

Notes: Alternating Series, Absolute Convergence, & Conditional Convergence

Infinite Series Day 6

$$\sum \frac{1}{n} = \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \dots$$

$$\sum (-1)^n \left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = -\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{7} + \dots$$

Alternating Series Test: The alternating series

$\sum (-1)^n a_n$, where a_n is a sequence with all positive terms,

Converges: If a_n is decreasing and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$

What does the Alternating Series test not tell us?

diverges!

Determine whether the following series are convergent

or divergent. Justify your answer.

Example One:

$\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} n^2}{n^3+1}$ Alternating

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{n^3+1} = 0$$

$$\therefore \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} n^2}{n^3+1} \text{ converges by alternating.}$$

Example Two:

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1} 2n^2}{n^3+4}$ alternating

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n^2}{n^3+4} = 0$$

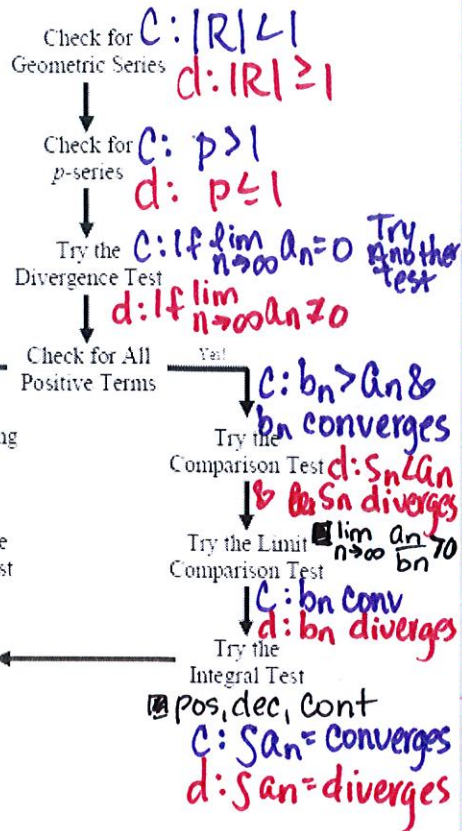
$$\therefore \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1} 2n^2}{n^3+4} \text{ converges by alternating}$$

Example Three:

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

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n \cdot \ln(n)} = 0$$

$$\therefore \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n \cdot \ln(n)} \text{ converges by alternating}$$



$\sum (-1)^n a_n$

No

Try the Alternating Series Test

Try the Absolute Convergence Test

Try the Ratio Test

$C: \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$

$d: \text{not this test use divergence}$

$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$

$C: R < 1$

$d: R > 1$

inconclusive $R = 1$

pos, dec, cont

$C: S_n = \text{converges}$

$d: S_n = \text{diverges}$

Review of Factorials

$$\frac{5!}{7!} = \frac{5!}{7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5!} = \frac{1}{42}$$

$$\frac{n!}{(n+2)!} = \frac{n!}{(n+2)(n+1)n!} = \frac{1}{(n+2)(n+1)}$$

Ratio Test: Let $\{a_n\}$ be a sequence and assume that the following limit exists:

$$r = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$$

Converges: If $r < 1$ then $\sum a_n$ converges ABSOLUTELY

Diverges: If $r > 1$ then $\sum a_n$ diverges

Inconclusive: If $r = 1$

Determine whether the following series are convergent or divergent. Justify your answer.

Example Four:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \quad R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{(n+1)!}}{\frac{1}{n!}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{(n+1)!}$$

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{(n+1) \cdot n!} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+1} = 0 < 1$$

$\therefore \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!}$ converges ABSOLUTELY by Ratio

$$2^A \cdot 2^B = 2^{A+B}$$

Example Five:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n} \quad R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^2}{2^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{2^n}{n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^n (n+1)^2}{2^n \cdot 2 \cdot n^2}$$

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^2}{2n^2} = \frac{1}{2} < 1$$

$\therefore \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n}$ converges ABSOLUTELY by Ratio

Example Six:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left| (-1)^n \frac{n!}{100^n} \right| \quad R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)!}{100^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{100^n}{n!} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{100^n (n+1) \cdot n!}{100^n \cdot 100 \cdot n!}$$

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{100} = \infty > 1$$

$\therefore \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n!}{100^n}$ diverges by Ratio

Example Seven:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left| \frac{n^3}{(-3)^n} \right| \quad R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^3}{3^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{3^n}{n^3} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3^n (n+1)^3}{3^n \cdot 3 (n^3)} = \frac{1}{3} < 1$$

$\therefore \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n^3}{(-3)^n}$ Converges by Ratio

Example Eight:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left| (-1)^{n+3} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{3n-2} \right| \quad R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{3(n+1)-2} \cdot \frac{3n-2}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(3n-2)\sqrt{n+1}}{(3n+1)\sqrt{n}} = 1 \quad \text{Ratio does not work!}$$

Alternating & $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{3n-2} = 0$

$\therefore \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+3} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{3n-2}$ Converges by alternating

Example Nine:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{4^{2n+1}}{(n+1)10^n}$$

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4^{2(n+1)+1}}{(n+1+1)10^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{(n+1)10^n}{4^{2n+1}}$$

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4^{2n+2+1}}{(n+2)10^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{(n+1)10^n}{4^{2n+1}}$$

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4^{2n} \cdot 4^3 \cdot 10^n (n+1)}{4^{2n} \cdot 4^1 \cdot 10^n \cdot 10^1 (n+2)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{16(n+1)}{10(n+2)} = \frac{8}{5} > 1$$

$\therefore \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{4^{2n+1}}{(n+1)10^n}$ diverges by Ratio test.

Root Test: Let $\{a_n\}$ be a sequence and assume that the following limit exists:

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|}$$

Converges: If $L < 1$ then $\sum a_n$ converges ABSOLUTELY

Diverges: If $L > 1$ then $\sum a_n$ diverges

Inconclusive: If $L = 1$

Example Ten:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{n}{2n+3}\right)^n$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\left(\frac{n}{2n+3}\right)^n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{2n+3} = \frac{1}{2} < 1$$

Converges absolutely by Root test