

NUMEROUS SERIES (I - PART)

Consider a number series $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ with positive members.

The sum is $S_n = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$, and we call it **partial sum**.

We are looking for $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n$.

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = S$ (number) then series **converges**, and if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = \pm \infty$ or does not exist, then the series **diverges**.

Partial sums are in fact:

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &= a_1 \\ S_2 &= a_1 + a_2 \\ S_3 &= a_1 + a_2 + a_3 \\ &\dots \\ S_n &= a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n \\ &\dots \end{aligned}$$

Example 1.

For a given series $\frac{1}{1 \cdot 4} + \frac{1}{4 \cdot 7} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3n-2) \cdot (3n+1)} + \dots$ determine S_n and found $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n$.

Solution:

$$S_n = \frac{1}{1 \cdot 4} + \frac{1}{4 \cdot 7} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3n-2) \cdot (3n+1)}$$

Decomposes a rational function on FACTORS:

$$\frac{1}{(3n-2) \cdot (3n+1)} = \frac{A}{3n-2} + \frac{B}{3n+1} \dots \dots \dots / * (3n-2) \cdot (3n+1)$$

$$1 = A(3n+1) + B(3n-2)$$

$$1 = 3An + A + 3Bn - 2B$$

$$1 = (3A + 3B)n + A - 2B \dots \dots \dots \text{Compares :}$$

$$3A + 3B = 0$$

$$A - 2B = 1 \dots\dots\dots / * (-3)$$

$$3A + 3B = 0$$

$$\underline{-3A + 6B = -3}$$

$$9B = -3 \rightarrow \boxed{B = -\frac{1}{3}} \rightarrow \boxed{A = \frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\frac{1}{(3n-2) \cdot (3n+1)} = \frac{1}{3n-2} + \frac{-1}{3n+1} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{3n-2} - \frac{1}{3n+1} \right)$$

Now we return to the task and this applies to each addend of the series:

$$S_n = \frac{1}{3} \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{4}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{7}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{7} - \frac{1}{10}\right) + \dots + \left(\frac{1}{3n-5} - \frac{1}{3n-2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{3n-2} - \frac{1}{3n+1}\right) \right]$$

$$S_n = \frac{1}{3} \left[1 - \cancel{\frac{1}{4}} + \cancel{\frac{1}{4}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{7}} + \cancel{\frac{1}{7}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{10}} + \dots + \cancel{\frac{1}{3n-5}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{3n-2}} + \cancel{\frac{1}{3n-2}} - \frac{1}{3n+1} \right]$$

$$S_n = \frac{1}{3} \left[1 - \frac{1}{3n+1} \right]$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{3} \left[1 - \frac{1}{3n+1} \right] = \frac{1}{3} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[1 - \frac{1}{\underset{\text{teži } 0}{3n+1}} \right] = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\boxed{S = \frac{1}{3}}$$

Example 2.

Examine the convergence of series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2n-1}{3n+2}$

Solution:

Here is our job easy! Theorem is true:

If the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$, if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ then line certainly does not converge.

Therefore, we ask $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n-1}{3n+2}$ and we know that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n-1}{3n+2} = \frac{2}{3} \neq 0$, we are confident that this series diverges.

Example 3.

Examine the convergence of series: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n-1}$

Solution:

First we will examine: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2n-1} = \frac{1}{\infty} = 0$. Does this mean that series converges? **NO!**

It may converge or diverges , the theorem helps in a situation when we get some number $\neq 0$ for the solution, and then we are sure that the series diverges. Thus we have to investigate further...

$$S_{2^1} = S_2 = 1 + \frac{1}{3}$$

$$S_{2^2} = S_4 = 1 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7}$$

.....etc.

$$S_{2^m} = \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{11} + \frac{1}{13} + \dots + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 2^m - 1}$$

then:

$$S_{2^m} = \left(\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{3}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{11} + \frac{1}{13} + \frac{1}{15}\right) \dots + \left(\frac{1}{2^m + 1} + \frac{1}{2^m + 3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 2^m - 1}\right)$$

It is obvious that:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{3} &> 1 \\ \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} &> \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{11} + \frac{1}{13} + \frac{1}{15} &> \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{16} = \frac{1}{4} \\ &\dots \\ \frac{1}{2^m + 1} + \frac{1}{2^m + 3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 2^m - 1} &> \frac{2^{m-1}}{2^{m+1}} = \frac{1}{4} \end{aligned}$$

we have:

$$S_{2^m} > 1 + \frac{m-1}{4}$$

As is $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{m-1}{4}\right) = \infty$, this tells us that a series **diverges!**

Example 4.

Examine the convergence of series: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$.

Solution:

And here is a similar situation as just: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = \frac{1}{\infty} = 0$.

We use a similar trick as in the previous task...

We are looking at a series of partial sums $S_k, k \in \mathbb{N}$ that is always growing. His subsequence $S_{2^m}, m \in \mathbb{N}$ is:

$$S_{2^1} = S_2 = 1 + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$S_{2^2} = S_4 = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4}$$

.....etc.

$$S_{2^m} = \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^{m-1}+1} + \frac{1}{2^{m-1}+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^m}$$

Group members :

$$S_{2^m} = \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8}\right) + \dots + \left(\frac{1}{2^{m-1}+1} + \frac{1}{2^{m-1}+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^m}\right)$$

$$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} > \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$
$$\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} > \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$$

.....

$$\frac{1}{2^{m-1}+1} + \frac{1}{2^{m-1}+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^m} > \frac{1}{2^m} + \frac{1}{2^m} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^m} = \frac{1}{2}$$

We have:

$$S_{2^m} > 1 + \frac{m}{2}$$

Here is $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{m}{2}\right) = \infty$, and series **diverges**.

