

## 11.5 Alternating Series; 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

Goals:

1. Recognize Alternating Series:  
terms alternate between positive and negative.
2. Apply the Alternating Series Test:  
conditions for convergence of alternating series
3. Conditional and Absolute Convergence:  
compare convergence of alternating series to  
convergence of series of absolute values
4. Approximate a series' sum,  $S$ , by its  $n$ th partial  
sum,  $s_n$ .
5. For  $s_n$  approx, Remainder:  $|R_N| = |S - s_N| < a_{N+1}$
6. Use Ratio Test, esp. for series with factorials.
7. Use Root test, esp. for series with powers of  $n$ .

Study 11.5 # 1 - 17, 23

Study 11.6 # 1-13, 19-29, 33, 35, 39

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## 11.5 Alternating Series

**Alternating Series:**

Let  $a_n > 0$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n = -a_1 + a_2 - a_3 + a_4 - \dots$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} a_n = a_1 - a_2 + a_3 - a_4 + \dots$$

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$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}$

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

## 11.5 Alternating Series

Alternating Series: Let  $a_n > 0$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n = -a_1 + a_2 - a_3 + a_4 - \dots$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} a_n = a_1 - a_2 + a_3 - a_4 + \dots$$

### Alternating Series Test:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} a_n \quad a_n > 0 \quad \text{Converge if:}$$

1.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$
2.  $a_{n+1} \leq a_n$  for all  $n$

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

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

## 11.5 Alternating Series

### Alternating Series Test:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} a_n \quad a_n > 0 \quad \text{Converge if:}$$

1.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$
2.  $a_{n+1} \leq a_n$  for all  $n$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3} \quad \text{Converge? or diverge?}$$

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## 11.5 Alternating Series

### Alternating Series Test:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} a_n \quad a_n > 0 \quad \text{Converge if:}$$

$$1. \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0 \quad 2. \quad a_{n+1} \leq a_n \quad \text{for all } n$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3} \quad \text{Converge? or diverge?}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{n^3} > 0$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^3} = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{(n+1)^3} \leq \frac{1}{n^3}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3}$$

Converges by  
alternating series test

return

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## 11.5 Alternating Series

### Alternating Series Test:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} a_n \quad a_n > 0 \quad \text{Converge if:}$$

$$1. \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0 \quad 2. \quad a_{n+1} \leq a_n \quad \text{for all } n$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots$$

Similar to harmonic series, but is alternating. Harmonic series diverges. Does this? Converge? or diverge?

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## 11.5 Alternating Series

### Alternating Series Test:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} a_n \quad a_n > 0 \quad \text{Converge if:}$$

1.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$
2.  $a_{n+1} \leq a_n$  for all  $n$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \quad \text{Converge? or diverge?}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{n} > 0 \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0 \quad \frac{1}{n+1} \leq \frac{1}{n} \quad \text{for all } n$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \quad \text{Converges by alternating series test}$$

return

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## 11.5 Alternating Series; 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

### Definitions:

**Conditionally Convergent:** The series  $\sum a_n$  is conditionally convergent if the series converges, but the series  $\sum |a_n|$  diverges.

**Absolutely Convergent:** The series  $\sum a_n$  is absolutely convergent if the series  $\sum |a_n|$  converges.

### Theorem:

If  $\sum |a_n|$  converges, then  $\sum a_n$  converges.

**Remainder:** Given a convergent alternating series with sum  $S$ , the absolute value of the remainder satisfies:

$$|R_N| = |S - S_N| \leq a_{N+1}$$

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

11.5 Alternating Series; 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

Definitions:

Conditionally Convergent: The series  $\sum a_n$  is conditionally convergent if the series converges, but the series  $\sum |a_n|$  diverges.

Absolutely Convergent: The series  $\sum a_n$  is absolutely convergent if the series  $\sum |a_n|$  converges.

Series	$\sum a_n$	$\sum  a_n $	Type, Conv	p
<a href="#">link</a> $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3}$				3
<a href="#">link</a> $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n}$				1
<a href="#">link</a> $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}}$				1/2

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Conditional Convergence

Conditional Convergence

Absolute Convergence

Absolute Convergence

Absolute Convergence

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11.5 Alternating Series; 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

Definitions:

Conditionally Convergent: The series  $\sum a_n$  is conditionally convergent if the series converges, but the series  $\sum |a_n|$  diverges.

