

1. **Geometric series.**  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} r^n \begin{cases} = \frac{1}{1-r}, & |r| < 1 \\ \text{diverges}, & |r| \geq 1. \end{cases}$

2. A necessary condition that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converge is that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ .

3. **Integral Test.** Suppose  $f(x)$  is continuous, positive, and decreasing on  $[a, \infty)$ , for some  $a \geq 1$ . Then

$$\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n)$$

both converge or both diverge.

4.  **$p$ -series.**

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p} \begin{cases} \text{converges}, & p > 1 \\ \text{diverges}, & p \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

5. **Comparison Test.** Assume there is  $N_0$  such that

$$0 < a_n \leq b_n, \quad n \geq N_0.$$

(i) If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  converges, then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges.

(ii) If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  diverges, then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  diverges.

6. **Limit Comparison Test.** Assume  $a_n > 0$  and  $b_n > 0$  for all  $n$ . Suppose

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = C, \quad \text{where } 0 < C < \infty.$$

Then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  both converge or both diverge.

**7. Alternating Series Test.** Given  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n$ , where  $a_n > 0$ . Suppose

(i) There is  $N_0$  such that  $a_n \geq a_{n+1}$ ,  $n \geq N_0$ .

(ii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ .

Then the series converges. Moreover, if  $S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n$ , then

$$|S - S_n| \leq a_{n+1}.$$

A series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is **absolutely convergent** if  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n|$  converges. It is **conditionally convergent** if it converges, but  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n|$  diverges.

**8. Theorem.** An absolutely convergent series is convergent.

**9. Ratio Test.** Given  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ , with  $a_n \neq 0$  for all  $n$ . If

(i)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|a_{n+1}|}{|a_n|} = L < 1$ , the series converges absolutely.

(ii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|a_{n+1}|}{|a_n|} = L > 1$ , the series diverges.

**10. Root Test.** Given  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ . If

(i)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n|^{1/n} = L < 1$ , the series converges absolutely.

(ii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n|^{1/n} = L > 1$ , the series diverges.

## 11. Some useful limits.

$$(i) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^p}{r^n} = 0, \text{ if } |r| > 1.$$

$$(ii) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n}{n^p} = 0, \text{ if } p > 0.$$

$$(iii) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = e.$$