

Corollary of Theorem 6

A series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ of nonnegative terms converges if and only if its partial sums are bounded from above.

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n} + \cdots$ this is harmonic series and this series diverges.

Theorem 9 - The Integral Test

Let $\{a_n\}$ be a sequence of positive terms. Suppose that $a_n = f(n)$, where f is a continuous, positive, decreasing function of x for all $x \geq N$ (N a positive integer). Then the series $\sum_{n=N}^{\infty} a_n$ and the integral $\int_N^{\infty} f(x) dx$ both converge or both diverge.

The p -series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p} = \frac{1}{1^p} + \frac{1}{2^p} + \frac{1}{3^p} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n^p} + \cdots$ converges if $p > 1$, diverges if $p \leq 1$.

Bounds for the Remainder in the Integral Test

Suppose $\{a_n\}$ is a sequence of positive terms with $a_k = f(k)$, where f is a continuous positive decreasing function of x for all $x \geq n$, and that $\sum a_n$ converges to S . Then the remainder $R_n = S - s_n$ satisfies the inequalities

$$\int_{n+1}^{\infty} f(x) dx \leq R_n \leq \int_n^{\infty} f(x) dx$$

$$4) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n+4}$$

$f(x) = \frac{1}{x+4}$ is positive, continuous, and decreasing for $x \geq 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x+4} dx &= \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^U \frac{1}{x+4} dx = \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} [\ln|x+4| + C]_1^U \\ &= \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \underbrace{[\ln|U+4| + C]}_{+\infty} - [\ln|1+4| + C] \right\} = \infty \end{aligned}$$

Since $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x+4} dx$ diverges, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n+4}$ diverges

$$8) \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\ln(n^2)}{n}$$

$f(x) = \frac{\ln(x^2)}{x}$ is positive and continuous for $x \geq 2$

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{(x) \left[\frac{1}{x^2} (2x) \right] - (\ln(x^2)) [1]}{(x)^2} = \frac{2 - \ln(x^2)}{x^2}$$

$\frac{df}{dx} < 0$ for $x > e$ so $f(x)$ is decreasing for $x \geq 3$

$$\begin{aligned} p &= \ln(x^2) & \int \frac{\ln(x^2)}{x} dx &= \int p (2dp) = p + C = \ln(x^2) + C \\ dp &= \frac{1}{x^2} (2x) dx \Rightarrow 2dp = \frac{1}{x} dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_3^{\infty} \frac{\ln(x^2)}{x} dx &= \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \int_3^U \frac{\ln(x^2)}{x} dx = \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} [\ln(x^2) + C]_3^U \\ &= \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \underbrace{[\ln(U^2) + C]}_{+\infty} - [\ln(3^2) + C] \right\} = +\infty \end{aligned}$$

Since $\int_3^{\infty} \frac{\ln(x^2)}{x} dx$ diverges, $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\ln(n^2)}{n} = \frac{\ln(2^2)}{(2)} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{\ln(n^2)}{n}}_{\text{diverges}}$ and $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\ln(n^2)}{n}$ diverges

$$10) \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n-4}{n^2-2n+1} = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n-4}{(n-1)^2}$$

$f(x) = \frac{x-4}{x^2-2x+1} = \frac{x-4}{(x-1)^2}$ is continuous for $x \geq 2$ and $f(x) > 0$ for $x > 4$

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{((x-1)^2)[1] - (x-4)[2(x-1)'(1)]}{((x-1)^2)^2} = \frac{(x-1)\{(x-1)[1] - (x-4)[2]\}}{(x-1)^4} = \frac{x-1-2x+8}{(x-1)^3} = \frac{7-x}{(x-1)^3}$$

$\frac{df}{dx} < 0$ for $x < 7$ and $f(x)$ is decreasing for $x \geq 8$.

