problem had a prize of “butelka miodu pitnego” (a bottle of honey mead). Today, while I was in Warsaw, some representatives from Lviv, Ukraine came (by train, as the Ukraine airspace is obviously closed) I was very touched and honored to unexpectedly receive the prize in person.”

Terence Tao

Abstract

In this article we prove that the infinite series $\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{|\sin(n)|^n}{n}$ on the Lviv Scottish book is bounded , consequently it is convergent.

Notation and reminder

$\mathbb{N}^* := \{1,2,3,4, \dots\}$ the natural numbers .

$\mathbb{Z} := \{\dots, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0,1,2,3,4, \dots\}$ the integers .

\mathbb{R} : the set of real numbers.

$]0,1[:= \{0 < x < 1 : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ the open interval with endpoints 0 and 1.

$|\alpha| := \max\{-\alpha, \alpha : \alpha \in \mathbb{R}\}$ the absolute value of α .

\forall : the universal quantifier and \exists : the existential quantifier.

For more details about the infinite series , we refer the reader and our students to [4] and to [5].

Introduction

Is the infinite series $\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{|\sin(n)|^n}{n}$ is convergent ? The problem was posed on 22.06.2017 by PhD students of H.Steinhaus Center of Wroclaw Polytechnica. The promised prize for solution is a bottle of drinking honey, see [1] of the Lviv Scottish book. This problem was solved by Terence Tao on 29.09.2017 [2] who is honored on 09.08.2023 [3]. In this paper we show that this infinite series is bounded , consequently it is convergent.

Lemma. $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ we have $0 < |\sin(n)| < 1$.

Proof. $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ we have $0 \leq |\sin(n)| \leq 1$, and $n \notin \{\frac{k\pi}{2} : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ because π is irrational , thus $0 < |\sin(n)| < 1$.

Main Theorem. *The infinite series $\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{|\sin(n)|^n}{n}$ is bounded.*

Proof. Indeed , $\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{|\sin(n)|^n}{n} = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \left| \frac{\sin(n)}{\sqrt[n]{n}} \right|^n$, and $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ we have $0 < |\sin(n)| < 1$ and $\sqrt[n]{n} \geq 1$, this implies that $0 < \left| \frac{\sin(n)}{\sqrt[n]{n}} \right| < 1$, then $\exists \alpha , \beta \in]0,1[$ such that $\alpha = \min\left\{ \left| \frac{\sin(n)}{\sqrt[n]{n}} \right| : n \in \mathbb{N}^* \right\}$ and $\beta = \max\left\{ \left| \frac{\sin(n)}{\sqrt[n]{n}} \right| : n \in \mathbb{N}^* \right\}$, then $\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \alpha^n < \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \left| \frac{\sin(n)}{\sqrt[n]{n}} \right|^n < \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \beta^n$, thus $\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} < \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{|\sin(n)|^n}{n} < \frac{\beta}{1-\beta}$, consequently we have $\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{|\sin(n)|^n}{n} < +\infty$.

References

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