

Recall:

## • Geometric series

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} ar^n = \frac{a}{1-r} \quad \text{if } |r| < 1$$

diverges otherwise

• Divergence test:

- If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  diverges.
- If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$  we cannot draw any conclusion.

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Ratio test [§8.4 Stewart]

A geometric series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^n$  conv  
if and only if  $|r| < 1$ .

In such a series  $a_n = ar^n$   
 $a_{n+1} = ar^{n+1}$

$$\rightsquigarrow \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = |r|$$

Geometric series converges if this quotient is  $< 1$ .

What if we have  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$ . Does

$\left| \frac{b_{n+1}}{b_n} \right|$  tell us anything useful about convergence? Yes!

Thm (The ratio test)

For the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$ , let

$$S = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{b_{n+1}}{b_n} \right|.$$

- If  $S < 1$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  converges
- If  $S > 1$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  diverges
- If  $S = 1$  we do not know.

Ex Does  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^3}{3^n}$  Converge?

First check divergence test:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^3}{3^n} = 0$$

→ Can not draw any conclusion. (exponentials grow faster than polynomials)

Try the ratio test.  $a_n = \frac{n^3}{3^n}$

$$\underline{\underline{L}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+1)^3 / 3^{n+1}}{n^3 / 3^n} \right|$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+1)^3 \cdot 3^n}{n^3 \cdot 3^{n+1}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right)^3 \cdot \frac{1}{3} \right|$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \cdot \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n} \right)^3 = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1^3 = \frac{1}{3} < \underline{\underline{1}}$$

So ratio tells us that the

Series Converges.

Ex: Does  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n!}$  Converge?

① Div test:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^n}{n!} = 0$ . No conclusion can be drawn.

② Ratio test:  $a_n = \frac{2^n}{n!}$

$$\underline{f} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{2^{n+1}/(n+1)!}{2^n/n!} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{2^{n+1} \cdot n!}{2^n \cdot (n+1)!} \right|$$

$$= 2 \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{(n+1)!} = 2 \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\overbrace{n \cdot (n-1) \cdots 2 \cdot 1}^{\text{CANCEL}}}{(n+1) \cdot \underbrace{n \cdot (n-1) \cdots 2 \cdot 1}_{\text{CANCEL}}}$$

$$= 2 \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+1} = 0 < \underline{1}$$

Ratio test gives that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n!}$

Converges

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Ex Does  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$  Converge?

① Div test:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = 0$ . No conclusion can be drawn.

② Ratio test:  $a_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$ .

$$\rho = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/(n+1)^2}{1/n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{(n+1)^2}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n}{n+1} \right)^2 = 1$$

→ Can not draw any conclusion.

(In fact, by other means  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{\pi^2}{6}$ )

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Ex Does  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n (n!)^2}{(2n)!}$  converge?

Ratio test:

$$\rho = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^{n+1} ((n+1)!)^2 / (2(n+1))!}{(-1)^n (n!)^2 / (2n)!} \right|$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)! \cdot (n+1)! \cdot (2n)!}{n! \cdot n! \cdot (2n+2)!}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{[(n+1)n!] [(n+1)n!] \cdot (2n)!}{n! \cdot n! \cdot [(2n+2)(2n+1)(2n)!]}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^2}{(2n+2)(2n+1)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2 + 2n + 1}{4n^2 + 6n + 2}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2}}{4 + \frac{6}{n} + \frac{2}{n^2}} = \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{4} < 1}}$$

