

# Infinite Series and their Convergence

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(i) Def<sup>n</sup> - Series: - A series is a succession of quantities which are formed in order according to some definite law.

The successive terms of a series will be denoted by  $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots$

(ii) Finite Series: - If a series terminates after a certain number of terms, it is said to be a finite series.

(iii) Infinite Series: - If there be an endless succession of terms, the series is said to be infinite.

An infinite series is denoted by

$$u_1 + u_2 + u_3 + \dots + u_n + \dots$$

or,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$  or by  $\sum u_n$ .

(iv) Convergent Series: - If the sum of the first  $n$  terms of a series tends to a finite limit  $S$ , so that the sum can be sufficiently increasing  $n$ , be made to differ from  $S$  by less than any assigned quantity however small, the series is said to be convergent and  $S$  is called

is sum.

Thus,  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots$  is a convergent series whose sum is 2.

(v) Divergent Series: - If the sum of the first  $n$  terms of a series increases numerically without limit as  $n$  is increased indefinitely, the series is said to be divergent.

Thus,  $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + \dots$  is a divergent series.

Q No - State and Prove Comparison Test

Statement of Comparison Test -

If  $\sum a_n$  &  $\sum b_n$  be two series of positive term such that,

$$\frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} > \frac{b_n}{b_{n+1}} \text{ for all } n \geq m.$$

Then, (i) If  $\sum b_n$  converges

$\sum a_n$  also converges.

(ii) If  $\sum a_n$  diverges,  $\sum b_n$  also diverges.

Proof: - (i) from statement (i), we have

$$\frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} > \frac{b_n}{b_{n+1}}$$

Replacing  $n$  by  $m+1, m+2, \dots, n-1$ .

$$\frac{a_{m+1}}{a_{m+2}} > \frac{b_{m+1}}{b_{m+2}}$$

$$\frac{a_{m+2}}{a_{m+3}} > \frac{b_{m+2}}{b_{m+3}}$$

$$\frac{a_{m-1}}{a_m} > \frac{b_{m-1}}{b_m}$$

Now, multiplying the corresponding sides of the above inequalities, we have

$$\frac{a_{m+1}}{a_m} > \frac{b_{m+1}}{b_m} \text{ for all } m \geq m_0$$

$$\text{i.e. } a_m < \left( \frac{a_{m+1}}{b_{m+1}} \right) b_m \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\therefore \frac{a_{m+1}}{b_{m+1}} = +ve \text{ nos} = K$$

$$a_m < K b_m \text{ for all } K \geq m_0$$

Hence the result follows by Comparison Test.

**Q No - Prove that the infinite series,**

$$\frac{1}{1^p} + \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} + \dots \text{ to } \infty$$

is convergent if  $p > 1$  and divergent if

$$p \leq 1$$

Proof - As the given series is a series of positive terms, so its convergence is not affected by grouping the terms in brackets in any way we wish.

Case (i) when  $p > 1$

$$\text{let } S = \frac{1}{1^p} + \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} + \frac{1}{4^p} + \dots$$

Here, we group the terms as follows,

$$1 + \left( \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{4^p} + \frac{1}{5^p} + \frac{1}{6^p} + \frac{1}{7^p} \right) + \dots \quad \text{--- (A)}$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} < \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{2^p} = \frac{2}{2^p}$$

$$\text{and } \frac{1}{4^p} + \frac{1}{5^p} + \frac{1}{6^p} + \frac{1}{7^p} < \frac{1}{4^p} + \frac{1}{4^p} + \frac{1}{4^p} + \frac{1}{4^p} \text{ i.e. } \frac{4}{4^p}$$

on adding, we have

$$S < 1 + \frac{2}{2^p} + \frac{4}{4^p} + \dots \text{ to } \infty$$

It is a G.P. whose 1st term is  $a=1$  &  $e \cdot x^r = \frac{2}{2^p}$

$$S < \frac{1}{1 - \frac{2}{2^p}}$$

Hence, the series  $S$  is convergent.

Case (ii) when,  $p=1$

Then the series becomes,

$$S = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \dots \text{ to } \infty.$$

Now, grouping it like this,

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8}\right) + \dots \text{ to } \infty.$$

$$\because 1 + \frac{1}{2} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} > \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \text{ i.e. } \frac{2}{4} \text{ i.e. } \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{Now, } \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} > \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} \text{ i.e. } \frac{4}{8} \text{ i.e. } \frac{1}{2}$$

and so on.

on adding, we have

$$S > 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \dots \text{ to } \infty$$

which is divergent series.

Hence,  $S$  is divergent.

Case (iii):

when  $p < 1$

$$\frac{1}{1^p} = 1 + \frac{1}{2^p} > \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{2^p}$$

$$\frac{1}{2^p} > \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{2^p}$$

$$\frac{1}{3^p} > \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\frac{1}{4^p} > \frac{1}{4}$$

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on adding,  $S > 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots \rightarrow \infty$ .

which is divergent series.

Hence,  $S$  is divergent when  $p < 1$ .

$\therefore$  the series will be converges when  $p > 1$  and divergent when,  $p \leq 1$ .