

# Chapter 1

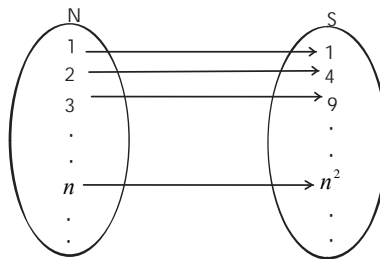
## Sequences and Series

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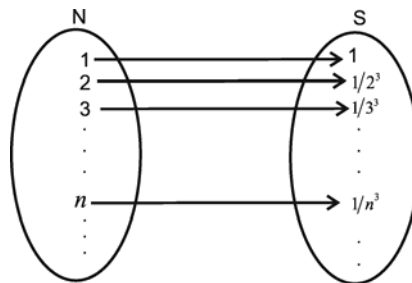
## 1.1 Sequence

A function  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow S$ , where  $S$  is any nonempty set is called a *Sequence* i.e., for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\exists$  a unique element  $f(n) \in S$ . The sequence is written as  $f(1), f(2), f(3), \dots, f(n), \dots$ , and is denoted by  $\{f(n)\}$ , or  $\langle f(n) \rangle$ , or  $(f(n))$ . If  $f(n) = a_n$ , the sequence is written as  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  and denoted by  $\{a_n\}$  or  $\langle a_n \rangle$  or  $(a_n)$ . Here  $f(n)$  or  $a_n$  are the  $n^{\text{th}}$  terms of the Sequence.

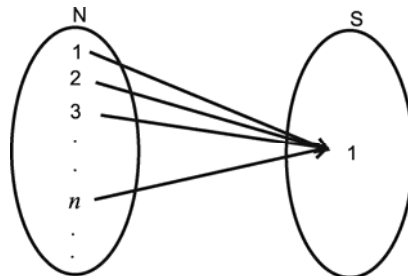
**Ex. 1.**  $1, 4, 9, 16, \dots, n^2, \dots$  (or)  $\langle n^2 \rangle$



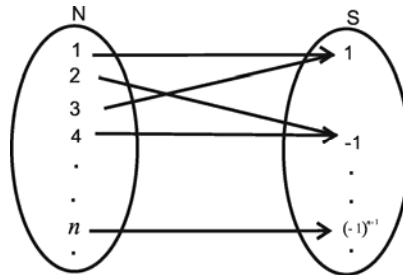
**Ex. 2.**  $\frac{1}{1^3}, \frac{1}{2^3}, \frac{1}{3^3}, \dots, \frac{1}{n^3}, \dots$  (or)  $\left(\frac{1}{n^3}\right)$



**Ex. 3.**  $1, 1, 1, \dots, 1, \dots$  or  $\langle 1 \rangle$



**Ex 4:**  $1, -1, 1, -1, \dots$  or  $\langle (-1)^{n-1} \rangle$



**Note :** 1. If  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  then the sequence is called a *real sequence*.  
2. The range of a sequence is almost a countable set.

### 1.1.1 Kinds of Sequences

1. **Finite Sequence:** A sequence  $\langle a_n \rangle$  in which  $a_n = 0 \forall n > m \in \mathbb{N}$  is said to be a finite Sequence. i.e., A finite Sequence has a finite number of terms.
2. **Infinite Sequence:** A sequence, which is not finite, is an infinite sequence.

### 1.1.2 Bounds of a Sequence and Bounded Sequence

1. If  $\exists$  a number 'M'  $\ni a_n \leq M, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the Sequence  $\langle a_n \rangle$  is said to be bounded above or bounded on the right.

**Ex.**  $1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots$  here  $a_n \leq 1 \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

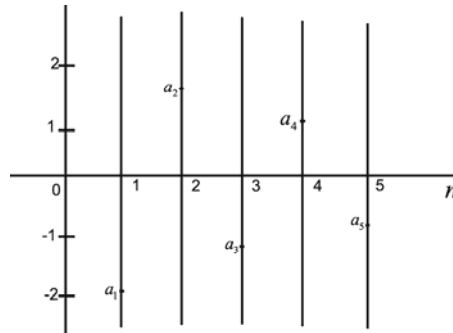
2. If  $\exists$  a number 'm'  $\ni a_n \geq m, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the sequence  $\langle a_n \rangle$  is said to be bounded below or bounded on the left.

**Ex.**  $1, 2, 3, \dots$  here  $a_n \geq 1 \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

3. A sequence which is bounded above and below is said to be bounded.

**Ex.** Let  $a_n = (-1)^n \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)$

$n$	1	2	3	4	.....
$a_n$	-2	3/2	-4/3	5/4	.....



From the above figure (see also table) it can be seen that  $m = -2$  and  $M = \frac{3}{2}$ .

$\therefore$  The sequence is bounded.

### 1.1.3 Limits of a Sequence

A Sequence  $\langle a_n \rangle$  is said to tend to limit ' $l$ ' when, given any + ve number ' $\epsilon$ ', however small, we can always find an integer ' $m$ ' such that  $|a_n - l| < \epsilon, \forall n \geq m$ , and we write  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = l$  or  $\langle a_n \rangle \rightarrow l$

**Ex.** If  $a_n = \frac{n^2 + 1}{2n^2 + 3}$  then  $\langle a_n \rangle \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$ .

### 1.1.4 Convergent, Divergent and Oscillatory Sequences

- 1. Convergent Sequence:** A sequence which tends to a finite limit, say ' $l$ ' is called a *Convergent Sequence*. We say that the sequence converges to ' $l$ '
- 2. Divergent Sequence:** A sequence which tends to  $\pm\infty$  is said to be *Divergent* (or is said to diverge).
- 3. Oscillatory Sequence:** A sequence which neither converges nor diverges, is called an *Oscillatory Sequence*.

**Ex. 1.** Consider the sequence  $2, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{4}{3}, \frac{5}{4}, \dots$  here  $a_n = 1 + \frac{1}{n}$

The sequence  $\langle a_n \rangle$  is convergent and has the limit 1

$$a_n - 1 = 1 + \frac{1}{n} - 1 = \frac{1}{n} \text{ and } \frac{1}{n} < \epsilon \text{ whenever } n > \frac{1}{\epsilon}$$

Suppose we choose  $\epsilon = .001$ , we have  $\frac{1}{n} < .001$  when  $n > 1000$ .

**Ex. 2.** If  $a_n = 3 + (-1)^n \frac{1}{n}$ ,  $\langle a_n \rangle$  converges to 3.

**Ex. 3.** If  $a_n = n^2 + (-1)^n$ ,  $\langle a_n \rangle$  diverges.

**Ex. 4.** If  $a_n = \frac{1}{n} + 2(-1)^n$ ,  $\langle a_n \rangle$  oscillates between -2 and 2.

## 1.2 Infinite Series

If  $\langle u_n \rangle$  is a sequence, then the expression  $u_1 + u_2 + u_3 + \dots + u_n + \dots$  is called an infinite series. It is denoted by  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$  or simply  $\sum u_n$

The sum of the first  $n$  terms of the series is denoted by  $s_n$

i.e.,  $s_n = u_1 + u_2 + u_3 + \dots + u_n$ ;  $s_1, s_2, s_3, \dots, s_n$  are called *partial sums*.

### 1.2.1 Convergent, Divergent and Oscillatory Series

Let  $\sum u_n$  be an infinite series. As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , there are three possibilities.

(a) **Convergent series:** As  $n \rightarrow \infty, s_n \rightarrow$  a finite limit, say 's' in which case the series is said to be convergent and 's' is called its sum to infinity.

Thus  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s$  (or) simply  $Ls_n = s$

This is also written as  $u_1 + u_2 + u_3 + \dots + u_n + \dots \text{to } \infty = s$ . (or)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n = s$  (or) simply  $\sum u_n = s$ .

(b) **Divergent series:** If  $s_n \rightarrow \infty$  or  $-\infty$ , the series said to be divergent.

(c) **Oscillatory Series:** If  $s_n$  does not tend to a unique limit either finite or infinite it is said to be an *Oscillatory Series*.

**Note:** Divergent or Oscillatory series are sometimes called non convergent series.

### 1.2.2 Geometric Series

The series,  $1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^{n-1} + \dots$  is

(i) Convergent when  $|x| < 1$ , and its sum is  $\frac{1}{1-x}$

(ii) Divergent when  $x \geq 1$ .

(iii) Oscillates finitely when  $x = -1$  and oscillates infinitely when  $x < -1$ .

**Proof:** The given series is a geometric series with common ratio 'x'

$\therefore s_n = \frac{1-x^n}{1-x}$  when  $x \neq 1$  [By actual division – verify]

(i) When  $|x| < 1$ :

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{1-x} \right) - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{x^n}{1-x} \right) = \frac{1}{1-x} \quad \left[ \text{since } x^n \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \right]$$

$\therefore$  The series converges to  $\frac{1}{1-x}$

(ii) When  $x \geq 1$ :  $s_n = \frac{x^n - 1}{x - 1}$  and  $s_n \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$\therefore$  The series is divergent.

(iii) When  $x = -1$ : when  $n$  is even,  $s_n \rightarrow 0$  and when  $n$  is odd,  $s_n \rightarrow 1$

$\therefore$  The series oscillates finitely.

(iv) When  $x < -1$ ,  $s_n \rightarrow \infty$  or  $-\infty$  according as  $n$  is odd or even.

$\therefore$  The series oscillates infinitely.

### 1.2.3 Some Elementary Properties of Infinite Series

1. The convergence or divergence of an infinite series is unaltered by an addition or deletion of a finite number of terms from it.
2. If some or all the terms of a convergent series of positive terms change their signs, the series will still be convergent.
3. Let  $\sum u_n$  converge to 's'  
Let 'k' be a non-zero fixed number. Then  $\sum ku_n$  converges to  $ks$ .  
Also, if  $\sum u_n$  diverges or oscillates, so does  $\sum ku_n$
4. Let  $\sum u_n$  converge to 'l' and  $\sum v_n$  converge to 'm'. Then  
(i)  $\sum(u_n + v_n)$  converges to  $(l + m)$  and (ii)  $\sum(u_n - v_n)$  converges to  $(l - m)$

### 1.2.4 Series of Positive Terms

Consider the series in which all terms beginning from a particular term are +ve.

Let the first term from which all terms are +ve be  $u_1$ .

Let  $\sum u_n$  be such a convergent series of +ve terms. Then, we observe that the convergence is unaltered by any rearrangement of the terms of the series.

### 1.2.5 Theorem

If  $\sum u_n$  is convergent, then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$ .

**Proof:**  $s_n = u_1 + u_2 + \dots + u_n$

$s_{n-1} = u_1 + u_2 + \dots + u_{n-1}$ , so that,  $u_n = s_n - s_{n-1}$

Suppose  $\sum u_n = l$  then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = l$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_{n-1} = l$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (s_n - s_{n-1}) ; \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_{n-1} = l - l = 0$$

**Note:** The converse of the above theorem need not be always true. This can be observed from the following examples.

(i) Consider the series,  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} + \dots$  ;  $u_n = \frac{1}{n}$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$

But from  $p$ -series test (1.3.1) it is clear that  $\sum \frac{1}{n}$  is divergent.

(ii) Consider the series,  $\frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n^2} + \dots$

$u_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$ , by  $p$  series test, clearly  $\sum \frac{1}{n^2}$  converges,

**Note :** If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n \neq 0$  the series is divergent;

**Ex.**  $u_n = \frac{2^n - 1}{2^n}$ , here  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 1$   $\therefore \sum u_n$  is divergent.

### 1.3 Tests for the Convergence of an Infinite Series

In order to study the nature of any given infinite series of +ve terms regarding convergence or otherwise, a few tests are given below.

#### 1.3.1 P-Series Test

The infinite series,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p} = \frac{1}{1^p} + \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} + \dots$ , is

(i) Convergent when  $p > 1$ , and (ii) Divergent when  $p \leq 1$ . (JNTU 2002, 2003)

**Proof :**

**Case (i)** Let  $p > 1$ ;  $p > 1, 3^p > 2^p$ ;  $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3^p} < \frac{1}{2^p}$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} < \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{2^p} = \frac{2}{2^p}$$

Similarly,  $\frac{1}{4^p} + \frac{1}{5^p} + \frac{1}{6^p} + \frac{1}{7^p} < \frac{1}{4^p} + \frac{1}{4^p} + \frac{1}{4^p} + \frac{1}{4^p} = \frac{4}{4^p}$

$$\frac{1}{8^p} + \frac{1}{9^p} + \dots + \frac{1}{16^p} < \frac{8}{8^p}, \text{ and so on.}$$

Adding we get

$$\sum \frac{1}{n^p} < 1 + \frac{2}{2^p} + \frac{4}{4^p} + \frac{8}{8^p} + \dots$$

$$\text{i.e.,} \quad \sum \frac{1}{n^p} < 1 + \frac{1}{2^{(p-1)}} + \frac{1}{2^{2(p-1)}} + \frac{1}{2^{3(p-1)}} + \dots$$

The RHS of the above inequality is an infinite geometric series with common ratio  $\frac{1}{2^{p-1}} < 1$  (since  $p > 1$ ) The sum of this geometric series is finite.

Hence  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$  is also finite.

$\therefore$  The given series is convergent.

**Case (ii)** Let  $p=1$ ;  $\sum \frac{1}{n^p} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots$

We have,  $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} > \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} > \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{10} + \dots + \frac{1}{16} > \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{16} + \dots + \frac{1}{16} = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and so on}$$

$$\therefore \sum \frac{1}{n^p} = 1 + \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} \right) + \dots$$

$$\geq 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \dots$$

The sum of RHS series is  $\infty$

$$\left( \text{since } s_n = 1 + \frac{n-1}{2} = \frac{n+1}{2} \text{ and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \infty \right)$$

$\therefore$  The sum of the given series is also  $\infty$ ;  $\therefore \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$  ( $p=1$ ) diverges.

**Case (iii)** Let  $p < 1$ ,  $\sum \frac{1}{n^p} = 1 + \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} + \dots$

Since  $p < 1$ ,  $\frac{1}{2^p} > \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3^p} > \frac{1}{3}$ , ..... and so on

$$\therefore \sum \frac{1}{n^p} > 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots$$

From the Case (ii), it follows that the series on the RHS of above inequality is divergent.



$\therefore \sum \frac{1}{n^p}$  is divergent, when  $P < 1$

*Note: This theorem is often helpful in discussing the nature of a given infinite series.*

### 1.3.2 Comparison Tests

1. Let  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  be two series of +ve terms and let  $\sum v_n$  be convergent.

Then  $\sum u_n$  converges,

(a) If  $u_n \leq v_n, \forall n \in N$

(b) or  $\frac{u_n}{v_n} \leq k \forall n \in N$  where  $k$  is  $> 0$  and finite.

(c) or  $\frac{u_n}{v_n} \rightarrow$  a finite limit  $> 0$

**Proof:** (a) Let  $\sum v_n = l$  (finite)

Then,  $u_1 + u_2 + \dots + u_n + \dots \leq v_1 + v_2 + \dots + v_n + \dots \leq l > 0$

Since  $l$  is finite it follows that  $\sum u_n$  is convergent

(c)  $\frac{u_n}{v_n} \leq k \Rightarrow u_n \leq kv_n, \forall n \in N$ , since  $\sum v_n$  is convergent and  $k (> 0)$  is finite,

$\sum kv_n$  is convergent  $\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent.

(d) Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n}$  is finite, we can find a +ve constant  $k, \exists \frac{u_n}{v_n} < k \forall n \in N$

$\therefore$  from (2), it follows that  $\sum u_n$  is convergent

2. Let  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  be two series of +ve terms and let  $\sum v_n$  be divergent. Then

$\sum u_n$  diverges,

\* 1. If  $u_n \geq v_n, \forall n \in N$

or \* 2. If  $\frac{u_n}{v_n} \geq k, \forall n \in N$  where  $k$  is finite and  $\neq 0$

or \* 3. If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n}$  is finite and non-zero.

**Proof:**

1. Let  $M$  be a +ve integer however large it may be. Since  $\sum v_n$  is divergent, a number  $m$  can be found such that

$$v_1 + v_2 + \dots + v_n > M, \forall n > m$$

$$\therefore u_1 + u_2 + \dots + u_n > M, \forall n > m (u_n \geq v_n)$$

$$\therefore \sum u_n \text{ is divergent}$$

$$2. u_1 \geq kv_n \forall n$$

$\Sigma v_n$  is divergent  $\Rightarrow \Sigma kv_n$  is divergent

$\therefore \Sigma u_n$  is divergent

$$3. \text{ Since } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} \text{ is finite, a + ve constant } k \text{ can be found such that } \frac{u_n}{v_n} > k, \forall n$$

(probably except for a finite number of terms)

$\therefore$  From (2), it follows that  $\Sigma u_n$  is divergent.

**Note :**

- (a) In (1) and (2), it is sufficient that the conditions with \* hold  $\forall n > m \in N$   
*Alternate form of comparison tests :* The above two types of comparison tests 2.8.(1) and 2.8.(2) can be clubbed together and stated as follows :

If  $\Sigma u_n$  and  $\Sigma v_n$  are two series of + ve terms such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = k$ , where  $k$  is

non- zero and finite, then  $\Sigma u_n$  and  $\Sigma v_n$  both converge or both diverge.

- (b) 1. The above form of comparison tests is mostly used in solving problems.  
 2. In order to apply the test in problems, we require a certain series  $\Sigma v_n$  whose nature is already known i.e., we must know whether  $\Sigma v_n$  is convergent or divergent. For this reason, we call  $\Sigma v_n$  as an 'auxiliary series'.  
 3. In problems, the geometric series (1.2.2.) and the  $p$ -series (1.3.1) can be conveniently used as 'auxiliary series'.

## Solved Examples

### EXAMPLE 1

Test the convergence of the following series:

$$(a) \frac{3}{1} + \frac{4}{8} + \frac{5}{27} + \frac{6}{64} + \dots \quad (b) \frac{4}{1} + \frac{5}{4} + \frac{6}{9} + \frac{7}{16} + \dots \quad (c) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ (n^4 + 1)^{1/4} - n \right]$$

### SOLUTION

- (a) **Step 1:** To find " $u_n$ " the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term of the given series. The numerators 3, 4, 5, 6.....of the terms, are in AP.

$$n^{\text{th}} \text{ term } t_n = 3 + (n-1).1 = n + 2$$

$$\text{Denominators are } 1^3, 2^3, 3^3, 4^3 \dots n^{\text{th}} \text{ term} = n^3 ; \therefore u_n = \frac{n+2}{n^3}$$

- Step 2:** To choose the auxiliary series  $\Sigma v_n$ . In  $u_n$ , the highest degree of  $n$  in the numerator is 1 and that of denominator is 3.

$\therefore$  we take,  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^{3-1}} = \frac{1}{n^2}$

**Step 3:**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+2}{n^3} \times n^2 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+2}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{2}{n}\right) = 1$ , which is non-zero and finite.

**Step 4: Conclusion:**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = 1$

$\therefore \Sigma u_n$  and  $\Sigma v_n$  both converge or diverge (by comparison test). But  $\Sigma v_n = \Sigma \frac{1}{n^2}$  is convergent by  $p$ -series test ( $p = 2 > 1$ );  $\therefore \Sigma u_n$  is convergent.

(b)  $\frac{4}{1} + \frac{5}{4} + \frac{6}{9} + \frac{7}{16} + \dots$

**Step 1:** 4, 5, 6, 7, ..... in AP,  $t_n = 4 + (n-1)1 = n+3 \quad \therefore u_n = \frac{n+3}{n^2}$

**Step 2:** Let  $\Sigma v_n = \frac{1}{n}$  be the auxiliary series

**Step 3:**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n+3}{n^2}\right) \times n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{3}{n}\right) = 1$ , which is non-zero and finite.