$$\int \frac{x-4}{(x-1)^2} dx = \int \frac{x-1-3}{(x-1)^2} dx = \int \left(\frac{x-1}{(x-1)^2} - \frac{3}{(x-1)^2} \right) dx = \int \left(\frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{3}{(x-1)^2} \right) dx$$

$$= \ln|x-1| + \frac{3}{x-1} + C$$

$$\int_8^{\infty} \frac{x-4}{(x-1)^2} dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \int_8^u \frac{x-4}{(x-1)^2} dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left[\ln|x-1| + \frac{3}{x-1} + C \right]_8^u$$

$$= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \underbrace{\left[\ln|u-1| + \frac{3}{u-1} + C \right]}_{+\infty} - \left[\ln|(8)-1| + \frac{3}{(8)-1} + C \right] \right\} = +\infty$$

since $\int_8^{\infty} \frac{x-4}{(x-1)^2} dx$ diverges,

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n-4}{n^2-2n+1} = \frac{(2)-4}{(2)^2-2(2)+1} + \frac{(3)-4}{(3)^2-2(3)+1} + \frac{(4)-4}{(4)^2-2(4)+1} + \frac{(5)-4}{(5)^2-2(5)+1}$$

$$+ \frac{(6)-4}{(6)^2-2(6)+1} + \frac{(7)-4}{(7)^2-2(7)+1} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=8}^{\infty} \frac{n-4}{n^2-2n+1}}_{\text{diverges}}$$

and $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n-4}{n^2-2n+1}$ diverges

$$14) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{e^n} = \frac{1}{e^1} + \frac{1}{e^2} + \frac{1}{e^3} + \dots + \frac{1}{e^n} + \dots$$

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

this is a geometric series with $a = \frac{1}{e}$ and $r = \frac{1}{e}$
 since $|r| = \left|\frac{1}{e}\right| < 1$, the series converges

$$16) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{5}{n+1}$$

use the integral test, $f(x) = \frac{5}{x+1}$

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{5}{x+1} dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^u \frac{5}{x+1} dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} [5 \ln|x+1| + C]_1^u$$

$$= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \underbrace{[5 \ln|u+1| + C]}_{+\infty} - [5 \ln|1+1| + C] \right\} = +\infty$$

since $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{5}{x+1} dx$ diverges, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{5}{n+1}$ diverges

$$18) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{-2}{n\sqrt{n}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{-2}{n^{3/2}} = -2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{3/2}} \text{ this is a } p\text{-series}$$

$$= -2 \left\{ \frac{1}{(1)^{3/2}} + \frac{1}{(2)^{3/2}} + \frac{1}{(3)^{3/2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{n^{3/2}} + \dots \right\}$$

since $p = \frac{3}{2} > 1$, the series converges

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$$20) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{-8}{n} = -8 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} = -8 \left\{ \frac{1}{(1)} + \frac{1}{(2)} + \frac{1}{(3)} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} + \dots \right\}$$

this is a p -series

since $p = 1 \leq 1$, the series diverges

$$22) \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\ln n}{\sqrt{n}}$$

use the integral test, $f(x) = \frac{\ln x}{\sqrt{x}}$

$$\int \frac{\ln x}{\sqrt{x}} dx = (\ln x)(2\sqrt{x}) - \int (2\sqrt{x}) \left(\frac{1}{x} dx\right)$$

$$u_i = \ln x \quad dv_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx = 2\sqrt{x} \ln x - 2 \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx$$

$$du_i = \frac{1}{x} dx \quad v_i = 2\sqrt{x} = 2\sqrt{x} \ln x - 2[2\sqrt{x}] + C$$

$$= 2\sqrt{x} \ln x - 4\sqrt{x} + C = 2\sqrt{x} (\ln x - 2) + C$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_2^{\infty} \frac{\ln x}{\sqrt{x}} dx &= \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \int_2^U \frac{\ln x}{\sqrt{x}} dx = \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \left[2\sqrt{x} (\ln x - 2) + C \right]_2^U \\ &= \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \underbrace{[2\sqrt{U} (\ln U - 2) + C]}_{+\infty} - [2\sqrt{2} (\ln 2 - 2) + C] \right\} = +\infty \end{aligned}$$

