
12.5 Solutions

6. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1}{\ln(n+4)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} b_n$. Now $b_n = \frac{1}{\ln(n+4)} > 0$, $\{b_n\}$ is decreasing, and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$, so the series converges by the Alternating Series Test.
7. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{3n-1}{2n+1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n b_n$. Now $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3-1/n}{2+1/n} = \frac{3}{2} \neq 0$. Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ (in fact the limit does not exist), the series diverges by the Test for Divergence.
11. $b_n = \frac{n^2}{n^3+4} > 0$ for $n \geq 1$. $\{b_n\}$ is decreasing for $n \geq 2$ since
- $$\left(\frac{x^2}{x^3+4}\right)' = \frac{(x^3+4)(2x) - x^2(3x^2)}{(x^3+4)^2} = \frac{x(2x^3+8-3x^3)}{(x^3+4)^2} = \frac{x(8-x^3)}{(x^3+4)^2} < 0 \text{ for } x > 2. \text{ Also,}$$
- $$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/n}{1+4/n^3} = 0. \text{ Thus, the series } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{n^2}{n^3+4} \text{ converges by the Alternating Series Test.}$$
12. $b_n = \frac{e^{1/n}}{n} > 0$ for $n \geq 1$. $\{b_n\}$ is decreasing since $\left(\frac{e^{1/x}}{x}\right)' = \frac{x \cdot e^{1/x}(-1/x^2) - e^{1/x} \cdot 1}{x^2} = \frac{-e^{1/x}(1+x)}{x^3} < 0$ for $x > 0$. Also, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$ since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{1/n} = 1$. Thus, the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{e^{1/n}}{n}$ converges by the Alternating Series Test.
13. $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{n}{\ln n}$. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{\ln n} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{\ln x} \stackrel{H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1/x} = \infty$, so the series diverges by the Test for Divergence.
14. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \left(\frac{\ln n}{n}\right) = 0 + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \left(\frac{\ln n}{n}\right)$. $b_n = \frac{\ln n}{n} > 0$ for $n \geq 2$, and if $f(x) = \frac{\ln x}{x}$, then
- $$f'(x) = \frac{1 - \ln x}{x^2} < 0 \text{ for } x > e, \text{ so } \{b_n\} \text{ is eventually decreasing. Also,}$$
- $$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n}{n} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x} \stackrel{H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x}{1} = 0, \text{ so the series converges by the Alternating Series Test.}$$
15. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos n\pi}{n^{3/4}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^{3/4}}$. $b_n = \frac{1}{n^{3/4}}$ is decreasing and positive and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^{3/4}} = 0$, so the series converges by the Alternating Series Test.
16. $\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) = 0$ if n is even and $(-1)^k$ if $n = 2k + 1$, so the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(n\pi/2)}{n!} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)!}$.
- $$b_n = \frac{1}{(2n+1)!} > 0, \{b_n\} \text{ is decreasing, and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(2n+1)!} = 0, \text{ so the series converges by the Alternating Series Test.}$$
17. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right)$. $b_n = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right) > 0$ for $n \geq 2$ and $\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right) \geq \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{n+1}\right)$, and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right) = \sin 0 = 0$, so the series converges by the Alternating Series Test.

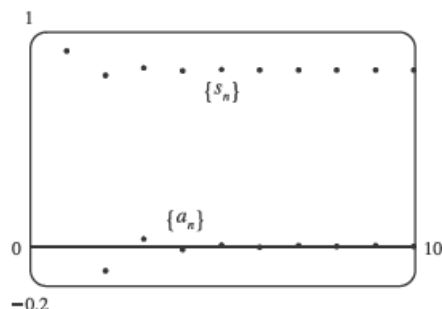
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18. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right)$. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right) = \cos(0) = 1$, so $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-1)^n \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right)$ does not exist and the series diverges by the Test for Divergence.

19. $\frac{n^n}{n!} = \frac{n \cdot n \cdot \cdots \cdot n}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot \cdots \cdot n} \geq n \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^n}{n!} = \infty \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-1)^n n^n}{n!}$ does not exist. So the series diverges by the Test for Divergence.

22.

n	a_n	s_n
1	1	1
2	-0.125	0.875
3	0.03704	0.91204
4	-0.01563	0.89641
5	0.008	0.90441
6	-0.00463	0.89978
7	0.00292	0.90270
8	-0.00195	0.90074
9	0.00137	0.90212
10	-0.001	0.90112



By the Alternating Series Estimation Theorem, the error in the approximation

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n^3} \approx 0.90112 \text{ is } |s - s_{10}| \leq b_{11} = 1/11^3 \approx 0.0007513.$$

24. The series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n 5^n}$ satisfies (i) of the Alternating Series Test because $\frac{1}{(n+1)5^{n+1}} < \frac{1}{n 5^n}$ and (ii) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n 5^n} = 0$, so

the series is convergent. Now $b_4 = \frac{1}{4 \cdot 5^4} = 0.0004 > 0.0001$ and $b_5 = \frac{1}{5 \cdot 5^5} = 0.000064 < 0.0001$, so by the Alternating Series Estimation Theorem, $n = 4$. (That is, since the 5th term is less than the desired error, we need to add the first 4 terms to get the sum to the desired accuracy.)

29. $b_7 = \frac{7^2}{10^7} = 0.0000049$, so

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1} n^2}{10^n} \approx s_6 = \sum_{n=1}^6 \frac{(-1)^{n-1} n^2}{10^n} = \frac{1}{10} - \frac{4}{100} + \frac{9}{1000} - \frac{16}{10,000} + \frac{25}{100,000} - \frac{36}{1,000,000} = 0.067614. \text{ Adding } b_7 \text{ to } s_6$$

does not change the fourth decimal place of s_6 , so the sum of the series, correct to four decimal places, is 0.0676.

31. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \cdots + \frac{1}{49} - \frac{1}{50} + \frac{1}{51} - \frac{1}{52} + \cdots$. The 50th partial sum of this series is an

underestimate, since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n} = s_{50} + \left(\frac{1}{51} - \frac{1}{52}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{53} - \frac{1}{54}\right) + \cdots$, and the terms in parentheses are all positive.

The result can be seen geometrically in Figure 1.

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32. If $p > 0$, $\frac{1}{(n+1)^p} \leq \frac{1}{n^p}$ ($\{1/n^p\}$ is decreasing) and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^p} = 0$, so the series converges by the Alternating Series Test.

If $p \leq 0$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n^p}$ does not exist, so the series diverges by the Test for Divergence. Thus, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n^p}$ converges $\Leftrightarrow p > 0$.

33. Clearly $b_n = \frac{1}{n+p}$ is decreasing and eventually positive and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$ for any p . So the series converges (by the Alternating Series Test) for any p for which every b_n is defined, that is, $n+p \neq 0$ for $n \geq 1$, or p is not a negative integer.

34. Let $f(x) = \frac{(\ln x)^p}{x}$. Then $f'(x) = \frac{(\ln x)^{p-1}(p - \ln x)}{x^2} < 0$ if $x > e^p$ so f is eventually decreasing for every p . Clearly

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\ln n)^p}{n} = 0$ if $p \leq 0$, and if $p > 0$ we can apply l'Hospital's Rule $\lceil p+1 \rceil$ times to get a limit of 0 as well. So the series converges for all p (by the Alternating Series Test).