

## "ratio criterium"

Theorem ✓  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  ( $a_n > 0$ )  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

1.) if  $\exists$   $l < 1$  st.  $\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} < l$   $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$   
(or  $n \geq \bar{n}$ )

then the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges

2.) if  $\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \geq 1$   $\forall n \geq \bar{n}$   
(for some  $\bar{n}$ )

then the series  
diverges

Proof of 1.):

$$\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} < l \Leftrightarrow a_{n+1} < l a_n$$

$$\text{also } a_n < l a_{n-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{n+1} < l^2 a_{n-1}$$

$$a_{n+1} < l^3 a_{n-2}$$

$$\underline{a_{n+1}} < \underline{l^n a_1} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$\hat{=}$

$$a_n < l^{n-1} a_1$$

(\*)

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} l^n$  ← geometric series  
with base  $l < 1$

it converges.

by comparison  
applied (\*)  
→

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is convergent.

Proof of 2)

$$\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \geq 1 \quad \forall n > \bar{n}$$

$$| a_{n+1} \geq a_n \geq a_{n-1} \dots \geq a_1 > 0 \quad \forall n > \bar{n}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$$

so the series does not  
converge  $\Rightarrow$  it diverges.

---

Corollary (asymptotic ratio criterion)

If  $\sum a_n$   $a_n > 0$  ( $n > \bar{n}$ )

• 1)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = l < 1$

$\Rightarrow \sum a_n$  converges.

• 2)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = l > 1$

then the series  $\sum a_n$   
diverges.

---

Proof of 1):

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = l < 1$$

A number line diagram illustrating the limit process. A horizontal line has a central point labeled 'l'. Above the line, a point is labeled '1 + l + ε'. Below the line, a point is labeled 'l - ε'. A vertical red line segment connects the point '1 + l + ε' to the point 'l'. Another vertical red line segment connects the point 'l' to the point 'l - ε'. This diagram represents the condition that for any ε > 0, there exists an N such that for all n > N, the ratio a\_{n+1}/a\_n is within ε of l.

there exists  $\bar{n}$  s.t.  $\forall n > \bar{n} \quad l - \varepsilon < \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} < l + \varepsilon$

$$\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} < \bar{l} < 1 \quad \text{for some } \bar{l}$$

Choice:  $\varepsilon = \frac{1-l}{2}$

$$l - \frac{1-l}{2} < \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} < l + \frac{1-l}{2} = \frac{l+1}{2} < 1$$

Apply Theorem and get the thesis.

Proof of e) by exercise.

---

We proved Example 1

$\sum \frac{n^n}{(2n)!}$  is convergent  
by ratio criterion

**Gift**  
 $\lim \frac{n^n}{(2n)!} = 0$

Example 2:

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

ratio criterion

$$\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = \frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \bigg/ \frac{n^n}{n!} =$$

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

$$(n+1) \left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right)^n \cdot \frac{1}{n+1} \rightarrow e > 1$$

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

We know that

$\sum \frac{n^n}{n!}$  does not converge

also by  $n$  times

$$\frac{n^n}{n!} = \frac{\overbrace{n \cdot n \cdot n \dots n}^{n \text{ times}}}{n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \dots 1} =$$

$$= \frac{n}{n} \cdot \frac{n}{n-1} \cdot \frac{n}{n-2} \dots \frac{n}{1} = +\infty$$

The necessary cond.  $\lim a_n = 0$  is violated.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{\cosh(n)}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^{n+1} \cdot 2}{e^{n+1} + e^{-(n+1)}} \cdot \frac{e^n + e^{-n}}{2^n} =$$

$$2 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^n (1 + e^{-2n})}{e^{n+1} (1 + e^{-2n-2})} = \frac{2}{e} < 1$$

What can we conclude if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = 1$ ? NOTHING!

