

Direct Comparison Test The Comparison Tests

The Comparison Test:

Suppose $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ are series with positive terms.

(D.C.T.T.)

a) If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ is convergent and $a_n \leq b_n$ for all n , then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is also convergent.

b) If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ is divergent and $a_n \geq b_n$ for all n , then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is also divergent.

0 ≤ small ≤ big.

If $\sum \text{big}$ is convergent $\Rightarrow \sum \text{small}$ is convergent
 $\sum \text{small}$ is divergent $\Rightarrow \sum \text{big}$ is divergent

$$a) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{7n^2 + 5n^3 + 4}{\sqrt{4n^{12} + 5n + 4}} \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{7n^3 + 5n^3 + 4n^3}{\sqrt{n^{12}}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{16n^3}{n^6} = 16 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p=3 > 1 \text{ is} \\ \text{convergent} \\ \text{by } p\text{-Test.} \end{array} \right.$$

Dominant terms: $\frac{n^3}{\sqrt{n^{12}}} = \frac{n^3}{n^6} = \frac{1}{n^3} > 1 \leftarrow \text{convergent} \Rightarrow \text{Construct bigger } \sum$

$\therefore$ by D.C.T.T. $\Rightarrow \sum a_n$ is convergent.

$$b) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4n^3 + 5n + 8}{\sqrt{n^8 + 5n^8 + 12n^8}} \geq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^3}{\sqrt{18n^8}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^3}{\sqrt{18}n^4} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{18}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^3}{n^4} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{18}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p=1 \Rightarrow \text{divergent} \\ \text{by } p\text{-Test.} \end{array} \right.$$

Dominant terms: $\frac{n^3}{\sqrt{n^8}} = \frac{n^3}{n^4} = \frac{1}{n} < \text{Divergent} \Rightarrow \text{Construct smaller}$

$\therefore$ by D.C.T.T. $\sum a_n$ is divergent.

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

c) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2 + \sin(7n + \pi)}{n^5 + 3n + 5} \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2 + n^2}{n^5} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2n^2}{n^5} = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p=3 > 1 \\ \text{is convergent} \\ \text{by } p\text{-Test} \end{array} \right.$

Dominant terms: $\frac{n^2}{n^5} = \frac{1}{n^3} < 1 \leftarrow \text{Convergent} \Rightarrow \text{Construct bigger } \Sigma$.

$\therefore$ By D.C.T.T. $\Rightarrow \sum a_n$ is convergent.

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2 + 4^n + 4 \cdot 1}{n^5 \cdot 4^{n+1}} \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4^n + 4^n + 4 \cdot 4^n}{n^5 \cdot 4^{n+1}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{6 \cdot 4^n}{n^5 \cdot 4 \cdot 4} = \frac{3}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^5} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p=5 > 1 \text{ is} \\ \text{convergent} \\ \text{by } p\text{-Test.} \end{array} \right.$

Dominant terms: $\frac{4^n}{n^5 \cdot 4^{n+1}} = \frac{4^n}{n^5 \cdot 4^n \cdot 4} = \frac{1}{4n^5} \rightarrow \text{Convergent} \Rightarrow \text{Construct bigger } \Sigma$

$\therefore$ by D.C.T.T. $\Rightarrow \sum a_n$ is also convergent.

e) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2n^2 + 3\cos^2(n) + 4}{\sqrt{n^5 + 5n + 7}} \geq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{\sqrt{n^5 + 5n^5 + 7n^5}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{\sqrt{13n^5}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{13}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{\sqrt{n^5}}$

Dominant terms: $\frac{n^2}{\sqrt{n^5}} = \frac{n^2}{n^{5/2}} = \frac{1}{n^{5/2-2}} = \frac{1}{n^{1/2}} < 1 \rightarrow \text{divergent} \Rightarrow \text{Construct smaller.}$

$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{13}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{5/2-2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{13}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{1/2}} < 1$
 $\Rightarrow \text{divergent by } p\text{-Test}$

$\therefore$ by D.C.T.T. $\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is also divergent

The Limit Comparison Test:

(L.C.T.T.)

Suppose that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ are series with positive terms. If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = c$ where c is a finite number and $c > 0$, then either both series converge or both diverge.

Suppose $a_n > 0$ and $b_n > 0$ for all $n \geq N$

1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = c > 0 \Rightarrow$ both converge or both diverge.
2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = 0$ and $\sum b_n$ converges, then $\sum a_n$ converges
3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \infty$ and $\sum b_n$ diverges, then $\sum a_n$ diverges

Use L.C.T.T.
when the series
consistent of both.
+ & - signs.

Ex: Test for convergence

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{7n^3 - n + 4}{\sqrt{49n^{10} - 9n + 4}}$ let a_n

Let $b_n =$ dominant terms of a_n $= \frac{n^3}{\sqrt{n^{10}}} = \frac{n^3}{n^5} = \frac{1}{n^2}$

Consider $c = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{7n^3 - n + 4}{\sqrt{49n^{10} - 9n + 4}} \cdot \frac{n^2}{1} \right) = \frac{7}{\sqrt{49}} = 1 > 0$

$\sum b_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$ is convergent by p-Test

$\therefore$ by L.C.T.T. $\Rightarrow \sum a_n$ is also convergent

b) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{7n^4 - n^4 + 4}{\sqrt{2n^4 + 5n - 2}} \stackrel{\text{let}}{=} a_n.$

$b_n = \text{dominant terms of } a_n = \frac{n}{\sqrt{n^4}} = \frac{n}{n^2} = \frac{1}{n} = b_n.$

Consider $c = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{6n+4}{\sqrt{2n^4+5n-2}} \cdot \frac{n}{1} \right) = \frac{6}{\sqrt{2}} > 0$

$\sum b_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$ is divergent by p-Test

$\therefore$ by L.C.T.T. $\Rightarrow \sum a_n$ is divergent.

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \end{array} \right\} \text{ Harmonic Series.}$

c) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n - 1}; \stackrel{\text{let}}{=} a_n$

let $b_n = \text{dominant terms of } a_n = \frac{1}{2^n}$

Consider $c = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{2^n - 1} \cdot \frac{2^n}{1} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2^n}{2^n - 1} \div \frac{2^n}{2^n} \right)$

$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2^n}}} = 1 > 0.$

$\sum b_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} = \sum \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \leftarrow \text{G.S.}; r = \left|\frac{1}{2}\right| < 1 \text{ is convergent by G.S.}$

$\therefore$ by L.C.T.T. $\sum a_n$ is convergent.

d) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n+1}{n \cdot 2^n}$

Dominant terms: $\frac{n}{n \cdot 2^n} = \frac{1}{2^n} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \rightarrow \text{convergent by G.S.} \Rightarrow \text{Construct bigger series.}$

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n+1}{n \cdot 2^n} \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n+n}{n \cdot 2^n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2n}{n \cdot 2^n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$

$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a=1 \\ r=\left|\frac{1}{2}\right| < 1 \end{array} \right.$

is convergent by G.S.

$\therefore$ by DCTT $\Rightarrow \sum a_n$ is also convergent.