**Step 4:**  $\therefore$  By comparison test, both  $\Sigma u_n$  and  $\Sigma v_n$  converge or diverge together.

But  $\Sigma v_n = \Sigma \frac{1}{n}$  is divergent, by  $p$ -series test ( $p = 1$ );  $\therefore \Sigma u_n$  is divergent.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(c)} \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ (n^4 + 1)^{1/4} - n \right] &= \left\{ n^4 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n^4} \right) \right\}^{1/4} - n = n \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n^4} \right)^{1/4} - 1 \right] \\ &= n \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{4n^4} + \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{1}{4} - 1 \right) \frac{1}{n^8} + \dots - 1 \right] = n \left[ \frac{1}{4n^4} - \frac{3}{32n^8} + \dots \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{4n^3} - \frac{3}{32n^7} + \dots = \frac{1}{n^3} \left[ \frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{32n^4} + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

Here it will be convenient if we take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^3}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{32n^4} + \dots \right) = \frac{1}{4}, \text{ which is non-zero and finite}$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\Sigma u_n$  and  $\Sigma v_n$  both converge or both diverge. But by  $p$ -series test  $\Sigma v_n = \frac{1}{n^3}$  is convergent. ( $p = 3 > 1$ );  $\therefore \Sigma u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 2**

If  $u_n = \frac{\sqrt[3]{3n^2 + 1}}{\sqrt[4]{2n^3 + 3n + 5}}$  show that  $\Sigma u_n$  is divergent

**SOLUTION**

As  $n$  increases,  $u_n$  approximates to

$$\frac{\sqrt[3]{3n^2}}{\sqrt[4]{2n^3}} = \frac{3^{1/3}}{2^{3/4}} \times \frac{n^{2/3}}{n^{3/4}} = \frac{3^{1/3}}{2^{3/4}} \cdot \frac{1}{n^{1/12}}$$

$\therefore$  If we take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^{1/12}}$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{3^{1/3}}{2^{3/4}}$  which is finite.

[(or) *Hint*: Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^{l_1 - l_2}}$ , where  $l_1$  and  $l_2$  are indices of 'n' of the largest terms

in denominator and nominator respectively of  $u_n$ . Here  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^{\frac{3}{4} - \frac{2}{3}}} = \frac{1}{n^{1/12}}$  ]

By comparison test,  $\Sigma v_n$  and  $\Sigma u_n$  converge or diverge together. But  $\Sigma v_n = \Sigma \frac{1}{n^{1/12}}$  is

divergent by  $p$ -series test (since  $p = \frac{1}{12} < 1$ )

$\therefore \Sigma u_n$  is divergent.

**EXAMPLE 3**

Test for the convergence of the series.  $\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} + \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}} + \sqrt{\frac{4}{5}} + \dots$

**SOLUTION**

Here,  $u_n = \sqrt{\frac{n}{n+1}}$ ; Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{1}{n^0} = 1$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}}} = 1$  (finite)

$\Sigma v_n$  is divergent by  $p$ -series test. ( $p = 0 < 1$ )

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\Sigma u_n$  is divergent, (Students are advised to follow the procedure given in ex. 1.2.9(a) and (b) to find “ $u_n$ ” of the given series.)

**EXAMPLE 4**

Show that  $1 + \frac{1}{\underline{1}} + \frac{1}{\underline{2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\underline{n}} + \dots$  is convergent.

**SOLUTION**

$$\begin{aligned} u_n &= \frac{1}{\underline{n}} \quad (\text{neglecting } 1^{\text{st}} \text{ term}) \\ &= \frac{1}{1.2.3\dots n} < \frac{1}{1.2.2.2\dots n - \text{ltimes}} = \frac{1}{(2^{n-1})} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \Sigma u_n < 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{2^3} + \dots$$

which is an infinite geometric series with common ratio  $\frac{1}{2} < 1$

$\therefore \Sigma \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$  is convergent. (1.2.3(a)). Hence  $\Sigma u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 5**

Test for the convergence of the series,  $\frac{1}{1.2.3} + \frac{1}{2.3.4} + \frac{1}{3.4.5} + \dots$

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{1}{n(n+1)(n+2)}; \quad \text{Take } v_n = \frac{1}{n^3} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^3}{n^3 \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) \left(1 + \frac{2}{n}\right)} = 1 \quad (\text{finite})$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\Sigma u_n$ , and  $\Sigma v_n$  converge or diverge together. But by  $p$ -series test,

$\Sigma v_n = \Sigma \frac{1}{n^3}$  is convergent ( $p = 3 > 1$ );  $\therefore \Sigma u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 6**

If  $u_n = \sqrt{n^4 + 1} - \sqrt{n^4 - 1}$ , show that  $\Sigma u_n$  is convergent.

[JNTU, 2005]

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = n^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{n^4}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - n^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^4}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= n^2 \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2n^4} - \frac{1}{8n^8} + \frac{1}{16n^{12}} - \dots \right) - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2n^4} - \frac{1}{8n^8} - \frac{1}{16n^{12}} - \dots \right) \right] \\
 &= n^2 \left[ \frac{1}{n^4} + \frac{1}{8n^{12}} + \dots \right] = \frac{1}{n^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{8n^{10}} + \dots \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$ , hence  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = 1$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  converge or diverge together. But  $\sum v_n = \sum \frac{1}{n^2}$  is convergent by  $p$ -series test ( $p = 2 > 1$ )  $\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent.

#### EXAMPLE 7

Test the series  $\frac{1}{1+x} + \frac{1}{2+x} + \frac{1}{3+x} + \dots$  for convergence.

#### SOLUTION

$$u_n = \frac{1}{n+x}; \quad \text{take } v_n = \frac{1}{n}, \quad \text{then } \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{n}{n+x} = \frac{1}{1+\frac{x}{n}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{1+\frac{x}{n}} \right) = 1; \sum v_n = \sum \frac{1}{n} \text{ is divergent by } p\text{-series test } (p=1)$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.

#### EXAMPLE 8

Show that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$  is divergent.

#### SOLUTION

$$u_n = \sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right); \quad \text{take } v_n = \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin t}{t} \text{ (where } t = 1/n) = 1$$

$\therefore \sum u_n, \sum v_n$  both converge or diverge. But  $\sum v_n = \sum \frac{1}{n}$  is divergent

( $p$ -series test,  $p = 1$ );  $\therefore \sum u_n$  is divergent.

**EXAMPLE 9**

Test the series  $\sum \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$  for convergence.

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \sin^{-1} \frac{1}{n}; \quad \text{Take} \quad v_n = \frac{1}{n}$$

$$Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)}; = Lt_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\theta}{\sin \theta}\right) = 1 \left(\text{Taking } \sin^{-1} \frac{1}{n} = \theta\right)$$

But  $\sum v_n$  is divergent. Hence  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.

**EXAMPLE 10**

Show that the series  $1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{2^2}{3^3} + \frac{3^3}{4^3} + \dots$  is divergent.

**SOLUTION**

Neglecting the first term, the series is  $\frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{2^2}{3^3} + \frac{3^3}{4^4} + \dots$ . Therefore

$$u_n = \frac{n^n}{(n+1)^{n+1}} = \frac{n^n}{(n+1)(n+1)^n} = \frac{n^n}{n \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) \cdot n^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n} = \frac{1}{n \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n};$$

$$\text{Take } v_n = \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\therefore Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n} = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n} = \frac{1}{e}$$

which is finite and  $\sum v_n = \sum \frac{1}{n}$  is divergent by  $p$ -series test ( $p = 1$ )

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is divergent.

**EXAMPLE 11**

Show that the series  $\frac{1}{1.2.3} + \frac{3}{2.3.4} + \frac{5}{3.4.5} + \dots \infty$  is convergent. (JNTU 2000)

**SOLUTION**

$$\frac{1}{1.2.3} + \frac{3}{2.3.4} + \frac{5}{3.4.5} + \dots \infty$$

$$n^{\text{th}} \text{ term} = u_n = \frac{2n-1}{n(n+1)(n+2)} = \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot \frac{\left(2 - \frac{1}{n}\right)}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)\left(1 + \frac{2}{n}\right)}$$

Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$

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

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{2-0}{(1+0)(1+0)} = 2 \text{ which is finite and non-zero}$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  converge or diverge together

But  $\sum v_n = \sum \frac{1}{n^2}$  is convergent.  $\therefore \sum u_n$  is also convergent.

#### EXAMPLE 12

Test whether the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1}}$  is convergent (JNTU 1997, 1999, 2003)

#### SOLUTION

The given series is  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1}}$

$$u_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}}{(\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1})(\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n})} = \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}$$

$$u_n = \sqrt{n} \left\{ \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1 \right\} = \sqrt{n} \left\{ \left(1 + \frac{1}{2n} - \frac{1}{8n^2} + \dots\right) - 1 \right\}$$

$$u_n = \sqrt{n} \left\{ \frac{1}{2n} - \frac{1}{8n^2} + \dots \right\} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{8n} + \dots \right\}$$



Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{8n} + \dots \right\} \div \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right) = \frac{1}{2}$$

which is finite and non-zero .

Using comparison test  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  converge or diverge together.

But  $\sum v_n = \sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$  is divergent (since  $p = 1/2$ )

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is also divergent.

### EXAMPLE 13

Test for convergence  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \sqrt[3]{n^3+1} - n \right]$  [JNTU 1996, 2003, 2003]

$$\begin{aligned} n^{\text{th}} \text{ term } u_n &= n \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n^3} \right)^{1/3} - 1 \right] = n \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{3n^3} + \frac{1/3(1/3-1)}{1.2} \cdot \frac{1}{n^6} + \dots - 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{3n^2} - \frac{1}{9n^5} + \dots = \frac{1}{n^2} \left( \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{9n^3} + \dots \right); \text{ Let } v_n = \frac{1}{n^2} \end{aligned}$$

Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{9n^3} + \dots \right) = \frac{1}{3} \neq 0$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  both converge or diverge.

But  $\sum v_n$  is convergent by  $p$ -series test (since  $p = 2 > 1$ )  $\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent.

### EXAMPLE 14

Show that the series,  $\frac{2}{1^p} + \frac{3}{2^p} + \frac{4}{3^p} + \dots$  is convergent for  $p > 2$  and divergent for  $p \leq 2$

#### SOLUTION

$$n^{\text{th}} \text{ term of the given series} = u_n = \frac{n+1}{n^p} = \frac{n(1+1/n)}{n^p} = \frac{(1+1/n)}{n^{p-1}}$$

Let us take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^{p-1}}$ ;  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = 1 \neq 0$ ;

$\therefore \sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  both converge or diverge by comparison test.

But  $\sum v_n = \sum \frac{1}{n^{p-1}}$  converges when  $p-1 > 1$ ; i.e.,  $p > 2$  and diverges when  $p-1 \leq 1$  i.e.  $p \leq 2$ ; Hence the result.

**EXAMPLE 15**

Test for convergence  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{2^n + 3}{3^n + 1} \right)^{1/2}$  (JNTU 2003)

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \left[ \frac{2^n \left( 1 + \frac{3}{2^n} \right)}{3^n \left( 1 + \frac{1}{3^n} \right)} \right]^{1/2}; \quad \text{Take } v_n = \sqrt{\frac{2^n}{3^n}}; \quad \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \left( \frac{1 + \frac{3}{2^n}}{1 + \frac{1}{3^n}} \right)^{1/2}$$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = 1 \neq 0$ ;  $\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  behave the same way.

But  $\sum v_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^{n/2} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} + \frac{2}{3} + \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^{3/2} + \dots$ , which is a geometric series with common ratio  $\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} (< 1)$   $\therefore \sum v_n$  is convergent. Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 16**

Test for convergence of the series,  $\frac{1}{4.7.10} + \frac{4}{7.10.13} + \frac{9}{10.13.16} + \dots$  (JNTU 2003)

**SOLUTION**

$$4, 7, 10, \dots \text{ is an A.P.; } t_n = 4 + (n-1)3 = 3n + 1$$

$$7, 10, 13, \dots \text{ is an A.P.; } t_n = 7 + (n-1)3 = 3n + 4$$

and  $10, 13, 16, \dots \text{ is an A.P.; } t_n = 10 + (n-1)3 = 3n + 7$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore u_n &= \frac{n^2}{(3n+1)(3n+4)(3n+7)} = \frac{n^2}{3n\left(1+\frac{1}{3n}\right).3n\left(1+\frac{4}{3n}\right).3n\left(1+\frac{7}{3n}\right)} \\ &= \frac{1}{27n\left(1+\frac{1}{3n}\right)\left(1+\frac{4}{3n}\right)\left(1+\frac{7}{3n}\right)}; \end{aligned}$$

Taking  $v_n = \frac{1}{n}$ , we get

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{1}{27} \neq 0$ ;  $\therefore$  By comparison test, both  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  behave in the same manner. But by  $p$ -series test,  $\sum v_n$  is divergent, since  $p = 1$ .  $\therefore \sum u_n$  is divergent.

**EXAMPLE 17**

Test for convergence  $\sum \frac{\sqrt{2n^2 - 5n + 1}}{4n^3 - 7n^2 + 2}$  (JNTU 2003)

**SOLUTION**

$n^{\text{th}}$  term of the given series =  $u_n = \frac{\sqrt{2n^2 - 5n + 1}}{4n^3 - 7n^2 + 2}$

Let  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{n \sqrt{2 - \frac{5}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2}}}{n^3 \left(4 - \frac{7}{n} + \frac{2}{n^3}\right)} \times \frac{n^2}{1} \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{2 - \frac{5}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2}}}{\left(4 - \frac{7}{n} + \frac{2}{n^3}\right)} \right] = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \neq 0$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  both converge or diverge.

But  $\sum v_n$  is convergent. [ $p$  series test  $- p = 2 > 1$ ]  $\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 18**

Test the series  $\sum u_n$ , whose  $n^{\text{th}}$  term is  $\frac{1}{(4n^2 - i)}$

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{1}{(4n^2 - i)}; \quad \text{Let } v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{n^2}{n^2 \left(4 - \frac{i}{n^2}\right)} \right] = \frac{1}{4} \neq 0$$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  both converge or diverge by comparison test. But  $\sum v_n$  is convergent by  $p$ -series test ( $p = 2 > 1$ );  $\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent.

**Note:** Test the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4n^2 - 1}$

**EXAMPLE 19**

If  $u_n = \left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \cdot \sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$ , show that  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

**SOLUTION**

Let  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$ , so that  $\sum v_n$  is convergent by  $p$ -series test.

$$Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{u_n}{v_n} \right) = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)} = Lt_{t \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\sin t}{t} \right)$$

where  $t = 1/n$ , Thus  $Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{u_n}{v_n} \right) = 1 \neq 0$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 20**

Test for convergence  $\sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \tan\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$

**SOLUTION**

Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^{3/2}}$ ;  $Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{u_n}{v_n} \right] = 1 \neq 0$  (as in above example)

Hence by comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  converges as  $\sum v_n$  converges.

**EXAMPLE 21**

Show that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin^2\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$  is convergent.

**SOLUTION**

Let  $u_n = \sin^2\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$ ; Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$ ,  $Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{u_n}{v_n} \right) = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{\sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)}{\frac{1}{n}} \right]^2 = Lt_{t \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\sin t}{t} \right)^2$

where  $t = \frac{1}{n}$ ;  $Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{u_n}{v_n} \right) = 1^2 = 1 \neq 0$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  behave the same way.

But  $\sum v_n$  is convergent by  $p$ -series test, since  $p = 2 > 1$ ;  $\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 22**

Show that  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\log(n^n)}$  is divergent.

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{1}{n \log n} ; \log 2 < 1 \Rightarrow 2 \log 2 < 2 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2 \log 2} > \frac{1}{2} ;$$

Similarly  $\frac{1}{3 \log 3} > \frac{1}{3}, \dots, \frac{1}{n \log n} > \frac{1}{n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$

$\therefore \sum \frac{1}{n \log n} > \sum \frac{1}{n}$ ; But  $\sum \frac{1}{n}$  is divergent by p-series test.

By comparison test, given series is divergent. [If  $\sum v_n$  is divergent and  $u_n \geq v_n \forall n$  then  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.]

(Note : This problem can also be done using Cauchy's integral Test.)

**EXAMPLE 23**

Test the convergence of the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (c+n)^{-r} (d+n)^{-s}$ , where c, d, r, s are all +ve.

**SOLUTION**

The  $n^{\text{th}}$  term of the series  $= u_n = \frac{1}{(c+n)^r (d+n)^s}$ .

$$\text{Let } v_n = \frac{1}{n^{r+s}} \text{ Then } \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{n^{r+s}}{n^r \left(1 + \frac{c}{n}\right)^r \cdot n^s \left(1 + \frac{d}{n}\right)^s} = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{c}{n}\right)^r \left(1 + \frac{d}{n}\right)^s}$$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = 1 \neq 0$ ,  $\therefore \sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  both converge or diverge, by comparison test.

But by p-series test,  $\sum v_n$  converges if  $(r+s) > 1$  and diverges if  $(r+s) \leq 1$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  converges if  $(r+s) > 1$  and diverges if  $(r+s) \leq 1$ .

**EXAMPLE 24**

Show that  $\sum_1^{\infty} n^{-(1+1/n)}$  is divergent.

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = n^{-(1+1/n)} = \frac{1}{n \cdot n^{1/n}} \quad \text{Take } v_n = \frac{1}{n} ; \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^{1/n}} = 1 \neq 0$$

For let  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^{1/n}} = y$  say;  $\log y = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{1}{n} \cdot \log n = -\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log n}{n} = 0$

$\therefore y = e^0 = 1$  ( $\left(\frac{\infty}{\infty}\right)$  using L Hospitals rule)

By comparison test both  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  converge or diverge. But  $p$ -series test,  $\sum v_n$  diverges (since  $p = 1$ ); Hence  $\sum u_n$  diverges.

### EXAMPLE 25

Test for convergence the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n+a)^r}{(n+b)^p (n+c)^q}$ ,  $a, b, c, p, q, r$ , being +ve.

### SOLUTION

$$u_n = \frac{(n+a)^r}{(n+b)^p (n+c)^q} = \frac{n^r \left(1 + \frac{a}{n}\right)^r}{n^p \left(1 + \frac{b}{n}\right)^p n^q \left(1 + \frac{c}{n}\right)^q} = \frac{1}{n^{p+q-r}} \cdot \frac{\left(1 + \frac{a}{n}\right)^r}{\left(1 + \frac{b}{n}\right)^p \left(1 + \frac{c}{n}\right)^q};$$

Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^{p+q-r}}$ ;  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = 1 \neq 0$ ;

Applying comparison tests both  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  converge or diverge.

But by  $p$ -series test,  $\sum v_n$  converges if  $(p+q-r) > 1$  and diverges if  $(p+q-r) \leq 1$ .

Hence  $\sum u_n$  converges if  $(p+q-r) > 1$  and diverges if  $(p+q-r) \leq 1$ .

