

e content for students of patliputra university

B. Sc. (Honrs) Part 2 paper 3

Subject: Mathematics

Title/Heading of topic: Tests for convergence of
infinite series (Raabe's test, logarithmic test,
Integral test)

By Dr. Hari kant singh

Associate professor in mathematics

Rrs college mokama patna

3. Raabe's Test

Let $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ be a positive term series such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) = l$$

Then (i) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ converges if $l > 1$

(ii) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ diverges if $l < 1$

(iii) Test fails if $l = 1$

Example Test the convergence of the following series:

$$(i) \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2.4}{3.5} + \frac{2.4.6}{3.5.7} + \frac{2.4.6.8}{3.5.7.9} + \dots \quad (ii) 1 + \frac{3x}{7} + \frac{3.6x^2}{7.10} + \frac{3.6.9x^3}{7.10.13} + \dots \quad (x > 0)$$

Solution: (i) Here $u_n = \frac{2.4.6 \dots 2n}{1.3.5 \dots (2n+1)} \Rightarrow u_{n+1} = \frac{2.4.6 \dots 2n(2n+2)}{1.3.5 \dots (2n+1)(2n+3)}$

$$\text{Then } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n+2}{2n+3} = 1$$

Hence Ratio test fails.

Now applying Raabe's test, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\frac{2n+3}{2n+2} - 1 \right) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{2n+1} \right) = \frac{1}{2} < 1 \end{aligned}$$

Hence by Raabe's test, the given series diverges.

(ii) Ignoring the first term, $u_n = \frac{3.6.9 \dots 3n}{7.10.13 \dots (3n+4)} x^n$

$$\Rightarrow u_{n+1} = \frac{3.6.9 \dots 3n(3n+3)}{7.10.13 \dots (3n+4)(3n+7)} x^{n+1}$$

$$\text{Then } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3n+3}{3n+7} x = x$$

Hence by Ratio test , the given series converges if $x < 1$ and diverges if $x > 1$

Test fails if $x = 1$

$$\text{When } x = 1, \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} = \frac{3n+7}{3n+3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\frac{3n+7}{3n+3} - 1 \right) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4n}{3n+3} = \frac{4}{3} > 1 \end{aligned}$$

Hence by Raabe's test, the given series converges if $x = 1$

\therefore the given series converges if $x \leq 1$ and diverges if $x > 1$.

. Logarithmic Test

Let $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ be a positive term series such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} = l$$

Then (i) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ converges if $l > 1$

(ii) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ diverges if $l < 1$

Example. Test the convergence of the series

$$x + \frac{2^2 x^2}{2!} + \frac{3^3 x^3}{3!} + \frac{4^4 x^4}{4!} + \dots$$

Solution: Here $u_n = \frac{n^n x^n}{n!} \Rightarrow u_{n+1} = \frac{(n+1)^{n+1} x^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^{n+1} x}{(n+1)n^n} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^n x}{n^n} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^n x = e \cdot x \end{aligned}$$

Hence by Ratio test , the given series converges if $ex < 1$ i. e. $x < \frac{1}{e}$
and diverges if $ex > 1$ i. e. $x > \frac{1}{e}$

Test fails if $ex = 1$ i. e. $x = \frac{1}{e}$

Since $\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n}$ involves $e \therefore$ applying logarithmic test.

$$\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n x}$$

\therefore for $x = \frac{1}{e}$, $\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} = e \cdot \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n}$

$$\begin{aligned} \log\left(\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}}\right) &= \log e - \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = 1 - n \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) \\ &= 1 - n\left(\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{2n^2} + \frac{1}{3n^3} + \dots\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2n} - \frac{1}{3n^2} + \dots \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \log\left(\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}}\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n\left(\frac{1}{2n} - \frac{1}{3n^2} + \dots\right) = \frac{1}{2} < 1 \end{aligned}$$

\therefore By logarithmic test , the series diverges for $x = \frac{1}{e}$.

Hence the given series converges for $x < \frac{1}{e}$ and diverges for $x \geq \frac{1}{e}$.

Cauchy's Integral Test

If $u(x)$ is non-negative , integrable and monotonically decreasing function such that $u(n) = u_n$, then if $\int_1^{\infty} u(x) d(x)$ converges then the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ also converges.

Example Test the convergence of the following series

$$(i) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2+1} \quad (ii) \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(\log n)}$$

Solution:(i) Here $u_n = \frac{1}{n^2+1}$.

$$\text{Let } u(x) = \frac{1}{x^2+1}$$

Clearly $u(x)$ is non-negative, integrable and monotonically decreasing function.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Consider } \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2+1} d(x) &= [\tan^{-1}x]_1^{\infty} \\ &= \tan^{-1}\infty - \tan^{-1}1 \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{\pi}{4} \text{ which is finite.} \end{aligned}$$

Hence $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2+1} d(x)$ converges so $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2+1}$ also converges.

(ii) Here $u_n = \frac{1}{n(\log n)}$.

$$\text{Let } u(x) = \frac{1}{x(\log x)}$$

Clearly $u(x)$ is non-negative, integrable and monotonically decreasing function.

$$\text{Consider } \int_2^{\infty} \frac{1}{x(\log x)} d(x) = \log(\log \infty) - \log(\log 2) = \infty$$

Hence $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(\log n)}$ diverges.