

Theorem 21'

(i) If  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| < 1$ , then  $\sum a_n$  is absolutely convergent.

(ii) If  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| > 1$ , then  $\sum a_n$  is

Pf (i) let  $x_n = \sup \left\{ \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|, \left| \frac{a_{n+2}}{a_{n+1}} \right|, \dots \right\}$

if  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \alpha$ , then

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \alpha$ \*. Suppose  $\alpha < 1$ . Then  $\exists$

an integer  $N$  such that  $n \geq N \Rightarrow$

$$\alpha - \varepsilon < x_n < \alpha + \varepsilon$$

Take any  $c$  s.t.  $\alpha < c < 1$  and choose

$\varepsilon = c - \alpha$ . Then  $n \geq N \Rightarrow x_n < \alpha + \varepsilon = c$ .

That means  $x_N = \sup \left\{ \left| \frac{a_{N+1}}{a_N} \right|, \dots \right\} < c$ . Hence

for any  $n \geq N$ ,  $\frac{|a_{n+1}|}{|a_n|} \leq \sup \left\{ \left| \frac{a_{N+1}}{a_N} \right|, \dots \right\} = x_N < c$ . Thus

$n \geq N \Rightarrow |a_{n+1}| < c |a_n|$ . Therefore,

as in the proof of Thm 21, (i),  $\sum a_n$

is absolutely convergent.

\* This is the definition of  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$ .

(ii) let  $y_n = \inf \left\{ \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|, \left| \frac{a_{n+2}}{a_{n+1}} \right|, \dots \right\}$ .

Let  $\beta = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n$ . If  $\beta > 1$

Then let  $c$  be any number such that  $\beta > c > 1$ .

Thus  $\beta - c = \varepsilon > 0$ . Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = \beta$ ,  $\exists$  an integer  $N_0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} n \geq N_0 &\Rightarrow |y_n - \beta| < \varepsilon \\ &\Rightarrow c = \beta - \varepsilon < y_n < \beta + \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $y_{N_0} > c$ , i.e.

$$y_{N_0} = \inf \left\{ \left| \frac{a_{N_0+1}}{a_{N_0}} \right|, \left| \frac{a_{N_0+2}}{a_{N_0+1}} \right|, \dots \right\} > c.$$

Hence for all  $n \geq N_0$ ,

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| \geq \inf \left\{ \left| \frac{a_{N_0+1}}{a_{N_0}} \right|, \dots \right\} > c.$$

I.e.  $\forall n \geq N_0$ ,  $|a_{n+1}| > c|a_n|$ .

Then as in the proof of Thm 21 (ii),

$$a_n \rightarrow 0$$

and so  $\sum a_n$  is divergent. This completes the proof.

Remark. Theorem 21' is more refined. We only need to have the  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$  or  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$  to apply the test. We don't require the convergence of  $\left( \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| \right)$ .

### Example 22

(1)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!}$  is convergent. Let  $a_n = \frac{1}{n!}$

$$\text{Then } \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{\frac{1}{(n+1)!}}{\frac{1}{n!}} = \frac{1}{n+1} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as}$$

$n \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore, since the limit is less than 1, by Theorem 21 (i),  $\sum \frac{1}{n!}$  is convergent.

(2)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^2 x^n$  for  $x > 0$ .

$$\text{Let } a_n = n^2 x^n. \text{ Then}$$

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

$$= x.$$

Thus by Th'm 21 (i) if  $x < 1$ , the series is convergent. If  $x > 1$ , the series is divergent.

But for  $x=1$ , the series is just  $\sum n^2$  and so is divergent.

## Examples of conditionally convergent series

(1)  $\sum_1^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n}$  is convergent by Leibniz's Test

$a_n = \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$  and is decreasing.

$\therefore \sum (-1)^{n+1} a_n = \sum (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n}$  is convergent.

But  $\sum a_n = \sum \frac{1}{n}$  is divergent

Note that  $\sum_1^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n} = \ln(2)$ .

(2)  $\sum_1^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$  is convergent by Leibniz's Test

$a_n = \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} \rightarrow 0$  and is decreasing.

$\therefore \sum (-1)^{n+1} a_n = \sum (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$  is convergent.

But  $\sum \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$  is divergent as

$$\frac{1}{2^{n-1}} > \frac{1}{2^n}$$

and  $\sum \frac{1}{2^n}$  is divergent.

Note that  $\sum_1^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} = \frac{\pi}{4}$  and the

convergence is conditional.

