

10.6

Alternating Series

The alternating series has the form

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} u_n = u_1 - u_2 + u_3 - u_4 + \dots \quad *$$

Question: when $*$ conv?

The (Alternating Series Test - AST)

$*$ conv. if

① $u_n > 0 \quad \forall n$ and

② $u_{n+1} \leq u_n$ for large n " $u_n \downarrow$ " and

③ $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$

Exp (Alternating Harmonic Series)

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

$U_n = |a_n|$

① $U_n = |a_n| > 0$

② $U_n = \frac{1}{n} \downarrow$

③ $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0$

Hence, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n}$ Conv. by AST

Exp (Alternating Geometric Series)

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n (0.2)^n = -\frac{2}{10} + \left(\frac{2}{10}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{2}{10}\right)^3 + \dots$$

We know it conv. to $\frac{-\frac{2}{10}}{1 - \frac{2}{10}} = \frac{-1}{5}$

① $U_n = |a_n| > 0 \forall n$

② $U_n = \left(\frac{2}{10}\right)^n \downarrow$

③ $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (0.2)^n = 0 \quad \} \rightarrow 10.1 \Rightarrow Th 5$

Hence, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n (0.2)^n$ Conv. by AST

Exp $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n n$ this alternating series div
by the n^{th} term test

Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \neq 0$

Exp $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{n}{n+3}$ $\Rightarrow \Rightarrow \Rightarrow \Rightarrow \Rightarrow$
 $\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{n+3} = 1 \neq 0$

Def (Conv. Abs.)

The infinite series $\sum a_n$ conv. Abs. if $\sum |a_n|$
conv.

Exp $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n^2}$ conv. by AST since
(1) $u_n > 0$ (2) $u_n \downarrow$ (3) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = 0$

Is it converging Absolutely?

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$ \Rightarrow so $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n^2}$
conv. p-series \Rightarrow conv. Abs.

Th If $\sum |a_n|$ conv. then $\sum a_n$ conv. 3.1

⇓
This means if a series conv. Abs. then it converges

Exp $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{2^n}$ "Alternating Geometric Series"

$$\sum |a_n| = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}} = 2$$

$\sum |a_n|$ converges to 2 $\Rightarrow \sum a_n = \sum (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{2^n}$ conv. "by AST"

Remark The Converse of Th above is not True:

Means: if $\sum a_n$ conv. $\not\Rightarrow \sum |a_n|$ conv.

Exp $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n}$ "Alternating Harmonic Series"

This series converges by AST
but not Abs. since

$$\sum |a_n| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \text{ which is the divergent Harmonic Series.}$$

This Remark says:

If a series converges, then it may not converge Abs.

Exp Does $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n}$ Conv. Abs. ?

This is the alternating harmonic series
we have seen that it conv. by AST

But not Abs. since

$\sum |a_n| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$ which is the divergent harmonic series.

Def (Converge Conditionally)

The infinite series $\sum a_n$ conv. Cond. if it conv. by AST but not Abs.

see exp. Above

Exp $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n}$ conv. Cond.

Exp $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}}$ conv. by AST since (1) ✓ (2) ✓ (3) ✓
but not Abs since $\sum |a_n| = \sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$

This series conv. Cond. ← ← ← div. p-series

Remark $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n^p} = \begin{cases} \text{conv. Abs. if } p > 1 \\ \text{conv. Condi if } 0 < p \leq 1 \end{cases}$

Th (Alternating Estimation Th)

• Assume $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} u_n = u_1 - u_2 + u_3 + \dots = L$

• If we approximate L by $S_n = u_1 - u_2 + u_3 - \dots + (-1)^{n+1} u_n$

then (1) the remainder $\boxed{L - S_n}$ has same sign as a_{n+1}

(2) the error $|L - S_n| < u_{n+1} = |a_{n+1}|$

(3) $\min \{ S_n, S_{n+1} \} < L < \max \{ S_n, S_{n+1} \}$

$$\underline{\underline{\text{Exp}}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^n = \frac{2}{3} - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^4 + \dots$$

$$= \frac{\frac{2}{3}}{1 - \frac{-2}{3}} = \frac{4}{10} = 0.4 = L$$

If we approximate $L = 0.4$ by $S_3 = \frac{2}{3} - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3$

$$= \frac{14}{27} \approx 0.519$$

$$L = 0.4$$

$$S_3 \approx 0.519$$

$$n=3$$

1) Remainder $L - S_n = 0.4 - 0.519 = -0.119$

$$a_{n+1} = a_{3+1} = a_4 = -\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^4$$

2) Error = $|L - S_n| = |L - S_3| = |-0.119|$

$$E = 0.119 < u_4 = |a_4| = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^4 = 0.198$$

3) $S_4 = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right) - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^4 \approx 0.321$

$$\min\{S_3, S_4\} < L < \max\{S_3, S_4\}$$

$$\min\{0.519, 0.321\} < 0.4 < \max\{0.519, 0.321\}$$

$$0.321 < 0.4 < 0.519 \quad \checkmark$$

Exp Approximate the sum of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{1}{(2n)!}$
 with error of magnitude
 less than 5×10^{-6}

• We use S_n to approx. the sum

• So we need to find $n \Rightarrow \frac{1}{(2n)!} < 5 \times 10^{-6}$

$$(2n)! > \frac{1}{5 \times 10^{-6}} = \frac{10^6}{5} = \frac{(10)(10^5)}{5} = 200,000$$

$$(2n)! > 200,000 \Rightarrow n \geq 5$$

$$S_5 = 1 - \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{4!} - \frac{1}{6!} + \frac{1}{8!} \approx 0.54$$

$$\text{Error} = |L - S_n| = |L - S_5| < \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{(10)!} = 0.275 \times 10^{-6}$$

