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proof of integral test

Canonical name ProofOfIntegralTest
Date of creation 2013-03-22 13:32:07
Last modified on 2013-03-22 13:32:07

Owner paolini (1187) Last modified by paolini (1187)

Numerical id 4

Author paolini (1187)

Entry type Proof Classification msc 40A05 Consider the function (see the definition of floor)

$$g(x) = a_{|x|}.$$

Clearly for $x \in [n, n+1)$, being f non increasing we have

$$g(x+1) = a_{n+1} = f(n+1) \le f(x) \le f(n) = a_n = g(x)$$

hence

$$\int_{M}^{+\infty} g(x+1) \, dx = \int_{M+1}^{+\infty} g(x) \, dx \le \int_{M}^{+\infty} f(x) \le \int_{M}^{+\infty} g(x) \, dx.$$

Since the integral of f and g on [M, M+1] is finite we notice that f is integrable on $[M, +\infty)$ if and only if g is integrable on $[M, +\infty)$.

On the other hand g is locally constant so

$$\int_{n}^{n+1} g(x) \, dx = \int_{n}^{n+1} a_n \, dx = a_n$$

and hence for all $N \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\int_{N}^{+\infty} g(x) = \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} a_n$$

that is g is integrable on $[N, +\infty)$ if and only if $\sum_{n=N}^{\infty} a_n$ is convergent. But, again, $\int_{M}^{N} g(x) dx$ is finite hence g is integrable on $[M, +\infty)$ if and only if g is integrable on $[N, +\infty)$ and also $\sum_{n=0}^{N} a_n$ is finite so $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ is convergent if and only if $\sum_{n=N}^{\infty} a_n$ is convergent.