### EXAMPLE 26

Test the convergence of the following series whose  $n^{\text{th}}$  terms are:

(a)  $\frac{(3n+4)}{(2n+1)(2n+3)(2n+5)}$ ;      (b)  $\tan \frac{1}{n}$ ;      (c)  $\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right)\left(\frac{n+1}{n+3}\right)^n$

(d)  $\frac{1}{(3^n + 5^n)}$ ;      (e)  $\frac{1}{n \cdot 3^n}$

### SOLUTION

(a) *Hint*: Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$ ;  $\sum v_n$  is convergent;  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{u_n}{v_n}\right) = \frac{3}{8} \neq 0$  (Verify)

Apply comparison test:

$\sum u_n$  is convergent [the student is advised to work out this problem fully]

(b) Proceed as in Example 8;  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

(c) *Hint*: Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$ ;  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{u_n}{v_n} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(1 + \frac{1}{n})^n}{(1 + \frac{3}{n})^n} = \frac{e}{e^3} = \frac{1}{e^2} \neq 0$

$v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$  is convergent (work out completely for yourself)

(d)  $u_n = \frac{1}{3^n + 5^n} = \frac{1}{5^n} \cdot \frac{1}{\left[1 + \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^n\right]}$ ; Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{5^n}$ ;  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{u_n}{v_n} \right) = 1 \neq 0$

$\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  behave the same way. But  $\sum v_n$  is convergent since it is a geometric series with common ratio  $\frac{1}{5} < 1$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent by comparison test.

(e)  $\frac{1}{n \cdot 3^n} \leq \frac{1}{3^n}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , since  $n \cdot 3^n \geq 3^n$ ;

$$\therefore \sum \frac{1}{n \cdot 3^n} \leq \sum \frac{1}{3^n} \quad \dots(1)$$

The series on the R.H.S of (1) is convergent since it is geometric series with  $r = \frac{1}{3} < 1$ .

$\therefore$  By comparison test  $\sum \frac{1}{n \cdot 3^n}$  is convergent.

### EXAMPLE 27

Test the convergence of the following series.

(a)  $1 + \frac{1+2}{1^2+2^2} + \frac{1+2+3}{1^2+2^2+3^2} + \frac{1+2+3+4}{1^2+2^2+3^2+4^2} + \dots$

(b)  $1 + \frac{1^2+2^2}{1^3+2^3} + \frac{1^2+2^2+3^2}{1^3+2^3+3^3} + \frac{1^2+2^2+3^2+4^2}{1^3+2^3+3^3+4^3} + \dots$

**SOLUTION**

$$(a) \quad u_n = \frac{1+2+3+\dots+n}{1^2+2^2+3^2+\dots+n^2} = \frac{n \frac{(n+1)}{2}}{n(n+1) \frac{(2n+1)}{6}} = \frac{3}{(2n+1)}$$

$$\text{Take } v_n = \frac{1}{n} ; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{3n}{2n+1} \right) = \frac{3}{2} \neq 0$$

$\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  behave alike by comparison test.

But  $\sum v_n$  is diverges by  $p$ -series test. Hence  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.

$$(b) \quad u_n = \frac{1^2+2^2+\dots+n^2}{1^3+2^3+\dots+n^3} = \frac{n(n+1) \frac{(2n+1)}{6}}{n^2 \frac{(n+1)^2}{4}} = \frac{2(2n+1)}{3n(n+1)}$$

*Hint* : Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n}$  and proceed as in (a) and show that  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.

**Exercise 1.1**

1. Test for convergence the infinite series whose  $n^{\text{th}}$  term is:

- |     |                                 |                    |
|-----|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| (a) | $\frac{1}{n-\sqrt{n}}$          | [Ans : divergent]  |
| (b) | $\frac{\sqrt{n+1}-\sqrt{n}}{n}$ | [Ans : convergent] |
| (c) | $\sqrt{n^2+1}-n$                | [Ans : divergent]  |
| (d) | $\frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^2-1}$        | [Ans : convergent] |
| (e) | $\sqrt{n^3+1}-\sqrt{n^3}$       | [Ans : divergent]  |
| (f) | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n(n+1)}}$       | [Ans : divergent]  |
| (g) | $\frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^2+1}$        | [Ans : convergent] |
| (h) | $\frac{2n^3+5}{4n^5+1}$         | [Ans : convergent] |



**2. Determine whether the following series are convergent or divergent.**

- (a)  $\frac{1}{1+3^{-1}} + \frac{2}{1+3^{-2}} + \frac{3}{1+3^{-3}} + \dots$  [Ans : divergent]
- (b)  $\frac{12}{1^3} + \frac{22}{2^3} + \frac{32}{3^3} + \dots + \frac{2+10n}{n^3} + \dots$  [Ans : convergent]
- (c)  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1}+\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{3}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}+\sqrt{4}} + \dots$  [Ans : divergent]
- (d)  $\frac{2}{3^2} + \frac{3}{4^2} + \frac{4}{5^2} + \dots$  [Ans : divergent]
- (e)  $\frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{2^3} + \frac{1}{3^4} + \dots$  [Ans : convergent]
- (f)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt[3]{n^2+1}}{\sqrt[4]{4n^2+2n+3}}$  [Ans : divergent]
- (g)  $\sum_1^{\infty} (8^{1/n} - 1)$  [Ans : divergent]
- (h)  $\sum_1^{\infty} \frac{3n^3+8}{5n^5+9}$  [Ans : convergent]
- (i)  $\frac{1}{1.3} + \frac{2}{3.5} + \frac{3}{5.7} + \dots$  [Ans : divergent]

**1.3.3 D' Alembert's Ratio Test**

Let (i)  $\sum u_n$  be a series of +ve terms and (ii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = k (\geq 0)$

Then the series  $\sum u_n$  is (i) convergent if  $k < 1$  and (ii) divergent if  $k > 1$ .

**Proof :**

**Case (i)**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = k (< 1)$

From the definition of a limit, it follows that

$$\exists m > 0 \text{ and } l (0 < l < 1) \ni \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} < l \forall n \geq m$$

$$\text{i.e., } \frac{u_{m+1}}{u_m} < l, \frac{u_{m+2}}{u_{m+1}} < l, \dots$$

$$\therefore u_m + u_{m+1} + u_{m+2} + \dots = u_m \left[ 1 + \frac{u_{m+1}}{u_m} + \frac{u_{m+2}}{u_m} + \dots \right]$$

$$= u_m \left[ 1 + \frac{u_{m+1}}{u_m} + \frac{u_{m+2}}{u_{m+1}} \cdot \frac{u_{m+1}}{u_m} + \dots \right]$$

$$< u_m (1 + l + l^2 + \dots) = u_m \cdot \frac{1}{1-l} (l < 1)$$

But  $u_m \cdot \frac{1}{1-l}$  is a finite quantity  $\therefore \sum_{n=m}^{\infty} u_n$  is convergent

By adding a finite number of terms  $u_1 + u_2 + \dots + u_{m-1}$ , the convergence of the series is unaltered.  $\sum_{n=m}^{\infty} u_n$  is convergent.

**Case (ii)**  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = k > 1$

There may be some finite number of terms in the beginning which do not satisfy the condition  $\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \geq 1$ . In such a case we can find a number 'm'

$$\exists \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \geq 1, \forall n \geq m$$

Omitting the first 'm' terms, if we write the series as  $u_1 + u_2 + u_3 + \dots$ , we have

$$\frac{u_2}{u_1} \geq 1, \frac{u_3}{u_2} \geq 1, \frac{u_4}{u_3} \geq 1, \dots \text{ and so on}$$

$$\therefore u_1 + u_2 + \dots + u_n = u_1 \left( 1 + \frac{u_2}{u_1} + \frac{u_3}{u_2} \cdot \frac{u_2}{u_1} + \dots \right) \text{ (to } n \text{ terms)}$$

$$\geq u_1 (1 + 1 + 1 + \dots \text{ to } n \text{ terms})$$

$$= nu_1$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=1}^n u_n \geq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} nu_1 \text{ which } \rightarrow \infty; \therefore \sum u_n \text{ is divergent.}$$

**Note: 1** The ratio test fails when  $k = 1$ . As an example, consider the series,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$

$$\text{Here } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n}{n+1} \right)^p = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \right)^p = 1$$

i.e.,  $k = 1$  for all values of  $p$ ,

But the series is convergent if  $p > 1$  and divergent if  $p \leq 1$ , which shows that when  $k = 1$ , the series may converge or diverge and hence the test fails.

**Note: 2** Ratio test can also be stated as follows:

If  $\sum u_n$  is series of +ve terms and if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} = k$ , then  $\sum u_n$  is convergent

If  $k > 1$  and divergent if  $k < 1$  (the test fails when  $k = 1$ ).

## Solved Examples

### Test for convergence of Series

#### EXAMPLE 28

(a)  $\frac{x}{1.2} + \frac{x^2}{2.3} + \frac{x^3}{3.4} + \dots$  (JNTU 2003)

#### SOLUTION

$$u_n = \frac{x^n}{n(n+1)}; u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)(n+2)}; \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)(n+2)} \cdot \frac{n(n+1)}{x^n} = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{2}{n}\right)} x.$$

Therefore  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = x$

$\therefore$  By ratio test  $\sum u_n$  is convergent When  $|x| < 1$  and divergent when  $|x| > 1$ ;

When  $x = 1$ ,  $u_n = \frac{1}{n^2(1+1/n)}$ ; Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$ ;  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = 1$

$\therefore$  By comparison test  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $|x| \leq 1$  and divergent when  $|x| > 1$ .

(b)  $1 + 3x + 5x^2 + 7x^3 + \dots$

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = (2n-1)x^{n-1}; \quad u_{n+1} = (2n+1)x^n; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{2n+1}{2n-1} \right) x = x$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $|x| < 1$  and divergent when  $|x| > 1$

When  $x = 1: u_n = 2n - 1; \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \infty; \therefore \sum u_n$  is divergent.

Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $|x| < 1$  and divergent when  $|x| \geq 1$

(c)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n^2 + 1} \dots$

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{x^n}{n^2 + 1}; \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)^2 + 1}$$

Hence 
$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \left( \frac{n^2 + 1}{n^2 + 2n + 2} \right) x, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{n^2 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n^2} \right)}{n^2 \left( 1 + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{2}{n^2} \right)} \right] (x) = x$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $|x| < 1$  and divergent when  $|x| > 1$  When

$x = 1: u_n = \frac{1}{n^2 + 1};$  Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $|x| \leq 1$  and divergent when  $|x| > 1$

**EXAMPLE 29**

Test the series  $\sum_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n^2 - 1}{n^2 + 1} \right) x^n, x > 0$  for convergence.

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \left( \frac{n^2 - 1}{n^2 + 1} \right) x^n; u_{n+1} = \left[ \frac{(n+1)^2 - 1}{(n+1)^2 + 1} \right] x^{n+1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \left( \frac{n^2 + 2n}{n^2 + 2n + 2} \right) \left( \frac{n^2 + 1}{n^2 - 1} \right) \right] \cdot x \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{n^4 (1 + 2/n) (1 + 1/n^2)}{n^4 (1 + 2/n + 2/n^2) (1 - 1/n^2)} \right] = x \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < 1$  and divergent when  $x > 1$  when  $x = 1$ ,

$$u_n = \frac{n^2 - 1}{n^2 + 1} \quad \text{Take } v_n = \frac{1}{n^0}$$

Applying  $p$ -series and comparison test, it can be seen that  $\sum u_n$  is divergent when  $x = 1$ .

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < 1$  and divergent  $x \geq 1$

**EXAMPLE 30**

Show that the series  $1 + \frac{2^p}{2} + \frac{3^p}{3} + \frac{4^p}{4} + \dots$ , is convergent for all values of  $p$ .

**SOLUTION**

$$\begin{aligned} u_n &= \frac{n^p}{n}; \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{(n+1)^p}{n+1} \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{(n+1)^p}{n+1} \times \frac{n}{n^p} \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \frac{1}{(n+1)} \left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right)^p \right\} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(n+1)} \times \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^p = 0 < 1; \end{aligned}$$

$\sum u_n$  is convergent for all ' $p$ '.

**EXAMPLE 31**

Test the convergence of the following series

$$\frac{1}{1^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} + \frac{1}{5^p} + \frac{1}{7^p} + \dots$$

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{1}{(2n-1)^p}; \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{1}{(2n+1)^p}$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{(2n-1)^p}{(2n+1)^p} = \frac{2^p \cdot n^p (1-1/2n)^p}{2^p n^p (1+1/2n)^p}; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = 1$$

∴ Ratio test fails.

$$\text{Take } v_n = \frac{1}{n^p}; \quad \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{n^p}{(2n-1)^p} = \frac{1}{2^p \left(1 - \frac{1}{2n}\right)^p}; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{1}{2^p},$$

which is non-zero and finite

∴ By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  both converge or both diverge.

But by  $p$ -series test,  $\sum v_n = \sum \frac{1}{n^p}$  converges when  $p > 1$  and diverges

when  $p \leq 1$

∴  $\sum u_n$  is convergent if  $p > 1$  and divergent if  $p \leq 1$ .

### EXAMPLE 32

Test the convergence of the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n+1)x^n}{n^3}; x > 0$

### SOLUTION

$$u_n = \frac{(n+1)x^n}{n^3}; u_{n+1} = \frac{(n+2)x^{n+1}}{(n+1)^3}$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{n+2}{(n+1)^3} \cdot x^{n+1} \cdot \frac{n^3}{(n+1)x^n} = \left(\frac{n+2}{n+1}\right) \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^3 \cdot x$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1 + \frac{2}{n}}{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \right) \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^3} \cdot x = x$$

∴ By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $x < 1$  and diverges when  $x > 1$ .

When  $x = 1$ ,  $u_n = \frac{n+1}{n^3}$

Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$ ; By comparison test  $\sum u_n$  is convergent (give proof)

∴  $\sum u_n$  is convergent if  $x \leq 1$  and divergent if  $x > 1$ .

**EXAMPLE 33**

Test the convergence of the series (JNTU 2002)

$$(i) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{n^2}{2^n} + \frac{1}{n^2} \right) \quad (ii) 1 + \frac{2.5.8}{1.5.9} + \frac{2.5.8.11}{1.5.9.13} + \dots \quad (iii) \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1.2}{3.5} + \frac{1.2.3}{3.5.7} +$$

**SOLUTION**

$$(i) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{n^2}{2^n} + \frac{1}{n^2} \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \quad \text{Let } u_n = \frac{n^2}{2^n}; v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$$

$$u_{n+1} = \frac{(n+1)^2}{2^{n+1}}; \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{(n+1)^2}{2^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{2^n}{n^2} \quad \text{Lt}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \text{Lt}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} < 1$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test  $\sum u_n$  is convergent. By  $p$ -series test,  $\sum v_n$  is convergent.

$\therefore$  The given series  $\left( \sum u_n + \sum v_n \right)$  is convergent.

$$(ii) \text{ Neglecting the first term, the series can be taken as, } \frac{2.5.8}{1.5.9} + \frac{2.5.8.11}{1.5.9.13} +$$

Here, 1<sup>st</sup> term has 3 fractions, 2<sup>nd</sup> term has 4 fractions and so on .

$\therefore n^{\text{th}}$  term contains  $(n+2)$  fractions

2. 5. 8.....are in A. P.

$\therefore (n+2)^{\text{th}}$  term =  $2 + (n+1)3 = 3n+5$  ;

$\therefore$  1. 5. 9,.....are in A. P.

$\therefore (n+2)^{\text{th}}$  term =  $1 + (n+1)4 = 4n+5$

$$\therefore u_n = \frac{2.5.8.....(3n+5)}{1.5.9.....(4n+5)}$$

$$u_{n+1} = \frac{2.5.8.....(3n+5)(3n+8)}{1.5.9.....(4n+5)(4n+9)}$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{(3n+8)}{(4n+9)} ; \quad \text{Lt}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \text{Lt}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \left(3 + \frac{8}{n}\right)}{n \left(4 + \frac{9}{n}\right)} = \frac{3}{4} < 1$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

(iii) 1, 2, 3, ..... are in A. P  $n^{\text{th}}$  term =  $n$  ; 3. 5. 7.....are in A.P.  $n^{\text{th}}$  term =  $2n + 1$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore u_n &= \left[ \frac{1.2.3.....n}{3.5.7.....(2n+1)} \right] \\ u_{n+1} &= \left[ \frac{1.2.3.....n(n+1)}{3.5.7.....(2n+1)(2n+3)} \right] \\ \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} &= \left( \frac{n+1}{2n+3} \right) \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)}{n \left(2 + \frac{3}{n}\right)} = \frac{1}{2} < 1\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

#### EXAMPLE 34

Test for convergence  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1.3.5.....(2n-1)}{2.4.6.....2n} \cdot x^{n-1} (x > 0)$  (JNTU 2001)

#### SOLUTION

The given series of +ve terms has  $u_n = \frac{1.3.5.....(2n-1)}{2.4.6.....2n} \cdot x^{n-1}$

and  $u_{n+1} = \frac{1.3.5.....(2n+1)}{2.4.6.....(2n+2)} x^n$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{2n+1}{2n+2} \right) x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n \left(1 + \frac{1}{2n}\right)}{2n \left(1 + \frac{2}{2n}\right)} \cdot x = x$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is converges when  $x < 1$  and diverges when  $x > 1$  when  $x = 1$ , the test fails.

Then  $u_n = \frac{1.3.5.....(2n-1)}{2.4.6.....2n} < 1$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n \neq 0$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is divergent. Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < 1$ , and divergent when  $x \geq 1$



**EXAMPLE 35**

Test for the convergence of  $1 + \frac{2}{5}x + \frac{6}{9}x^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{2^n - 2}{2^n + 1}\right)x^{n-1} + \dots (x > 0)$

(JNTU 2003)

**SOLUTION**

Omitting 1<sup>st</sup> term,  $u_n = \left(\frac{2^n - 2}{2^n + 1}\right)x^{n-1}, (n \geq 2)$  and ' $u_n$ ' are all +ve.

$$\begin{aligned} u_{n+1} &= \left(\frac{2^{n+1} - 2}{2^{n+1} + 1}\right)x^n; \quad Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n}\right) = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2^{n+1} - 2}{2^{n+1} + 1}\right) \times \left(\frac{2^n + 1}{2^n - 2}\right) \cdot x \\ &= Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{2^{n+1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^n}\right)}{2^{n+1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}\right)} \cdot \frac{2^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{2^n}\right)}{2^n \left(1 - \frac{2}{2^n}\right)} \right] \cdot x = x; \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges if  $x < 1$  and diverges if  $x > 1$ .

When  $x = 1$ , the test fails. Then  $u_n = \frac{2^n - 2}{2^n + 1}; Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 1 \neq 0; \therefore \sum u_n$  diverges

Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < 1$  and divergent  $x > 1$

**EXAMPLE 36**

Using ratio test show that the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(3-4i)^n}{n!}$  converges (JNTU 2000)

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{(3-4i)^n}{n!}; \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{(3-4i)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}; \quad Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n}\right) = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{3-4i}{n+1}\right) = 0 < 1$$

Hence, by ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges.

**EXAMPLE 37**

Discuss the nature of the series,  $\frac{2}{3.4}x + \frac{3}{4.5}x^2 + \frac{4}{5.6}x^3 + \dots \infty (x > 0)$  (JNTU 2003)

**SOLUTION**

Since  $x > 0$ , the series is of +ve terms ;

$$u_n = \frac{(n+1)}{(n+2)(n+3)} x^n > u_{n+1} = \frac{(n+2)}{(n+3)(n+4)} x^{n+1}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \left[ \frac{(n+2)^2 \cdot x}{(n+1)(n+4)} \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{n^2 (1 + \frac{2}{n})^2 \cdot x}{n^2 (1 + \frac{5}{n} + \frac{4}{n^2})} \right] = x;$$

Therefore by ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges if  $x < 1$  and diverges if  $x > 1$

When  $x = 1$ , the test fails; Then  $u_n = \frac{(n+1)}{(n+2)(n+3)}$ ;

Taking  $v_n = \frac{1}{n}$ ;  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = 1 \neq 0$

$\therefore$  By comparison test  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  behave same way. But  $\sum v_n$  is divergent by  $p$ -series test. ( $p = 1$ );

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is diverges when  $x = 1$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < 1$  and divergent when  $x \geq 1$

### EXAMPLE 38

Discuss the nature of the series  $\sum \frac{3.6.9 \dots 3n.5^n}{4.7.10 \dots (3n+1)(3n+2)}$  (JNTU 2003)

### SOLUTION

Here,  $u_n = \frac{3.6.9 \dots 3n}{4.7.10 \dots (3n+1)(3n+2)} \cdot \frac{5^n}{(3n+2)}$ ;

$$u_{n+1} = \frac{3.6.9 \dots 3n(3n+3)5^{n+1}}{4.7.10 \dots (3n+1)(3n+4)(3n+5)}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(3n+2)(3n+3) \cdot 5}{(3n+4)(3n+5)}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{5 \cdot 9n^2 \left(1 + \frac{2}{3n}\right) \left(1 + \frac{3}{3n}\right)}{9n^2 \left(1 + \frac{4}{3n}\right) \left(1 + \frac{5}{3n}\right)} \right] = 5 > 1$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.

