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Midterm Exam Question 1.

Determine the interval of convergence of the power series $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{2^n (\ln n)^2}$.

Show all your work!

Explain your reasoning fully and in detail using correct mathematical notation and terminology, and in well-formed mathematical and English sentences!

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2^n (\ln n)^2} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{R} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|C_{n+1}|}{|C_n|} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{2^{n+1} (\ln(n+1))^2}}{\frac{1}{2^n (\ln n)^2}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n}{\ln(n+1)} \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{\ln(x+1)} \right)^2 \stackrel{\text{L'H}}{=} \frac{1}{2} \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x}{1/(x+1)} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1^2 = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow R=2$$

$$x=2 \Rightarrow \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{2^n (\ln n)^2} = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(\ln n)^2}$$

$$c = \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(\ln h)^2} = \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \frac{h}{h (\ln h)^2} = \infty \text{ by "useful limits"}$$

Since $c = \infty > 0$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$ diverges (harmonic series),

$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(\ln n)^2}$ diverges.

$$x=-2 \Rightarrow \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-2)^n}{2^n (\ln n)^2} = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(\ln n)^2} = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(\ln n)^2}$$

Let $b_n = \frac{1}{(\ln n)^2}$. Then: (ϕ) $b_n = \frac{1}{(\ln n)^2} > 0$ for all $n \geq 2$.

$$(1) f(x) = \frac{1}{(\ln x)^2} \Rightarrow f'(x) = -\frac{2}{x (\ln x)^3} < 0 \text{ for } x > 1 \Rightarrow f \text{ is decreasing on } (1, \infty)$$

$$\Rightarrow b_n = f(n) > f(n+1) = b_{n+1} \text{ for } n \geq 2.$$

$$(2) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(\ln n)^2} = 0.$$

Hence, $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(\ln n)^2}$ converges by AST.

The interval of convergence of the power series is $[-2, 2)$.