



Handout 11

MATH 172 Lab: Sections 7 and 8

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Note: This handout is a review for exam 3 in MATH 172.

The following is a summary of convergence and divergence tests for series

Test	Series	Convergent	Divergent	Notes
p – series	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^p}$	$p > 1$	$p \leq 1$	You can use to compare with original series as we do in the comparison test
Divergent Test or k^{th} – term	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$	Cannot be used for showing convergence	$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k \neq 0$	WARNING: We say no-conclusion if $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k = 0$
Geometric Series	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} ar^k$	$ r < 1$	$ r \geq 1$	If it is convergent, then you need to write the sum as: $S = \frac{a}{1-r}$. You can also use this test for direct and limit comparison tests
$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k $	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$	If $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k $ is convergent, then $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$ is also convergent	Cannot be used for showing divergence	If you have a series that has a combination of positive and negative terms, then this test can work well

<i>Telescoping Series</i>	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (c_k - c_{k+1})$	$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} c_k = L$	Cannot be used for showing divergence	If it is convergent, then you need to write the sum as: $S = c_1 - L$ where c_1 is the initial term (1 st term in series)
<i>Alternating Series</i>	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{k-1} a_k$	Three Conditions*: a. Alternating b. Decreasing ($0 < a_{k+1} \leq a_k$). c. $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k = 0$	Cannot be used for showing divergence	The remainder can be found as follows: $ R_K \leq a_{K+1}$
<i>Integral Test</i>	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$ $a_k = g(k) \geq 0$ where g is continuous, positive, and decreasing	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$ is convergent if and only if $\int_1^{\infty} g(x) dx$ is convergent	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$ is divergent if and only if $\int_1^{\infty} g(x) dx$ is divergent	The remainder can be found as follows: $0 < R_K < \int_K^{\infty} g(x) dx$
<i>Direct Comparison</i>	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$	If $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k$ is convergent and $0 \leq a_k \leq b_k$ for every k , then $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$ is convergent	If $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k$ is divergent and $0 \leq b_k \leq a_k$ for every k , then $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$ is divergent	$a_k > 0$ and $b_k > 0$
<i>Limit Comparison</i>	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k$ is convergent if $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_k}{b_k} = L > 0$	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k$ is divergent if $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_k}{b_k} = L > 0$	$a_k > 0$ and $b_k > 0$
<i>Ratio Test</i>	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$	$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left \frac{a_{k+1}}{a_k} \right = L < 1$	$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left \frac{a_{k+1}}{a_k} \right = L > 1$	Test is inconclusive if $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left \frac{a_{k+1}}{a_k} \right = L = 1$
<i>Root Test</i>	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$	$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[k]{ a_k } = L < 1$	$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[k]{ a_k } = L > 1$	Test is inconclusive if $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k = L = 1$

* To determine whether the alternating series is absolutely convergent or conditionally convergent, you need to use the following Method:

Mohammed Kaabar Binary Method for Alternating Series Test:

$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$	$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k $	Type
1 Convergent ←	1 Convergent	Absolutely Convergent
1 Convergent	0 Divergent	Conditionally Convergent
0 Divergent →	0 Divergent	Divergent
0 Divergent	1 Convergent	Inconclusive