

# Test for Convergence of Series 2

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ex 1)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} - \dots$  signs alternate!

prop: series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n$  for  $a_n \geq 0$  converges if series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n|$  converges (ignore signs) (↔ : can't go other direction)

notation:  $\sum a_n =$  absolutely convergent if  $\sum |a_n|$  converges

ex 1 cont.)  $a_n = \frac{1}{n}$   $\sum |a_n| = \sum \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow$  diverges (integral test/ $p=1$ )

nothing can be deduced!

ex 2)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n^2}$  converges bc  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$  converges (integral test/ $p=2$ )  
 $a_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$

thm (alternating series test): suppose  $(a_n)$  satisfy

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \bullet a_n \rightarrow 0 \\ \bullet a_n > a_{n+1} \\ \text{(eventually, } n \gg 1) \\ \bullet a_n \geq 0 \\ \text{(for all } a_n) \end{array} \right\} \text{ then } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n \text{ converges}$$

\* if fails any of them  $\rightarrow$  don't know \*

ex 1 cont.)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$  satisfies  $a_n = \frac{1}{n} \geq 0$ ,  
 $a_n \rightarrow 0^+$  & decreases  
 by alternating series test  $\rightarrow$  converges

remark:  $\lim \sum \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} = \ln(2)$  (later lectures)

ratio test: suppose  $(a_n)$ ,  $a_n \geq 0$

\* good for factorials & exponentials \*

if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \begin{cases} < 1 & \rightarrow \text{converges (absolute convergence)} \\ = 1 & \rightarrow \text{then } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \rightarrow ??? \\ > 1 & \rightarrow \text{diverges} \end{cases}$

ex 1) does  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4^n}{n!}$  converges? ( $\frac{4^n}{n!} \rightarrow 0$ , might converge)

ratio test needs to compute

\*  $(n+1)! = (n+1)n!$  \*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\frac{4^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}}{\frac{4^n}{n!}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4n!}{(n+1)!} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4}{(n+1)} = 0$$

$$\frac{4^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{4^n} = \frac{4n!}{(n+1)!}$$

\* not canceling  $\rightarrow$  use different test \*

since  $0 < 1 \rightarrow$  converges

root test: suppose  $(a_n)$ ,  $a_n \geq 0$

\* root test better than ratio test,

if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = \begin{cases} < 1 & \rightarrow \text{converges (absolute convergence)} \\ = 1 & \rightarrow \text{then } \sum a_n \rightarrow ??? \\ > 1 & \rightarrow \text{diverges} \end{cases}$

if root test fails  $\rightarrow$  don't do ratio test \*

\* integral test better than ratio & root test \*

ex 1) does  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^n}$  converge?  $\leq$  integral test:  $\int \frac{1}{x^x} dx \rightarrow ?$   
ratio test:  $\frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{n^n} \rightarrow \infty \rightarrow ?$   $\left( \frac{n^{n+1}}{n^n} \leq \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{n^n} \right)$  / needs to give finite value in test to use test  
diverges  $\rightarrow$  diverges

for root test, we compute

\* good for power of n \*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n|^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{n^n} \right)^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0 < 1 \rightarrow \boxed{\text{converges}}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} n! \leq n^n \\ 2^n \leq n^n \end{array} \rightarrow \frac{1}{n^n} \leq \frac{1}{2^n}$$