

| <u>Recall:</u>          | $\sum a_n$ | $\sum  a_n $ |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Absolute convergence    | converges  | converges    |
| Conditional convergence | converges  | diverges     |

Section 11.5: The ratio and root tests.

Ratio test: If  $\rho = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$  exists, then:

(i) if  $\rho < 1$  then  $\sum a_n$  converges absolutely.

(ii) if  $\rho > 1$  then  $\sum a_n$  diverges.

(iii) if  $\rho = 1$  then the test is inconclusive.

Example: Determine convergence (conditional or absolute) or divergence of  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n!}$ .

Weak

Strong

$\ln(x), x^n, e^x, n!, x^x$

$$\rho = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\frac{2^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}}{\frac{2^n}{n!}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{2^{n+1}}{2^n} \cdot \frac{n!}{(n+1)!} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{2}{n+1} \right| = 0.$$

$\rho = 0 < 1$  so  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n!}$  converges absolutely.

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

Example: Determine convergence (conditional or absolute) or divergence of  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{n!}$ .

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

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{n^2 + 1 + 2n}{n^2} \cdot \frac{1}{n+1} \right| = 0$$

We have absolute convergence by the ratio test.

Example: Determine convergence (conditional or absolute) or divergence of  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$ .

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

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^2.$$

The ratio test is inconclusive.

Root test: If  $L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|}$  exists, then:  $x^x$

(i) if  $L < 1$  then  $\sum a_n$  converges absolutely.

(ii) if  $L > 1$  then  $\sum a_n$  diverges.

(iii) if  $L = 1$  then the test is inconclusive.

Example: Determine convergence or divergence of  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{n}{2n+3} \right)^n$ .

For  $n$  big then  $\frac{n}{2n+3}$  looks like  $\frac{n}{2n} = \frac{1}{2}$ .

$\left( \frac{n}{2n+3} \right)^n$  looks like  $\frac{1}{2^n}$ .

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\left| \left( \frac{n}{2n+3} \right)^n \right|} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\left( \frac{n}{2n+3} \right)^n} =$$

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

$L = \frac{1}{2} < 1$  so  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{n}{2n+3} \right)^n$  converges absolutely by the root test.

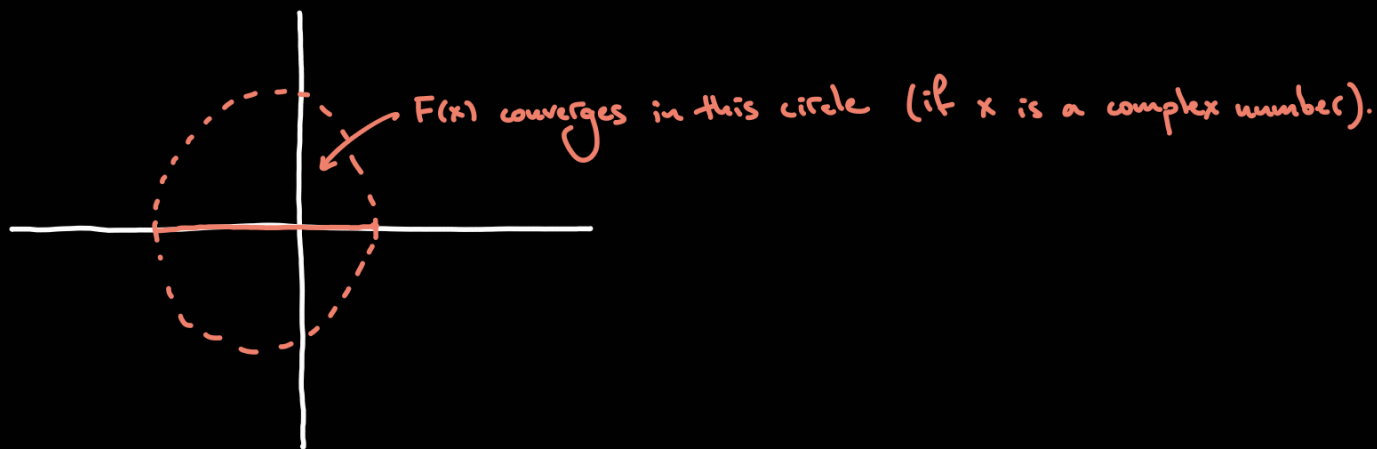
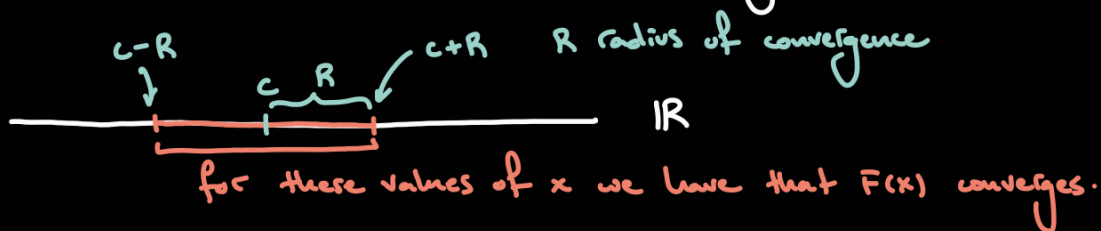
A power series is an infinite sum with a variable.

