

Alternating series

- series that has positive & negative terms

Ex. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots$

• Def: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} u_n, u_n \geq 0$
 $= u_1 - u_2 + u_3 - u_4 + \dots$

Alternating series test

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} u_n$ is converge if:-

- 1- $u_n \geq 0$
- 2- $u_{n+1} \leq u_n \quad \forall n \geq N$ non increasing
- 3- $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$

if not \rightarrow No info

Note:-

$\sum \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n}$ is an Alternat harmonic series that converges

Alternating series Estimation Theorem

if $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} u_n$ converges then $S_n = u_1 - u_2 + u_3 + \dots + (-1)^{n+1} u_n$

approximates $L = \text{Sum}$ with error $E = L - S_n$

$|E| < \overline{u_{n+1}} \rightarrow \text{sign}(E) = \text{sign}((-1)^{n+2} u_{n+1})$

\downarrow
the first unused

Example: Estimate the sum of the first 8 terms of the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n} (-1)^n$

$= 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} - \dots$

The first 8 terms, so the first unused term is the 9th term
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- if $\sum |a_n|$ converges and $\sum a_n$ converges we say $\sum a_n$ converges absolutely
- If $\sum |a_n|$ diverges and $\sum a_n$ converges we say $\sum a_n$ converges conditionally

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