

Justify if a series is convergent or divergent:

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

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$, continue

2. Check the type of the series

- Geometric Series: $\sum a_n$ converges if and only if $|r| < 1$

- p series: Converges if and only if $p > 1$.

- Telescoping series: Calculate partial sum and get the limit

- Other series: other tests.

3. Other convergence Tests

- Alternating Series Test

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n b_n \text{ or } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} b_n \text{ where } b_n > 0$$

If b_n decreases, that is $b_{n+1} \leq b_n$ for all n , and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$, then the series converges.

* Alternating Series Error Estimation: $|R_k| = |s - s_k| \leq b_{k+1}$

- Ratio Test

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

If $L < 1$, then $\sum a_n$ is absolutely convergent

(i.e., $\sum |a_n|$ is convergent, implying $\sum a_n$ is convergent)

If $L > 1$ or ∞ , then $\sum a_n$ is divergent

If $L = 1$, inconclusive.

If $\sum |a_n|$ converges, $\sum a_n$ is absolutely convergent.

$\sum |a_n|$ converges $\Rightarrow \sum a_n$ converges

(~~\Leftarrow~~)

Example: $\sum \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$ is convergent by Alternating Series Test

but $\sum \left| \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \right| = \sum \frac{1}{n}$ is divergent by p -series test.

In this case, $\sum \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$ converges conditionally.