

Watch. Practice. Understand. | Lesson 345

Calculus BC Convergent and Divergent Series Test

Watch the matching video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ywn2Y9X3mjk>

Practice focus: Integral test and p-series

Related course review; confirm topics with your teacher.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Show your reasoning and check units.

01 Determine convergence of sum from $n=1$ to infinity of $1/n^2$.

02 Determine convergence of sum from $n=1$ to infinity of $1/\sqrt{n}$.

03 Use the integral test on sum from $n=2$ to infinity of $1/(n \ln n)$.

04 Bound the tail after N terms of sum $1/n^2$ using integrals.

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Practice focus: Comparison tests

Related course review; confirm topics with your teacher.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Show your reasoning and check units.

05 Determine convergence of $\sum 1/(n^2+1)$, $n \geq 1$.

06 Determine convergence of $\sum 1/\sqrt{n^2+1}$, $n \geq 1$.

07 Determine convergence of $\sum n/(n^3+2)$, $n \geq 1$.

08 Why does being smaller than a divergent positive series not prove convergence?

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Practice focus: Alternating series and absolute convergence

Related course review; confirm topics with your teacher.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Show your reasoning and check units.

09 Determine absolute/conditional convergence of $\sum (-1)^{n+1}/n$, $n \geq 1$.

10 Classify $\sum (-1)^n/n^2$, $n \geq 1$.

11 How many terms guarantee error at most 0.01 for the alternating harmonic series?

12 Why does $\sum (-1)^n n$ fail the alternating series test and diverge?

Worked answers | Lesson 345

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01 Determine convergence of sum from $n=1$ to infinity of $1/n^2$.

p-series with $p=2>1$: convergent.

02 Determine convergence of sum from $n=1$ to infinity of $1/\sqrt{n}$.

$p=1/2 \leq 1$: divergent.

03 Use the integral test on sum from $n=2$ to infinity of $1/(n \ln n)$.

f is positive, continuous and decreasing on $[2, \infty)$. Its integral $\ln(\ln x)$ diverges, so the series diverges.

04 Bound the tail after N terms of sum $1/n^2$ using integrals.

$\int_{N+1}^{\infty} x^{-2} dx \leq R_N \leq \int_N^{\infty} x^{-2} dx$. Thus $1/(N+1) \leq R_N \leq 1/N$.

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05 Determine convergence of $\sum 1/(n^2+1)$, $n \geq 1$.

$0 < 1/(n^2+1) <= 1/n^2$. The comparison p-series converges, so this series converges.

06 Determine convergence of $\sum 1/\sqrt{n^2+1}$, $n \geq 1$.

Limit comparison with $1/n$: $n/\sqrt{n^2+1} \rightarrow 1$. Since harmonic series diverges, so does this series.

07 Determine convergence of $\sum n/(n^3+2)$, $n \geq 1$.

Limit comparison with $1/n^2$ gives $n^3/(n^3+2) \rightarrow 1$. It converges.

08 Why does being smaller than a divergent positive series not prove convergence?

A smaller series may converge or diverge. Comparison conclusions require the correct direction and a suitable known benchmark.

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09 Determine absolute/conditional convergence of $\sum (-1)^{n+1}/n$, $n \geq 1$.

Alternating terms decrease to 0, so it converges. Absolute series is harmonic and diverges: conditional convergence.

10 Classify $\sum (-1)^n/n^2$, $n \geq 1$.

Absolute series $\sum 1/n^2$ converges; therefore absolutely convergent.

11 How many terms guarantee error at most 0.01 for the alternating harmonic series?

Error $\leq 1/(N+1)$. Require $1/(N+1) \leq 0.01$, giving $N \geq 99$ terms.

12 Why does $\sum (-1)^n n$ fail the alternating series test and diverge?

Term magnitudes grow, and signed terms do not approach 0. The term test already proves divergence.