

Given a series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots$, let s_n denote its n th partial sum:

$$s_n = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i = a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n$$

If the sequence $\{s_n\}$ is convergent and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s$ exists as a real number, then the series $\sum a_n$ is called **convergent** and we write

$$a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n + \dots = s$$

or

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = s$$

The number s is called the **sum** of the series.

If the sequence $\{s_n\}$ is divergent, then the series is called **divergent**.

Example 2

Show that the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)}$ is convergent, and find its sum.

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1} \leftarrow = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} \right) + \dots$$
$$= 1 - \frac{1}{n+1} = 1$$


4 The geometric series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1} = a + ar + ar^2 + \dots$$

is convergent if $|r| < 1$ and its sum is

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1} = \frac{a}{1-r} \quad |r| < 1$$

If $|r| \geq 1$, the geometric series is divergent.

$$5 - \frac{10}{3} + \frac{20}{9} - \frac{40}{27} + \dots$$


$$a = 5$$

$$r = -\frac{2}{3}$$

Convergent

$$|r| < 1$$

$(-\frac{2}{3}) \rightarrow$

+ 0

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$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 5 \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)^{n-1} = \frac{5}{1 - \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)}$$

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

∞

Is the series $\sum 2^{2n} 3^{1-n}$ convergent or divergent?

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1}$$

$$2^{2n} \rightarrow 4(4^{n-1})$$

$$3^{1-n} \rightarrow \frac{1}{3^{n-1}}$$

$$\frac{4(4^{n-1})}{3^{n-1}}$$

$$4 \left(\frac{4}{3} \right)^{n-1}$$

32. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{6 \cdot 2^{2n-1}}{3^n} \rightarrow ar^{n-1}$

$$2^{2n-1} = \frac{2^{2n}}{2}$$

$$= 4^n \rightarrow 4(4^{n-1})$$

$$\frac{6 \cdot 4(4^{n-1})}{3(3^{n-1}) \cdot 2} =$$

$$4$$

$$\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^{n-1}$$

A drug is administered to a patient at the same time every day. Suppose the concentration of the drug is C_n (measured in mg/mL) after the injection on the n th day. Before the injection the next day, only 30% of the drug remains in the bloodstream and the daily dose raises the concentration by 0.2 mg/mL.

$$C_1 \rightarrow 0.2$$

$$C_2 \rightarrow 0.2 + (0.3)(0.2) = 0.26$$

$$C_3 \rightarrow 0.2 + (0.3)(0.26) = 0.278$$

$$0.2 + (0.2 + (0.3)(0.2))(0.3)$$

$$0.2 + 0.06 + (0.3)(0.2)$$

$$C_n = 0.2 + 0.2(0.3) + 0.2(0.3)^2 + \dots + 0.2(0.3)^{n-1}$$

$$C_n = 0.2(1 - 0.3^{n-1})$$

$$= \frac{0.2(1 - 0.3^n)}{1 - 0.3} = \frac{0.2}{0.7}(1 - 0.3^n)$$

$$= \frac{2}{7}$$

$$= \frac{2}{7}(1 - 0.3^n)$$

∞

If the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is convergent, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$.

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Test for Divergence

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ does not exist or if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$, then the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is divergent.

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots$$

Harmonic Series

$$S_{2n} > 1 + \frac{n}{2}$$

Show that the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{5n^2 + 4} \quad \text{diverges.}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{5n^2 + 4}$$

$$\frac{\quad}{n^2}$$

=

$$\frac{1}{5 + \frac{4}{n^2}} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{5} \neq 0$$

Test for Divergence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0 \quad \sum a_n \quad \text{Diverges}$$

Geometric Series

$$|r| < 1 \quad \text{Converges}$$

$$|r| \geq 1 \quad \text{Diverges}$$

Theorem
If $\sum a_n$ and $\sum b_n$ are convergent series, then so are the series $\sum ca_n$ (where c is a constant), $\sum(a_n + b_n)$, and $\sum(a_n - b_n)$, and

(i)

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ca_n = c \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$$

(ii)

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

(iii)

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

Find the sum of the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{n(n+1)} + \frac{1}{2^n} \right) = 3 + 1 = \boxed{4}$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3}{n(n+1)} = 3 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = 3(1) = 3$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^n \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{n-1} = 1$$

$r = \frac{1}{2} < 1$ $\frac{a}{1-r} = \frac{1/2}{1-1/2}$

The Integral Test

Suppose f is a continuous, positive, decreasing function on $[1, \infty)$ and let $a_n = f(n)$. Then

the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is convergent if and only if the improper integral $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$ is

convergent. In other words:

(i) If $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$ is convergent, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is convergent.

(ii) If $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$ is divergent, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is divergent.

Example 1

Test the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + 1}$ for convergence or divergence.

For what values of p is the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$ convergent?

1 The p -series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$ is convergent if $p > 1$ and divergent if $p \leq 1$.

Determine whether the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\ln n}{n}$ converges or diverges.