

10/26

11.4

Comparison Test: Suppose $\sum a_n$ and $\sum b_n$ have positive terms.

1.) If $\sum b_n$ is convergent, and $a_n \leq b_n$, then $\sum a_n$ converges.

2.) If $\sum b_n$ is divergent, and $a_n \geq b_n$, then $\sum a_n$ diverges.

Example: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3^n}{2^{n-5}}$

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

Since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^n$ diverges (geometric series with $r = \frac{3}{2}$), by the Comparison Test, this series diverges as well.

Example: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{n^4 n^2 + 2}$

$$\frac{n}{n^4 n^2 + 2} < \frac{n}{n^4} = \frac{1}{n^3}$$

Since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3}$ converges (p-series with $p=3$), by the Comparison Test, this series converges as well.

Limit Comparison Test: Suppose $\sum a_n$ and $\sum b_n$ have positive terms.

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = c$, where c is positive and finite, then either both series converge or both series diverge.

Example: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{10^{n+1}}{11^n - n}$

Compare the terms to $\left(\frac{10}{11}\right)^n$.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left(\frac{10^{n+1}}{11^n - n}\right)}{\left(\frac{10^n}{11^n}\right)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{10}{1 - \frac{n}{11^n}} = 10 \quad \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{11^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(11 \ln 11) 11^x} = 0 \right)$$

Since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{10}{11}\right)^n$ converges (geometric series with $r = \frac{10}{11}$), by the

Limit Comparison Test, this series converges as well.

Example: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{4n^2 - 3n + 1}}{n^2 + 6n}$

Compare the terms to $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left(\frac{\sqrt{4n^2 - 3n + 1}}{n^2 + 6n} \right)}{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{4n^2 - 3n + 1}}{n^2 + 6n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{4 - \frac{3}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2}}}{1 + \frac{6}{n}} = 2$$

Since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$ diverges (p-series with $p = \frac{1}{2}$), by the Limit Comparison Test, the sum diverges as well.

11.5

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

$$S_2 = 1 - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$S_4 = S_2 + \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{12} = \frac{7}{12}$$

$$S_6 = S_4 + \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{6}\right) = \frac{7}{12} + \frac{1}{30} = \frac{37}{60}$$

$\vdots$

$$S_{2n+2} = S_{2n} + \left(\frac{1}{2n+1} - \frac{1}{2n+2}\right) = S_{2n} + \frac{1}{(2n+1)(2n+2)}$$

$$S_2 \leq S_4 \leq S_6 \leq \dots \leq S_{2n} \leq S_{2n+2} \leq \dots$$

On the other hand, $S_{2n} = 1 - \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{5}\right) - \dots - \left(\frac{1}{2n-2} - \frac{1}{2n-1}\right) - \frac{1}{2n} < 1$.

Thus, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_{2n} = S \leq 1$.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_{2n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(S_{2n} + \frac{1}{2n+1}\right) = S$$

Therefore, the series converges to S . [Alternating Series Test]

Alternating Series Test: If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n b_n$, where $b_n > 0$, satisfies

i.) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$, and ii.) $b_n \geq b_{n+1}$, then the series converges.