Remark : 1.  $\sum_1^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n} = \ln(2)$  can be obtained by rewriting the  $n$ -th sum, introduce a Eulerian sequence (that converges to the Euler constant  $\gamma$ )

2. Both (1) & (2) can be computed by an argument in infinite power series as expansion of  $\ln(1+x)$  via integration term by term and similarly  $\tan^{-1}(x)$  for (2).

Our next test will make use of the Riemann integral. The test is phrased in terms of continuous function, which is always Riemann integrable on any closed and bounded interval, or which is monotonic decreasing (and hence Riemann integrable).

### Theorem 2.3 The Integral Test

Suppose  $\sum a_n$  is a series.

Suppose the  $n$ -th term of the series can be expressed as  $a_n = f(n)$ , where  $f$  is a function\* defined at least on the interval  $[1, \infty)$  such that

(1)  $f$  is non-negative. and

(2)  $f$  is monotonically decreasing

(hence  $(a_n)$  is non-negative and decreasing).

(i). Then  $\sum a_n$  converges if the sequence  $\left( \int_1^n f(x) dx \right)$  tends to a finite limit  $h$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . In particular the sum  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  lies between  $h_1$  and

$$h + a_1$$

(ii)  $\sum a_n$  diverges if  $\int_1^n f(x) dx$  tends to  $+\infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

\* It is often stated to require continuity.

Remark. Note that  $f$  is non-negative implies the sequence  $(\int_1^n f(x) dx)$  is monotonically increasing. Hence  $(\int_1^n f(x) dx)$  is convergent iff it is bounded. We could replace the condition in (i) by stating the equivalent condition that  $(\int_1^n f(x) dx)$  be bounded and (i) + (ii) may be stated simply as

$$\sum a_n \text{ converges} \iff (\int_1^n f(x) dx) \text{ is bounded.}$$

We have assumed that  $f$  is Riemann integrable on  $[1, n]$ . Note that if  $f$  is monotone on  $[1, n]$ ,  $f$  is Riemann integrable. (See for example, Cor 4 of my article "Monotone function, function of bounded variation, Fundamental Theorem of Calculus on my Calculus web site, [www.math.nus.edu.sg/mactgth/Calculus](http://www.math.nus.edu.sg/mactgth/Calculus).)

Thus we can drop the continuity condition in Theorem 23. Its practical aspect is to provide some ease to compute  $\int_1^n f(x) dx$ . Availability of anti-derivative helps if the FTC can be applied here. Note also that  $f$  is non-negative implies that  $a_n$  is non-negative.

Proof. Since  $f: [1, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is non-negative and monotonically decreasing,  $f$  is Riemann integrable on  $[1, n]$  for each  $n \geq 1$ .

Moreover for any  $x$  in  $[k, k+1]$ ,  $k \geq 1$

$$a_k = f(k) \geq f(x) \geq f(k+1) = a_{k+1}$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{k=2}^{n+1} a_k = \sum_{k=2}^{n+1} f(k) = \sum_{k=2}^{n+1} f(k) [(k) - (k-1)]$$

is a lower Riemann sum for the interval.

$[1, n+1]$  with partition,  $1 < 2 < 3 < \dots < n+1$ .  
(Why?  $f(k)$  is the minimum in  $[k-1, k]$ )

Therefore,

$$\sum_{k=2}^{n+1} a_k \leq \int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx. \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Also

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} a_k = \sum_{k=1}^n f(k) = \sum_{k=1}^n f(k) [(k+1) - k]$$

is an Upper Riemann sum for the interval

$[1, n+1]$  since  $f(k)$  is the maximum in the interval  $[k, k+1]$  and so

$$\int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx \leq \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Now since  $f$  is non-negative the sequence 3.29.  
 $(\int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx)$  is a monotonically increasing  
 sequence. Therefore,  $(\int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx)$  is convergent  
 iff it is bounded.

(2) If  $(\int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx)$  is bounded, then  
 by (1)  $\sum_{k=2}^{n+1} a_k$  is also bounded. Consequently  
 by the Monotone Convergence Theorem,  $\sum a_k$   
 is convergent.

Note that if  $L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx$ ,

then from (1)

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} a_k = \sum_{k=2}^{n+1} a_k + a_1 \leq \int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx + a_1$$

Therefore,  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \leq L + a_1$ .

Also from (2).

