

## Dubious Explanations

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

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_2^t \ln\left(\frac{3x^3-1}{x^3+1}\right) dx$$

$$\frac{3n^3-1}{n^3} \leq \frac{3n^3-1}{n^3+1}$$

By p-test  $\frac{3n^3-1}{n^3+1}$  converges

## Why there's a problem

1) Haven't justified using the integral test (pos, decr, contin)

2) Inequality is backwards for comparison to  $\frac{3n^3-1}{n^3}$

3) p-test doesn't apply here

4) Referring to sequence or series for convergence?

To Fix: Start with Div. Test:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \ln(3) \neq 0$   
So series Diverges.

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

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

$$\ln(3) - \ln(13), \ln(8) - \ln(27), \dots, \ln(n^2-1) - \ln(3n^2+1)$$

$n^2-1 \neq 13$  or  $27$  Diverges

1) Does not telescope

2) Just because it doesn't telescope, there's no reason it has to diverge (this one does, but it's not always the case).

3) There's nothing valid to show correct reasoning.

To Fix: Start with Div. Test.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1+2^n}{3^n}$$

$$\frac{2^n}{3^n} < \frac{1+2^n}{3^n}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{3^n} = \frac{1}{1-\frac{2}{3}} \text{ converges } (r < 1)$$

So by comparison test  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1+2^n}{3^n}$  converges

1) Instructions ask you to find the sum for convergent series

2) Comparison test is invalid  
Smaller series converges tells us nothing about larger series  $\sum \frac{1+2^n}{3^n}$

To Fix: Be careful with comparison tests!  
initial conditions.

• Split up into 2 series

## Limit Issues

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{3^n} + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^n = \text{DNE} \text{ Diverges}$$

1) It's ok to try Div Test here, but taking a bad limit can really hurt you.

2) The limit is 0, so Div Test gives no info, & we need to try something else.

To Fix: Be very careful/precise with limits.

$$\ln\left(\frac{3}{13} + \frac{8}{28} + \frac{15}{49} + \dots\right) \rightarrow \text{goes to } \ln(1) = 0$$

increasing  $\rightarrow$  convergent

1)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$  does NOT imply convergence

2) Check limits carefully, here  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \ln\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \neq 0$

3) The addition should be on outside of  $\ln(\dots)$

# Dubious Explanations

# Why there's a problem

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

$$\ln\left(\frac{3}{13}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{2}{7}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{15}{33}\right) + \dots$$

$$r = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{2}{7}\right)}{\ln\left(\frac{3}{13}\right)} \quad |r| > 1 \text{ Diverges}$$

1) If you state  $r = \text{"something"}$ , then it better be the ratio between all consecutive pairs of terms.

2) This is not a geometric series (nothing raised to the  $n^{\text{th}}$  power)

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1+2^n}{3^n}$$

$n^{\text{th}}$  term test

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1+2^n}{3^n} = \frac{1}{3^n} + \frac{2^n}{3^n}$$

geometric converges to something  $> 0$ , so diverges

1) limit = 0, so we get no info

2) The geometric series converges to something  $> 0$ , which is not the same as a sequence converging to something  $> 0$  (Div Test)

To Fix: Correctly state that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{3^n} + \frac{2^n}{3^n} = 0$  so Div Test gives no info and move on to Geometric Series Test

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1+2^n}{3^n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1+2^n}{3^n} \rightarrow \frac{2}{3} \text{ converges to } \frac{2}{3}$$

1) Incorrect limit ( $a_n \rightarrow 0$ )

2) ~~Incorrect~~ conclusion: If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ , then Div

3) The limit of the sequence is NOT the sum of the series.