
12.4 Solutions

1. (a) We cannot say anything about $\sum a_n$. If $a_n > b_n$ for all n and $\sum b_n$ is convergent, then $\sum a_n$ could be convergent or divergent. (See the note after Example 2.)
- (b) If $a_n < b_n$ for all n , then $\sum a_n$ is convergent. [This is part (i) of the Comparison Test.]
2. (a) If $a_n > b_n$ for all n , then $\sum a_n$ is divergent. [This is part (ii) of the Comparison Test.]
- (b) We cannot say anything about $\sum a_n$. If $a_n < b_n$ for all n and $\sum b_n$ is divergent, then $\sum a_n$ could be convergent or divergent.
3. $\frac{n}{2n^3 + 1} < \frac{n}{2n^3} = \frac{1}{2n^2} < \frac{1}{n^2}$ for all $n \geq 1$, so $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2n^3 + 1}$ converges by comparison with $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$, which converges because it is a p -series with $p = 2 > 1$.
4. $\frac{n^3}{n^4 - 1} > \frac{n^3}{n^4} = \frac{1}{n}$ for all $n \geq 2$, so $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n^3}{n^4 - 1}$ diverges by comparison with $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$, which diverges because it is a p -series with $p = 1 \leq 1$ (the harmonic series).
12. $\frac{1 + \sin n}{10^n} \leq \frac{2}{10^n}$ and $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2}{10^n} = 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{10}\right)^n$, so the given series converges by comparison with a constant multiple of a convergent geometric series.
25. If $a_n = \frac{1 + n + n^2}{\sqrt{1 + n^2 + n^6}}$ and $b_n = \frac{1}{n}$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n + n^2 + n^3}{\sqrt{1 + n^2 + n^6}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/n^2 + 1/n + 1}{\sqrt{1/n^6 + 1/n^4 + 1}} = 1 > 0$,
so $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1 + n + n^2}{\sqrt{1 + n^2 + n^6}}$ diverges by the Limit Comparison Test with the divergent harmonic series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$.
26. If $a_n = \frac{n + 5}{\sqrt[3]{n^7 + n^2}}$ and $b_n = \frac{n}{\sqrt[3]{n^7}} = \frac{n}{n^{7/3}} = \frac{1}{n^{4/3}}$, then
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{7/3} + 5n^{4/3}}{(n^7 + n^2)^{1/3}} \cdot \frac{n^{-7/3}}{n^{-7/3}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + 5/n}{[(n^7 + n^2)/n^7]^{1/3}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + 5/n}{(1 + 1/n^5)^{1/3}} = \frac{1 + 0}{(1 + 0)^{1/3}} = 1 > 0,$$
so $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n + 5}{\sqrt[3]{n^7 + n^2}}$ converges by the Limit Comparison Test with the convergent p -series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{4/3}}$.
27. Use the Limit Comparison Test with $a_n = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 e^{-n}$ and $b_n = e^{-n}$: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 = 1 > 0$. Since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{e^n}$ is a convergent geometric series [$|r| = \frac{1}{e} < 1$], the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 e^{-n}$ also converges.

31. Use the Limit Comparison Test with $a_n = \sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$ and $b_n = \frac{1}{n}$. Then $\sum a_n$ and $\sum b_n$ are series with positive terms and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin(1/n)}{1/n} = \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta} = 1 > 0. \text{ Since } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \text{ is the divergent harmonic series,}$$

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin(1/n)$ also diverges. [Note that we could also use l'Hospital's Rule to evaluate the limit:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin(1/x)}{1/x} \stackrel{H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cos(1/x) \cdot (-1/x^2)}{-1/x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \cos \frac{1}{x} = \cos 0 = 1.]$$

32. Use the Limit Comparison Test with $a_n = \frac{1}{n^{1+1/n}}$ and $b_n = \frac{1}{n}$. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{n^{1+1/n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^{1/n}} = 1$

[since $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^{1/x} = 1$ by l'Hospital's Rule], so $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$ diverges [harmonic series] $\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{1+1/n}}$ diverges.

