

**MATH 155 - Chapter 9.4 - Comparison Series:**  
**(Can only be applied to positive series)**

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1. **Definition:** Let  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  be positive-term series. We say that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  **dominates**  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  if  $a_n \leq b_n$  for all  $n \geq 1$ .

2. **Theorem: Direct Comparison Test**

Suppose  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  are positive-term series such that  $0 < a_n \leq b_n$  for all  $n \geq N$  for some positive integer  $N$ . (ie.  $b_n$  dominates  $a_n$  for all  $n \geq N$ .) Then

1. If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  converges then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges.
2. If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  diverges, then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  diverges.

3. **Theorem: Limit Comparison Test**

Suppose  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  are positive-term series, and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = L.$$

1. If  $0 < L < \infty$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  both converge or diverge together.
2. If  $L = 0$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  converges, then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges.