

Calculus - The Reckoning

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Chapter 1

1.1 The Tests

Definition 1.1.1: The Geometric Series Test

Suppose you have a series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a(r)^{n-1}$$

or any other series with a common ratio r and an initial a , involving a multiplication of that variate value r over the indexes of said infinite series $\sum a_n$. The series converges if:

$$r < 1$$

and diverges when:

$$r > 1$$

If the infinite series $\sum a_n$ converges the sum can be found with:

$$S = \frac{a}{1-r}$$

And the interval of converges can also be found if r is a variate quantity with the inequality $|r| < 1$. Using this method, the *endpoints* must be tested to see if the bounds are inclusive or exclusive.

Definition 1.1.2: Telescoping Series Test

Suppose you have a series $\sum a_n$ of the form

$$a_n = b_n - b_{n+1}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \sum a_n &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n - b_{n+1} = (b_1 - \cancel{b_2}) + (\cancel{b_2} - \cancel{b_3}) + (\cancel{b_3} - b_4) + \dots \\ \implies S &= b_1 \therefore S_k = b_1 - b_{k+1} \end{aligned}$$

Definition 1.1.3: n^{th} term test

Suppose you have a series $\sum a_n$

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$$

$\sum a_n$ diverges if:

$$L \neq 0$$

Note:-

This test only tests for divergence.

Definition 1.1.4: The Integral Test

Suppose you have a series $\sum_{n=j}^{\infty} a_n$, where $a_n = f(x)$, and $f(x)$ is continuous, positive and decreasing on the interval $[j, \infty)$.

$$\sum_{n=j}^{\infty} a_n \text{ converges if}$$

$$L = \int_j^{\infty} f(x) = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_j^b f(x)$$

where L is some positive, finite value meeting the condition: $0 < L < \infty$

The sum diverges if L diverges (DNE counts)

Definition 1.1.5: p-series Test

Suppose you have a series of the form:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$$

This series converges if $p > 1$ and diverges if $0 < p \leq 1$

Definition 1.1.6: The Alternating Series Test

Suppose you have a series:

$$\sum a_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+k} b_n$$

$$|a_n| = b_n$$

If:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$$

$$b_n > b_{n+1}$$

The series $\sum a_n$ converges.

Note:-

This test only tests for convergence.

Definition 1.1.7: The Ratio Test

Suppose you have a series $\sum a_n$

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$$

The series converges if:

$$L < 1$$

Diverges if:

$$L > 1$$

and fails when:

$$L = 1$$

Note:-

This test is especially useful when dealing with factorials and exponential, as the powers reduce. There is the off-chance that you find a product such as $2 * 5 * 7 * 9 * (2n - 1)$, where this technique tends to work well, just as it does in the factorial pattern.

Definition 1.1.8: Direct Comparison Test

Suppose you have a series $\sum a_n$ and find a series $\sum b_n$.

$$a_n, b_n \geq 0, n \in \mathbb{R}$$

In order to prove $\sum a_n$ converges you must show that:

$$a_n \leq b_n$$

for all n , and that $\sum b_n$ converges using any other test of your choosing. In order to prove $\sum a_n$ diverges you must show that:

$$a_n \geq b_n$$

for all n , and that $\sum b_n$ diverges.

Note:-

This test works well for compositions of rationals and exponential, where $\sum b_n$ is simply $\sum a_n$ without a constant in the denominator. Try to use it sparingly and only when the opportunity presents itself.

Definition 1.1.9: Limit Comparison Test

Suppose you have a series $\sum a_n$, and you find a series $\sum b_n$

$$a_n \geq 0, b_n > 0, n \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$c = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n}$$

$$0 < c < \infty$$

$\sum a_n$ converges if $\sum b_n$ converges, $\sum a_n$ diverges if $\sum b_n$ diverges.

Definition 1.1.10: Root Test

Suppose you have a series $\sum a_n$

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|}$$

Then 1 of 3 cases is true:

1. if $L < 1$ $\sum a_n$ is absolutely convergent (hence convergent)
2. if $L > 1$ $\sum a_n$ is divergent
3. if $L = 1$ the test fails

Definition 1.1.11: Absolute vs. Conditional Convergence

This test only matters if a_n is variate.

$\sum a_n$ is absolutely convergent if $\sum |a_n|$ converges. $\sum a_n$ is conditionally convergent if $\sum |a_n|$ diverges.

Claim 1.1.1 Interval of Convergence

Test endpoints any time when finding the interval of convergence after using the Root Test, Ratio Test, Geometric Series Test, or (will almost never be asked) the Alternating Series Test. With the alternating series test, it is important to watch if

$$b_n > b_{n+1}$$

1.2 The Tests of Character

Question 1

Does the following series converge or diverge? Specify the test, show all steps, and identify the correct radius of convergence and interval of convergence with respect to x .

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}(x-4)^n}{n9^n}$$

Answer. Use the ratio test and find: $R = 9$, and interval of convergence to be $(-5, 13]$

For the following 4 problems use:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^n$$

Question 2

Find the interval of convergence for $f(x)$, if the series converges. Identify the test.

Answer. Use Geometric Series test to identify that $R = 3$ and interval of convergence to be $(-3, 3)$

Question 3

Find the interval of convergence for $f'(x)$, if the series converges. Identify the test.

Answer. Use Ratio test to identify that $R = 3$ and interval of convergence to be $(-3, 3)$

Question 4

Find the interval of convergence for $f''(x)$, if the series converges. Identify the test.

Answer. Use Ratio test to identify that $R = 3$ and interval of convergence to be $(-3, 3)$

Question 5

Find the interval of convergence for $\int f(x)dx$, if the series converges. Identify the test.

Answer. Use Ratio test to identify that $R = 3$ and interval of convergence to be $[-3, 3)$

Note:- When deriving a series, the bound may only loose convergence, not gain. The opposite is true for integration. If you receive another series of questions like this you can simply use the same bound after setting up the test, and only test the endpoints when integrating, not deriving as that would only waste time.