

Solution

Check convergence of $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \cdot 0.5^n$: converges

Steps

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \cdot 0.5^n$$

Apply Alternating Series Test: converges

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$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \cdot 0.5^n$$

Alternating Series Test:

Suppose that for a_n , there exists an N so that for all $n \ge N$

- 1. a_n is positive and monotone decreasing
- 2. $\lim_{n\to\infty} a_n = 0$

Then the alternating series $\sum (-1)^n a_n$ and $\sum (-1)^{n-1} a_n$ both converge

$$a_n = 0.5^n$$

 a_n is positive and monotone decreasing from N = 1

 $\lim_{n\to\infty} \left(0.5^n\right) = 0$

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$$\lim_{n\to\infty} \left(0.5^n\right)$$

Apply the common limit: $\lim_{x \to \infty} (a^x) = 0$, 0 < a < 1

=0

By the alternating series test criteria

= converges

= converges