

Handout 2

Definition: A sum of infinite sequence $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, $S = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_j$ is called **(infinite) series**.

Definition: In order to find a sum of infinite sequence $S = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_j$ one defines a sequence of

partial sums as $\{S_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} = \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n a_j \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$. If the sequence is convergent then $S = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n$ and the series

is called **convergent**. Otherwise the series is **divergent**.

Theorem: If $S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is convergent series, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (S_{n+1} - S_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_{n+1} - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = S - S = 0$$

Note: The converse theorem doesn't true.

The test for Divergence: If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ or DNE then $S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is divergent.

Theorem: If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ are convergent series, then so are the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ca_n$ (c is constant)

and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \pm b_n)$. Furthermore: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ca_n = c \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \pm b_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \pm \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$.

The Integral test: Let f be continuous, positive decreasing function on $[m, \infty)$ and let

$a_n = f(n)$ for $n \geq m$ then the series $\sum_{n=m}^{\infty} a_n$ converges if and only if $\int_m^{\infty} f(x) dx$.

Note: Since finite number of terms cannot affect convergence of infinite series, it is enough that $f(x)$ decreasing on $[M, \infty)$ where $M > m$.

The Comparison Test: Let $\sum a_n, \sum b_n$ be series with $a_n, b_n > 0$, then

- If $\sum b_n$ is convergent and $a_n \leq b_n$ then $\sum a_n$ is also convergent
- If $\sum b_n$ is divergent and $a_n \geq b_n$ then $\sum a_n$ is also divergent

The Limit Comparison Test: Let $\sum a_n, \sum b_n$ be series with $a_n, b_n > 0$. If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = c$ where $c > 0$ is a finite constant, then either both series converge or both diverge.

Definition: Let $a_n > 0$, then

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n = -a_1 + a_2 - a_3 + a_4 - + \dots$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} a_n = a_1 - a_2 + a_3 - a_4 + - \dots$$

called alternating series.

Theorem: If an alternating series, either

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n = -a_1 + a_2 - a_3 + a_4 - + \dots \text{ or}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} a_n = a_1 - a_2 + a_3 - a_4 + - \dots,$$

where $a_n > 0$ satisfy 1) $b_{n+1} \leq b_n$ and 2) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$. Then the series are converges.