

**The Direct Comparison Test:**

1. Consider a known Convergent Series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ .

If Series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$  has each term  $b_n < a_n$ , then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$  is also Convergent.

2. Consider a known Divergent Series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ .

If Series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$  has each term  $b_n > a_n$ , then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$  is also Divergent.

**The Integral Test:**

If  $f$  is positive, continuous, and descending for  $x \geq 1$  and  $a_n = f(n)$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  and  $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$  either **both converge** or **both diverge**.

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

Let  $f(x) = \frac{x}{x^2 + 1}$ . This function is **positive, continuous, and decreasing** on  $x > 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Use The Integral Test: } \int_1^{\infty} \frac{x}{x^2 + 1} dx &= \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^a \frac{x}{x^2 + 1} dx = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \ln(x^2 + 1) \right]_1^a \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \ln(a^2 + 1) - \ln 1 \right] \rightarrow \infty \rightarrow \text{The Series is } \boxed{\text{Divergent}}. \end{aligned}$$

**The Harmonic Series:** is  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots$

This qualifies for the Integral Test:  $\lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^a \frac{dx}{x} = \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \ln a \rightarrow \infty \rightarrow \boxed{\text{The Harmonic Series Diverges}}$ .

**The p-Series:** is:  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p} = \frac{1}{1^p} + \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} + \frac{1}{4^p} + \dots$

Consider situations where  $p < 1$ , where  $p = 0$ , and where  $p > 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \text{ Let } p > 1. \text{ Let } f(x) &= \frac{1}{x^p} \text{ This qualifies for the Integral Test. } \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} dx = \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^a \frac{1}{x^p} dx \\ &= \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{1}{-p+1} * x^{-p+1} \right]_1^a = \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{1}{-p+1} * a^{-p+1} - \frac{1}{-p+1} * 1^{-p+1} \right] \\ &= \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{1}{-p+1} * \frac{1}{a^{p-1}} - \frac{1}{-p+1} * 1^{-p+1} \right] = 0 + \frac{1}{p-1} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{Convergent}} \end{aligned}$$

2. Let  $p = 1$ . Then we get the Harmonic Series  $\rightarrow$  Divergent

3. Let  $p < 1$ . Then each term  $>$  corresponding terms of the harmonic series  $\rightarrow \boxed{\text{Divergent}}$

**nth Term Test for Divergence:**

Consider the Series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$  . A necessary condition for convergence of a series is  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ .

Therefore, if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ , The series Diverges.

**Telescopic Series Test:**

A telescopic series with the limit of the nth term approaching zero is Convergent. Moreover, the Limit can **usually** be found in the telescopic series that we are exposed to.

**Alternating Series Test:**

A Series with the **absolute value** of terms **approaching zero** and with **alternating signs** is Convergent.

Show that each Series is Convergent or Divergent.

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

2. 
$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n$$

3. 
$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{17} + \frac{1}{26} + \frac{1}{37} + \frac{1}{50} + \dots$$

4. 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n+10}{10n+1}$$

5. 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{3n+5}$$

6. 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^3+1}}$$

7. 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4\sqrt[3]{n-1}}$$

8. 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n}$$