

## Some results about series.

### 1. Geometric Series.

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1}$  converges when  $|r| < 1$ ; it converges to the sum  $\frac{a}{1-r}$  when  $|r| < 1$ .

### 2. Test for Divergence.

If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges, then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ .

### 3. Integral Test.

For  $f(x)$  continuous on  $[1, \infty)$ , positive and decreasing to 0, the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n)$  converges if and only if the improper integral  $\int_1^{\infty} f(x)dx$  converges.

### 4. Comparison Tests.

*Direct comparison test:* compares series of positive terms, term-by-term.

*Limit comparison test:* compares series of positive terms  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  when  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = L$  a finite limit not equal to 0.

### 5. Root Test.

Let  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n|^{1/n} = L$ . If  $L < 1$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is absolutely convergent, and if  $L > 1$  then it is divergent.

### 6. Ratio Test.

Let  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|a_{n+1}|}{|a_n|} = L$ . If  $L < 1$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is absolutely convergent, and if  $L > 1$  then it is divergent.

### 7. Alternating Series Test.

If  $a_n$  are positive, decreasing to 0, then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} a_n$  is convergent. Moreover, the  $n$ th partial sum is within  $a_{n+1}$  of the sum of the whole series.

### 8. Power series.

Ratio test is useful for computing the radius of convergence of a power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$ .

### 9. Taylor and Maclaurin Series.

*Taylor series* for  $f(x)$  centered about  $a$  is given by

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n$$

*Maclaurin series* for  $f(x)$  is the Taylor series for  $f(x)$  centered about 0.

### 10. Remainder Estimate.

Taylor's inequality states that if  $|f^{(n+1)}(x)| \leq M$  on the interval  $[a-d, a+d]$ , then

$$|f(x) - T_n(x)| \leq \frac{M|x-a|^{(n+1)}}{(n+1)!}$$

on the interval  $[a-d, a+d]$ . Here  $T_n(x)$  is the *degree  $n$  Taylor polynomial approximation* to  $f(x)$ .