

Last time: Ratio Test

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

• If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = L > 1$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  diverges

• If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = L < 1$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges absolutely

(If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = 1$  then Ratio Test gives no info)

Q Do the series  $\sum \frac{\sqrt{n}}{1+n^2}$  and  $\sum n \cdot \frac{1}{4^n}$  converge?

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

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

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

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

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 \cdot \frac{1}{1} = 1$$

morally,  
 $\frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n}} \cdot \frac{n^2}{n^2} = 1$   
for large  $n$

→ ratio test gives no info

use lim-Comp:

$$a_n = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{1+n^2} \quad b_n = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^2} = \frac{1}{n^{3/2}}$$

and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n$  converges by p-test

∴  $\sum a_n$  also converges (abs)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)/4^{n+1}}{n/4^n}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n} \cdot \frac{4^n}{4^{n+1}} \leftarrow \frac{4^n}{4^n \cdot 4}$$

$$= 1 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{4} < 1$$

⇒  $\sum$  converges (abs) by Ratio Test

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## Root Test

 $\sum a_n$ 

- If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = L > 1$  then  $\sum a_n$  diverges.
- If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = L < 1$  then  $\sum a_n$  converges absolutely.

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

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

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

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:  $\sqrt[n]{\left(\frac{3n^2}{4n^3+1}\right)^{5n}} = \left(\frac{3n^2}{4n^3+1}\right)^{5n \cdot \frac{1}{n}} = \left(\frac{3n^2}{4n^3+1}\right)^5$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{3n^2}{4n^3+1}\right)^5 = \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3n^2}{4n^3+1}\right)^5$$

$$= 0^5 = 0$$

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

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## 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  $\frac{1}{n^p}$  or geometric:  
try comparison or lim-comparison with  
 $b_n = \frac{1}{n^p}$  or geometric.

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

4) If you can see that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ , use TFD.

5) If the 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  $a_n = \frac{5n^2+7}{8n^6+4}$  — Ratio Test will be useless  
for these ]

7) If  $a_n = (\text{something})^n$  try 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  $x$ )  
positive  
try Integral Test.



Q Which converge?

$$\sum \frac{n+8}{2n+1}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+8}{2n+1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

so the  $\sum$  diverges by TFD

$$\sum \frac{2^n}{n!}$$

ratio test:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^{n+1}/(n+1)!}{2^n/n!}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^{n+1}}{2^n} \cdot \frac{n!}{(n+1)!}$$

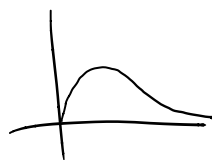
$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2 \cdot \frac{1}{n+1}$$

$$= 0 < 1$$

$\rightarrow \sum$  convergent

$$\sum n^2 e^{-n^3}$$

$\int$  test:  $f(x) = x^2 e^{-x^3}$



$$\int_1^{\infty} dx x^2 e^{-x^3}$$

$$u = x^3$$

$$du = 3x^2 dx$$

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{du}{3} e^{-u}$$

$$\frac{du}{3} = x^2 dx$$

$$-\frac{1}{3} e^{-u} \Big|_1^{\infty}$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{1}{3} e^{-u} \Big|_1^t$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{1}{3} e^{-t} + \frac{1}{3} e^{-1}$$

$$0 + \frac{1}{3} e^{-1}$$

$$\frac{1}{3e}$$

because the  $\int$  converges, the  $\sum$  converges

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

$$e^{-n^3} < \frac{1}{n^4}$$

$$e^{n^3} > n^4$$

use comparison test:

$$n^2 e^{-n^3} < n^2 \cdot \frac{1}{n^4} = \frac{1}{n^2}$$

$$\sum \frac{1}{n^2} \text{ converges}$$

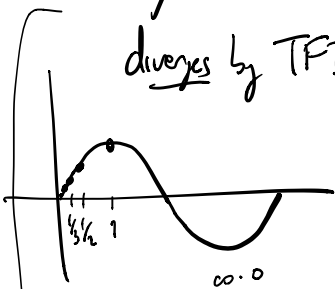
so  $\sum n^2 e^{-n^3}$  converges.

Ratio Test:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^2 e^{-(n+1)^3}}{n^2 e^{-n^3}} = \dots = 0$

Q Which converges?

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

↑  
diverges by TFD!



$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)}{\frac{1}{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-\frac{1}{n^2} \cos\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)}{-\frac{1}{n^2}} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \cos\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

•  $\sum \frac{1}{2+3^n}$

↑  
converges  
by lim-comp  
to  $\frac{1}{3^n}$

•  $\sum (-1)^n \frac{n^3}{n^4+1}$

↑  
converges and  
by Alt Ser. Test  
and lim-comp  
to  $\frac{1}{n}$

$\sin(x) \approx x$   
x small