**EXAMPLE 39**

Test for convergence the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{1-n}$

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = n^{1-n}; u_{n+1} = (n+1)^{-n};$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{(n+1)^{-n}}{n^{1-n}} = \frac{n^n}{n(n+1)^n} = \frac{1}{n} \left( \frac{n}{n+1} \right)^n$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \right)^n = 0 \cdot \frac{1}{e} = 0 < 1$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test  $\sum u_n$ , is convergent

**EXAMPLE 40**

Test the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2n^3}{|n|}$ , for convergence.

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{2n^3}{|n|}; u_{n+1} = \frac{2(n+1)^3}{|n+1|}$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{2(n+1)^3}{|n+1|} \times \frac{|n|}{2n^3} = \frac{(n+1)^2}{n^3} = \frac{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2}{n};$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = 0 < 1;$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 41**

Test convergence of the series  $\sum \frac{2^n n!}{n^n}$

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{2^n n!}{n^n}; u_{n+1} = \frac{2^{n+1} (n+1)!}{(n+1)^{n+1}};$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{2^{n+1}(n+1)! \cdot n^n}{(n+1)^{n+1} \cdot 2^n n!} = 2 \left( \frac{n}{n+1} \right)^n$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = 2 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n} = \frac{2}{e} < 1 \quad (\text{since } 2 < e < 3)$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 42**

Test the convergence of the series  $\sum u_n$  where  $u_n$  is

(a)  $\frac{n^2 + 1}{3^n + 1}$       (b)  $\frac{x^{n-1}}{(2n+1)^a}, (a > 0)$       (c)  $\left( \frac{1.2.3 \dots n}{4.7.10 \dots 3n+3} \right)^2$

(d)  $\frac{\sqrt{1+2^n}}{\sqrt{1+3^n}}$       (e)  $\left( \frac{3n^3 + 7n^2}{5n^9 + 11} \right) x^n$

**SOLUTION**

(a) 
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{(n+1)^2 + 1}{3^{n+1} + 1} \times \frac{3^n + 1}{n^2 + 1} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{n^2 \left(1 + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{2}{n^2}\right)}{n^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{n^2}\right)} \cdot \frac{3^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{3^n}\right)}{3^{n+1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{3^{n+1}}\right)} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} < 1$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

(b) 
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{x^n}{(2n+3)^a} \times \frac{(2n+1)^a}{x^{n-1}} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{2^a n^a \left(1 + \frac{1}{2n}\right)^a}{2^a n^a \left(1 + \frac{3}{2n}\right)^a} \cdot x \right] = x$$

By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  convergence if  $x < 1$  and diverges if  $x > 1$ .

When  $x = 1$ , the test fails; Then,  $u_n = \frac{1}{(2n+1)^a}$ ; Taking  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^a}$  we have,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{u_n}{v_n} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n}{2n+1} \right)^a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(2 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^a} = \frac{1}{2^a} \neq 0 \text{ and finite (since } a > 0\text{)}.$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  have same property

But  $p$ -series test, we have

$$(i) \quad \sum v_n \text{ convergent when } a > 1$$

and (ii) divergent when  $a \leq 1$

$\therefore$  To sum up, (i)  $x < 1$ ,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent  $\forall a$ .

$$(ii) \quad x > 1, \sum u_n \text{ is divergent } \forall a.$$

$$(iii) \quad x = 1, a > 1, \sum u_n \text{ is convergent, and}$$

$$(iv) \quad x = 1, a \leq 1, \sum u_n \text{ is divergent.}$$

$$(c) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{1.2.3 \dots n(n+1)}{4.7.10 \dots (3n+3)(3n+6)} \times \frac{4.7.10 \dots (3n+3)}{1.2.3 \dots n} \right]^2$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{(n+1)}{3(n+2)} \right]^2 = \frac{1}{9} < 1;$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent

$$(d) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{(1+2^{n+1})}{(1+3^{n+1})} \times \frac{(1+3^n)}{(1+2^n)} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{2^{n+1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}\right)}{3^{n+1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{3^{n+1}}\right)} \times \frac{3^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{3^n}\right)}{2^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{2^n}\right)} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} < 1$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(e)} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{3(n+1)^3 + 7(n+1)^2}{5(n+1)^9 + 11} \times \frac{5n^9 + 11}{3n^3 + 7} \times x \right] \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{3n^3 \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^3 + 7n^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2}{5n^9 \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^9 + 11} \times \frac{5n^9 \left(1 + \frac{11}{5n^9}\right)}{3n^3 \left(1 + \frac{7}{3n^3}\right)} \times x \right] \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{3n^3 \left\{ \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^3 + \frac{7}{3n} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 \right\}}{5n^9 \left\{ \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^9 + \frac{11}{5n^9} \right\}} \times \frac{5n^9 \left(1 + \frac{11}{5n^9}\right)}{3n^3 \left(1 + \frac{7}{3n^3}\right)} \times x \right] = x
 \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $x < 1$  and diverges when  $x > 1$ .

When  $x = 1$ , the test fails,

$$\text{Then } u_n = \frac{3n^3 \left(1 + \frac{7}{3n}\right)}{5n^9 \left(1 + \frac{11}{5n^9}\right)} = \frac{3}{5n^6} \left(1 + \frac{7}{3n}\right)$$

$$\text{Taking } v_n = \frac{1}{n^6}, \text{ we observe that } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{3}{5} \neq 0$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test and  $p$  series test, we conclude that  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x \leq 1$  and divergent when  $x > 1$ .

### Exercise – 1.2

**1. Test the convergency or divergency of the series whose general term is :**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| (a) $\frac{x^n}{n}$ .....                               | [Ans : $ x  < 1$ cgt, $ x  \geq 1$ dgt ] |
| (b) $nx^{n-1}$ .....                                    | [Ans : $ x  < 1$ cgt, $ x  \geq 1$ dgt ] |
| (c) $\left(\frac{2^n - 2}{2^n + 1}\right)x^{n-1}$ ..... | [Ans : $ x  < 1$ cgt, $ x  \geq 1$ dgt ] |
| (d) $\left(\frac{n^2 + 1}{n^2 - 1}\right)x^n$ .....     | [Ans : $ x  < 1$ cgt, $ x  \geq 1$ dgt ] |
| (e) $\frac{ n }{n^n}$ .....                             | [Ans: cgt.]                              |

$$(f) \frac{4^n \cdot n}{n^n} \dots\dots\dots \quad [\text{Ans: dgt.}]$$

$$(g) \frac{(n^3 + 1)^n}{(3^n + 1)} \dots\dots\dots \quad [\text{Ans: cgt.}]$$

2. Determine whether the following series are convergent or divergent :

$$(a) \frac{x}{1.2} + \frac{x^2}{3.4} + \frac{x^3}{5.6} + \dots\dots\dots \quad [\text{Ans : } |x| \leq 1 \text{cgt, } |x| > 1 \text{dgt } ]$$

$$(b) 1 + \frac{x}{2^2} + \frac{x^2}{3^2} + \frac{x^3}{4^2} + \dots\dots\dots \quad [\text{Ans : } |x| \leq 1 \text{cgt, } |x| > 1 \text{dgt } ]$$

$$(c) \frac{1}{1.2.3} + \frac{x}{4.5.6} + \frac{x^2}{7.8.9} + \dots\dots \quad [\text{Ans : } |x| \leq 1 \text{cgt, } |x| > 1 \text{dgt } ]$$

$$(d) 1 + \frac{x}{2} + \frac{x^2}{5} + \frac{x^3}{10} + \dots\dots \frac{x^n}{n^2 + 1} + \dots\dots \quad [\text{Ans : } |x| \leq 1 \text{cgt, } |x| > 1 \text{dgt } ]$$

$$(e) \frac{1.2}{x} + \frac{2.3}{x^2} + \frac{3.4}{x^3} + \dots\dots\dots \quad [\text{Ans : } |x| > 1 \text{cgt, } |x| \leq 1 \text{dgt } ]$$

### 1.3.4 Raabe's Test

Let  $\sum u_n$  be series of +ve terms and let  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ n \left( \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) \right\} = k$

Then

(i) If  $k > 1$ ,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent. (ii) If  $k < 1$ ,  $\sum u_n$  is divergent. (The test fails if  $k = 1$ )

**Proof:** Consider the series  $\sum v_n = \sum \frac{1}{n^p}$

$$\begin{aligned} n \left[ \frac{v_n}{v_{n+1}} - 1 \right] &= n \left[ \left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right)^p - 1 \right] = n \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^p - 1 \right] \\ &= n \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{p}{n} + \frac{p(p-1)}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{n^2} + \dots \right) - 1 \right] \\ &= p + \frac{p(p-1)}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{n} + \dots\dots\dots \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left\{ \frac{v_n}{v_{n+1}} - 1 \right\} = p \end{aligned}$$

**Case (i)** In this case,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left\{ \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right\} = k > 1$

We choose a number 'p'  $\exists k > p > 1$ ; Comparing the series  $\sum u_n$  with  $\sum v_n$  which is convergent, we get that  $\sum u_n$  will converge if after some fixed number of terms

$$\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} > \frac{v_n}{v_{n+1}} = \left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right)^p$$

i.e. If,  $n \left( \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) > p + \frac{p(p-1)}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{n} + \dots$  from (1)

i.e., If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left( \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) > p$

i.e., If  $k > p$ , which is true. Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent. The second case also can be proved similarly.

### Solved Examples

#### EXAMPLE 43

Test for convergence the series

$$x + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1.3}{2.4} \cdot \frac{x^5}{5} + \frac{1.3.5}{2.4.6} \cdot \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots \quad (\text{JNTU 2006, 2008})$$

#### SOLUTION

Neglecting the first term, the series can be taken as,

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1.3}{2.4} \cdot \frac{x^5}{5} + \frac{1.3.5}{2.4.6} \cdot \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots$$

$$1.3.5 \dots \text{are in A.P. } n^{\text{th}} \text{ term} = 1 + (n-1)2 = 2n-1$$

$$2.4.6 \dots \text{are in A.p. } n^{\text{th}} \text{ term} = 2 + (n-1)2 = 2n$$

$$3.5.7 \dots \text{are in A.P } n^{\text{th}} \text{ term} = 3 + (n-1)2 = 2n+1$$

$$\therefore u_n (n^{\text{th}} \text{ term of the series}) = \frac{1.3.5 \dots (2n-1)}{2.4.6 \dots (2n)} \cdot \frac{x^{2n+1}}{2n+1}$$



$$u_{n+1} = \frac{1.3.5\dots(2n-1)(2n+1)}{2.4.6\dots(2n)(2n+2)} \cdot \frac{x^{2n+3}}{2n+3}$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{1.3.5\dots(2n+1)}{2.4.6\dots(2n+2)} \cdot \frac{x^{2n+3}}{(2n+3)} \cdot \frac{2.4.6\dots 2n}{1.3.5\dots(2n-1)} \cdot \frac{(2n+1)}{x^{2n+1}}$$

$$= \frac{(2n+1)^2 x^2}{(2n+2)(2n+3)}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4n^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{2n}\right)^2}{4n^2 \left(1 + \frac{2}{2n}\right) \left(1 + \frac{3}{2n}\right)} x^2 = x^2$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges if  $|x| < 1$  and diverges if  $|x| > 1$

If  $|x| = 1$  the test fails.

Then  $x^2 = 1$  and  $\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} = \frac{(2n+2)(2n+3)}{(2n+1)^2}$

$$\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 = \frac{(2n+2)(2n+3)}{(2n+1)^2} - 1 = \frac{6n+5}{(2n+1)^2}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ n \left( \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) \right\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{6n^2 + 5n}{4n^2 + 4n + 1} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2 \left( 6 + \frac{5}{n} \right)}{n^2 \left( 4 + \frac{4}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2} \right)} = \frac{3}{2} > 1$$

By Raabe's test,  $\sum u_n$  converges. Hence the given series is convergent when  $|x| \leq 1$  and divergent when  $|x| > 1$ .

#### EXAMPLE 44

Test for the convergence of the series

(JNTU 2007)

$$1 + \frac{3}{7}x + \frac{3.6}{7.10}x^2 + \frac{3.6.9}{7.10.13}x^3 + \dots; x > 0$$

**SOLUTION**

Neglecting the first term,

$$u_n = \frac{3.6.9\dots 3n}{7.10.13\dots 3n+4} \cdot x^n$$

$$u_{n+1} = \frac{3.6.9\dots 3n(3n+3)}{7.10.13\dots (3n+4)(3n+7)} \cdot x^{n+1}$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{3n+3}{3n+7} \cdot x \quad ; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = x$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < 1$  and divergent when  $x > 1$ .

When  $x = 1$  The ratio test fails. Then

$$\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} = \frac{3n+7}{3n+3}; \quad \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 = \frac{4}{3n+3}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ n \left( \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) \right\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{4n}{3n+3} \right) = \frac{4}{3} > 1$$

$\therefore$  By Raabe's test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent. Hence the given series converges if  $x \leq 1$  and diverges if  $x > 1$ .

**EXAMPLE 45**

Examine the convergence of the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1^2.5^2.9^2\dots(4n-3)^2}{4^2.8^2.12^2\dots(4n)^2}$

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{1^2.5^2.9^2\dots(4n-3)^2}{4^2.8^2.12^2\dots(4n)^2}; \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{1^2.5^2.9^2\dots(4n-3)^2(4n+1)^2}{4^2.8^2.12^2\dots(4n)^2(4n+4)^2}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(4n+1)^2}{(4n+4)^2} = 1 \quad (\text{verify})$$

$\therefore$  The ratio test fails. Hence by Raabe's test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent. (give proof)

**EXAMPLE 46**

Find the nature of the series  $\sum \frac{(n)^2}{2n} x^n, (x > 0)$  (JNTU 2003)

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{(n)^2}{2n} \cdot x^n; u_{n+1} = \frac{(n+1)^2}{2n+2} \cdot x^{n+1}$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{(n+1)^2}{(2n+1)(2n+2)} x;$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^2}{4n^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{2n}\right) \left(1 + \frac{2}{2n}\right)} \cdot x = \frac{x}{4}$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $\frac{x}{4} < 1$ , i. e ;  $x < 4$ ; and diverges when  $x > 4$ ;

When  $x = 4$ , the test fails.

$$\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} = \frac{(2n+1)(2n+2)}{4(n+1)^2}$$

$$\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 = \frac{-2n-2}{4(n+1)^2} = \frac{-1}{2(n+1)}; \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ n \left( \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) \right] = \frac{-1}{2} < 1$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is divergent

Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < 4$  and divergent when  $x \geq 4$

**EXAMPLE 47**

Test for convergence of the series  $\sum \frac{4.7 \dots (3n+1)}{1.2.3 \dots n} x^n$  (JNTU 1996)

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{4.7 \dots (3n+1)}{1.2.3 \dots n} x^n; u_{n+1} = \frac{4.7 \dots (3n+1)(3n+4)}{1.2.3 \dots n(n+1)} x^{n+1}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{(3n+4)}{(n+1)} \cdot x \right] = 3x$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test  $\sum u_n$  converges if  $3x < 1$  i.e.,  $x < \frac{1}{3}$  and diverges if  $x > \frac{1}{3}$  ;

If  $x = \frac{1}{3}$ , the test fails

$$\text{When } x = \frac{1}{3}, n \left[ \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right] = n \left[ \frac{(n+1)3}{3n+4} - 1 \right] = n \left[ \frac{-1}{3n+4} \right] = - \frac{1}{\left(3 + \frac{4}{n}\right)}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left[ \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right] = -\frac{1}{3} < 1$$

$\therefore$  By Raabe's test,  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < \frac{1}{3}$  and divergent when  $x \geq \frac{1}{3}$

#### EXAMPLE 48

Test for convergence  $2 + \frac{3x}{2} + \frac{4x^2}{3} + \frac{5x^3}{4} + \dots (x > 0)$  (JNTU 2003)

#### SOLUTION

The  $n^{\text{th}}$  term  $u_n = \frac{(n+1)}{n} x^{n-1}$ ;  $u_{n+1} = \frac{(n+2)}{(n+1)} x^n$ ;  $\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{n(n+2)}{(n+1)^2} \cdot x$

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

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent if  $x < 1$  and divergent if  $x > 1$

If  $x = 1$ , the test fails.

$$\text{Then } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left[ \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left[ \frac{(n+1)^2}{n(n+2)} - 1 \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left[ \frac{1}{n(n+2)} \right] = 0 < 1$$

$\therefore$  By Raabe's test  $\sum u_n$  is divergent

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < 1$  and divergent when  $x \geq 1$

#### EXAMPLE 49

Find the nature of the series  $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{3.6}{4.7} + \frac{3.6.9}{4.7.10} + \dots \infty$  (JNTU 2003)

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{3.6.9.....3n}{4.7.10.....(3n+1)}; u_{n+1} = \frac{3.6.9.....3n(3n+3)}{4.7.10.....(3n+1)(3n+4)}$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{3n+3}{3n+4}; \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3n(1 + \frac{3}{3n})}{3n(1 + \frac{4}{3n})} = 1$$

Ratio test fails.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ n \left\{ \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right\} \right] &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ n \left( \frac{3n+4}{3n+3} - 1 \right) \right] \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{3(n+1)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{3n(1 + \frac{1}{n})} = \frac{1}{3} < 1 \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  By Raabe's test  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.

**EXAMPLE 50**

If  $p, q > 0$  and the series

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{p}{q} + \frac{1.3.p(p+1)}{2.4.q(q+1)} + \frac{1.3.5.p(p+1)(p+2)}{2.4.6.q(q+1)(q+2)} + \dots$$

is convergent, find the relation to be satisfied by  $p$  and  $q$ .

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \frac{1.3.5.....(2n-1)}{2.4.6.....2n} \frac{p(p+1).....(p+n-1)}{q(q+1).....(q+n-1)} \quad [\text{neglecting } 1^{\text{st}} \text{ term}]$$

$$u_{n+1} = \frac{1.3.5.....(2n-1)(2n+1)}{2.4.6.....2n(2n+2)} \frac{p(p+1).....(p+n-1)(p+n)}{q(q+1).....(q+n-1)(q+n)}$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{(2n+1)(p+n)}{(2n+2)(q+n)};$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{2n(1 + \frac{1}{2n})}{2n(1 + \frac{1}{2n})} \cdot \frac{n(1 + \frac{p}{n})}{n(1 + \frac{q}{n})} \right] = 1$$

$\therefore$  ratio test fails.

