

Exp. Examine for convergence or divergence of the series.

$$1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n + \dots \infty$$

Solution Give series

$$\sum a_n = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n + \dots \infty$$

Here $S_n = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n$

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2}(n+1)$$

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

Hence this series is divergent.

Exp. Show that the geometric series

$$1 + r + r^2 + r^3 + \dots + r^{n-1} + \dots \infty \quad (r \neq 0)$$

(i) converges if $|r| < 1$

(ii) diverges if $r \geq 1$

and (iii) oscillates if $r \leq -1$

Solution - We have

$$S_n = 1 + r + r^2 + \dots + r^{n-1}$$

$$S_n = \frac{1-r^n}{1-r} = \frac{1}{1-r} - \frac{r^n}{1-r}$$

(i) When $|r| < 1$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r^n = 0$

Also,
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{1-r} - \frac{r^n}{1-r} \right)$$

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

$$= \frac{1}{1-r} - \frac{1}{1-r} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r^n$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = \frac{1}{1-r} \quad (\because \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r^n = 0)$$

Hence $\langle S_n \rangle$ is a convergent sequence. Geometric series and so the given series is convergent.

(ii) When $r > 1$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r^n = \infty$

and
$$S_n = \frac{r^n - 1}{r - 1} \text{ for } r > 1$$

$$S_n = \frac{r^n}{r-1} - \frac{1}{r-1}$$

So
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{r^n}{r-1} - \frac{1}{r-1} \right] \rightarrow \infty$$

Hence series is divergent because $\langle S_n \rangle$ is a divergent sequence.

(ii) When $r=1$ then

$$S_n = 1+1+1+1+1 = n$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n = \infty$$

\therefore The series is divergent.

(iii) When (i) $r=-1$ then series

$$S_n = 1-1+1-1+1-1 \dots$$

which is an oscillatory series.

When (ii) $r < -1$, let $r = -p$ such that $p > 1$

$$\text{Then } r^n = (-1)^n p^n$$

$$S_n = \frac{1-r^n}{1-r} \quad \text{for } r < 1$$

$$S_n = \frac{1 - (-1)^n p^n}{1+p} \quad \text{as } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - (-1)^n p^n}{1+p} \rightarrow \infty$$

$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = \infty$

Hence the series oscillates.