since $\int_2^{\infty} \frac{\ln x}{\sqrt{x}} dx$ diverges, $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\ln n}{\sqrt{n}}$ diverges

$$24) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{5^n}{4^{n+3}}$$

use the n th-term test for divergence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5^n}{4^{n+3}} \stackrel{+\infty}{\neq} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\ln 5) 5^n}{(\ln 4) 4^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\ln 5}{\ln 4} \right) \left(\frac{5}{4} \right)^n = +\infty \neq 0 \quad \text{because } \frac{5}{4} > 1$$

the series diverges

$$26) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n-1}$$

use the integral test, $f(x) = \frac{1}{2x-1} = \frac{1}{2(x-\frac{1}{2})}$

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{2(x-\frac{1}{2})} dx = \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^U \frac{1}{2(x-\frac{1}{2})} dx = \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln|x-\frac{1}{2}| + C \right]_1^U$$
$$= \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \underbrace{\left[\frac{1}{2} \ln|U-\frac{1}{2}| + C \right]}_{+\infty} - \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln|1-\frac{1}{2}| + C \right] \right\} = +\infty$$

since $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{2x-1} dx$ diverges, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n-1}$ diverges

$$30) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}(\sqrt{n}+1)}$$

use the integral test, $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}(\sqrt{x}+1)}$

$$p = \sqrt{x} + 1$$
$$dp = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} dx \Rightarrow 2dp = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx$$
$$\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}(\sqrt{x}+1)} dx = \int \frac{1}{p} (2dp) = 2 \ln|p| + C$$
$$= 2 \ln|\sqrt{x} + 1| + C$$

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}(\sqrt{x}+1)} dx = \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^U \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}(\sqrt{x}+1)} dx = \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \left[2 \ln|\sqrt{x} + 1| + C \right]_1^U$$
$$= \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \underbrace{\left[2 \ln|\sqrt{U} + 1| + C \right]}_{+\infty} - \left[2 \ln|\sqrt{1} + 1| + C \right] \right\} = +\infty$$

since $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}(\sqrt{x}+1)} dx$ diverges, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}(\sqrt{n}+1)}$ diverges

$$32) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(\ln 3)^n} = \frac{1}{(\ln 3)^1} + \frac{1}{(\ln 3)^2} + \frac{1}{(\ln 3)^3} + \dots + \frac{1}{(\ln 3)^n} + \dots$$

$$= \frac{1}{\ln 3} (1) + \frac{1}{\ln 3} \left(\frac{1}{\ln 3}\right) + \frac{1}{\ln 3} \left(\frac{1}{\ln 3}\right)^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{\ln 3} \left(\frac{1}{\ln 3}\right)^{n-1} + \dots$$

this is a geometric series with $a = \frac{1}{\ln 3}$ and $r = \frac{1}{\ln 3}$

since $|r| = \left|\frac{1}{\ln 3}\right| < 1$, the series converges

$$34) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(1+\ln^2 n)}$$

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use the integral test, $f(x) = \frac{1}{x(1+\ln^2 x)} = \frac{1}{(1+(\ln x)^2)x}$

$$p = \ln x \quad \int \frac{1}{(1+(\ln x)^2)x} dx = \int \frac{1}{1+p^2} dp = \int \frac{1}{(1)^2+p^2} dp$$

$$dp = \frac{1}{x} dx \quad = \frac{1}{1} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{p}{1}\right) + C = \tan^{-1}(\ln x) + C$$