35. $\sum_{n=1}^{10} \frac{1}{1+2^n} = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{9} + \cdots + \frac{1}{1025} \approx 0.76352$. Now $\frac{1}{1+2^n} < \frac{1}{2^n}$, so the error is

$$R_{10} \leq T_{10} = \sum_{n=11}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} = \frac{1/2^{11}}{1-1/2} \text{ [geometric series]} \approx 0.00098.$$

36. $\sum_{n=1}^{10} \frac{n}{(n+1)3^n} = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{2}{27} + \frac{3}{108} + \cdots + \frac{10}{649,539} \approx 0.283597$. Now $\frac{n}{(n+1)3^n} < \frac{n}{n \cdot 3^n} = \frac{1}{3^n}$, so the error is

$$R_{10} \leq T_{10} = \sum_{n=11}^{\infty} \frac{1}{3^n} = \frac{1/3^{11}}{1-1/3} \approx 0.0000085.$$

38. Clearly, if $p < 0$ then the series diverges, since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^p \ln n} = \infty$. If $0 \leq p \leq 1$, then $n^p \ln n \leq n \ln n \Rightarrow$

$\frac{1}{n^p \ln n} \geq \frac{1}{n \ln n}$ and $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \ln n}$ diverges (Exercise 11.3.21), so $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p \ln n}$ diverges. If $p > 1$, use the Limit Comparison

Test with $a_n = \frac{1}{n^p \ln n}$ and $b_n = \frac{1}{n^p}$. $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} b_n$ converges, and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\ln n} = 0$, so $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p \ln n}$ also converges.

(Or use the Comparison Test, since $n^p \ln n > n^p$ for $n > e$.) In summary, the series converges if and only if $p > 1$.

40. (a) Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n/b_n) = 0$, there is a number $N > 0$ such that $|a_n/b_n - 0| < 1$ for all $n > N$, and so $a_n < b_n$ since a_n and b_n are positive. Thus, since $\sum b_n$ converges, so does $\sum a_n$ by the Comparison Test.

- (b) (i) If $a_n = \frac{\ln n}{n^3}$ and $b_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n}{n} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x} \stackrel{H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x}{1} = 0$, so $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\ln n}{n^3}$ converges by part (a).

- (ii) If $a_n = \frac{\ln n}{\sqrt{n}e^n}$ and $b_n = \frac{1}{e^n}$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n}{\sqrt{n}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{\sqrt{x}} \stackrel{H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x}{1/(2\sqrt{x})} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}} = 0$. Now

$\sum b_n$ is a convergent geometric series with ratio $r = 1/e$ [$|r| < 1$], so $\sum a_n$ converges by part (a).

41. (a) Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \infty$, there is an integer N such that $\frac{a_n}{b_n} > 1$ whenever $n > N$. (Take $M = 1$ in Definition 11.1.5.)

Then $a_n > b_n$ whenever $n > N$ and since $\sum b_n$ is divergent, $\sum a_n$ is also divergent by the Comparison Test.

(b) (i) If $a_n = \frac{1}{\ln n}$ and $b_n = \frac{1}{n}$ for $n \geq 2$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{\ln n} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{\ln x} \stackrel{H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1/x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x = \infty$,

so by part (a), $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\ln n}$ is divergent.

(ii) If $a_n = \frac{\ln n}{n}$ and $b_n = \frac{1}{n}$, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ is the divergent harmonic series and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln n = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln x = \infty$,

so $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ diverges by part (a).

45. Yes. Since $\sum a_n$ is a convergent series with positive terms, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ by Theorem 11.2.6, and $\sum b_n = \sum \sin(a_n)$ is a

series with positive terms (for large enough n). We have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_n}{a_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin(a_n)}{a_n} = 1 > 0$ by Theorem 3.3.2. Thus, $\sum b_n$

is also convergent by the Limit Comparison Test.

46. Yes. Since $\sum a_n$ converges, its terms approach 0 as $n \rightarrow \infty$, so for some integer N , $a_n \leq 1$ for all $n \geq N$. But then

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n b_n = \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} a_n b_n + \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} a_n b_n \leq \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} a_n b_n + \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} b_n$. The first term is a finite sum, and the second term converges since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ converges. So $\sum a_n b_n$ converges by the Comparison Test.