10.6 Lecture Problems

14, 19, 29

Conv/Div

(14)

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

$$(-1)^{n+1} \frac{3\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt{n}+1}$$

a_n

$$U_n = |a_n|$$

$$U_n = \frac{3\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt{n}+1}$$

$$\rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt{n}+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{3\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt{n}}}{\frac{\sqrt{n}+1}{\sqrt{n}}}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3\sqrt{\frac{n+1}{n}}}{1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n}}}{1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}} = 3 \neq 0$$

So the alternating series div by n^{th} term test

(19) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{n}{n^3+1} \rightarrow U_n$

This is alternating

- 1. $U_n > 0$ ✓
- 2. $U_n \downarrow$ ✓

3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{n^3+1} = 0$ ✓

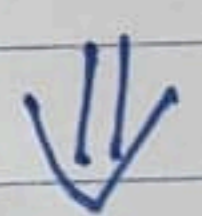
so this series conv. by AST

To check if it conv. Abs. \Rightarrow

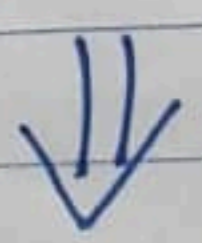
$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{n^3+1} <$

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$

Convergent p-series



$\sum |a_n|$ conv. by DCT



$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{n}{n^3+1}$ conv. Abs.

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

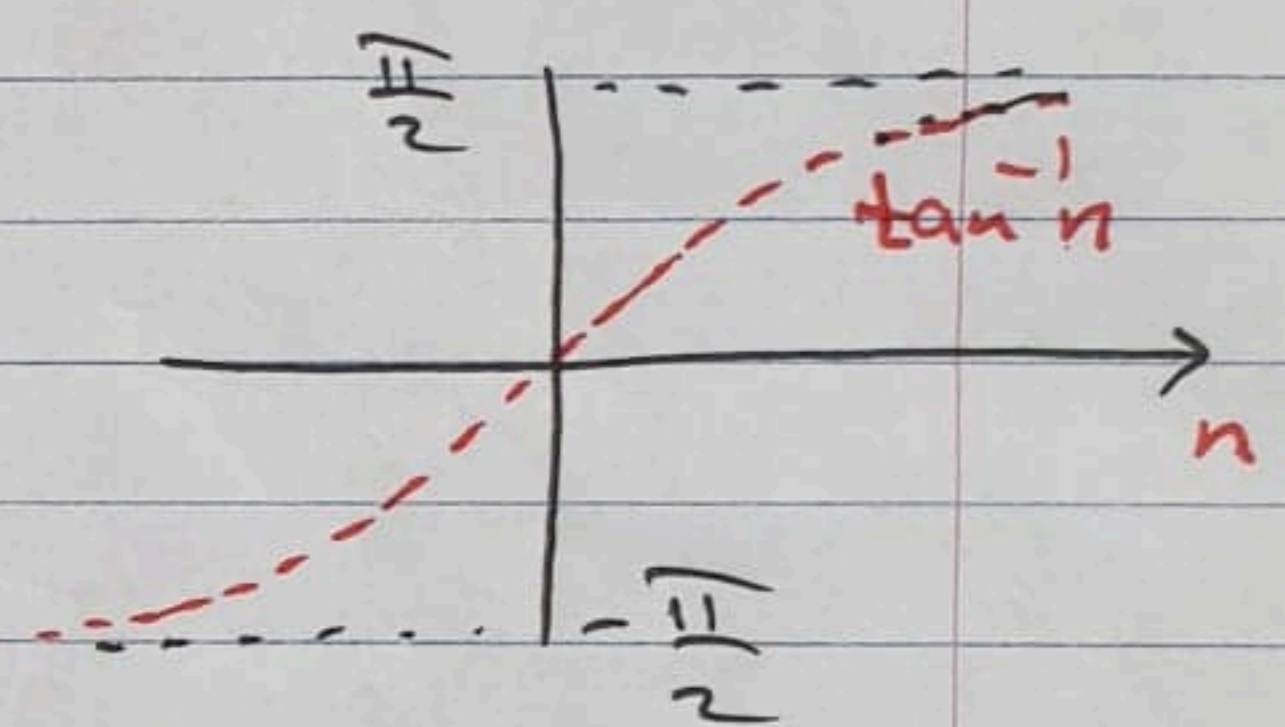
(29) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\tan^{-1} n}{n^2+1}$ This is alternating u_n

- If the alternating series conv. Abs. then it conv.
- That is if $\sum |a_n|$ conv. then $\sum a_n$ conv. Abs.

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\tan^{-1} n}{n^2+1}$

We use IT

cont., +, ↓
on $[1, \infty)$



$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{\tan^{-1} x}{x^2+1} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^b \frac{\tan^{-1} x}{x^2+1} dx$

$u = \tan^{-1} x$

$= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\tan^{-1} b} u du$

$du = \frac{dx}{x^2+1}$

$= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u^2}{2} \Big|_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{\tan^{-1} b}$

$x=1 \Rightarrow u = \tan^{-1} 1 = \frac{\pi}{4}$

$x=b \Rightarrow u = \tan^{-1} b$

$= \frac{1}{2} \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left[(\tan^{-1} b)^2 - \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^2 \right]$

$= \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^2 \right] = \frac{3\pi^2}{32}$

so $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\tan^{-1} n}{n^2+1}$ conv. Abs.