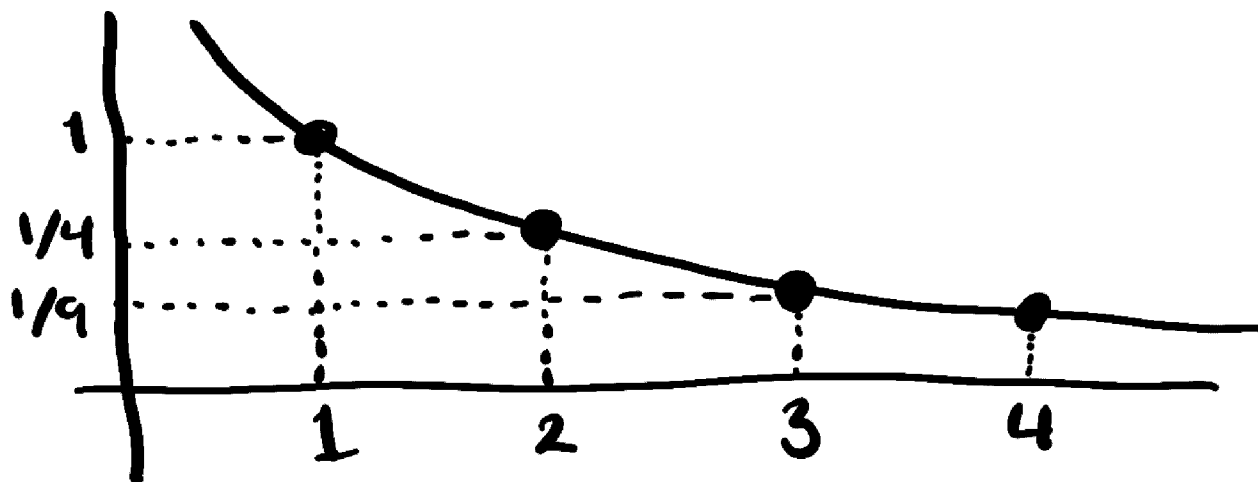
→ Series converges.

Integral test

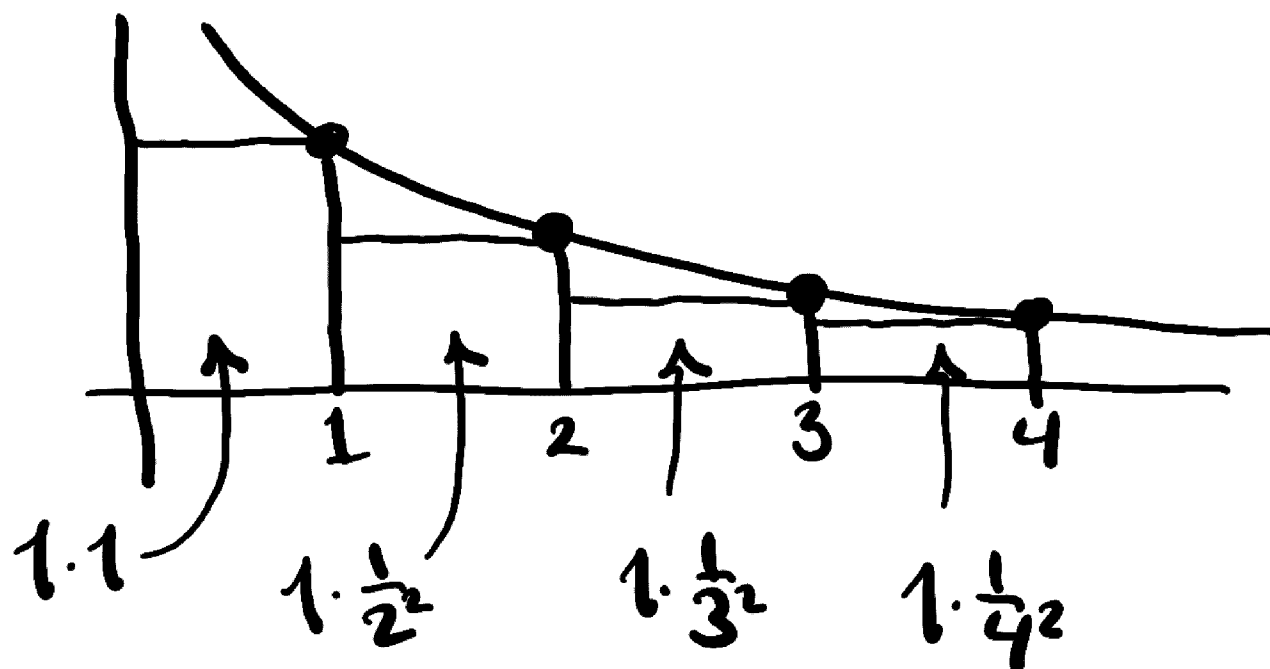
§8.3 Stewart

Consider  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$  Will try to understand it geometrically.