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k.$$

Hence

$$L \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \leq L + a_1$$



3.3

(2i) If  $\left( \int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx \right)$  diverges, then since it is monotonically increasing,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx = +\infty$  and so  $\left( \int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx \right)$  is unbounded.

I.e. given any  $K$ ,  $\exists$  integer  $N$  s.t  $n \geq N \Rightarrow \int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx > K$ .

Therefore, by (2),  $n \geq N \Rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \geq \int_1^{n+1} f(x) dx > K$ .  
and so  $\sum_{k=1}^n a_k$  is unbounded and so is divergent. In particular

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k = +\infty.$$

### Example 24

(1)  $\sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$  is convergent.

Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ . Then  $f(n) = \frac{1}{n^2}$ .  $f$  is non-negative and decreasing. In particular

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

hence,  $\sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$  is convergent and

$$1 \leq \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \leq 1 + \frac{1}{2} = 2.$$

by Thm 23 (i)

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

Hence let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ .  $f$  is non-negative and decreasing on  $[1, \infty)$ . The integral

$$\int_1^n f(x) dx = \int_1^n \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln(n) \rightarrow +\infty.$$

Hence by Theorem 23 part (ii),  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$  is divergent.

(3) More generally  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}$  ( $s > 0$ )

Converges if  $s > 1$ , diverges if  $s \leq 1$ .

Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^s}$  for  $x$  in  $[1, \infty)$ .

If  $s = 1$  by (2) we know  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$  is divergent.

We now assume  $0 < s < 1$  or  $s > 1$ .

Then the integral

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^n \frac{1}{x^s} dx &= \left[ \frac{1}{-s+1} x^{-s+1} \right]_1^n \\ &= \frac{1}{1-s} [n^{-s+1} - 1] \end{aligned}$$

Now if  $s > 1$ , then  $1-s < 0$  and so

$$n^{-s+1} = \frac{1}{n^{s-1}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty;$$

since  $n^{s-1} \rightarrow +\infty$ .

$\therefore$  If  $s > 1$ ,  $\int_1^n \frac{1}{x^s} dx$  is convergent.

Note that  $f$  is non-negative.  $f$  is decreasing since  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^s} = e^{-s \ln(x)}$   
 $= \frac{1}{e^{s \ln(x)}}$  is decreasing since  $e^{s \ln(x)}$

is increasing for  $s > 0$ . Hence, by Thm 23 (i)  
 $\sum_1^\infty \frac{1}{n^s}$  is convergent if  $s > 1$  and

$$\frac{1}{s-1} \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s} \leq \frac{1}{s-1} + \frac{1}{1^s} = \frac{1}{s-1} + 1$$

Now if  $s < 1$ , then  $1-s > 0$ . Therefore,  
 $n^{-s+1} = n^{1-s} \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Therefore,  $\int_1^n \frac{1}{x^s} dx = \frac{1}{1-s} [n^{-s+1} - 1]$   
 diverges. Hence by Theorem 23 (ii)

$\sum_1^\infty \frac{1}{n^s}$  diverges if  $0 < s < 1$ .

Example 25 This is an example of the use of comparison test.

$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k}{e^k}$  is convergent.

Note that for  $k > 0$

$$e^k > 1 + k + \frac{k^2}{2} + \frac{k^3}{6} > \frac{k^3}{6}$$

thus for each positive integer  $k$

$$\frac{e^k}{k} > \frac{k^2}{6}$$

and so  $\frac{k}{e^k} < \frac{6}{k^2}$

Since these are non-negative terms and

$\sum \frac{6}{k^2}$  is convergent (See e.g. Example. 24(1))

by the Comparison test (Prop 12, Pg 3.13)

$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k}{e^k}$  is convergent.



The next test is the last in the series. It is called the root test for obvious reason. It is also a consequence of the Comparison test.

### Theorem 2.6 (Root Test)

Let  $\sum_1^{\infty} a_n$  be a series.

(i) Suppose there is a number  $r$  with

$$0 \leq r < 1$$

and there exists an integer  $N$  such that

$$k \geq N \implies |a_k|^{\frac{1}{k}} < r.$$

Then the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is absolutely

convergent.

(ii) If there exists an integer  $N$  such

that  $k \geq N \implies |a_k|^{\frac{1}{k}} > r$  for some

$r > 1$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is divergent.

Proof. The proof is similar to that of the ratio test.

$$(i) \quad |a_k|^{\frac{1}{k}} < r \implies |a_k| < r^k.$$

Thus by assumption,  $n \geq N \implies |a_n| < r^k$ .