Let us apply Raabe's test

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ n \left( \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) \right] &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ n \left\{ \frac{(q+n)(2n+2)}{(p+n)(2n+1)} - 1 \right\} \right] \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ n \left\{ \frac{2q(n+1) - p(2n+1) + n}{n^2 \left( 1 + \frac{p}{n} \right) \left( 2 + \frac{1}{n} \right)} \right\} \right] \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{2q \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) - p \left( 2 + \frac{1}{n} \right) + 1}{2} \right] &= \frac{2q - 2p + 1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\sum u_n$  is convergent, by Raabe's test,  $\frac{2q - 2p + 1}{2} > 1$   
 $\Rightarrow q - p > \frac{1}{2}$ , is the required relation.

### Exercise 1.3

1. Test whether the series  $\sum_1^{\infty} u_n$  is convergent or divergent where

$$u_n = \frac{2^2 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 6^2 \dots (2n-2)^2}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \dots (2n-1)(2n)} \cdot x^{2n} \quad [\text{Ans : } |x| \leq 1 \text{ cgt, } |x| > 1 \text{ dgt}]$$

2. Test for the convergence the series

$$\sum_1^{\infty} \frac{4 \cdot 7 \cdot 10 \dots (3n+1)}{n} x^n \quad [\text{Ans : } |x| < \frac{1}{3} \text{ cgt, } |x| \geq \frac{1}{3} \text{ dgt}]$$

3. Test for the convergence the series :

$$(i) \frac{2^2 \cdot 4^2}{3^2 \cdot 3^2} + \frac{2^2 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^2}{3^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 6^2 \cdot 6^2} + \frac{2^2 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 8^2 \cdot 10^2}{3^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 6^2 \cdot 6^2 \cdot 9^2 \cdot 9^2} + \dots \quad [\text{Ans : divergent}]$$

$$(ii) \frac{3 \cdot 4}{1 \cdot 2} x + \frac{4 \cdot 5}{2 \cdot 3} x^2 + \frac{5 \cdot 6}{3 \cdot 4} x^3 + \dots (x > 0) \quad [\text{Ans : cgt if } x \leq 1 \text{ dgt if } x > 1]$$

$$(iii) \sum \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \dots (2n-1)}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \dots 2n} \cdot \frac{x^n}{(2n+2)} (x > 0) \quad [\text{Ans : cgt if } x \leq 1 \text{ dgt if } x > 1]$$

$$(iv) \quad 1 + \frac{(\underline{1})^2}{\underline{2}}x + \frac{(\underline{2})^2}{\underline{4}}x^2 + \frac{(\underline{3})^2}{\underline{6}}x^3 + \dots (x > 0)$$

[Ans : cgt if  $x < 4$  and dgt if  $x \geq 4$ ]

### 1.3.5 Cauchy's Root Test

Let  $\sum u_n$  be a series of +ve terms and let  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = l$ . Then  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $l < 1$  and divergent when  $l > 1$

**Proof:** (i)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = l < 1 \Rightarrow \exists a$  +ve number ' $\lambda$ ' ( $l < \lambda < 1$ )  $\exists u_n^{1/n} < \lambda, \forall n > m$

$$(or) \quad u_n < \lambda^n, \forall n > m$$

Since  $\lambda < 1, \sum \lambda^n$  is a geometric series with common ratio  $< 1$  and therefore convergent.

Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

$$(ii) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = l > 1$$

$\therefore$  By the definition of a limit we can find a number  $r \exists u_n^{1/n} > 1 \forall n > r$

$$i.e., \quad u_n > \forall n > r$$

i.e., after the 1<sup>st</sup> ' $r$ ' terms, each term is  $> 1$ .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum u_n = \infty \quad \therefore \sum u_n \text{ is divergent.}$$

**Note :** When  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (u_n^{1/n}) = 1$ , the root test can't decide the nature of  $\sum u_n$ . The fact of

this statement can be observed by the following two examples.

$$1. \quad \text{Consider the series } \sum \frac{1}{n^3} : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{n^3} \right)^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{n^{1/n}} \right)^3 = 1$$

$$2. \quad \text{Consider the series } \sum \frac{1}{n}, \text{ in which } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^{1/n}} = 1$$

In both the examples given above,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = 1$ . But series (1) is convergent

(p-series test)

And series (2) is divergent. Hence when the  $limit=1$ , the test fails.

### Solved Examples

**EXAMPLE 51**

Test for convergence the infinite series whose  $n^{\text{th}}$  terms are:

$$(i) \frac{1}{n^{2n}} \quad (ii) \frac{1}{(\log n)^n} \quad (iii) \frac{1}{\left[1 + \frac{1}{n}\right]^{n^2}} \quad (\text{JNTU 1996, 1998, 2001})$$

**SOLUTION**

$$(i) \quad u_n = \frac{1}{n^{2n}}, u_n^{1/n} = \frac{1}{n^2} \quad ; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = 0 < 1;$$

By root test  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

$$(ii) \quad u_n = \frac{1}{(\log n)^n}; u_n^{1/n} = \frac{1}{\log n} \quad ; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\log n} = 0 < 1;$$

$\therefore$  By root test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

$$(iii) \quad u_n = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n^2}}; u_n^{1/n} = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n} = \frac{1}{e} < 1;$$

$\therefore$  By root test  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 52**

Find whether the following series are convergent or divergent.

$$(i) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{3^n - 1} \quad (ii) 1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^3} + \frac{1}{4^4} + \dots \quad (iii) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{[(n+1)x]^n}{n^{n+1}}$$

**SOLUTION**

$$(i) \quad u_n^{1/n} = \left(\frac{1}{3^n - 1}\right)^{1/n} = \left(\frac{1}{3^n \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^n}\right)}\right)^{1/n}$$



$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{3^n \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^n}\right)} \right)^{1/n} = \frac{1}{3} < 1; \text{ By root test, } \sum u_n \text{ is convergent.}$$

$$(ii) \quad u_n = \frac{1}{n^n}; \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{n^n} \right)^{1/n} = 0 < 1; \text{ By root test, } \sum u_n \text{ is convergent.}$$

$$(iii) \quad u_n = \frac{[(n+1)x]^n}{n^{n+1}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{\{(n+1)x\}^n}{n^{n+1}} \right]^{1/n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \left\{ \frac{(n+1)x}{n} \right\}^n \cdot \frac{1}{n} \right]^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right) x \cdot \frac{1}{n^{1/n}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) x \cdot \frac{1}{n^{1/n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x \cdot \frac{1}{n^{1/n}} = x \quad \left( \text{since } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x \cdot \frac{1}{n^{1/n}} = 1 \right)$$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent if  $|x| < 1$  and divergent if  $|x| > 1$  and when  $|x| = 1$  the test fails.

$$\text{Then } u_n = \frac{(n+1)^n}{n^{n+1}}; \text{ Take } v_n = \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{(n+1)^n}{n^{n+1}} \cdot n = \frac{(n+1)^n}{n^n} = \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^n; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = e > 1$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.

( $\sum v_n$  diverges by  $p$ -series test)

Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent if  $|x| < 1$  and divergent  $|x| \geq 1$

### EXAMPLE 53

If  $u_n = \frac{n^{n^2}}{(n+1)^{n^2}}$ , show that  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{n^{n^2}}{(n+1)^{n^2}} \right]^{1/n} ; = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^n}{(n+1)^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n}{n+1} \right)^n \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \right)^n = \frac{1}{e} < 1 ; \therefore \sum u_n \text{ converges by root test.} \end{aligned}$$

**EXAMPLE 54**

Establish the convergence of the series  $\frac{1}{3} + \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{3}{7}\right)^3 + \dots$

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \left( \frac{n}{2n+1} \right)^n \dots\dots(\text{verify}); \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n}{2n+1} \right) = \frac{1}{2} < 1$$

By root test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 55**

Test for the convergence of  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{n}{n+1}} \cdot x^n$

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot x^n ; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot x = x$$

$\therefore$  By root test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent if  $|x| < 1$  and divergent if  $|x| > 1$ .

When  $|x| = 1$  :  $u_n = \sqrt{\frac{n}{n+1}}$ , taking  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^0}$  and applying comparison test, it can be

seen that is divergent

$\sum u_n$  is convergent if  $|x| < 1$  and divergent if  $|x| \geq 1$ .

**EXAMPLE 56**

Show that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( n^{1/n} - 1 \right)^n$  converges.

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \left(n^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1\right)^n$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{\frac{1}{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(n^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1\right) = 1 - 1 = 0 < 1 \quad \left(\text{since } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{\frac{1}{n}} = 1\right);$$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent by root test.

**EXAMPLE 57**

Examine the convergence of the series whose  $n^{\text{th}}$  term is  $\left(\frac{n+2}{n+3}\right)^n \cdot x^n$

**SOLUTION**

$$u_n = \left(\frac{n+2}{n+3}\right)^n \cdot x^n; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{\frac{1}{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n+2}{n+3}\right) x = x$$

$\therefore$  By root test,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $|x| < 1$  and diverges when  $|x| > 1$ .

$$\text{When } |x| = 1: \quad u_n = \left(\frac{n+2}{n+3}\right)^n; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left(1 + \frac{2}{n}\right)^n}{\left(1 + \frac{3}{n}\right)^n}$$

$$= \frac{e^2}{e^3} = \frac{1}{e} \neq 0 \quad \text{and the terms are all +ve.}$$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is divergent. Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent if  $|x| < 1$  and divergent if  $|x| \geq 1$ .

**EXAMPLE 58**

Show that the series,

$$\left[\frac{2^2}{1^2} - \frac{2}{1}\right]^{-1} + \left[\frac{3^3}{2^3} - \frac{3}{2}\right]^{-2} + \left[\frac{4^4}{3^4} - \frac{4}{3}\right]^{-3} + \dots \text{ is convergent} \quad (\text{JNTU 2002})$$

$$u_n = \left[\frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{n^{n+1}} - \frac{n+1}{n}\right]^{-n}; \quad = \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^{-n} \left[\left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^n - 1\right]^{-n}$$

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{-n} \left[\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n - 1\right]^{-n}; \quad u_n^{\frac{1}{n}} = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{-1} \left[\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n - 1\right]^{-1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)} \frac{1}{\left\{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n - 1\right\}}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \frac{1}{1} \cdot \frac{1}{e-1} = \frac{1}{e-1} < 1$$

$\therefore$  By root test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 59**

Test  $\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} u_m$  for convergence when  $u_m = \frac{e^{-m}}{\left(1 + \frac{2}{m}\right)^{-m^2}}$

**SOLUTION**

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left(u_m^{1/m}\right) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{\left(1 + \frac{2}{m}\right)^{m^2}}{e^m} \right]^{1/m} ; \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e} \left(1 + \frac{2}{m}\right)^m = \frac{e^2}{e} = e > 1$$

Hence Cauchy's root tells us that  $\sum u_m$  is divergent.

**EXAMPLE 60**

Test the convergence of the series  $\sum \frac{n}{e^{n^2}}$ .

**SOLUTION**

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{1/n}}{e^n} = 0 < 1 \quad \therefore \text{By root test, } \sum u_n \text{ is convergent.}$$

**EXAMPLE 61**

Test the convergence of the series,  $\frac{2}{1^2}x + \frac{3^2}{2^3}x^2 + \dots + \frac{(n+1)^n \cdot x^n}{n^{n+1}} + \dots, x > 0$

**SOLUTION**

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{(n+1)^n \cdot x^n}{n^{n+1}} \right]^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{n^{1/n}} \cdot x \right]$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{n^{1/n}} \cdot x \right] = 1 \cdot 1 \cdot x = x \left[ \text{since } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{1/n} = 1 \right]$$

$\therefore$  By root test,  $\sum u_n$  converges if  $x < 1$  and diverges when  $x > 1$ .

When  $x = 1$ , the test fails.

Then  $u_n = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \cdot \frac{1}{n}$ ; Take  $v_n = \frac{1}{n}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = e \neq 0$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test and  $p$ -series test,  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.

Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < 1$  and divergent when  $x \geq 1$ .

### Exercise 1.4

**1. Test for convergence the infinite series whose  $n^{\text{th}}$  terms are:**

- (a)  $\frac{1}{2^n - 1}$  ..... [Ans : convergent]
- (b)  $\frac{1}{(\log)^{2n}} \cdot (n \neq 1)$  ..... [Ans : convergent]
- (c)  $\left(\frac{3n+1}{4n+3} \cdot x\right)^n$  ..... [Ans :  $|x| < \frac{4}{3}$  cgt,  $|x| \geq \frac{4}{3}$  dgt ]
- (d)  $\frac{x^n}{|n|}$  ..... [Ans : cgt for all  $x \geq 0$  ]
- (e)  $\frac{|n|}{n^n}$  ..... [Ans : convergent]
- (f)  $\frac{3^n \cdot \angle n}{n^3}$  ..... [Ans : convergent]
- (g)  $\frac{(2n^2 - 1)^n}{(2n)^{2n}}$  ..... [Ans : convergent]
- (h)  $\left(n^{1/n} - 1\right)^{2n}$  ..... [Ans : convergent]

$$(i) \left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right)^{-n^2} \dots\dots\dots [\text{Ans : divergent}]$$

$$(j) \left(\frac{nx}{n+1}\right)^n, (x > 0) \dots\dots\dots [\text{Ans : } x < 1 \text{ cgt, } x \geq 1 \text{ dgt}]$$

2. Examine the following series for convergence :

$$(a) 1 + \frac{x}{2} + \frac{x^2}{3^2} + \frac{x^3}{4^3} + \dots, x > 0 \dots\dots\dots [\text{Ans : } x \leq 1 \text{ cgt, } x > 1 \text{ dgt}]$$

$$(b) \frac{1}{4} + \left(\frac{2}{7}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{3}{10}\right)^3 + \dots \dots\dots [\text{Ans : convergent}]$$

### 1.3.6 Integral Test

+ve term series,

$$\phi(1) + \phi(2) + \dots + \phi(n) + \dots$$

where  $\phi(n)$  decreases as  $n$  increases is convergent or divergent according as the

integral  $\int_1^{\infty} \phi(x) dx$  is finite or infinite.

**Proof:** Let  $S_n = \phi(1) + \phi(2) + \dots + \phi(n)$

From the above figure, it can be seen that the area under the curve  $y = \phi(x)$  between any two ordinates lies between the set of exterior and interior rectangles formed by the ordinates at

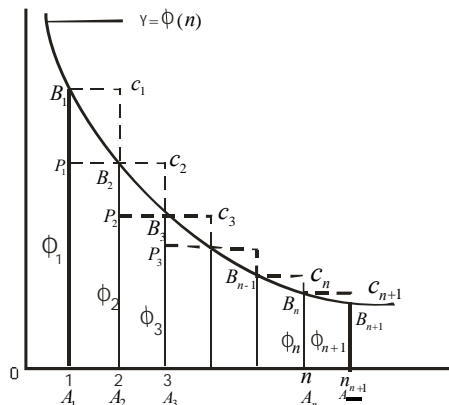
$$n = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, n+1, \dots$$

Hence the total area under the curve lies between the sum of areas of all interior rectangles and sum of the areas of all the exterior rectangles.

Hence

$$\{\phi(1) + \phi(2) + \dots + \phi(n)\} \geq \int_1^{n+1} \phi(x) dx \geq \{\phi(2) + \phi(3) + \dots + \phi(n+1)\}$$

$$\therefore S_n \geq \int_1^{\infty} \phi(x) dx \geq S_{n+1} - \phi(1)$$



As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $Lt S_n$  is finite or infinite according as  $\int_1^\infty \phi(x)dx$  is finite or infinite.  
Hence the theorem.

### Solved Examples

**EXAMPLE 62**

Test for convergence the series  $\sum_{n=2}^\infty \frac{1}{n \log n}$  (JNTU 2003)

**SOLUTION**

$$\int_2^\infty \frac{1}{x \log x} dx = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \int_2^n \frac{1}{x \log x} dx \right] = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\log \log x]_2^n = \infty$$

$\therefore$  By integral test, the given series is divergent.

**EXAMPLE 63**

Test for convergence of the series  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{1}{n^p}$  (JNTU 2003)

**SOLUTION**

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x^p} dx &= Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \int_1^n \frac{1}{x^p} dx \right] = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{x^{-p+1}}{-p+1} \right]_1^n; \\ &= \frac{1}{1-p} Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} [n^{1-p} - 1] \end{aligned}$$

**Case (i)** If  $p > 1$ , this limit is finite;  $\therefore \sum \frac{1}{n^p}$  is convergent.

**Case (ii)** If  $p < 1$ , the limit is finite;  $\therefore \sum \frac{1}{n^p}$  is divergent.

**Case (iii)** If  $p = 1$ , the limit  $Lt \log x \Big|_1^n = Lt (\log n) = \infty$ ;  $\therefore \sum \frac{1}{n^p}$  is divergent.

Hence  $\sum \frac{1}{n^p}$  is convergent if  $p > 1$  and divergent if  $p \leq 1$

#### EXAMPLE 64

Test the series  $\sum_1^{\infty} \frac{n}{e^{n^2}}$  for convergence.

#### SOLUTION

$$u_n = \frac{n}{e^{n^2}} = \phi(n) \text{ (say);}$$

$\phi(n)$  is +ve and decreases as  $n$  increases. So let us apply the integral test.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^{\infty} \phi(x) dx &= \int_1^{\infty} x e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_1^{\infty} e^{-t} dt \{t = x^2, dt = 2x dx\} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} e^{-t} \Big|_1^{\infty} = -\frac{1}{2} \left( 0 - \frac{1}{e} \right) = \frac{1}{2e}, \text{ which is finite.} \end{aligned}$$

By integral test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

#### EXAMPLE 65

Apply integral test to test the convergence of the series  $\sum_2^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right)$

#### SOLUTION

Let  $\phi(n) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right)$ ;  $\phi(n)$  decreases as  $n$  increases and is +ve.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_2^{\infty} \phi(x) dx &= \int_2^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^2} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{x}\right) dx; \quad \text{Let } \frac{\pi}{x} = t \\ -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\pi/2}^0 \sin t dt &= \frac{1}{\pi} \cos t \Big|_{\pi/2}^0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \text{ finite, } -\frac{\pi}{x^2} dx = dt; \quad \frac{1}{x^2} dx = -\frac{1}{\pi} dt \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  By integral test,  $\sum u_n$  converges  $x = 2 \Rightarrow t = \pi/2$   $x = \infty \Rightarrow t = 0$



**EXAMPLE 66**

Apply integral test and determine the convergence of the following series.

$$(a) \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{3n}{4n^2+1} \quad (b) \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{2n^3}{3n^4+2} \quad (c) \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{3n+1}$$

**SOLUTION**

(a)  $\phi(n) = \frac{3n}{4n^2+1}$  is +ve and decreases as  $n$  increases

$$\int_1^{\infty} \phi(x) dx = \int_1^{\infty} \frac{3x}{4x^2+1} dx \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} 4x^2+1=t \Rightarrow xdx = \frac{1}{8} dt \\ x=1 \Rightarrow t=5, x=\infty \Rightarrow t=\infty \end{array} \right)$$

$$\int_1^{\infty} \phi(x) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Lt \left[ \frac{3}{8} \int_5^t \frac{dt}{t} \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Lt \left[ \frac{3}{8} \log t - \log 5 \right] = \infty$$

$\therefore$  By integral test,  $\sum u_n$  diverges.

(b)  $\phi(n) = \frac{2n^3}{3n^4+2}$  decreases as  $n$  increases and is +ve

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^{\infty} \phi(x) dx &= \int_1^{\infty} \frac{2x^3}{3x^4+2} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \int_5^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t} = \frac{1}{6} [\log t]_5^{\infty} = \infty \quad [\text{where } t = 3x^4 + 2] \end{aligned}$$

By integral test,  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.

(c)  $\phi(n) = \frac{1}{3n+1}$  is +ve, and decreases as  $n$  increases.

$$\int_1^{\infty} \phi(x) dx = \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{3x+1} dx = \int_4^{\infty} \frac{1}{3} \frac{dt}{t} [t = 3x+1] = \frac{1}{3} \log t \Big|_4^{\infty} = \infty$$

$\therefore$  By integral test,  $\sum u_n$  is divergent.

