

Calculus

Series Convergence Tests

Test	Series	Converges	Diverges	Remarks
For Divergence (TFD)	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$	CANNOT show convergence	$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$	always check first!
Geometric	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1}$	$ r < 1$	$ r \geq 1$	$\text{sum} = \frac{\text{first term}}{1-r}$
Telescoping	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (b_n - b_{n+k})$	$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_{n+k} = L$ L has to be finite	$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_{n+k}$ D.N.E. or ∞	write out several terms then cancel stuff to find partial sum
P-Series	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$	$p > 1$	$p \leq 1$	famous sum $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{\pi^2}{6}$
Integral	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ $a_n = f(n) \geq 0$	$\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$ Converges	$\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$ Diverges	$f(x)$ has to be positive, continuous & decreasing for $x \geq 1$
Direct Comparison (DCT)	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ $a_n > 0$	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \leq$ a known convergent	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \geq$ a known divergent	try to use p -series or geometric series to compare
Limit Comparison (LCT)	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ $a_n > 0$	$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = L > 0$ & $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ is known to be convergent	$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = L > 0$ & $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ is known to be divergent	this version of LCT is inconclusive if $L = 0$ or $L = \infty$
Alternating (AST)	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} b_n$ $b_n \geq 0$	(1.) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$ (2.) $b_{n+1} \leq b_n$	use TFD $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-1)^{n-1} b_n \neq 0$	$(-1)^{n-1}$ $= \cos((n-1)\pi)$
Ratio	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$	$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right = L < 1$	$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right = L > 1$	inconclusive if $L = 1$ great for ! and $()^n$
Root	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$	$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{ a_n } = L < 1$	$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{ a_n } = L > 1$	inconclusive if $L = 1$ great for $()^n$

If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n|$ converges, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is **absolute convergent** (which implies $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ also converges)

If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges but $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n|$ diverges, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is **conditional convergent**