

EXERCISES 5.3 The Divergence and Integral Tests
Written assignment

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Contents

3. Use the Divergence Test to determine the whether the series converges or diverges.

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{9}{n}\right)^n.$$

Given the fact that Euler's number has a definition of the form:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = e.$$

With a generalization of

$$e^a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{a}{n}\right)^n.$$

Using the divergence test for the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{9}{n}\right)^n$, we get the $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{9}{n}\right)^n$. Which will trivially yield e^9 . However, this can be shown...

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{9}{n}\right)^n \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\ln \left(1 + \frac{9}{n}\right)^n} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{n \ln \left(1 + \frac{9}{n}\right)}. \end{aligned}$$

Focusing on $n \ln \left(1 + \frac{9}{n}\right)$...

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \ln \left(1 + \frac{9}{n}\right) \quad (\text{Indeterminate } \infty \cdot 0) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln \left(1 + \frac{9}{n}\right)}{n^{-1}} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0}\right) \\ &\stackrel{H}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{1 + \frac{9}{n}} \cdot \left(-\frac{9}{n^2}\right)}{-\frac{1}{n^2}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-\frac{9}{n^2 + 2n}}{-\frac{1}{n^2}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{9n^2}{n^2 + 2n} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{9n}{n + 2} \quad \left(\text{Still indeterminate... } \frac{\infty}{\infty}\right) \\ &\stackrel{H}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{9}{1} \\ &= 9. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{9}{n}\right)^n \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{n \ln \left(1 + \frac{9}{n}\right)} \\ &= e^9. \end{aligned}$$