

Last time: Ratio Test for $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$

$$\text{look at } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = L$$

if $L > 1$ then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ diverges

if $L < 1$ then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges absolutely

if $L = 1$ then Ratio Test gives no info

Q • What happens if we apply Ratio Test to $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{1+n^2}$?
• Does $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{1+n^2}$ converge or diverge?

$$A. \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{\sqrt{n+1}/1+(n+1)^2}{\sqrt{n}/1+n^2} = \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot \frac{1+n^2}{1+(n+1)^2}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{n}} \cdot \frac{1+n^2}{1+n^2+2n+1}$$

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

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

$$= 1 \cdot 1$$

$$= \underline{\underline{1}} \quad \text{so Ratio Test gives no info}$$

[Remark similar for $a_n = \frac{n^4+3n+1}{n^6+7n+8}$, $a_n = \frac{P(n)}{Q(n)}$ P, Q polynomials]

So, need to use another test.

$$\sum \frac{\sqrt{n}}{1+n^2} < \sum \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^2} = \sum \frac{1}{n^{3/2}}$$

so, $\sum \frac{\sqrt{n}}{1+n^2}$ converges by
Comparison Test

↑
convergent by p-test
($\frac{3}{2} > 1$)

(also conv. absolutely)

Remarks $\left[\sum \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^2-1} \right]$ also converges by Limit-Comp

$$a_n = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^2-1} \quad b_n = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^2}$$
$$\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \frac{\sqrt{n}/n^2-1}{\sqrt{n}/n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{n^2-1} = 1 \right)$$

Root Test

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$$

- If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = L < 1$ then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is absolutely convergent
- If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = L > 1$ then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is divergent
(or $= \infty$)

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = 1$ then the test gives no info.

Q 1) Is $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{2n+3}{3n+2} \right)^n$ convergent?

2) Is $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3n^2+4}{n^3} \right)^{5n}$ conv.?

1) root test: $\sqrt[n]{\left|\frac{2n+3}{3n+2}\right|^n} = \frac{2n+3}{3n+2} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n+3}{3n+2} = \frac{2}{3} < 1$

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

2) root test: $\sqrt[n]{\left(\frac{3n^2+4}{n^3}\right)^{5n}} = \left(\frac{3n^2+4}{n^3}\right)^5 \sim \frac{n^{10}}{n^{15}} \quad \text{so } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{3n^2+4}{n^3}\right)^5 = 0$

or: $\sim \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3n^2+4}{n^3}\right)^5 = 0^5 = 0$

$0 < 1$ so $\sum \left(\frac{3n^2+4}{n^3}\right)^{5n}$ converges

Strategy For Testing Series

$$\sum a_n$$

Classify the series according to its form.

1) $\sum \frac{1}{n^p}$: p-test. $\begin{cases} \text{conv. if } p > 1 \\ \text{div. if } p \leq 1 \end{cases}$

2) $\sum ar^{n-1}$ or $\sum ar^n$: geometric $\begin{cases} \text{conv. if } |r| < 1 \\ \text{div. if } |r| \geq 1 \end{cases}$

3) If the series looks similar to p-series or geometric series:

try comparison or limit-comparison (taking b_n to be the p-series or geometric series)

(If the series has some negative terms, apply this method instead to $\sum |a_n|$ — i.e. test for absolute convergence)

4) If you can see easily that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$, use Test For Divergence

5) If series is of form

$\sum (-1)^n b_n$ or $\sum (-1)^{n+1} b_n$ try Alternating Series Test.

6) If the series involves factorials (or other products with n terms like k^n), try Ratio Test.

[But not for series where a_n is just a rational function like $a_n = \frac{5n^2+6n}{3n^2+4}$, Ratio Test gives no info for these]

7) If $a_n = (\text{something})^n$ use Root Test

8) If $a_n = f(n)$ and you know how to do $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$ and $f(x)$ is decreasing for large x

try Integral Test.



Q Do these converge?

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n+8}{2n+1}$$

↑
TFD: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+8}{2n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \neq 0$,
 so \sum divergent
 \Rightarrow lin-comp to $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2}$
 which is divergent

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n!}$$

↑
ratio test: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^{n+1}/(n+1)!}{2^n/n!}$
 $= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^{n+1}}{2^n} \cdot \frac{n!}{(n+1)!}$
 $= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2 \cdot \frac{1}{n+1}$
 $= 0 < 1$
 so, \sum converges

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^2 e^{-n^3}$$

↑
Integral test:
 $f(x) = x^2 e^{-x^3}$
 $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$
 $= \int_1^{\infty} x^2 e^{-x^3} dx$
 $u = x^3$
 $du = 3x^2 dx \quad \frac{du}{3} = x^2 dx$
 $\rightarrow \int_1^{\infty} e^{-u} \frac{du}{3}$
 $= -\frac{1}{3} e^{-u} \Big|_1^{\infty}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{1}{3} e^{-t} \Big|_1^t \\
 &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left(-\frac{1}{3} e^{-t} + \frac{1}{3} e^{-1} \right) \\
 &= 0 + \frac{1}{3} e^{-1} \\
 &\quad \text{convergent} \\
 &\quad \text{so } \sum \text{converges}
 \end{aligned}$$

Q. $\sum \frac{\sin^2 n}{3^n}$

$0 \leq \frac{\sin^2 n}{3^n} < \frac{1}{3^n}$
 and $\sum \frac{1}{3^n}$ converges
 (Geometric, $r = \frac{1}{3} < 1$)
 so $\sum \frac{\sin^2 n}{3^n}$ conv. by
 Comparison Test

$\cdot \sum n \sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \\
 &\quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\
 &\quad \infty \quad \sin(0) = 0 \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)}{\frac{1}{n}} \\
 &\stackrel{\text{L'H}}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-\frac{1}{n^2} \cos\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)}{-\frac{1}{n^2}} \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \cos\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = 1 \\
 &\text{So, by TFD,} \\
 &\quad \sum \text{diverges}
 \end{aligned}$$

(principle: for small x , $\sin(x) \approx x$)

$\cdot \sum (-1)^n \frac{n^3}{n^4+1}$

convergent or divergent?
 Convergent by Alt. Series
 Test,
 $b_n = \frac{n^3}{n^4+1}$
 (has $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$ and b_n decreasing)
 (but: not absolutely conv.)
 by Lin-Comp:
 $|a_n| = \frac{n^3}{n^4+1}$
 $b_n = \frac{n^3}{n^4} = \frac{1}{n}$
 and $\sum b_n$ diverges
 by p-test