**Alternating Series**

A series,  $u_1 - u_2 + u_3 - u_4 + \dots + (-1)^{n-1} u_n + \dots$ , where  $u_n$  are all +ve, is an alternating series.

### 1.3.7 Leibnitz Test

If in an alternating series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} u_n$ , where  $u_n$  are all +ve,

- (i)  $u_n > u_{n+1}, \forall n$ , and (ii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$ , then the series is convergent.

**Proof :**

Let  $u_1 - u_2 + u_3 - u_4 + \dots$  be an alternating series (' $u_n$ ' are all +ve)

Let  $u_1 > u_2 > u_3 > u_4 \dots$ , Then the series may be written in each of the following two forms :

$$(u_1 - u_2) + (u_3 - u_4) + (u_5 - u_6) + \dots \quad \text{.....(A)}$$

$$u_1 - (u_2 - u_3) - (u_4 - u_5) - \dots \quad \text{.....(B)}$$

(A) Shows that the sum of any number of terms is +ve and

(B) Shows that the sum of any number of terms is  $< u_1$ .

Hence the sum of the series is finite.  $\therefore$  The series is convergent.

**Note :** If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n \neq 0$ , then the series is oscillatory.

## Solved Examples

### EXAMPLE 67

Consider the series  $1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} \dots$

In this series, each term is numerically less than its preceding term and  $n^{\text{th}}$  term  $\rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

$\therefore$  By Leibnitz's test, the series is convergent.

(Note the sum of the above series is  $\log_e 2$ )

### EXAMPLE 68

Test for convergence  $\sum \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{2n-1}$  (JNTU 1997)

### SOLUTION

The given series is an alternating series  $\sum (-1)^{n-1} u_n$ , where  $u_n = \frac{1}{2n-1}$

We observe that (i)  $u_n > 0, \forall n$  (ii)  $u_n > u_{n+1}, \forall n$  (iii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$

$\therefore$  By Leibnitz's test, the given series is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 69**

Show that the series  $S = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{27} + \dots$  converges. (JNTU 2000)

**SOLUTION**

The given series is  $\sum_1^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{3^{n-1}} = \sum (-1)^{n-1} u_n$ , where  $u_n = \frac{1}{3^{n-1}}$  is an alternating series in which 1.  $u_n > 0, \forall n$  2.  $u_n > u_{n+1}, \forall n$  and 3.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$ ;

Hence by Leibnitz's test, it is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 70**

Test for convergence of the series,  $\frac{x}{1+x} - \frac{x^2}{1+x^2} + \frac{x^3}{1+x^3} - + \dots, 0 < x < 1$

(JNTU 2003)

**SOLUTION**

The given series is of the form  $\sum \frac{(-1)^{n-1} \cdot x^n}{1+x^n} = \sum (-1)^{n-1} u_n$ ,

where  $u_n = \frac{x^n}{1+x^n}$  Since  $0 < x < 1$ ,  $u_n > 0, \forall n$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Further, } u_n - u_{n+1} &= \frac{x^n}{1+x^n} - \frac{x^{n+1}}{1+x^{n+1}} \\ &= \frac{x^n - x^{n+1}}{(1+x^n)(1+x^{n+1})} = \frac{x^n(1-x)}{(1+x^n)(1+x^{n+1})} \end{aligned}$$

$0 < x < 1 \Rightarrow$  all terms in numerator and denominator of the above expression are +ve.

$$\therefore u_n > u_{n+1}, \forall n.$$

Again,  $x^n \rightarrow 0$  as  $x^n \rightarrow \infty$  since  $0 < x < 1$ ;  $\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \frac{0}{1+0} = 0$

$\therefore$  By Leibnitz's test, the given series is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 71**

Test for convergence  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{\sqrt{n(n+1)(n+2)}}$  (JNTU 2004)

**SOLUTION**

The given series is an alternating series  $\sum (-1)^{n-1} u_n$

where  $u_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n(n+1)(n+2)}}; u_n > 0, \forall n;$

Again,  $\sqrt{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)} > \sqrt{n(n+1)(n+2)}$

$\therefore \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{n(n+1)(n+2)}}, \forall n$

i.e.,  $u_{n+1} < u_n, \forall n$

Further,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n(n+1)(n+2)}} = 0$

$\therefore$  By Leibnitz's test,  $\sum_2^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} u_n$  is convergent

**EXAMPLE 72**

Test for the convergence of the following series,

$$\frac{1}{6} - \frac{2}{11} + \frac{3}{16} - \frac{4}{21} + \frac{5}{26} - + \dots \quad (\text{JNTU 1998, 2004})$$

**SOLUTION**

Given series,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n}{5n+1} = \sum (-1)^{n-1} u_n$  is an alternating series

$$u_n = \frac{n}{5n+1} > 0 \forall n; \quad \frac{n}{5n+1} - \frac{n+1}{5n+6} = \frac{-1}{(5n+1)(5n+6)} \Rightarrow u_n < u_{n+1}, \forall n$$

Again,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{5n+1} = \frac{1}{5} \neq 0$

Thus conditions (ii) or (iii) of Leibnitz's test are not satisfied. The given series is not convergent. It is oscillatory.

**EXAMPLE 73**

Test the nature of the following series.

$$(a) \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1}} \quad (b) \sum \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n^2 + 1} \quad (c) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{|n+1|}$$

**SOLUTION**

$$(a) \quad u_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1}} > 0 \forall n ;$$

$$\begin{aligned} u_n - u_{n+1} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n+2}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{n+2} - \sqrt{n}}{(\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1})(\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n+2})} = \frac{2}{(\sqrt{n+2} + \sqrt{n})(\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1})(\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n+2})} > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  By Leibnitz's test the series converges.

$$(b) \quad u_n = \frac{1}{n^2 + 1} > 0, \forall n; \quad \frac{1}{n^2 + 1} > \frac{1}{(n+1)^2 + 1} \Rightarrow u_n > u_{n+1}, \forall n;$$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$   $\therefore$  By Leibnitz's test, given series converges.

$$(c) \quad u_n = \frac{1}{|n+1|} > 0, \forall n;$$

$$|n+2| > |n+1| \Rightarrow \frac{1}{|n+2|} < \frac{1}{|n+1|} \Rightarrow u_n > u_{n+1}, \forall n$$

By Leibnitz's test, given series converges.

**EXAMPLE 74**

Test the convergence of the series  $\frac{1}{5\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{5\sqrt{3}} + \frac{1}{5\sqrt{4}} - + \dots$  (JNTU 2004)

**SOLUTION**

The series can be written as  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{5\sqrt{n+1}}$  ;  $u_n = \frac{1}{5\sqrt{n+1}}$

$$(i) \quad u_n > 0 \forall n$$

$$(ii) \quad 5\sqrt{n+2} > 5\sqrt{n+1} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{5\sqrt{n+2}} < \frac{1}{5\sqrt{n+1}} \Rightarrow u_n > u_{n+1} \forall n$$

$$(iii) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0 ;$$

By Leibnitz's test, the given series converges.

**EXAMPLE 75**

Test for convergence the series,  $1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{6} + \dots$  (JNTU 1997)

**SOLUTION**

The given series can be written as  $\sum \frac{(-1)^n}{2n}$  (omitting 1<sup>st</sup> term)

$$\frac{1}{2n} > 0 \forall n; \frac{1}{2n} > \frac{1}{2n+2} \Rightarrow u_n > u_{n+1}, \forall n; \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2n} = 0$$

$\therefore$  By Leibnitz's test,  $\sum \frac{(-1)^n}{2n}$  is convergent.

**EXAMPLE 76**

Test for convergence the series,  $1 - \frac{1}{3!} + \frac{1}{5!} - \frac{1}{7!} + \dots$  (JNTU 2004, 2007)

**SOLUTION**

General term of the series is  $\frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{(2n-1)!}$

The series is an alternating series;  $\frac{1}{(2n-1)!} > 0 \forall n$

$$\frac{1}{(2n-1)!} > \frac{1}{(2n-1)!} \Rightarrow u_n > u_{n+1}, \forall n \in N; \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)!} = 0$$

By Leibnitz's test, given series is convergent.

**1.4 Absolute convergence**

A series  $\sum u_n$  is said to be absolutely convergent if the series  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent

**Ex.** Consider the series

$$\sum u_n = 1 - \frac{1}{2^3} + \frac{1}{3^3} - \frac{1}{4^3} + \dots$$

$$\sum |u_n| = 1 + \frac{1}{2^3} + \frac{1}{3^3} + \frac{1}{4^3} + \dots = \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3}$$

By  $p$ -series test,  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent ( $p = 3 > 1$ )

Hence  $\sum u_n$  is absolutely convergent.

**Note:** 1. If  $\sum u_n$  is a series of +ve terms, then  $\sum u_n = \sum |u_n|$ .

For such a series, there is no difference between convergence and absolute convergence. Thus a series of +ve terms is convergent as well as absolutely convergent.

2. An absolutely convergent series is convergent. But the converse need not be true.

$$\text{Consider } \sum_1^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{1}{n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots$$

This series is convergent (1.7.3)

$$\text{But } \sum_1^{\infty} \left| (-1)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \right| = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots \text{ is divergent (p-series test).}$$

Thus  $\sum u_n$  is convergent need not imply that  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent (i.e.,  $\sum u_n$  is not absolutely convergent).

### 1.5 Conditional Convergence

If the series  $\sum |u_n|$  is divergent and  $\sum u_n$  is convergent, then  $\sum u_n$  is said to be conditionally convergent.

**Ex.** Consider the Series

$$1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots \sum u_n \text{ is convergent by Leibnitz's test. (Ex.1.7.3)}$$

$$\text{But } \sum |u_n| = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots \text{ is divergent by } p\text{-series test.}$$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is conditionally convergent.

### 1.6 Power Series and Interval of Convergence

A series,  $a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n + \dots$  where ' $a_n$ ' are all constants is a power series in  $x$ .

It may converge for some values of  $x$ .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \cdot x \text{ (1st term is omitted.)} = kx \text{ (say) where } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = k$$

Then, by ratio test, the series converges when  $|kx| < 1$ .

i.e., it converges  $\forall x \in \left( \frac{-1}{k}, \frac{1}{k} \right) (k \neq 0)$

The interval  $\left(\frac{-1}{k}, \frac{1}{k}\right)$  is known as the interval of convergence of the given power series.

### Solved Examples

#### EXAMPLE 77

Find the interval of convergence of the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n^3}$

#### SOLUTION

$$u_n = \frac{x^n}{n^3}; u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)^3}$$

$$Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right) = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n}{n+1} \right)^3 \cdot x = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \right)^3 \cdot x = x$$

By ratio test, the given series converges when  $|x| < 1$ , i.e.,  $x \in (-1, 1)$

When  $x = 1$ ,  $\sum u_n = \sum \frac{1}{n^3}$ , which, is convergent by  $p$  series test.

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x = 1$

Hence, the interval of convergence of the given series is  $(-1, 1)$

#### EXAMPLE 78

Test for the convergence of the following series.

(a)  $1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{4}} + \dots$  (JNTU 1996)

(b)  $1 + \frac{1}{2^2} - \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \frac{1}{6^2} - \frac{1}{7^2} - \frac{1}{8^2} + \dots$  (JNTU 1998)

(c)  $1 - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^4}{4} - \frac{x^6}{6} + \dots$  (JNTU 2004)

(d)  $\sum_0^{\infty} (-1)^n (n+1)x^n$ , with  $x < \frac{1}{2}$  (JNTU 2004)

#### SOLUTION

(a) The series is of the form  $\sum (-1)^{n-1} u_n$  where  $u_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$



It is an alternating series where (i)  $u_n > 0 \forall n$  (ii)  $u_n > u_{n+1} \forall n$  and (iii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$ ;  $\therefore$  By Leibnitz test, the series is convergent.

Again the series  $1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{4}} + \dots$  is divergent, by  $p$ -series test.

Hence the given series is conditionally convergent.

$$(b) \quad \sum |u_n| = \sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \quad \text{which is convergent by } p\text{-series test.}$$

$\therefore$  The given series is absolutely convergent.

$\therefore$  It is convergent.

(c) The given series is

$$\sum (-1)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{x^{2n-2}}{(2n-2)!} = \sum (-1)^{n-1} u_n; \quad \therefore |u_n| = \frac{x^{2n-2}}{(2n-2)!}$$

$$u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{2n}}{2n!}; \quad \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = \frac{1}{(2n-1)(2n)} \cdot |x^2|; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = 0 < 1$$

By ratio test, the series  $\sum |u_n|$  converges  $\forall x$ ; i.e.,  $\sum u_n$  is absolutely convergent  $\forall x$ ;

(d) Here,  $|u_n| = (n+1)x^n$ ;  $|u_{n+1}| = (n+2)x^{n+1}$  (neglect 1<sup>st</sup> term)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|u_{n+1}|}{|u_n|} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+2)}{(n+1)} |x| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(1 + \frac{2}{n})}{(1 + \frac{1}{n})} |x| = |x| < 1 \quad (\because x < \frac{1}{2})$$

$\therefore \sum |u_n|$  is convergent  $\forall x$ , i.e., given series is absolutely convergent and hence convergent.

### EXAMPLE 79

Show that the series  $1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^2}{3} + \dots$  converges absolutely  $\forall x$

### SOLUTION

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|u_{n+1}|}{|u_n|} = \frac{|x|}{n} = 0 < 1 \quad \text{when } x \neq 0 \quad \left[ \text{since } |u_n| = \frac{|x^{n-1}|}{(n-1)!}; |u_{n+1}| = \frac{|x^n|}{n!} \right]$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent  $\forall x \neq 0$ .

When  $x = 0$ , the series is  $(1 + 0 + 0 + \dots)$  and is convergent

$\therefore \sum |u_n|$  converges  $\Rightarrow \sum u_n$  is absolutely convergent  $\forall x$ .

**EXAMPLE 80**

Show that the series,  $1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{3^4} + \dots$  is absolutely convergent.

**SOLUTION**

$$\sum |u_n| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{3^{n-1}}, \text{ which is a geometric series with common ratio } \frac{1}{3} < 1$$

$\therefore$  It is convergent. Hence given series is absolutely convergent.

**EXAMPLE 81**

Test for convergence, absolute convergence and conditional convergence of the series,

$$1 - \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{13} + \dots \quad (\text{JNTU 2003})$$

**SOLUTION**

The given alternating series is of the form  $\sum (-1)^{n-1} u_n$ , where,  $u_n = \frac{1}{4n-3}$ .

$$\text{Hence, } u_n > 0 \forall n \in N; \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{1}{4(n+1)-3} = \frac{1}{4n+1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u_n - u_{n+1} &= \frac{1}{4n-3} - \frac{1}{4n+1} \\ &= \frac{4n+1-4n+3}{(4n-3)(4n+1)} = \frac{4}{(4n-3)(4n+1)} > 0, \forall n \in N \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e., } u_n > u_{n+1}, \forall n \in N \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{4n-3} = 0;$$

All conditions of Leibnitz's test are satisfied.

Hence  $\sum (-1)^{n-1} u_n$  is convergent.

$$|u_n| = \frac{1}{4n-3}; \quad \text{Take } v_n = \frac{1}{n}; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|u_n|}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{n(4-\frac{3}{n})} = \frac{1}{4} \neq 0 \text{ and finite.}$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum |u_n|$  and  $\sum v_n$  behave alike.

But by  $p$ -series test,  $\sum v_n$  is divergent (since  $p = 1$ ).

$\sum |u_n|$  is divergent and  $\therefore$  The given series is conditionally convergent.

**EXAMPLE 82**

Test the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{1}{3\sqrt{n}}$ , for absolute / conditional convergence.

**SOLUTION**

The given series is an alternating series of the form  $\sum (-1)^{n-1} u_n$ .

Here

$$(i) \quad u_n = \frac{1}{3\sqrt{n}}, \forall n \in N$$

$$(ii) \quad 3(n+1) > 3n \Rightarrow 3\sqrt{n+1} > 3\sqrt{n}, \forall n.$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{3\sqrt{n+1}} < \frac{1}{3\sqrt{n}}, \text{ i.e., } u_{n+1} < u_n, \forall n \in N$$

$$\text{And } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{3\sqrt{n}} = 0$$

$\therefore$  By Leibnitz's test, the given series is convergent.

But  $\sum \left| (-1)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{1}{3\sqrt{n}} \right| = \sum \frac{1}{3\sqrt{n}}$  is divergent by  $p$ -series test (since

$$p = \frac{1}{2} < 1)$$

$\therefore$  The given series is conditionally convergent.

**EXAMPLE 83**

Test the following series for absolute / conditional convergence.

$$(a) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{\sin(n\alpha)}{n^2}$$

$$(b) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{n^2}{n^3 + 1}$$

$$(c) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!}$$

$$(d) \quad \sum (-1)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{n\pi^n}{e^{3n+1}}$$

**SOLUTION**

(a)  $|u_n| = \frac{|\sin n\alpha|}{n^2} < \frac{1}{n^2}$  [since  $|\sin n\alpha| < 1$ ] considering  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$  and using comparison and  $p$ -series tests, we get that  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent  $\sum u_n$  is absolutely convergent.

(b) By Leibnitz's test, the series converges.

Taking  $v_n = \frac{1}{n}$ , by comparison and  $p$ -series tests,  $\sum \frac{n^2}{n^3+1}$ , is seen to be divergent.

Hence given series is conditionally convergent.

(c) Take  $|u_n| = \frac{1}{2n!}$ ;  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|u_{n+1}|}{|u_n|} = 0 < 1$ ; By ratio test,  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent;

Hence given series is absolutely convergent.

(d)  $|u_n| = \frac{n\pi^n}{e^{3n+1}}$ ; By root test, is convergent,  $\therefore$  given series is absolutely convergent.

[In problems (a) to (d) above, hints only are given. Students are advised to do the complete problem themselves]

**EXAMPLE 84**

Find the interval of convergence of the following series.

$$(a) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{x^n}{n^3} \quad (b) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n(x+2)^n}{3^n} \quad (c) \log(1+x)$$

**SOLUTION**

(a) Let the given series be  $\sum u_n$ ; Then  $|u_n| = \frac{|x^n|}{n^3}$ ;  $|u_{n+1}| = \frac{|x^{n+1}|}{(n+1)^3}$

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

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent if  $|x| < 1$

i.e.,  $\sum u_n$  is absolutely convergent if  $|x| < 1$ ;

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent if  $|x| < 1$

If  $x = 1$ , the given series becomes  $1 - \frac{1}{2^3} + \frac{1}{3^3} - \frac{1}{4^3} + \dots$

which is convergent, since  $\sum \frac{1}{n^3}$  is convergent.

Similarly, if  $x = -1$ , the series becomes  $\sum -\frac{1}{n^3} = -\sum \frac{1}{n^3}$  which is also convergent.

Hence the interval of convergence of  $\sum u_n$  is  $(-1 \leq x \leq 1)$

(b) Proceeding as in (a),

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|u_{n+1}|}{|u_n|} = \frac{|x+2|}{3}$$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent if  $|x+2| < 3$ , i.e., if  $-3 < x+2 < 3$ , i.e., if  $-5 < x < 1$ .

