

Ratio Test:

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

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

If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = 1$ , then use another test.

Example 1:

$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^n}{2n+8}$  is called a power series.

Find all values for  $x$  that would make the series converge.

$$\text{Let } u_n = (-1)^n \frac{x^n}{2n+8}; \quad u_{n+1} = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{x^{n+1}}{2(n+1)+8} = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{x^{n+1}}{2n+10}$$

$$\text{Let } L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^{n+1} \frac{x^{n+1}}{2n+10}}{(-1)^n \frac{x^n}{2n+8}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^n \cdot x^1}{x^n} \right| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{2n+8}{2n+10} \right| = |x|(1) = |x|$$

By Ratio Test, if  $L < 1$  then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^n}{2n+8}$  converges.

$$\text{Hence, } L < 1 \Leftrightarrow |x| < 1 \Leftrightarrow -1 < x < 1$$

R = Radius of convergence = 1

Interval of Convergence =  $(-1, 1)$ .

Hence the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^n}{2n+8}$  converges when  $x$  is between -1 and 1.

Example 2:

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(8x)^n}{n^3}$  is called a power series. Find radius of convergence.

$$\text{Let } u_n = \frac{(8x)^n}{n^3} \text{ and } u_{n+1} = \frac{(8x)^{n+1}}{(n+1)^3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } L &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(8x)^{n+1}}{(n+1)^3} \cdot \frac{n^3}{(8x)^n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(8x)^{n+1}}{(8x)^n} \right| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{n^3}{(n+1)^3} \right| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(8x)^n \cdot (8x)^1}{(8x)^n} \right| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{n^3}{n^3 + 3n + 3n + 1} \right| = |8x| \cdot (1) = |8x| \end{aligned}$$

By Ratio Test, if  $L < 1$  then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(8x)^n}{n^3}$  converges.

$$\text{Hence, } L < 1 \Leftrightarrow |8x| < 1 \Leftrightarrow -1 < 8x < 1 \Rightarrow -1/8 < x < 1/8$$

We also need to check  $x = -1/8$  and  $x = 1/8$ .

Example 2 (*con't*).

$$\text{If } x = -1/8, \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(8x)^n}{n^3} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(8(-1/8))^n}{n^3} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3}$$

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3}$  is an alternating series and converges by

Alternating Series Test.

$$\text{If } x = 1/8, \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(8x)^n}{n^3} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(8(1/8))^n}{n^3} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1)^n}{n^3} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3}$$

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3}$  is a  $p$ -series with  $p = 3$ ; hence it converges.

Summary: Interval of convergence is  $[-1/8, 1/8]$

In other words,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(8x)^n}{n^3}$  converges when  $x \in [-1/8, 1/8]$ .

Example 3:

Find interval of convergence for  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{(n+2)!}$ .

$$\text{Let } u_n = \frac{x^n}{(n+2)!} \quad \text{and} \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1+2)!} = \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+3)!}$$

Note:  $(n+2)! = (n+2)(n+1)(n)\cdots(3)(2)(1)$

$$(n+3)! = (n+3)(n+2)(n+1)(n)\cdots(3)(2)(1)$$

$$\text{Let } L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+3)!}}{\frac{x^n}{(n+2)!}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+3)!} \cdot \frac{(n+2)!}{x^n} \right|$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^{n+1}}{x^n} \right| \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+2)!}{(n+3)!} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^n x^1}{x^n} \right| \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+2)!}{(n+3)!} \right|$$

$$= |x| \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{1}{n+3} \right| = |x| \cdot 0 = 0$$

By Ratio Test, if  $L < 1$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{(n+2)!}$  converges.

Note that  $L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = 0 < 1$  for any  $x$ .

Example 3 (con't):

Hence  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{(n+2)!}$  converges for any  $x$ .

Interval of convergence =  $(-\infty, \infty)$

R = Radius of convergence =  $\infty$

Example 4:

Find Interval of convergence for  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^n$

$$\text{Let } u_n = \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^n \quad \text{and} \quad u_{n+1} = \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^{n+1}$$

$$\text{Hint: } \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^{n+1} = \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^n \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^1$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^{n+1}}{\left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^n \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^1}{\left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^n} \right| = \left| \frac{x}{5} \right|$$

By Ratio Test, if  $L < 1$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^n$  converges.

$$L < 1 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \left| \frac{x}{5} \right| < 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad -1 < \frac{x}{5} < 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad -5 < x < 5$$

Example 4 (con't):

We also need to test  $x = 5$  and  $x = -5$ .

$$\text{For } x = 5, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{5}{5}\right)^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1)^n = \infty.$$

Hence, when  $x = 5$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^n$  diverges.

$$\text{For } x = -5, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{-5}{5}\right)^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n = -1 + 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \dots$$

Hence, when  $x = -5$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x}{5}\right)^n$  diverges.

