

Example. Apply Cauchy's Integral Test to examine the convergence of the following series -

(i)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2p+1}}$

(ii)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2p}}$

Solution:-

Let  $a(x) = \frac{1}{x^{2p+1}}$ , so that

$$a(n) = a_n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

For  $x \geq 1$ ,  $a(x)$  is non-negative, monotonically decreasing and integrable function.

How

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^t \frac{dx}{x^{2p+1}}$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \tan^{-1} x \right]_1^t$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \tan^{-1} t - \tan^{-1} 1 \right]$$

$$\tan^{-1} \infty - \tan^{-1} 1$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{\pi}{4}, \text{ which is finite}$$

Thus  $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x^{2p+1}}$  is convergent and so

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{2p+1}}$  is convergent.

ii) Let  $a(x) = \frac{1}{x^2+x}$ , so that  $a(n) = a_n, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

for  $x \geq 1$ ,  $a(x)$  is non-negative, monotonically decreasing and integrable function. Now

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^t \frac{dx}{x^2+x} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^t \frac{dx}{x(x+1)}$$

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

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \log x - \log(x+1) \Big|_1^t \right]$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \log \frac{x}{x+1} \Big|_1^t \right]$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \log \frac{t}{t+1} \right] - \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \log \frac{1}{2} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \log \left( \frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{t}} \right) \right] - \log \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \log 1 - \log \frac{1}{2} = \log 1 - \log 1 + \log 2$$

$$= \log 1 - \log \frac{1}{2} + \log 2 \quad \because \log 1 = 0$$

$$= \log 2, \text{ which is finite}$$

Thus  $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x^2+x}$  is convergent and so  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2+n}$  is convergent by Cauchy Integral Test.