

[D] Alembert's Ratio Test]

Let $\sum U_n$ be a series of positive terms such that

$$(a) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{U_n}{U_{n+1}} \right) = l$$

then (i) if $l > 1$, $\sum U_n$ is cgt.

(ii) if $l < 1$, $\sum U_n$ is divergent

(iii) if $l = 1$, $\sum U_n$ may cgt or diver

$$(b) \quad \text{If } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{U_n}{U_{n+1}} \right) \rightarrow \infty, \text{ then}$$

$\sum U_n$ Converges.

eg: Test the convergence of the series whose n^{th} term is $\frac{n^n}{n!}$

Solⁿ Here $U_n = \frac{n^n}{n!}$, $U_{n+1} = \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$

$$\text{Now, } \frac{U_n}{U_{n+1}} = \frac{n^n}{n!} \times \frac{(n+1)!}{(n+1)^{n+1}}$$

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

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

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

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{U_n}{U_{n+1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n} = \frac{1}{e} < 1$$

$\therefore 2 < e < 3$
Therefore by ratio test the given series is divergent.

Cauchy's n^{th} root test :-

Let $\sum u_n$ be a series of positive terms such that

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

- (i) if $l < 1$, then $\sum u_n$ is convergent
- (ii) if $l > 1$, then $\sum u_n$ is divergent
- (iii) if $l = 1$, $\sum u_n$ may conv. or diverge.

eg: Let $u_n = \left(\frac{nx}{n+1}\right)^n$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \left(\frac{nx}{n+1}\right)^n \right\}^{1/n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{nx}{n+1}\right) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x}{1+1/n}\right) = x \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by Cauchy's n^{th} root test the series is convergent if $x < 1$ and divergent if $x > 1$.

If $x = 1$, then $u_n = \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^n = \frac{1}{\left(1+1/n\right)^n}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \frac{1}{e} \neq 0$$

$\Rightarrow \sum u_n$ is divergent.