Look at the graph  $y = \frac{1}{x^2}$



Drawing rectangles under the graph:

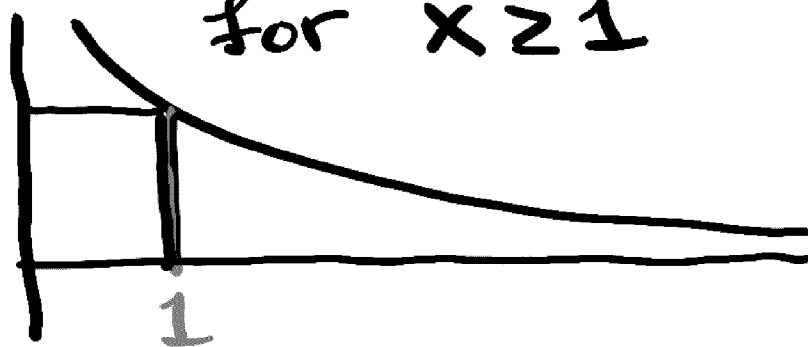


Sum of areas of all such rectangles

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$$

Remember that

$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2} dx = \text{area under graph for } x \geq 1$



Comparing the figures we arrive at

$$0 \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \leq \underline{\underline{1 + \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2} dx}}$$

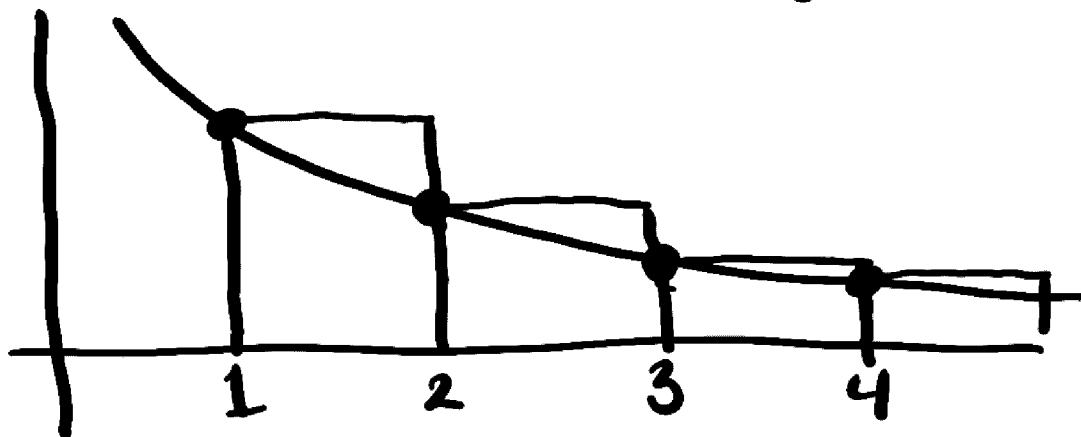
Recall:

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2} dx = \left[ -\frac{1}{x} \right]_1^{\infty} = -\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} + 1$$
$$= 1$$

So  $0 \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \leq 2$  and

this series must converge!

Similar way of summing rectangles:





$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \geq \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2} dx = 1.$$

If this integral would diverge, then the series would too.

Thm (The integral test)

If  $f$  is continuous, positive, and decreasing on  $[1, \infty)$ .

(a) If  $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$  is convergent, then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n)$  is convergent.

(b) If  $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$  is divergent, then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n)$  is divergent.

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Consider  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$  for different values of  $p$ .

Easy values:

If  $p < 0$  then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^p} = \infty$

So div. test  $\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$  diverges

If  $p = 0$  then  $\frac{1}{n^0} = 1$

and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^0} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1$  diverges.

If  $p > 0$  we use the integral test:

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} dx$$

$$\text{If } p = 1 \quad \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x} dx = [\ln|x|]_1^{\infty}$$

$$= (\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln|x|) - 1 = \infty$$

So  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$  diverges. (of course, we already know this!)

$$\text{If } p \neq 1, \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^p} = \int_1^{\infty} x^{-p} dx = \left[ \frac{x^{-p+1}}{-p+1} \right]_1^{\infty}$$

$$= \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1-p} \cdot \frac{1}{x^{p-1}} \right) - \frac{1}{1-p}$$

$$= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p-1}, & p > 1 \\ \infty, & 0 < p \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

so the integral test gives:

→  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$  convergent for  $p > 1$ .  
divergent for  $0 < p < 1$