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## Dirichlet's convergence test

 ${\bf Canonical\ name} \quad {\bf Dirichlets Convergence Test}$ 

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Author lieven (1075) Entry type Theorem Classification msc 40A05 Theorem. Let  $\{a_n\}$  and  $\{b_n\}$  be sequences of real numbers such that  $\{\sum_{i=0}^n a_i\}$  is bounded and  $\{b_n\}$  decreases with 0 as limit. Then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n b_n$  converges.

Proof. Let  $A_n := \sum_{i=0}^n a_i$  and let M be an upper bound for  $\{|A_n|\}$ . By Abel's lemma,

$$\sum_{i=m}^{n} a_{i}b_{i} = \sum_{i=0}^{n} a_{i}b_{i} - \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} a_{i}b_{i}$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} A_{i}(b_{i} - b_{i+1}) - \sum_{i=0}^{m-2} A_{i}(b_{i} - b_{i+1}) + A_{n}b_{n} - A_{m-1}b_{m-1}$$

$$= \sum_{i=m-1}^{n-1} A_{i}(b_{i} - b_{i+1}) + A_{n}b_{n} - A_{m-1}b_{m-1}$$

$$|\sum_{i=m}^{n} a_{i}b_{i}| \leq \sum_{i=m-1}^{n-1} |A_{i}(b_{i} - b_{i+1})| + |A_{n}b_{n}| + |A_{m-1}b_{m-1}|$$

$$\leq M \sum_{i=m-1}^{n-1} (b_{i} - b_{i+1}) + |A_{n}b_{n}| + |A_{m-1}b_{m-1}|$$

Since  $\{b_n\}$  converges to 0, there is an  $N(\epsilon)$  such that both  $\sum_{i=m-1}^{n-1} (b_i - b_{i+1}) < \frac{\epsilon}{3M}$  and  $b_i < \frac{\epsilon}{3M}$  for  $m, n > N(\epsilon)$ . Then, for  $m, n > N(\epsilon)$ ,  $|\sum_{i=m}^{n} a_i b_i| < \epsilon$  and  $\sum a_n b_n$  converges.