If  $x = -5$ ,  $\sum u_n = \sum (-1)^{2n-1} \cdot n$ , and is divergent (in both these cases

If  $x = 1$ ,  $\sum u_n = \sum (-1)^{n-1} \cdot n$ , and is divergent  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n \neq 0$ )

Hence the interval of convergence of the series is  $(-5 < x < 1)$

(c)  $\log(1+x) = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} + \dots$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{x^n}{n} = \sum u_n \quad (\text{say})$$

$$|u_n| = \frac{|x^n|}{n}; \quad |u_{n+1}| = \frac{|x^{n+1}|}{n+1}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|u_{n+1}|}{|u_n|} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)} |x| = |x|$$

By ratio test,  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent when  $|x| < 1$

i.e.,  $\sum u_n$  is absolutely convergent and hence convergent when  $-1 < x < 1$ .

$$\text{When } x = -1, \sum u_n = \sum (-1)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{1}{n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots,$$

which is convergent by Leibnitz's test. (give the proof)

$$\text{When } x = 1, \sum u_n = -\left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots\right) \text{ which is divergent,}$$

since  $\sum \frac{1}{n}$  is divergent by  $p$ -series test (prove).

Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $-1 < x \leq 1$ .

Interval of convergence is  $(-1 < x \leq 1)$ .

### Exercise 1.5

**1. Use integral test and determine the convergence or divergence of the following series:**

1.  $\sum \frac{1}{n^2}$  ..... [Ans : convergent]

2.  $\sum_2^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(\log n)^2}$  ..... [Ans : convergent]

**2. Test for convergence of the following series:**

1.  $1 - \frac{1}{|2|} + \frac{1}{|4|} - \frac{1}{|6|} + \dots$  ..... [Ans : convergent]

2.  $\sum_1^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{(2n-1)(2n)}$  ..... [Ans : convergent]

$$3. \sum_1^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} n^{-5/2} \dots\dots\dots [\text{Ans : convergent}]$$

3. Classify the following series into absolutely convergent and conditionally convergent series :

$$1. \sum \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3} \dots\dots\dots [\text{Ans : abs.cgt}]$$

$$2. \sum \frac{\sin \sqrt{n}}{n^{3/2}} \dots\dots\dots [\text{Ans : abs.cgt}]$$

$$3. \sum \frac{(-1)^n}{n(\log n)^2} \dots\dots\dots [\text{Ans : abs.cgt}]$$

4. Find the interval of convergence of the following series :

$$1. \sum \frac{2^n x^n}{n} \dots\dots\dots [\text{Ans : } -\infty < x < \infty ]$$

$$2. \sum \frac{x^n}{n^2} \dots\dots\dots [\text{Ans : } -1 \leq x \leq 1 ]$$

$$3. x - \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{x^3}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{x^4}{\sqrt{4}} + \dots\dots\dots [\text{Ans : } -1 < x \leq 1 ]$$

5. (a) Show that  $1 - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots$  is absolutely convergent.

(b) Show that  $1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{4}} + \dots$  is conditionally convergent.

### Summary

1. The geometric series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^{n-1}$  converges if  $|x| < 1$ , diverges if  $x \geq 1$ , and oscillates when  $x \leq -1$
2. If  $\sum u_n$  is convergent,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$  [The convergent need not be necessary ]
3. p – series test :-  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$  is convergent if  $p > 1$  and divergent if  $p \leq 1$

4. *Comparison test* :- The series  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  are both convergent or both divergent if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n}$  is finite and non-zero.

5. *D'Alembert's Ratio test* :-  $\sum u_n$  converges or diverges according as

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} < 1 \text{ or } > 1$$

(Alternately, if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} > 1$  or  $< 1$ ). If the limit = 1, the test fails

6. *Raabe's test* :  $\sum u_n$  converges or diverges according as

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ n \left\{ \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right\} \right] > 1 \text{ or } < 1 .$$

7. *Cauchy's root test*:  $\sum u_n$  converges or diverges according as

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( u_n^{\frac{1}{n}} \right) < 1 \text{ or } > 1 \quad (\text{If limit} = 1, \text{ the test fails.})$$

8. *Integral test* : A series  $\sum \phi(n)$  of +ve terms where  $\phi(n)$  decreases as  $n$  increases is convergent or divergent according as the integral  $\int_1^{\infty} \phi(x) dx$  is finite or infinite.

9. *Alternating series – Leibnitz's test*: An alternating series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} u_n$  convergent if (i)  $u_n > u_{n+1}, \forall n$  and (ii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$

10. Absolute / conditional convergence :

(a)  $\sum u_n$  is absolutely convergent if  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent.

(b)  $\sum u_n$  is conditionally convergent if  $\sum u_n$  is convergent and  $\sum |u_n|$  is divergent.

(c) An absolutely convergent series is convergent, but converse need not be true. i.e., a convergent series need not be convergent.



### Miscellaneous Exercise - 1.6

1. Examine the convergence of the following series:

1.  $\frac{1}{1.2} + \frac{1}{3.4} + \frac{1}{5.6} + \dots$  ..... [cgt.]
2.  $\frac{1^2}{1^3+1} + \frac{2^2}{2^3+1} + \frac{3^2}{3^3+1} + \dots$  ..... [dgt.]
3.  $\frac{2}{1} + \frac{2^2}{2} + \frac{2^3}{3} + \dots$  ..... [dgt.]
4.  $\frac{1}{1+2} + \frac{2}{1+2^2} + \frac{3}{1+2^3} + \dots$  ..... [cgt.]
5.  $\frac{x}{1+x} + \frac{x^2}{1+x^2} + \frac{x^3}{1+x^3} + \dots (x > 0)$  ..... [cgt. if  $x \leq 1$  dgt. if  $x > 1$ ]
6.  $2x + \frac{3x^2}{8} + \frac{4x^3}{27} + \dots (x > 0)$  ..... [cgt. if  $x \leq 1$  dgt. if  $x > 1$ ]
7.  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1.3}{2.4} + \frac{1.3.5}{2.4.6} + \dots$  ..... [dgt.]
8.  $\frac{3^2}{6^2} + \frac{3^2.5^2}{6^2.8^2} + \frac{3^2.5^2.7^2}{6^2.8^2.10^2} + \dots$  ..... [cgt.]
9.  $\frac{3.4}{1.2} + \frac{4.5}{2.3} + \frac{5.6}{3.4} + \dots$  ..... [dig.]
10.  $\frac{(\underline{1})^2}{\underline{2}}x + \frac{(\underline{2})^2}{\underline{4}}x^2 + \frac{(\underline{3})^3}{\underline{6}}x^3 + \dots (x > 0)$  ..... [cgt. if  $x < 4$ , dgt. if  $x \geq 4$ ]
11.  $1 + \frac{x}{2^2} + \frac{x^2}{3^2} + \frac{x^3}{4^2} + \dots (x > 0)$  ..... [cgt. if  $x \leq 1$ , dgt. if  $x > 1$ ]
12.  $\frac{3x}{4} + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2 x^2 + \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^3 x^3 + \dots (x > 0)$  ..... [cgt if  $x < 1$ , dgt. if  $x \geq 1$ ]
13.  $\sum \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n^2}$  ..... [dgt.]

14.  $\sum \frac{2^{3n}}{3^{2n}}$  ..... [cgt.]
15.  $\sum \frac{a^n}{1+n^2}, a < 1$  ..... [cgt.]
16.  $1 - \frac{1}{2.2} + \frac{1}{3.3} - \frac{1}{4.4} + \dots$  ..... [Abs. cgt.]

**2. Examine for absolute and conditional convergence of the following series:**

1.  $\sum (-1)^n \frac{3^{3n}}{3^{2n}}$  ..... [Abs. cgt.]
2.  $\sum \frac{(-1)^n \cdot n}{2^n}$  ..... [Abs. cgt.]
3.  $1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{4}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$  ..... [Cond. cgt.]
4.  $\sum (-1)^n \frac{(n^2+1)}{n^3}$  ..... [Cond.cgt.]

**3. Determine the interval of convergence of the following series :**

1.  $x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^4}{4} + \dots$  ..... [ $-1 \leq x < 1$ ]
2.  $\sum \frac{(x+1)^n}{n \cdot 2^n}$  ..... [ $-3 < x < 1$ ]

### Solved University Questions (J.N.T.U)

1. Test the convergence of the series:

$$\frac{1}{1.2.3} + \frac{2}{2.3.4} + \frac{3}{3.4.5} + \dots$$

**Solution**

Let  $u_n$  be the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term of the series;

$$\text{Then, } u_n = \frac{n}{n(n+1)(n+2)} = \frac{1}{(n+1)(n+2)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}; \text{ then, } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{(n+1)(n+2)} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)\left(1 + \frac{2}{n}\right)} = 1, \end{aligned}$$

Which is non-zero and finite.

$\therefore$  By comparison test, both  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  converge or diverge together.

But  $\sum v_n$  is convergent by  $p$ -series test ( $p > 1$ )  $\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent.

2. Show that every convergent sequence is bounded

**Solution**

Let  $\langle a_n \rangle$  be a sequence which converges to a limit 'l' say.

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = l \Rightarrow$  given any +ve number  $\epsilon$ , however small,

we can always find an integer 'm',  $\exists$ ,  $|a_n - l| < \epsilon$ ,  $\forall n \geq m$

Taking  $\epsilon = 1$ , we have,  $|a_n - l| < 1$ ;

i.e.,  $(l-1) < a_n < (l+1)$ ,  $\forall n \geq m$

Let  $\lambda = \min \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{m-1}, (l-1)\}$ , and  $\mu = \max \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{m-1}, (l+1)\}$

Then obviously,  $\lambda \leq a_n \leq \mu$ ,  $\forall n \in N$ ;

Hence  $\langle a_n \rangle$  is bounded.

3. Show that the geometric series  $\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} q^m = 1 + q + q^2 + \dots$  converges to the sum

$$\frac{1}{1-q} \text{ when } |q| < 1 \text{ and diverges when } |q| \geq 1$$

(JNTU 2001)

**Solution**

See theorem 1.2.3 (replace 'x' by 'q').

4. Define the convergence of a series. Explain the absolute convergence and conditional convergence of a series. Test the convergence of series

(JNTU 2000)

$$\sum \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right]^{-n^2}$$

**Solution**

For theory part, refer 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.8, 1.8.1, 1.9.1 and 1.9.2

**Problem :** Let  $u_n = \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right)^{-n^2}$  ;  $Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( u_n^{1/n} \right) = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right)^{-n}$

$$= Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left[ 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right]^n} = \frac{1}{e^2} < 1$$

By Cauchy's root test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

5. Test the convergence of the series,  $1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1.3}{2.4}x^2 + \frac{1.3.5}{2.4.6}x^3 + \dots$

(JNTU 2001)

Given that  $x > 0$ .

**Solution**

Omitting the first term of the series, we have,

$$u_n = \frac{1.3.5 \dots (2n-1)}{2.4.6 \dots 2n} x^n ; u_{n+1} = \frac{1.3.5 \dots (2n+1)}{2.4.6 \dots (2n+2)} x^{n+1} ;$$

$$Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{2n+1}{2n+2} \right) \cdot x = x$$

By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < 1$ , and divergent when  $x > 1$

The ratio test fails when  $x = 1$

When  $x = 1$ ,  $\frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 = \frac{2n+2}{2n+1} - 1 = \frac{1}{2n+1}$

$$Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ n \left( \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) \right] = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n}{2n+1} \right) = \frac{1}{2} < 1 ;$$

$\therefore$  By Raabe's test,  $\sum u_n$  diverges.

$\therefore$  The given series converges when  $x < 1$  and diverges when  $x \geq 1$ .

6. Test the convergence of the series,  $\frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)x + \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 x^2 + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^3 x^3 + \dots x > 0$

(JNTU 2002)

**Solution**Neglecting the 1<sup>st</sup> term,

$$u_n = \left[ \left( \frac{n+1}{n+2} \right) x \right]^n ;$$

$$u_n^{1/n} = \left( \frac{n+1}{n+2} \right) x = \left( \frac{1 + 1/n}{1 + 2/n} \right) x$$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = x$ ; By Cauchy's root test,  $\sum u_n$  is cgt. when  $x < 1$  and dgt. when  $x > 1$ ; when  $x = 1$ , the test fails.

$$\text{When } x = 1, u_n = \frac{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n}{\left(1 + \frac{2}{n}\right)^n}; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \frac{e}{e^2} = \frac{1}{e} \neq 0$$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is divergent.

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is cgt. when  $x < 1$  and dgt. when  $x \geq 1$ .

7. Test the series whose  $n^{\text{th}}$  term is  $(3n-1)/2^n$  for convergence. (JNTU 2003)

**Solution**

$$u_n = \frac{(3n-1)}{2^n} ; \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{\{3(n+1)-1\}}{2^{n+1}} ;$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{(3n+2)}{2(3n-1)} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{1}{2} < 1 ;$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

8. Show by Cauchy's integral test that the series  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(\log n)^p}$  converges if  $p > 1$

and diverges if  $0 < p \leq 1$

(JNTU 2003)

**Solution**

Let  $\phi(x) = \frac{1}{x(\log x)^p}$ ;  $x \geq 2$ ; Then  $\phi(x)$  decreases as  $x$  increases in  $[2, \infty]$

$$\int_2^{\infty} \phi(x) dx = \int_2^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x(\log x)^p} = \int_{\log 2}^{\infty} \frac{du}{u^p} = \frac{u^{1-p}}{1-p} \Big|_{\log 2}^{\infty} ;$$

[Taking  $\log x = u$ ,  $\frac{1}{x} dx = du$   $x = 2 \Rightarrow u = \log 2$  and  $x = \infty \Rightarrow u = \infty$  ]

**Case (i) :**  $p > 1 \Rightarrow 1 - p < 0 \Rightarrow$  Integral is finite , and

**Case (ii) :**  $0 < p \leq 1 \Rightarrow$  Integral is infinite.

Hence, by integral test, the given series converges if  $p > 1$  and diverges when  $0 < p \leq 1$ .

9. Test the convergence of the series  $\sum \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^{n^{3/2}}$

**Solution**

$$u_n^{1/n} \left\{ \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^{n^{3/2}} \right\}^{1/n} = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^{\sqrt{n}}};$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \frac{1}{e} < 1 \quad [2 < e < 3].$$

By Cauchy's root test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

10. Test the convergence of the series,  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cdot x^n}{n(n-1)}$ ,  $0 < x < 1$

**Solution**

The given series is of the form  $\sum (-1)^n u_n$ , where  $u_n = \frac{x^n}{n(n-1)}$ .

This is an alternating series in which (i)  $u_n > 0$  and  $u_n > u_{n+1} \forall n \in N$ .

Further  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$ . Hence, by Leibnitz test, the series is convergent.

11. Discuss the convergence of the series,  $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{1}} + \frac{x^2}{3\sqrt{2}} + \frac{x^4}{4\sqrt{3}} + \frac{x^6}{5\sqrt{4}} + \dots$

(JNTU 1995, 2002, 2003, 2008)

**Solution**

$$n^{\text{th}} \text{ term of the series} = u_n = \frac{x^{2n}}{(n+2)\sqrt{n+1}} \quad (\text{omitting } 1^{\text{st}} \text{ term})$$

$$u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{2n+2}}{(n+3)\sqrt{n+2}}; \quad u_n = \frac{\sqrt{n+2}\sqrt{n+1}}{(n+3)} \cdot x^2$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{1+2/n} \cdot \sqrt{1+1/n}}{(1+3/n)} \cdot x^2 \right] = x^2;$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges if  $x^2 < 1$ , i.e., if  $|x| < 1$ , and diverges if  $x^2 > 1$ , i.e., if  $|x| > 1$ ;

When  $x^2 = 1$ ,  $u_n = \frac{1}{(n+2)\sqrt{n+1}}$ ; taking  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^{3/2}}$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{3/2}}{n^{3/2}(1+2/n)\sqrt{1+1/n}} = 1$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  both converge or diverge together;

But  $\sum v_n$  is convergent by  $p$ -series test.

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent if  $|x| \leq 1$  and divergent if  $|x| > 1$ .

12. Test the convergence of the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2n}}{(n+1)\sqrt{n}}$  (JNTU 2006, 2007)

**Solution**

$$u_n = \frac{x^{2n}}{(n+1)\sqrt{n}}; \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{2n+2}}{(n+2)\sqrt{n+1}}$$

$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{\sqrt{n}\sqrt{n+1}}{n+2} \cdot x^2 = \frac{\sqrt{1+1/n}}{(1+2/n)} \cdot x^2; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = x^2;$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $|x| < 1$  and diverges for  $|x| > 1$ .

When  $|x| = 1$ ,  $u_n = \frac{1}{n^{3/2}(1+1/n)}$  taking  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^{3/2}}$  and applying the comparison

test, we observe that  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

Hence  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $|x| \leq 1$  and diverges when  $|x| > 1$ .

13. Find the interval of convergence of the series,  $\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^4}{4} + \dots \dots \dots \infty$

(JNTU 2006, 2007)

**Solution**

For the given series,  $u_n = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}$ ;  $u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{n+2}}{n+2}$

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

By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $|x| < 1$  i.e.,  $-1 < x < 1$

When  $x = 1$ ,  $u_n = \frac{1}{n+1}$

Taking  $u_n = \frac{1}{n}$ ;  $v_n = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}}$

and,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = 1 \neq 0$  and finite.

$\therefore$  Both  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  converge or diverge together.

But  $\sum v_n$  diverges  $\therefore \sum u_n$  also diverges when  $x = 1$ .

When  $x = -1$ , the given series is

$$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{5} + \dots \dots \dots$$

which is alternating series with

$$u_n > u_{n+1} \forall n \text{ and } u_n \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

$\therefore$  By Leibnitz's test  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $x = -1$

$\therefore$  Interval of convergence is  $[(-1, 1)$  i.e.,  $-1 \leq x < 1$

14. Test the convergence of the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1.3.5 \dots (2n+1)}{2.5.8 \dots (3n+2)}$

(JNTU 2006)

**Solution**

$$u_n = \frac{1.3.5 \dots (2n+1)}{2.5.8 \dots (3n+2)}; \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{1.3.5 \dots (2n+3)}{2.5.8 \dots (3n+5)}$$



$$\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{2n+3}{3n+5}; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{2 + \left(\frac{3}{n}\right)}{3 + \left(\frac{5}{n}\right)} \right] = \frac{2}{3} < 1$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

15. Prove that the series  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n(\log n)^2}$  converges absolutely. (JNTU 2006)

**Solution**

$$|u_n| = \frac{1}{n(\log n)^3}; \quad \int_2^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x(\log x)^3} = \int_{\log 2}^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t^2}$$

$$(\text{where } t = \log x) = \frac{-1}{t} \Big|_{\log 2}^{\infty} = \frac{1}{\log 2}, \text{ which is finite.}$$

$\therefore$  By integral test  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent.

$\therefore \sum u_n$  converges absolutely.

**Note:** This problem can also be done by Leibnitz test. The reader is advised to try that method also.

16. Test the convergence of the series  $\sum \frac{(2n+1)}{n^3+1} x^n, x > 0$  (JNTU 2006)

**Solution**

$n^{\text{th}}$  term of the given series,  $u_n = \frac{2n+1}{n^3+1} x^n$ ;

$$u_{n+1} = \left[ \frac{2(n+1)+1}{(n+1)^3+1} \right] x^{n+1} = \frac{2n+3}{(n+1)^3+1} x^{n+1}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n+3) \cdot x^{n+1}}{\{(n+1)^3+1\}} \times \frac{(n^3+1)}{x^n (2n+1)}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{2n \left(1 + \frac{3}{2n}\right) \cdot n^3 \left(1 + \frac{1}{n^3}\right)}{n^3 \left\{ \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^3 + \frac{1}{n^3} \right\} \cdot 2n \left(1 + \frac{1}{2n}\right)} \right] x = .x$$

By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges if  $x < 1$  and diverges if  $x > 1$ . If  $x = 1$  the test fails.

