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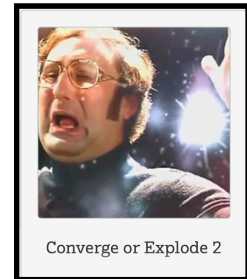
BC Topic 3 – Alternating Series Test

due Friday, September 22



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Converge or Explode 2

Alternating Series Test for Convergence:

Let $a_n > 0$. The alternating series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} a_n$ converge if

1. $a_{n+1} \leq a_n$ for all n after a certain n (terms never increase in absolute value) and
2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$

Examples: Determine the convergence or divergence.

6. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots$ 7. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{n+1}{n} = 2 - \frac{3}{2} + \frac{4}{3} - \frac{5}{4} + \dots$

terms dec. in abs. val.

*$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0$
conv. by AST*

*$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n} = 1 \neq 0$
div. by nTT*

We now have three tests for Convergence/Divergence.

n^{th} Term Test for Divergence: If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ diverges.

This test is inconclusive if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$. (cannot be used to show conv.)

Geom. Series Test: $|r| \geq 1 \rightarrow$ **diverges**, $|r| < 1 \rightarrow$ **converges** and $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} ar^n = \frac{a}{1-r}$.

Alternating Series Test for Convergence: converges if

1. $a_{n+1} \leq a_n$ for all n after a certain n (terms never increase in absolute value)
2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ *Note: AST cannot be used for div.*

Determine the convergence or divergence of each series. Show justification and name the test used. If possible, find the sum of the series.

13. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$ 14. $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sqrt{n}}{n^2 + 1}$ 15. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n^3}{n^3 + 2}$ 16. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n}{\ln n}$
 17. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(n\pi)}{n}$ 18. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n$ 19. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4n+2}{5n-1}$ 20. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2\pi^{-n}$
 21. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n}{5n^2 - 1}$ 22. $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2)^n}{5^{n+1}}$ 23. $1 - \frac{\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^2}{2!} + \frac{\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^4}{4!} - \frac{\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^6}{6!} + \dots$

Write an expression for the n th term of these sequences. Assume $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

33. $5, \frac{5}{2}, \frac{5}{6}, \frac{5}{24}, \frac{5}{120}, \dots$ 34. $\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{7}, \frac{1}{10}, \frac{1}{13}, \dots$

Determine if the following sequences converge or diverge.

35. $\frac{5}{4}, \frac{8}{7}, \frac{11}{10}, \frac{14}{13}, \dots$ 36. $a_n = \frac{n^3}{n^2 + 2}$

37. Find the value of $2 - \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{9} - \frac{2}{27} + \dots$

13. converge by AST	14. converge by AST	15. diverge by n TT
17. converge by AST	18. converge by GST, Sum = 3	19. diverge by n TT
20. converge by GST, Sum = $\frac{2}{\pi - 1}$	21. converge by AST	
22. converge by GST, Sum = $\frac{1}{7}$	23. converge by AST, Sum = $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	
36. diverges		37. $\frac{3}{2}$
		33. $\frac{5}{n!}$ 35. converges to 1