Since  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} r^k$  converges because  $r < 1$ , by

the comparison test (Propn 12 pg 3.13),

$\sum |a_n|$  is convergent and so  $\sum a_n$  is

absolutely convergent.

(ii) Given that  $\exists$  an integer  $N$  such that  
 $k \geq N \implies |a_k|^{\frac{1}{k}} > r \implies |a_k| > r^k$   
 for some  $r > 1$ . Since  $(r^k)$  is divergent,  
 the above implies that  $|a_k| \not\rightarrow 0$  and  
 so  $a_k \not\rightarrow 0$ . Therefore,  $\sum a_k$  is divergent.

This completes the proof.

Note that to show that  $a_k \not\rightarrow 0$ , we only need  
 to show that a subsequence  $a_{n_k} \not\rightarrow 0$ . Hence  
 We have the following refinement of Theorem 26

Remark

- (1) If  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n|^{\frac{1}{n}} < 1$ , then the  
 series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is absolutely convergent
- (2) If  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n|^{\frac{1}{n}} > 1$ , then  $\sum a_n$   
 is divergent

Proof (1). If  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n|^{\frac{1}{n}} = r < 1$ , then taking  
 $\epsilon = \frac{r-1}{2}$ ,  $\exists$  integer  $N$  s.t  $n \geq N_0 \implies r - \epsilon < x_n < r + \epsilon$   
 $\implies x_n < r + \frac{r-1}{2} = \frac{r+1}{2} < 1$ , where  $x_n = \sup\{|a_n|^{\frac{1}{n}}, |a_{n+1}|^{\frac{1}{n+1}}, \dots\}$ .  
 Hence for all  $n \geq N_0$ ,  $|a_n|^{\frac{1}{n}} \leq x_n < \frac{r+1}{2} < 1$ . Therefore, by  
 Theorem 26 (i),  $\sum a_n$  is absolutely convergent.

(2). If  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n|^{\frac{1}{n}} = r > 1$ , then taking  $\epsilon = \frac{r-1}{2}$   
 $\exists$  integer  $N$  such that  $n \geq N_0 \implies r - \epsilon < x_n < r + \epsilon$   
 $\implies x_n > r - \epsilon = r - \frac{r-1}{2} = \frac{r+1}{2} > 1$ . Thus for each  $n \geq N$ ,  
 $x_n = \sup\{|a_n|^{\frac{1}{n}}, |a_{n+1}|^{\frac{1}{n+1}}, \dots\} > 1$ . Thus for each  $n \geq N$ ,  
 $\exists n_0 \geq n$  such  $x_n \geq |a_{n_0}|^{\frac{1}{n_0}} > 1$ . Hence for  
 each  $n \geq N$ ,  $\exists n_0$  s.t  $|a_{n_0}| > 1$ . Hence  $a_n \not\rightarrow 0$ .  
 Thus  $\sum a_n$  is divergent. Note that this argument  
 works even for  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n|^{\frac{1}{n}} = +\infty$

Example.  $\sum_1^{\infty} \left( \frac{2n+3}{3n+2} \right)^n$  is convergent.

This is because

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

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Therefore, by the root test, the series is convergent.

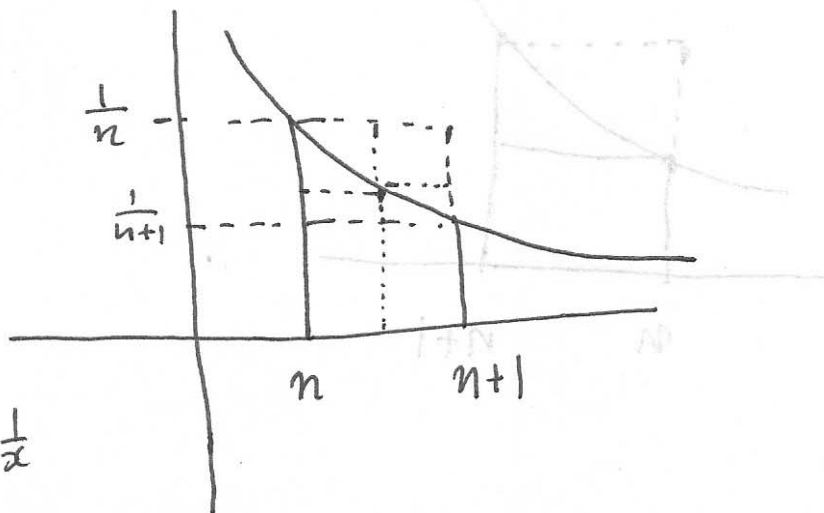
We close this chapter with a discussion of the Euler constant  $\gamma$ .