When  $x = 1$ ,  $u_n = \frac{2n+1}{n^3+1}$ ; Taking  $v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$  ;

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n+1}{n^3+1} \times n^2 = 2 \neq 0 \quad \text{and finite}$$

$\therefore \sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  converge or diverge together .

But  $\sum v_n$  converges  $\therefore \sum u_n$  also converges.

Thus,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $x \leq 1$  and diverges when  $x > 1$ .

17. Test the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n (\log n)}{n^2}$ , for absolute/conditional convergence

(JNTU 2006)

**Solution**

$$u_n = \frac{(-1)^n (\log n)}{n^2} ; |u_n| = \frac{(\log n)}{n^2} ;$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_2^{\infty} \frac{\log x}{x^2} dx &= \int_{\log 2}^{\infty} t e^{-t} dt \quad [\text{taking } \log x = t, x = e^t, \frac{1}{x} dx = \log t] \\ &= -t e^{-t} + e^{-t} \Big|_{\log 2}^{\infty} = 0 - [1 - \log 2] \cdot e^{-\log 2} = \frac{1}{2} (\log 2 - 1), \end{aligned}$$

which is finite.

$\therefore$  By integral test  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent  $\Rightarrow \sum u_n$  converges absolutely.

(Note that  $\sum u_n$  is cgt. by Leibnitz's test).

18. Test the convergence of the series  $\sum \frac{1}{(\log \log n)^n}$  (JNTU 2006)

**Solution**

$$\text{Given that } u_n = \frac{1}{(\log \log n)^n} ;$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{1}{\log \log n} \right] = 0 < 1$$

By Cauchy's root test,  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

19. Find the interval of convergence of the series,

$$x + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{x^5}{5} + \frac{1.3.5}{2.4.6} \cdot \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots \quad (\text{JNTU 2007})$$

**Solution**

$$\text{Term of the series, } u_n = \frac{1.3.5 \dots (2n-1)}{2.4.6 \dots 2n} \cdot \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)} \quad (\text{neglecting 1st term})$$

$$u_{n+1} = \frac{1.3.5 \dots (2n-1)(2n+1)}{2.4.6 \dots 2n(2n+2)} \cdot \frac{x^{2n+3}}{(2n+3)} ;$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{(2n+1)^2}{(2n+2)(2n+3)} \cdot x^2 \right] \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{n^2 \left(4 + \frac{4}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2}\right)}{n^2 \left(4 + \frac{10}{n} + \frac{6}{n^2}\right)} \cdot x^2 \right] = x^2$$

By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $x^2 < 1$ , i.e.,  $|x| < 1 \Rightarrow -1 < x < 1$

When  $x^2 = 1$ , the test fails;

$$\text{Then } \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 = \left( \frac{4n^2 + 10n + 6}{4n^2 + 2n + 1} - 1 \right) = \frac{8n + 5}{4n^2 + 2n + 1}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ n \left( \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right) \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2 \left(8 + \frac{5}{n}\right)}{n^2 \left(4 + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2}\right)} = 2 > 1$$

$\therefore$  By Raabe's test,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $x^2 = 1$ , i.e.,  $x = \pm 1$ .

$\therefore$  Interval of convergence of  $\sum u_n$  is  $[-1 \leq x \leq 1]$

20. Test the series  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{8} + \dots + \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^2 - 1}$ , for convergence or divergence.

[JNTU 2006]

**Solution**

$$u_n = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^2 + 1} ; \quad \text{Let } v_n = \frac{1}{n^{3/2}}$$

$$\frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{\sqrt{n} \cdot n^{3/2}}{n^2 + 1} = \frac{n^2}{n^2 + 1} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n^2}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n^2}} \right) = 1 \text{ which is non-zero finite number}$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  behave alike.

But  $\sum v_n$  is convergent by p-series test  $\left( \because p = \frac{3}{2} > 1 \right)$

Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent

21. Test the convergence of the series,  $\frac{\sqrt{2}-1}{3^2-1} + \frac{\sqrt{3}-1}{4^2-1} + \frac{\sqrt{4}-1}{5^2-1} + \dots$

[JNTU 2007]

**Solution**

$$u_n = \frac{\sqrt{n+1}-1}{(n+2)^2-1}; \quad \text{Let } v_n = \frac{1}{n^{3/2}}$$

$[\because \text{Highest degree of } n \text{ in } Dr - Nr = 2 - 1/2 = 3/2]$

$$\frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{n^{3/2} \cdot (\sqrt{n+1}-1)}{(n+2)^2-1} = \frac{n^2 \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}}{n^2 \left( 1 + \frac{4}{n} + \frac{3}{n^2} \right)}$$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = 1 \Rightarrow \sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  both converge or diverge together (by comparison

test). But  $\sum v_n$  converges by p-series test  $\left( \because p = \frac{3}{2} > 1 \right)$ . Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

22. Test the convergence of  $\sum \sqrt{n^3+1} - \sqrt{n^3}$

[JNTU 2008]

**Solution**

$$u_n \text{ can be written as, } u_n = \frac{\sqrt{n^3+1} - \sqrt{n^3}}{\sqrt{n^3+1} + \sqrt{n^3}}$$

$$\text{i.e. } u_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^3} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n^3}} + 1 \right]}; \quad \text{Let } v_n = \frac{1}{n^{3/2}}$$

Then, 
$$\frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n^3} + 1}} \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = \frac{1}{2} \neq 0.$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  and  $\sum v_n$  have same property

$\sum v_n$  is convergent by p-series test ( $\because p = \frac{3}{2} > 1$ ). Hence  $\sum u_n$  is convergent.

23. Test for the convergence of the series,  $1 + \frac{x}{2} + \frac{x^2}{5} + \frac{x^3}{10} + \dots x > 0$

[JNTU 1998, 1985, 2002, 2002]

### Solution

Neglecting the first term, we observe that the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term of the series,

$$u_n = \frac{x^n}{n^2 + 1}; u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n^2 + 2n + 2}, \text{ so that,}$$

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

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $x < 1$  and diverges when  $x > 1$  and the test fails when  $x = 1$

$\therefore$  when  $x = 1$ ,  $u_n = \frac{1}{n^2 + 1}$ ; Taking  $\sum v_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$  and using comparison test, we can show that  $\sum u_n$  is convergent. [This part of proof is left to the reader as an exercise].

$\therefore \sum u_n$  converges for  $x \leq 1$  and diverges for  $x > 1$ .

24. Test the convergence of  $\sum \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n^2 + 1}} \cdot x^n$  ( $x > 0$ )

[JNTU 2003]

### Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt{n^2 + 2n + 2}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n^2 + 1}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot x \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n^2}} \cdot x}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{2}{n^2}}} = 1 \cdot x = x \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $x < 1$  and diverges when  $x > 1$  and when  $x = 1$  the test fails.

When  $x = 1$ ,  $u_n = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n^2+1}}$ ; Taking  $v_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n}{v_n} = 1$  (verify)

By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  diverges. [Since  $\sum v_n$  diverges by p-series test as  $p = \frac{1}{2} < 1$ ]

Hence  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $x < 1$  and diverges when  $x \geq 1$ .

25. Test for convergence the series  $\sum \frac{x^n}{n}$  ( $x > 0$ ) [JNTU 2007, 2008]

**Solution**

$$u_n = \frac{x^n}{n}, \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}; \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n}{n+1} \right) x = x$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum u_n$  converges when  $x < 1$  and diverges when  $x > 1$ . when  $x = 1$ , the test fails.

When  $x = 1$ ,  $u_n = \frac{1}{n}$  and  $\sum u_n$  is divergent (p series test –  $p = 1$ )

$\therefore \sum u_n$  is convergent when  $x < 1$  and divergent when  $x \geq 1$ .

26. Find whether the series  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{\sin\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)}{(n-1)}$  is absolutely convergent or conditionally convergent. [JNTU 2006]

**Solution**

When  $n \geq 2$ , we have,

$$|u_n| = \frac{\sin\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)}{(n-1)}; \quad \text{Let } v_n = \frac{1}{n^{3/2}};$$

$$\therefore \frac{|u_n|}{v_n} = \frac{n^{3/2}}{n-1} \left[ \sin\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right) \right]$$

$$Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{|u_n|}{v_n} \right) = Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{\frac{\sin \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}}{\sqrt{n}}}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}} \right) \left( \frac{n}{n-1} \right) = 1$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test  $\Sigma |u_n|$  and  $\Sigma v_n$  behave alike. But  $\Sigma v_n$  is convergent by p-series test ( $p = 3/2 > 1$ ).

$\therefore \Sigma |u_n|$  is convergent. Hence  $\Sigma u_n$  is absolutely convergent.

27. Test whether the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos n \pi}{n^2 + 1}$  converges absolutely [JNTU 2006]

**Solution**

The given series is  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos n \pi}{n^2 + 1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n u_n$  where  $u_n = \frac{1}{n^2 + 1}$ .

It is obvious that  $u_1 > u_2 > \dots u_n > u_{n+1} > \dots$  and  $Lt_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$

$\therefore$  By Leibnitz's test given series is convergent.

$\Sigma |(-1)^n \cdot u_n| = \Sigma \frac{1}{n^2 + 1}$  which is convergent (Take  $v = \frac{1}{n^2}$  and apply comparison test. This is an exercise to the reader)

Hence given series is absolutely convergent.

28. Find whether the following series converges absolutely or conditionally

$$\frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1.3.5}{6.8.10} - \frac{1.3.5.7}{6.8.10.12} + \dots \quad [\text{JNTU 2007}]$$

**Solution** The given series is  $\frac{1}{6} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{3.5}{8.10} - \frac{3.5.7}{8.10.12} + \dots \right]$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \left[ \frac{2}{3} + \left\{ \frac{3.5}{8.10} - \frac{3.5.7}{8.10.12} + \dots \right\} \right]$$

We can take the series as  $\frac{3.5}{8.10} - \frac{3.5.7}{8.10.12} + \dots$ , (neglecting other terms)  $= \Sigma u_n$ ,

where  $|u_n| = \frac{3.5.7 \dots (2n+3)}{8.10.12 \dots (2n+8)}$ , so that  $|u_{n+1}| = \frac{3.5.7 \dots (2n+3)(2n+5)}{8.10.12 \dots (2n+8)(2n+10)}$

It can be seen that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{(2n+10)}{(2n+5)} \right] = 1$ , so that ratio test fails.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \left| \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right| n \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{(2n+10)}{(2n+5)} - 1 \right] n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{5n}{2n+5} \right) = \frac{5}{2} > 1$$

$\therefore$  By Raabe's test,  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent. Hence the given series is absolutely convergent.

29. Test for absolute convergence of the series whose  $n^{\text{th}}$  term is  $\frac{(-1)^n (x+2)}{2^n + 5}$ .

[JNTU 2007]

**Solution:** Let given series be  $\sum u_n$ . Then  $|u_n| = \frac{x+2}{2^n + 5}$

$$\therefore |u_{n+1}| = \frac{x+2}{2^{n+1} + 5}, \text{ so that, } \frac{|u_{n+1}|}{|u_n|} = \frac{2^n + 5}{2^{n+1} + 5} = \frac{2^n \left( 1 + \frac{5}{2^n} \right)}{2^n \left( 2 + \frac{5}{2^n} \right)}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = \frac{1}{2} < 1;$$

$\therefore$  By ratio test,  $\sum |u_n|$  is convergent. Hence the given series is absolutely convergent.

30. Test whether the following is absolutely convergent or conditionally convergent.

$$\sum_1^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} (\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}) \quad \text{[JNTU 2008]}$$

**Solution**

The given series is  $\sum u_n$  where  $u_n = (-1)^{n+1} [\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}]$ . It is an alternating series.

$$\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n} = \frac{[\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}] [\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}]}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} = v_n \text{ (say),}$$



(1)  $v_n > 0 \forall n$ ; (2)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n = 0$  and (3)  $v_{n+1} > v_n \forall n$ ; since all conditions of

Leibnitz's test are satisfied, the given series is convergent.

Further,  $|u_n| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}}$ ; Taking  $v_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$ , we have,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|u_n|}{v_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{n}} + 1 \right]} = \frac{1}{2} \neq 0$$

$\therefore$  By comparison test,  $\sum |u_n|$  and  $\sum v_n$  behave alike. But  $\sum v_n = \sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$  is divergent by p-series test  $\left( p = \frac{1}{2} < 1 \right)$ .

$\therefore \sum |u_n|$  is divergent. Hence the given series is conditionally convergent

**31.** Find the interval of convergence of the series,

$$\frac{1}{1-x} + \frac{1}{2(1-x^2)} + \frac{1}{3(1-x)^3} + \dots$$

[JNTU 2007, 2008]

**Solution:** If the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term of the given series is  $u_n$ ,

$$u_n = \frac{1}{n(1-x)^n}; u_{n+1} = \frac{1}{(n+1)(1-x)^{n+1}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(n+1)(1-x)^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{n(1-x)^n}{1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)} \cdot \frac{1}{(1-x)} = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

Now, by ratio test:

(i)  $x = 1 \Rightarrow$  the limit is infinite  $\Rightarrow \sum u_n$  is divergent

(ii)  $x \neq 0$  and  $x > 1 \Rightarrow$  the limit is  $< 1 \Rightarrow \sum u_n$  is convergent

- (iii)  $x \neq 0$  and  $x < 1$  and  $> 0 \Rightarrow$  the limit is  $> 1 \Rightarrow \Sigma u_n$  is divergent
- (iv) If  $x = 0$ , the series is  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots$ , which is divergent by p-series test  
( $p = 1$ )
- (v) If  $x < 0$ , the limit is  $< 1 \Rightarrow \Sigma u_n$  is convergent by ratio test .

Hence the given series converges for all values of (i)  $x > 1$  and  $x \neq 0$  and  
(ii)  $x < 0$ .

$\therefore$  The interval of convergence of the given series is  $(-\infty, 0) \cup (1, \infty)$ .

### Objective Type Questions

- The infinite series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + 1}$  is
 

(i) convergent	(ii) divergent
(iii) oscillatory	(iv) none of these

**[Ans :(i)]**
- The series  $\frac{1+n}{1+n^2}$  is
 

(i) convergent	(ii) divergent
(iii) oscillatory	(iv) none of these

**[Ans :(ii)]**
- The series  $\frac{1}{1\sqrt{1}} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{3\sqrt{3}} - \frac{1}{4\sqrt{4}} + \dots$ 

(i) oscillatory	(ii) absolutely convergent
(iii) conditionally convergent	(iv) none of these

**[Ans :(ii)]**
- The series  $1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots$  is
 

(i) oscillatory	(ii) divergent
(iii) convergent	(iv) none of these

**[Ans :(iii)]**

5. The interval of convergence of the series  $x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} + \dots$ , is
- (i)  $-\infty < x < \infty$  (ii)  $-1 < x < 2$   
(iii)  $-1 < x \leq 1$  (iv) none of these [Ans :(iii)]
6. The series  $\frac{1}{1.2} + \frac{2}{3.4} + \frac{3}{5.6} + \dots \infty$  is
- (i) convergent (ii) divergent  
(iii) oscillatory (iv) none of these [Ans :(ii)]
7. The series  $\frac{1}{1.3} + \frac{2}{3.5} + \frac{3}{5.7} + \dots \infty$ , is
- (i) conditionally convergent (ii) convergent  
(iii) divergent (iv) none of these [Ans :(iii)]
8. The series  $\frac{2}{1^p} + \frac{3}{2^p} + \frac{4}{3^p} + \frac{5}{4^p} + \dots \infty$  is convergent if
- (i)  $p < 2$  (ii)  $p = 2$   
(iii)  $p > 2$  (iv) none of these [Ans :(iii)]
9. The series  $6 - 10 + 4 + 6 - 10 + 4 + 6 - 10 + 4 + 6 \dots \infty$  is
- (i) convergent (ii) oscillatory  
(iii) divergent (iv) none of these [Ans :(ii)]
10. The series  $\frac{1}{2.4} + \frac{1}{4.6} + \frac{1}{6.8} + \dots$  is
- (i) convergent (ii) divergent  
(iii) oscillatory (iv) none of these [Ans :(i)]

**2. Indicate whether the following statements are true or false:**

1. The series  $\sum \frac{1}{1+2^{-n}}$  is convergent . ..... [False]
2. The series  $\sum \frac{n^2+5}{2n^2+7}$  is not convergent . ..... [True]
3. The series  $\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots$  is divergent..... [False]
4. The series  $x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - + - \dots$ , converges when  $-1 \leq x \leq 1$  .. [True]
5. The series  $\sum \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n.5^n}$  is absolutely convergent. .... [True]
6. The series  $x + 2x^2 + 3x^3 + 4x^4 + \dots \infty$  is convergent if  $x > 1$ ..... [False]
7. The series  $x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} + \dots \infty$  is divergent if  $x \geq 1$  ..... [True]
8. The series  $1 + \frac{x}{2} + \frac{2!}{3^2}x^3 + \frac{3!}{4^3}x^3 + \frac{4!}{5^4}x^4 + \dots + \infty$  is convergent  
if  $x > e$  ..... [True]
9. The series  $\sum \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^{-n^{3/2}}$  is divergent ..... [False]
10. The series  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{3}x + \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 x^2 + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^3 x^3 + \dots$  is convergent  
if  $x < 1$  . ..... [True]
11. The series  $1 - 2x + 3x^2 - 4x^3 + \dots \infty (x < 1)$  is divergent..... [False]

12. The series  $\frac{x}{1+x} - \frac{x^2}{1+x^2} + \frac{x^3}{1+x^3} - \frac{x^4}{1+x^4} + \dots \infty$  is convergent ..... [True]
13. The series  $\frac{\sin x}{1^3} - \frac{\sin 2x}{2^3} + \frac{\sin 3x}{3^3} + \dots \infty$  converges absolutely..... [True]
14. The series  $\sum \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{\sqrt{n}}$  is conditionally convergent. .... [True]
15. The series whose  $n^{\text{th}}$  term is  $\frac{3n^2 + 5}{(n+2)^a}$  is convergent. [False]

### 3. Fill in the Blanks:

1. The geometric series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1}$  converges if \_\_\_\_\_ . [Ans:  $|r| < 1$ ]
2. If a series of +ve terms  $\sum u_n$  is convergent,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n =$  \_\_\_\_\_. [Ans: 0]
3.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \sqrt[3]{n^3 + 1} - n \right\}$  is \_\_\_\_\_. [Ans: convergent.]
4. If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3n^3 - 4}{(n+5)^p}$  is divergent, value of  $p$  is \_\_\_\_\_. [Ans:  $\leq 4$ ]
5. The interval of convergence of  $\sum u_n$  where  $u_n = \left( \frac{n^2 - 2}{n^2 + 2} \right)^{2n} x$ , is \_\_\_\_\_.  
[Ans:  $-1 < x < 1$ ]
6.  $\sum u_n$  is convergent series of +ve series. Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (u_n^{1/n})$  is \_\_\_\_\_.  
[Ans:  $< 1$ ]

7. The series  $8 - 12 + 4 + 8 - 12 - 4 + \dots$  is \_\_\_\_\_. **[Ans : Oscillatory ]**

8. If  $u_n > 0, \forall n$  and  $\sum u_n$  is convergent, then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ n \left\{ \frac{u_n}{u_{n+1}} - 1 \right\} \right]$  is \_\_\_\_\_.

**[Ans: > 1]**

9. If the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n, (a_n > 0 \forall n)$  is convergent, then for all values of  $n, \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}}$  is \_\_\_\_\_.

**[Ans: > 1]**

10. If  $u_n = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{-n^2}, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{1/n} =$  \_\_\_\_\_.

**[Ans:  $1/e$ ]**