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1+(\ln x)^2)x} dx = \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^U \frac{1}{(1+(\ln x)^2)x} dx = \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} [\tan^{-1}(\ln x) + C]_1^U$$

$$= \lim_{U \rightarrow \infty} \{ [\tan^{-1}(\ln U) + C] - [\tan^{-1}(\ln(1)) + C] \}$$

$$= [\tan^{-1}(+\infty)] - [\tan^{-1}(0)] = \left[\frac{\pi}{2}\right] - [0] = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

the series converges

$$36) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \tan \frac{1}{n}$$

use the n th-term test for divergence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \tan\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\overset{0}{\tan\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)}}{\underset{0}{\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)}} \stackrel{L}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\overset{0}{\sec^2\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)} \left(\frac{-1}{n^2}\right)}{\left(\frac{-1}{n^2}\right)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sec^2\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$$

$$= \sec^2(0) = (1)^2 = 1 \neq 0$$

the series diverges

$$38) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{1+e^n}$$

use the integral test, $f(x) = \frac{2}{1+e^x}$

$$p = e^x \Rightarrow \ln p = x$$

$$\frac{1}{p} dp = dx$$

$$\frac{2}{(p)'(p+1)'} = \frac{A}{(p)'} + \frac{B}{(p+1)'}$$

$$2 = A(p+1) + B(p)$$

constant term	p-term
$2 = A$	$0 = A + B$
	$B = -A = -2$

$$\int \frac{2}{1+e^x} dx = \int \frac{2}{1+p} \left(\frac{1}{p} dp\right)$$

$$= \int \frac{2}{p(p+1)} dp$$

$$= \int \left(\frac{(-2)}{(p)'} + \frac{(-2)}{(p+1)'} \right) dp$$

$$= 2 \ln|p| - 2 \ln|p+1| + C$$

$$= 2 \ln|e^x| - 2 \ln|e^x+1| + C$$

$$= 2 \ln \left(\frac{e^x}{e^x+1} \right) + C$$

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{2}{1+e^x} dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^u \frac{2}{1+e^x} dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left[2 \ln \left(\frac{e^x}{e^x+1} \right) + C \right]_1^u$$

$$= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \left[2 \ln \left(\frac{e^u}{e^u+1} \right) + C \right] - \left[2 \ln \left(\frac{e^{(1)}}{e^{(1)}+1} \right) + C \right] \right\}$$

$$= [0] - \left[2 \ln \left(\frac{e}{e+1} \right) \right] = -2 \ln \left(\frac{e}{e+1} \right)$$

because $\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ 2 \ln \left(\frac{e^u}{e^u+1} \right) \right\} = 2 \ln \left\{ \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{e^u}{e^u+1} \right) \right\} \stackrel{L}{=} 2 \ln \left\{ \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^u}{e^u} \right\}$

$$= 2 \ln \left\{ \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} 1 \right\} = 2 \ln \{1\} = 2(0) = 0$$

the series converges

$$42) \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{7}{\sqrt{n+1} \ln \sqrt{n+1}}$$

use the integral test, $f(x) = \frac{7}{\sqrt{x+1} \ln \sqrt{x+1}}$

$\int \frac{7}{\sqrt{x+1} \ln \sqrt{x+1}} dx$ is not an easy integral, so we should use the Direct Comparison Test (of integrals)

note that $\ln y < y$

↓

$$\ln \sqrt{x+1} < \sqrt{x+1}$$

↓

$$\sqrt{x+1} \ln \sqrt{x+1} < (\sqrt{x+1})(\sqrt{x+1}) = (x+1)$$

↓

$$\frac{1}{x+1} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1} \ln \sqrt{x+1}}$$