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Series	$\sum a_n$	$\sum  a_n $	Type	p
$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3}$	C	C	Absolute Convergence	3
$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n}$	C	D	Conditional Convergence	1
$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}}$	C	D	Conditional Convergence	1/2

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

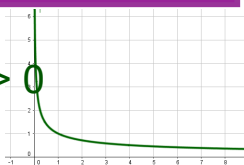
### 11.3 Integral Test

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} = 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + \dots$$

Converge? or diverge?

$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} > 0$ , continuous, decreasing for  $x > 0$

$$\int_1^{\infty} x^{-1/2} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left[ 2x^{1/2} \right]_1^b = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} [2\sqrt{b} - 2] = \infty \therefore \text{Both integral and Series Diverge}$$



#### The Integral Test:

Let  $f(x) > 0$ , continuous, and decreasing,  $x \geq 0$ , and  $a_n = f(n)$ .

Then,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  and  $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx$  either both converge or both diverge

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{\sqrt{n}} \quad a_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} > 0 \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} = 0 \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \text{ for all } n$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}}$$

Converges by alternating series test

return



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$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} = 0$



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

### 11.5 Alternating Series

**Remainder:** Given a convergent alternating series with sum  $S$ , the absolute value of the remainder satisfies:

$$|R_N| = |S - S_N| \leq a_{N+1}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n}$$

Converges by alternating series test

What is the sum,  $S$ , of the series?

Can we estimate  $S$  by using  $s_n$ , eg:  $s_{999}$ ?

What error is associated with the estimate?

sum(seq(Y1,x,1,999)) with  $Y1 = (-1)^{x+1}/x$  results in 0.69364743

Can use  $s_{999}$  as estimate of  $S$ :  $S \approx 0.693647$

The error generated by using the estimate is bounded by the value of  $s_{1000} = 1/1000$

$$|R_N| = |S - S_N| < a_{N+1} = 1/1000$$

using  $n=1000$  caused an overflow on my calculator

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

## 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

**Ratio Test:** Let  $\sum a_n$  be a series with nonzero terms.

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| < 1$  Then the series converges absolutely

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| > 1$  Then the series diverges

The test is inconclusive if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = 1$

Especially useful for series having factorials.

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

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

## 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

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

Converge? or diverge?

all terms nonzero, has factorial,  $\therefore$  use ratio test

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

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

## 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

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

Converge? or diverge?

all terms nonzero, has factorial,  $\therefore$  use **ratio test**

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{2^{n+1} / (n+1)!}{2^n / n!} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{2^{n+1} n!}{2^n (n+1)!} \right| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{2}{(n+1)} \right| = 0 < 1 \end{aligned}$$

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

The series converges absolutely

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

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

## 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \left( \frac{6}{5} \right)^n$$

Converge? or diverge?

all terms nonzero, not obvious which, try **ratio test**

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$$

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

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



## 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \left( \frac{6}{5} \right)^n$$

Converge? or diverge?

all terms nonzero, not obvious which, try **ratio test**

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+1)/(6/5)^{n+1}}{n / (6/5)^n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+1)}{n} \left( \frac{6}{5} \right) \right|$$

$$= \frac{6}{5} > 1$$

The series diverges

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

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

## 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

**Root Test:** Let  $\sum a_n$  be a series

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} < 1 \quad \text{Then the series converges absolutely}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} > 1 \quad \text{Then the series diverges}$$

$$\text{The test is inconclusive if } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = 1$$

Especially useful for series involving nth roots.

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

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

## 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

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

Converge? or diverge?

has powers of  $n$   $\therefore$  try **root test**

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{e^{2n}}{n^n}}$$

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## 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

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

Converge? or diverge?

has powers of  $n$   $\therefore$  try **root test**

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{e^{2n}}{n^n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{e^{2n}}{n^n} \right)^{1/n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^2}{n} = 0 < 1$$

The series converges absolutely

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{e^{2n}}{n^n}}$$

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## 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

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

Converge? or diverge?

has powers of  $n$   $\therefore$  try **root test**



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$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\quad}$$

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## 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

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

Converge? or diverge?

has powers of  $n$   $\therefore$  try **root test**

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\left( \frac{2n+1}{n-1} \right)^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n+1}{n-1} = 2 > 1$$

The series diverges



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$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\quad}$$

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## 11.6 Convergence, Ratio, Root Tests

Note:

Neither the Ratio Test nor The Root Test  
work for p-series.



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