



Strategy to Test Series Convergence

- If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$, then the series diverges by the **Divergence theorem**
- If a series is a **p-series**, we know it converges if $p > 1$ and diverges otherwise $a_n = \frac{1}{n^p}$
- If a series is a **geometric series**, with $a_n = ar^n$, $a \neq 0$, then the series converges if $|r| < 1$ and diverges otherwise. In that case, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^n = \frac{a}{1-r}$ when $|r| < 1$
- If a series is similar to a p-series or a geometric series, you should consider a **3.2.3: comparison test** or a **3.2H: limit comparison test**.
 - If the series has alternating signs $(-1)^n$, then the **3.2.6: alternating series test** will be helpful, if the terms are decreasing.
 - If the terms a_n contain factorials or factorials and n 'th powers, then try the **3.2I: ratio test**.
 - If the terms contain n 'th powers, the **3.2.4: root test** may be helpful.
 - If the terms are positive and decreasing, the **3.2N: integral test** may be helpful if it can be easily integrated (when viewed as $f(x)$ where $f(n) = a_n$).
- 3.3.3 Proposition: An **absolutely convergent** series is convergent.

Questions:

- 3.1.A: Sum the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+2)}$

- 3.1.B: Sum the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)(n+3)(n+4)}$

- 3.2.P: Determine whether the following series converge or diverge.

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{3n}{n^3+1}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin(n\pi/4)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n!}{n^n}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \sin(1/n)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+n^2}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-n^2}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (\sqrt[n]{n} - 1)^n$$

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(\log n)^n}$$

1. Sum the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+2)}$ converges, $\sum \frac{1}{n(n+2)} \leq \sum \frac{1}{n^2}$ converges by p-series, $p=2 > 1$

$$\text{sln: } a_n = \frac{1}{n(n+2)} = \frac{A}{n} + \frac{B}{n+2}$$

$$\text{for all } n, \quad \frac{1}{n(n+2)} = \frac{A(n+2) + Bn}{n(n+2)} = \frac{(A+B)n + 2A}{n(n+2)}$$

$$\begin{cases} A+B=0 \\ 2A=1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} A=\frac{1}{2} \\ B=-\frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{or } a_n = \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+2} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+2} \right)$$

$$\sigma_k = \sum_{n=1}^k \frac{1}{n(n+2)} = \sum_{n=1}^k \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^k \frac{1}{n} - \sum_{n=1}^k \frac{1}{n+2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^k \frac{1}{n} - \sum_{n=3}^{k+2} \frac{1}{n} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{n=3}^k \frac{1}{n} - \sum_{n=3}^k \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{k+1} - \frac{1}{k+2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{k+1} - \frac{1}{k+2} \right)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+2)} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_k = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{k+1} - \frac{1}{k+2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{3}{2} \right) = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$2. \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{3n}{n^3+1} \text{ similar to } \frac{1}{n^2}$$

① Using comparison test

$$a_n = \frac{3n}{n^3+1} \leq \frac{3n}{n^3} = \frac{3}{n^2}$$

$\frac{1}{n^p}$, converges $p > 1$, diverge otherwise.

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{3n}{n^3+1} \leq \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{3}{n^2} \text{ converges by p-series.}$$

② Ratio Test X

$$a_n = \frac{3n}{n^3+1}, \quad a_{n+1} = \frac{3(n+1)}{(n+1)^3+1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3(n+1)}{(n+1)^3+1} \cdot \frac{n^3+1}{3n} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(3n+3)(n^3+1)}{(n^3+3n^2+3n+1)(3n)} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3n^4+3n+3n^3+3}{3n^4+9n^3+9n^2+6n} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3 + \frac{3}{n^3} + \frac{3}{n} + \frac{3}{n^4}}{3 + \frac{9}{n} + \frac{9}{n^2} + \frac{6}{n^3}} \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

No conclusion

$$3. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n}$$

$$a_n = \frac{n}{2^n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{2^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{2^n}{n} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + \frac{1}{n}}{1} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} < 1 \end{aligned}$$

or by ratio test, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n}$ converges

$$4. \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n \sqrt{n}}$$

① Maybe alternating series test.

$$a_n = \frac{1}{n \sqrt{n}}, \quad a_1 = \frac{1}{1 \sqrt{1}} = 1, \quad a_2 = \frac{1}{2 \sqrt{2}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\frac{1}{n \sqrt{n}}$$

$$a_6 = \frac{1}{6 \sqrt{6}}$$

$$(a_6)^6 = \left(\frac{1}{6 \sqrt{6}} \right)^6 = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$(a_2)^6 = \left(\frac{1}{2 \sqrt{2}} \right)^6 = \left(\left(\frac{1}{2 \sqrt{2}} \right)^2 \right)^3 = \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^3 = \frac{1}{8} < \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\text{or } a_2^6 < a_6^6$$

since a_2, a_6 are positive,

$$\text{or } a_2 < a_6.$$

Not decreasing, can't use alternating series test.

② Divergence theorem: if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$, then series diverges

$$a_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{n \sqrt{n}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \sqrt{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{3/2}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\log(n^{3/2})} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{3}{2} \log n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n \sqrt{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log n}{n^{3/2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n}}{\frac{3}{2} n^{1/2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\frac{3}{2} n^{3/2}} = 0$$

$$\text{or } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \sqrt{n} = e^0 = 1$$

or limit DNE, and hence in particular not zero

By divergence thm, $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n \sqrt{n}}$ diverges

$$5. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (\sqrt[n]{n} - 1)^n$$

① Root test

$$a_n = (\sqrt[n]{n} - 1)^n$$

Root test, $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{a_n} = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt[n]{n} - 1) = 1 - 1 = 0 < 1$, so converges

② Ratio Test?

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\sqrt[n+1]{n+1} - 1)^{n+1}}{(\sqrt[n]{n} - 1)^n}$$