Indeed consider

$\sum \frac{1}{n}$ does not conv	$\sum \frac{1}{n^2}$ converges
-------------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Apply ratio test:

$$\text{For } \sum \frac{1}{n} \quad \frac{\frac{1}{n+1}}{\frac{1}{n}} = \frac{n}{n+1} = 1$$

$$\text{For } \sum \frac{1}{n^2} \quad \frac{\frac{1}{(n+1)^2}}{\frac{1}{n^2}} = \frac{n^2}{(n+1)^2} = 1$$

Theorem 2 ("nth root criterion").  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$

1)  $\sqrt[n]{a_n} < l < 1 \quad \forall n > \bar{n}$   
then  $\sum a_n$  converges

2)  $\sqrt[n]{a_n} \geq 1 \quad \forall n > \bar{n}$   
then the series diverges

Corollary

1)  $\lim \sqrt[n]{a_n} = l < 1$   
the series converges

2)  $\lim \sqrt[n]{a_n} = l > 1$   
the series diverges

(if  $\lim \sqrt[n]{a_n} = 1$  nothing can be deduced)

Proof of 1) of Theorem 2:

by hypothesis  $\sqrt[n]{a_n} < l < 1$   
 $a_n < l^n$

by comparison

$\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges.

$\sum l^n$   
geom series  
converges  
because  $l < 1$

Example

$$\sum \frac{\left(1 - \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) - \frac{1}{n}\right)^n}{2 \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{n}\right)^{n^2}} \quad \alpha \geq 0$$

positive terms

For which  $\alpha$  does it converge.  
n-th root crit:

$$\sqrt[n]{\frac{\left(1 - \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) - \frac{1}{n}\right)^n}{2 \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{n}\right)^{n^2}}} =$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{2}} \frac{1 - \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) - \frac{1}{n}}{\left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{n}\right)^n} = \frac{1}{e^\alpha}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{n}\right)^n \quad \alpha > 0$$

try

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha}{x}\right)^x$$

$y = \frac{x}{\alpha}$

$$= \lim_{y \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{y}\right)^{y\alpha} = \lim_{y \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{y}\right)^y{}^\alpha =$$

$= e^\alpha$ . Hence:

For every  $\alpha > 0$  the series converges.

If  $\alpha = 0$

$$\sum \frac{1 - \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) - \frac{1}{n}}{2}$$

Check  $\lim d_n = 0$ ?

$$\lim \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) - \frac{1}{n}\right) =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{e} = \frac{1}{2e} \neq 0$$

$$\sum (-1)^n \frac{1}{n}$$

This does not  
converge absolutely

BUT I

KNOW THAT

IT CONVERGES

$\Rightarrow \sum (-1)^n \frac{1}{n^2}$  converges  
absolutely  
 $\Rightarrow$  it converges

$$\sum (-1)^n \frac{1}{n^2}$$

It converges  
absolutely:

$$\sum \left| (-1)^n \frac{1}{n^2} \right| = \sum \frac{1}{n^2}$$

it converges!

Theorem (Leibniz criterion)  
for series  
with alternating sign

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \underbrace{b_n}_{\geq 0}$$

$$b_n \geq 0$$

Assume that:

•  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$  ←

•  $(b_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is decreasing

Then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n b_n$  converges

Examples:

$$\sum (-1)^n \frac{1}{n^\alpha}$$

$\forall \alpha > 0$

•  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^\alpha} = 0$

•  $\frac{1}{n^\alpha}$  decreasing

$\Rightarrow$  it converges  $\forall \alpha > 0$  . )

Example.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{e} + n\pi\right) \cdot \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}}{(n^2 + 2n)^\alpha} \quad \alpha \geq 0$$

Study convergence and abs. convergence:

$$\sum = \sum (-1)^n \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}}{(n^2 + 2n)^\alpha}$$

Absol. conv.

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}}{(n^2 + 2n)^\alpha}$$

$$\frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}}{(n^2 + 2n)^\alpha} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{n} (n^2 + 2n)^\alpha} =$$

$$\sim \frac{1}{n^{\frac{1}{2}} n^{2\alpha}} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^{\left(\frac{1}{2} + 2\alpha\right)}}$$

Converges  $\Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{1}{n^{\left(\frac{1}{2} + 2\alpha\right)}} \text{ conv.}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2} + 2\alpha > 1$$

$$2\alpha > \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow \alpha > \frac{1}{4}$$

absol. conv.  $\Rightarrow$  conv.



What happens for  $0 \leq \alpha \leq \frac{1}{4}$

No abs. conv.

Try Leibniz's crit.

$$\sum (-1)^n \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{n} (n^2+2n)^\alpha}}_{b_n}$$

•  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$  ? yes!

• is  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n} (n^2+2n)^\alpha}$  decreasing

directly; yes

or prove that

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x} (x^2+2x)^\alpha} \right) \leq 0$$

by Leibniz  $\Rightarrow$  The series is converging also for  $0 \leq \alpha \leq \frac{1}{4}$





