

ANALYSIS-I

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Infinite Series

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- ▶ This absurdity shows that we should give a 'sensible meaning' to $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$.

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- ▶ **Example 3 (Harmonic series).**

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$ is divergent, as $\left\{ \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} \right\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is not bounded above.

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\vdots

$$s_{2^n-1} \leq 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^2 + \cdots + \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{n-1} =: t_n, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N},$$

where $\{t_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is the sequence of partial sums of $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{n-1}$.

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► **Theorem 1 (Cauchy criterion).** An infinite series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is convergent if and only if for every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $K \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$|a_{n+1} + a_{n+2} + \cdots + a_m| < \epsilon, \quad \forall m > n \geq K.$$

► **Theorem 2 (n^{th} term test).** If a series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$.

Algebra of convergent series

Theorem 3. Let $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ be convergent series with sums x and y , respectively. Then

- (i) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n + b_n) = x + y$;
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- ▶ Indeed $(a_1 + a_2)(b_1 + b_2) = a_1 b_1 + a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1 + a_2 b_2$

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then their product is a polynomial

$$c_0 + c_1X + c_2X^2 + \cdots + c_{n+m}X^{n+m},$$

where $c_0 = a_0b_0$, $c_1 = a_0b_1 + a_1b_0$, $c_2 = a_0b_2 + a_1b_1 + a_2b_0$,
and in general

$$c_n = a_0b_n + a_1b_{n-1} + a_2b_{n-2} + \cdots + a_{n-1}b_1 + a_nb_0 = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k b_{n-k}.$$

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where $c_0 = a_0b_0$, $c_1 = a_0b_1 + a_1b_0$, $c_2 = a_0b_2 + a_1b_1 + a_2b_0$,
and in general

$$c_n = a_0b_n + a_1b_{n-1} + a_2b_{n-2} + \cdots + a_{n-1}b_1 + a_nb_0 = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k b_{n-k}.$$

- ▶ This suggests the following definition.

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Consider the series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ and $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$, where

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Then $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ and $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$ are convergent by the following result.

(**Result:** The series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} a_n$, where $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a decreasing sequence of positive reals, is convergent if and only if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$.)

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- However, things are not that bad. We will revisit this and see when can we assure that the Cauchy product of two series is convergent.

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Proof: Exercise

- **Theorem 5 (Comparison test).** Let $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ and $\{b_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be real sequences, and suppose that there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

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Therefore $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = 1$

- **Exercise:** A series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_n$ is said to be a **telescoping series** if there exists a sequence $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that $b_n = a_{n+1} - a_n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Show that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ is convergent if and only if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ exists. In such a case, find the sum.

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- **Theorem 6 (Limit comparison test):** Let $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ and $\{b_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be strictly positive sequences.
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(iii) If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \infty$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ is divergent, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is divergent.

Proof: (i) Since $c > 0$, there exists $K \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\left| \frac{a_n}{b_n} - c \right| < \frac{c}{2}, \quad \forall n \geq K.$$

$$\implies -\frac{c}{2} < \frac{a_n}{b_n} - c < \frac{c}{2}, \quad \forall n \geq K.$$

$$\implies \left(\frac{c}{2}\right) b_n < a_n < \left(\frac{3c}{2}\right) b_n, \quad \forall n \geq K.$$

Therefore, by comparison test, the result follows.

(ii) There exists $K \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

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(iii) Similar



Example 8. Test the convergence of the following series.

(i) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2n+1}{n^2+2n+1}$ (ii) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n-1}$

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Solution: (i) Let $a_n = \frac{2n+1}{n^2+2n+1}$ and $b_n = \frac{1}{n}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

(ii) There exists $K \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

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$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n^2 + n}{n^2 + 2n + 1} = 2.$$

(ii) There exists $K \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

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Therefore, again by comparison test, the result follows.

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Since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ is divergent, by result (i) of Limit comparison test, it follows that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is divergent.

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$$0 < \frac{a_n}{b_n} < 1, \quad \forall n \geq K.$$

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Therefore, again by comparison test, the result follows.

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Since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ is divergent, by result (i) of Limit comparison test, it follows that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is divergent. (ii) Exercise. (Hint: Compare with $\{\frac{1}{2^n}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$).