$$F(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cdot (x-c)^n = a_0 + a_1 \cdot (x-c) + a_2 \cdot (x-c)^2 + \dots$$

variable (pointing to  $(x-c)^n$ )  
 real number (pointing to  $a_n$ )  
 half sequence (pointing to  $a_n$ )  
 center,  $F(c) = a_0$ . (pointing to  $c$ )

A power series is an infinite polynomial.

Which are the values of  $x$  such that  $F(x)$  converges?



Radius of convergence: A power series  $F(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cdot (x-c)^n$  has a radius of convergence  $R$  (which can be zero, strictly positive, or infinity).

If  $R$  is finite then  $F(x)$  converges absolutely when  $|x-c| < R$ ,  $F(x)$  diverges when  $|x-c| > R$ .

moving  $x$  a distance  $R$  in either direction

If  $R$  is infinite then  $F(x)$  converges absolutely for all  $x$ .

The interval where  $F(x)$  converges is called the interval of convergence.

How to find the interval of convergence:

1. Find the radius of convergence using the ratio test.
2. Check convergence or divergence at the endpoints.

Example: Determine the interval of convergence of  $F(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{2^n}$ .

$$F(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cdot (x-c)^n, \quad a_n = \frac{1}{2^n}, \quad c=0.$$

$$1. \quad \rho = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\frac{x^{n+1}}{2^{n+1}}}{\frac{x^n}{2^n}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^{n+1}}{x^n} \cdot \frac{2^n}{2^{n+1}} \right| =$$

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

general term

$$a_n = \frac{x^n}{2^n}.$$

$R$   $|x-c| < R$  convergence  
 $|x-c| > R$  divergence

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|x|}{2} = \frac{|x|}{2}.$$

$$|x| < R$$

$$|x| > R$$

Now  $F(x)$  converges when  $\rho < 1$  and diverges when  $\rho > 1$ .

Convergence:  $\frac{|x|}{2} = \rho < 1$  namely  $|x| < 2$ .

Divergence:  $\frac{|x|}{2} = \rho > 1$  namely  $|x| > 2$ .

So  $R=2$  is the radius of convergence.

2. Check endpoints:

$$x=2: \quad F(2) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{2^n} = 1+1+1+\dots \text{ diverges.}$$

$$x=-2: \quad F(-2) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2)^n}{2^n} = 1-1+1-1+\dots \text{ divergent.}$$

$$u = 2^n$$

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So  $F(x)$  converges in the interval  $(-2, 2)$ .

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