Though the  $n$ th partial sum of  $\sum \frac{1}{n}$  diverges and tends to  $\infty$ , the difference of the  $n$ th partial sum and  $\ln(n)$

actually converges. Its convergence involves integration. First of all we note that

$\frac{1}{n}$  and  $\frac{1}{n+1}$  are respectively the maximum and minimum of  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  on the interval

$[n, n+1]$



$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$$

Then  $\frac{1}{n+1} \leq f(x) \leq \frac{1}{n}$  on  $[n, n+1]$

implies that

$$\frac{1}{n+1} \leq \int_n^{n+1} f(x) dx \leq \frac{1}{n}$$

We actually have strict inequality as

$$\int_n^{n+1} f(x) dx = \int_n^{n+\frac{1}{2}} f(x) dx + \int_{n+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+1} f(x) dx$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} \int_n^{n+1} f(x) dx &\geq \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{n+\frac{1}{2}} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{n+1} \right) \\ &> \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{n+1} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{n+1} \right) = \frac{1}{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

and also

$$\begin{aligned} \int_n^{n+1} f(x) dx &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{n} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{n+\frac{1}{2}} \right) \\ &< \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{n} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{n} \right) = \frac{1}{n} \end{aligned}$$

Thus for each  $n$  we have

$$\frac{1}{n+1} < \int_n^{n+1} f(x) dx < \frac{1}{n} \quad \text{--- (*)}$$



Therefore,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k+1} < \int_1^2 f(x) dx + \int_2^3 f(x) dx \\ + \dots + \int_{n-1}^n f(x) dx < \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k}$$

I.e.  $\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k+1} < \int_1^n f(x) dx < \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k}$

I.e.  $\sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k} < \int_1^n f(x) dx = \int_1^n \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln(x)$   
 $< \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k}$  ——— (1)

Now let  $S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k}$  for  $n \geq 1$

Then from (1),

$$S_n - \ln(n) = \frac{1}{1} + \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k} - \ln(n) \\ < 1 + 0 = 1$$

and  $S_n - \ln(n) = \frac{1}{n} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} - \ln(n)$   
 $> \frac{1}{n} + 0 = \frac{1}{n}$  for  $n \geq 2$

let  $d_n = S_n - \ln(n)$ . Thus

$$0 < \frac{1}{n} < d_n < 1 \quad \text{for } n \geq 2$$

and  $d_1 = S_1 - \ln(1) = 1 > 0$

Hence,

$$0 < d_n \leq 1 \text{ for all } n$$

and  $\sum (d_n)$  is bounded.

$$\text{Now } d_{n+1} - d_n = S_{n+1} - \ln(n+1) - (S_n - \ln(n))$$

$$= (S_{n+1} - S_n) - (\ln(n+1) - \ln(n))$$

$$= \frac{1}{n+1} - \int_n^{n+1} \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$< 0 \text{ by } (*). \text{ (p 3.37)}$$

$\therefore d_n < d_{n+1}$  for each  $n$ .

$\therefore (d_n)$  is a decreasing sequence

Thus, by the Monotone Convergence Theorem

$(d_n)$  is convergent and  $d_n \rightarrow \gamma$

the so-called Euler constant.

Now we shall now we can use this constant  
to evaluate

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\text{let } a_n = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\text{let now } t_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$$

We shall rewrite  $t_n$  as follows; or rather  $t_{2n}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} t_{2n} &= \sum_{k=1}^{2n} a_k = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n-1} - \frac{1}{2n} \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n} - 2\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n}\right) \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n} - \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}\right) \\ &= s_{2n} - s_n \\ &= d_{2n} + \ln(2n) - (d_n + \ln(n)) \\ &= \ln(2n) - \ln(n) + d_{2n} - d_n \\ &= \ln(2) + d_{2n} - d_n \quad \text{--- (2)} \end{aligned}$$

Since we know  $\sum a_n$  is convergent (Leibnitz's Test)  $(t_n)$  is convergent and so  $(t_{2n})$  converges to the same value as  $(t_n)$ . Similarly, both  $(d_{2n})$  &  $(d_n)$  converges to the same value  $\delta$ .

$$\text{Thus } t_{2n} \rightarrow \ln(2) + \delta - \delta = \ln(2)$$