

Math 311: Section 3.

Workshop 4: Cauchy condensation.

Problem 4.1. Define

$$\zeta(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^x}.$$

This is the *Riemann zeta function*. Show that $\zeta(x)$ converges if and only if $x > 1$. (This is Corollary 2.4.7 of Abbott's book, as well as Exercise 2.7.7.) Here is a sketch of a proof: you are to provide the details.

- (1) Provide the missing direction of the Cauchy Condensation Test, stated as Theorem 2.4.6.
- (2) Apply the test to $\zeta(x)$. What series do you obtain?
- (3) Use the facts about geometric series given in Example 2.7.5 to decide the convergence of the series obtained in step 2, above. (You may assume without proof that if y is positive and real then $2^y > 1$ while $2^y \in (0, 1]$ if $y \leq 0$.)

Problem 4.2. Prove that the *general harmonic series*

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a + nb} = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{a + b} + \frac{1}{a + 2b} + \frac{1}{a + 3b} + \dots,$$

for a and b positive, diverges.

Problem 4.3. Does the series $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \log_2(n)}$ converge or diverge? Give a complete proof.