Cauchy criteria (test)

Necessary and sufficient condition for $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ to converge is that for arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a natural number $N = N(\varepsilon)$ so that for $n > 0 \wedge p > 0$ is true: $|S_{n+p} - S_n| < \varepsilon$

Example 5.

Using the Cauchy criteria, prove that series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$ diverges.

Solution:

In the previous example we prove that this series diverges. Now our job is to prove that using the Cauchy test.

Consider that $p = n$. Then we have:

$$|S_{n+n} - S_n| = |S_{2n} - S_n| = \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \frac{1}{n+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n}$$

As is:

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

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

$$\frac{1}{n+3} > \frac{1}{2n}$$

.....

This back up and get:

$$|S_{n+n} - S_n| = |S_{2n} - S_n| = \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \frac{1}{n+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n} > n \cdot \frac{1}{2n} = \frac{1}{2}$$

If we initially take to, say $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{4}$ and we have that $\varepsilon > \frac{1}{2}$, We can conclude that the series diverges.

Example 6.

Using the Cauchy criteria , prove that series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n(n+1)}}$ diverges.

Solution:

Take that $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{4}$ and $p = n$. We have:

$$|S_{n+n} - S_n| = |S_{2n} - S_n| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+1)(n+2)}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+2)(n+3)}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n(2n+1)}}$$

Now think:

$$(n+1)(n+2) < (n+2)^2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{(n+1)(n+2)} < \frac{1}{(n+2)^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+1)(n+2)}} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+2)^2}} \rightarrow \boxed{\frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+1)(n+2)}} < \frac{1}{n+2}}$$

$$(n+2)(n+3) < (n+3)^2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{(n+2)(n+3)} < \frac{1}{(n+3)^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+2)(n+3)}} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+3)^2}} \rightarrow \boxed{\frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+2)(n+3)}} < \frac{1}{n+3}}$$

.....

And so on.

Now, we have :

$$\begin{aligned} |S_{n+n} - S_n| = |S_{2n} - S_n| &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+1)(n+2)}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+2)(n+3)}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2n(2n+1)}} > \\ &> \frac{1}{n+2} + \frac{1}{n+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n+1} > \frac{1}{4} \end{aligned}$$

We prove that this series diverges.

Comparable criteria:

Valid for two series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$

i) If $a_n < b_n$ then a) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ convergent $\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ convergent

b) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ divergent $\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ divergent

ii) If $\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} < \frac{b_{n+1}}{b_n}$ then a) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ convergent $\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ convergent

b) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ divergent $\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ divergent

iii) If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = M$, ($M \neq 0$ and M is a finite number) series simultaneously are convergent or divergent

Most often series we used for comparison is $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^k}$; for $k > 1$ series is convergent, for $k \leq 1$ is divergent.

Example 7.

Examine the convergence of series: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n-1}$

Solution:

Think:

$2n-1 > n$ starting from $n=2$, so:

$$\frac{1}{2n-1} < \frac{1}{n}$$

As the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$ diverges, series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n-1}$ diverges by the comparative criteria

Some teachers do this directly:

$$\frac{1}{2n-1} \sim \frac{1}{2n} \text{ when } n \rightarrow \infty$$

Then is $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$, and conclude that a given series diverges.

Example 8.

Examine the convergence of series: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n\sqrt{n+1}}$

Solution:

We will use the faster way, and you of course work to your professor requires ...

$$\frac{1}{n\sqrt{n+1}} \sim \frac{1}{n(n+1)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \sim \frac{1}{n^1 \cdot n^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{1}{n^{\frac{3}{2}}} \text{ when } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Mark \sim mean that these expressions behave similarly when $n \rightarrow \infty$

Series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{\frac{3}{2}}}$ converges, so converges and order $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n\sqrt{n+1}}$.

Of course, we could have used comparable criteria, where $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$ is for comparison.

Example 9.

Examine the convergence of series: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}}{\sqrt[3]{n}}$

Solution:

Here we first make a rationalization:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}}{\sqrt[3]{n}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(\sqrt{n+1})^2 - (\sqrt{n})^2}{\sqrt[3]{n} \cdot (\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n})} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n+1-n}{\sqrt[3]{n} \cdot (\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n})} = \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{n} \cdot (\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n})} \end{aligned}$$

Now, think:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{n} \cdot (\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n})} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{n} \cdot (\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n})} = \frac{1}{n^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot 2n^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2n^{\frac{5}{6}}}} \text{ when } n \rightarrow \infty$$

So, we have $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n^{\frac{5}{6}}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{\frac{5}{6}}}$, this series diverges and series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}}{\sqrt[3]{n}}$ diverges to.

Example 10.

Examine the convergence of series: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin \frac{\alpha}{n}$

Solution:

Here we use $\sin \frac{\alpha}{n} \sim \frac{\alpha}{n}$ when $n \rightarrow \infty$

We have : $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha}{n} = \alpha \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$ diverges, so $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin \frac{\alpha}{n}$ diverges.

Example 11.

Examine the convergence of series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n \sin \frac{1}{n}}{\sqrt{n^2+1}}$

Solution:

When $n \rightarrow \infty$ there are $\sin \frac{1}{n} \sim \frac{1}{n}$ and $\sqrt{n^2+1} \sim \sqrt{n^2} \sim n$, so, we have :

$$\frac{n \sin \frac{1}{n}}{\sqrt{n^2+1}} \sim \frac{n \cdot \frac{1}{n}}{n} = \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \text{ diverges , and } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n \sin \frac{1}{n}}{\sqrt{n^2+1}} \text{ diverges .}$$

In the next file we continue with the criteria for convergence ...