Math 123: Series Convergence Tests II

Ryan Blair

CSULB

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Limit Comparison Test

Theorem

Let $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$ and $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} b_i$ be positive series. If

$$lim_{i\to\infty}\frac{a_i}{b_i}=C$$

where C is a finite positive constant, then either both $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$ and $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} b_i$ converge or both $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$ and $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} b_i$ diverge.

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Determine if $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{i+2}{(i+1)^3}$ is convergent or divergent.

Determine if $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{2i^2-1}{i^23^i}$ is convergent or divergent.

An **alternating** series is of the form $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$ where $a_i = (-1)^i b_i$ or $a_i = (-1)^{i+1} b_i$ where $b_i \geq 0$ for all i.

Theorem

(Alternating Series Test)
If the alternating series $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$ satisfies

- $b_{i+1} \leq b_i$ for all i

Then $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$ converges.

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If the alternating series $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$ satisfies

- \bullet $b_{i+1} < b_i$ for all i
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Determine the convergence or divergence of $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^i}{i}$.

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Determine the convergence or divergence of $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^i}{i}$. Determine the convergence or divergence of $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (-1)^i \frac{n}{n+1}$.

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Determine the convergence or divergence of $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^i}{i}$.

Determine the convergence or divergence of $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (-1)^i \frac{n}{n+1}$.

Determine the convergence or divergence of $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} cos(n\pi) \frac{1}{n^{\frac{2}{3}}}$.



Conditional and Absolute Convergence

Definition

A series $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$ is **absolutely** convergent if $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |a_i|$ is convergent.

Definition

A series $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$ is **conditionally** convergent if $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |a_i|$ is divergent and $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$ is convergent.

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Determine conditional or absolute convergence of $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^i}{i}$

Determine conditional or absolute convergence of $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(i)}{i^2}$.

Ratio Test

Theorem

Given a series $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$. If

$$lim_{i\to\infty}\left|\frac{a_{i+1}}{a_i}\right|=L,$$

then

- If L < 1, the series converges absolutely.
- ② If L = 1, the test is inconclusive.
- **3** If L > 1, the series diverges.

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Does not help for the mundane: $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i^2}$

Helps with the crazy stuff: $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{i^i}{i!}$

Root Test

Theorem

Given a series $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$. If

$$lim_{i\to\infty}|a_i|^{\frac{1}{i}}=L,$$

then

- If L < 1, the series converges absolutely.
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