↓

$$\int_3^{\infty} \frac{1}{x+1} dx < \int_3^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1} \ln \sqrt{x+1}} dx$$

and

$$\int_3^{\infty} \frac{7}{x+1} dx < \int_3^{\infty} \frac{7}{\sqrt{x+1} \ln \sqrt{x+1}} dx$$

$$\int_3^{\infty} \frac{7}{x+1} dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \int_3^u \frac{7}{x+1} dx$$

$$= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} [7 \ln|x+1| + C]_3^u$$

$$= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \{ \underbrace{[7 \ln|u+1| + C]}_{+\infty} - [7 \ln|(3)+1| + C] \}$$

$$= +\infty$$

by the Direct Comparison Test,

$$+\infty = \int_3^{\infty} \frac{7}{x+1} dx < \int_3^{\infty} \frac{7}{\sqrt{x+1} \ln \sqrt{x+1}} dx = \infty$$

since $\int_3^{\infty} \frac{7}{\sqrt{x+1} \ln \sqrt{x+1}} dx$ diverges, $\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{7}{\sqrt{n+1} \ln \sqrt{n+1}}$ diverges

$$44) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{n^2+1}$$

use the integral test, $f(x) = \frac{x}{x^2+1}$

$$p = x^2+1$$

$$dp = 2x dx \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} dp = x dx$$

$$\int \frac{x}{x^2+1} dx = \int \frac{1}{p} \left(\frac{1}{2} dp\right) = \frac{1}{2} \ln |p| + C$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \ln |x^2+1| + C$$

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{x}{x^2+1} dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^u \frac{x}{x^2+1} dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln |x^2+1| + C \right]_1^u$$
$$= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln |u^2+1| + C \right] - \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln |(1)^2+1| + C \right] \right\} = +\infty$$

since $\int_1^{\infty} \frac{x}{x^2+1} dx$ diverges, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{n^2+1}$ diverges

$$46) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{sech}^2 n$$

use the integral test, $f(x) = \operatorname{sech}^2 x$

$$\int_1^{\infty} \operatorname{sech}^2 x dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^u \operatorname{sech}^2 x dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} [\tanh x + C]_1^u$$
$$= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \left[\tanh u + C \right] - \left[\tanh (1) + C \right] \right\} = [1] - [\tanh 1] = 1 - \tanh 1$$

the series converges

$$48) \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{n-1} - \frac{2a}{n+1} \right)$$

use the integral test to get started $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{2a}{x+1}$

$$\int_3^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{2a}{x+1} \right) dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \int_3^u \left(\frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{2a}{x+1} \right) dx = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left[\ln|x-1| - 2a \ln|x+1| + C \right]_3^u$$

$$= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left[\ln|x-1| - \ln|(x+1)^{2a}| + C \right]_3^u = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left[\ln \left| \frac{x-1}{(x+1)^{2a}} \right| + C \right]_3^u$$

$$= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \left[\ln \left| \frac{u-1}{(u+1)^{2a}} \right| + C \right] - \left[\ln \left| \frac{(3)-1}{((3)+1)^{2a}} \right| + C \right] \right\}$$

$$= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \left[\ln \left| \frac{u-1}{(u+1)^{2a}} \right| \right] - \left[\ln \left| \frac{(2)}{(4)^{2a}} \right| \right]$$

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u-1}{(u+1)^{2a}} \stackrel{L}{=} \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2a(u+1)^{2a-1}}$$

$$2a-1=0$$

$$a = \frac{1}{2}$$

if $a = \frac{1}{2}$, then $\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2(u+1)^{2a}}$
 $= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2(u+1)^{2(\frac{1}{2})}} = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2(u+1)}$
 $= 0$

$$\text{so } \int_3^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{2a}{x+1} \right) dx = [0] - \left[\ln \left| \frac{2}{4^{2a}} \right| \right]$$

$$= -\ln \left(\frac{2}{4} \right) = -\ln \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = -\{ \ln(1) - \ln(2) \}$$

$= \ln 2$ the series converges.

if $a < \frac{1}{2}$, then $\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2a(u+1)^{2a-1}} = +\infty$ and the series diverges.

if $a > \frac{1}{2}$, the terms of the series eventually become negative and the Integral Test does not apply. From that point on, however, the series behaves like a negative multiple of the harmonic series, and so the series diverges.