Therefore, Interval of Convergence is  $(-5, 5)$ .



Example 5:

Find Interval of convergence for  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^{3n}}{(n+1)!}$ .

$$\text{Let } u_n = \frac{x^{3n}}{(n+1)!} \quad \text{and} \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{3(n+1)}}{((n+1)+1)!} = \frac{x^{3n+3}}{(n+2)!}$$

Note:  $(n+1)! = (n+1)(n)(n-1)(n-2)\cdots(3)(2)(1)$

$$(n+2)! = (n+2)(n+1)(n)(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)\cdots(3)(2)(1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } L &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^{3n+3}}{(n+2)!} \frac{(n+1)!}{x^{3n}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^{3n} \cdot x^3}{x^{3n}} \right| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+1)!}{(n+2)!} \right| \\ &= |x^3| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{1}{(n+2)} \right| = |x^3| \cdot 0 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

By Ratio Test, if  $L < 1$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^{3n}}{(n+1)!}$  converges.

Since  $L = 0$ ,  $L < 1$  for any  $x$ . Hence,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^{3n}}{(n+1)!}$  converges for any  $x$ .

Therefore Interval of convergence =  $(-\infty, \infty)$  and Radius of Convergence =  $\infty$

Example 6:

Find Interval of convergence for  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(x-2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}}$ .

$$\text{Let } u_n = \frac{(x-2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}} \quad \text{and} \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{(x-2)^{(n+1)-1}}{2^{(n+1)-1}} = \frac{(x-2)^n}{2^n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(x-2)^n}{2^n} \cdot \frac{2^{n-1}}{(x-2)^{n-1}} \right| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(x-2)^n}{(x-2)^n \cdot (x-2)^{-1}} \right| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{2^n \cdot 2^{-1}}{2^n} \right| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{1}{(x-2)^{-1}} \right| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |2^{-1}| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |(x-2)^1| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{1}{2} \right| = \frac{1}{2} |x-2| \end{aligned}$$

By Ratio Test, if  $L < 1$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(x-2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}}$  converges.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hence, } L < 1 &\Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2} |x-2| < 1 \Leftrightarrow -1 < \frac{1}{2}(x-2) < 1 \\ &\Leftrightarrow -2 < (x-2) < 2 \Leftrightarrow 0 < x < 4 \end{aligned}$$

Example 6 (con't):

We also need to test  $x = 0$  and  $x = 4$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\text{For } x = 0, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(x-2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}} &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(0-2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1 \cdot 2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1} (2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1}\end{aligned}$$

For  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1}$ , note that  $a_n = |(-1)^{n-1}| = 1^n = 1$ ; and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 = 1$

Hence,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1}$  diverges by  $n^{\text{th}}$  Term Test.

Therefore, for  $x = 0$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(x-2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}}$  diverges.

Example 6 (con't):

$$\text{For } x = 4, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(4-2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1 = 1 + 1 + 1 + \dots = \infty$$

Hence, For  $x = 4$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(x-2)^{n-1}}{2^{n-1}}$  diverges.

Therefore, Interval of convergence = (0, 4).

Radius of Convergence = 2.

Example 7:

Find the interval of convergence for  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^{5n+1}}{(5n+1)!}$ .

$$\text{Let } u_n = \frac{x^{5n+1}}{(5n+1)!} \quad \text{and} \quad u_{n+1} = \frac{x^{5(n+1)+1}}{(5(n+1)+1)!} = \frac{x^{5n+6}}{(5n+6)!}$$

Note:  $(5n+1)! = (5n+1)(5n)(5n-1)(5n-2)(5n-3)\cdots(3)(2)(1)$

$$(5n+6)! = (5n+6)(5n+5)(5n+4)(5n+2)(5n+1)\cdots(3)(2)(1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } L &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^{5n+6}}{(5n+6)!} \cdot \frac{(5n+1)!}{x^{5n+1}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^{5n} x^6}{x^{5n} x^1} \right| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(5n+1)!}{(5n+6)!} \right| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |x^5| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{1}{(5n+6)(5n+5)(5n+4)(5n+2)} \right| = |x^5| \cdot 0 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

By Ratio Test, if  $L < 1$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^{5n+1}}{(5n+1)!}$  converges.

Hence,  $L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = 0 < 1$  for any  $x$ ; and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^{5n+1}}{(5n+1)!}$  converges for any real number  $x$ .

Therefore, Interval of Convergence  $(-\infty, \infty)$  and Radius of Convergence  $= \infty$ .

Example 8:

Find the interval of convergence for  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+1)!x^n$ .

Let  $u_n = (n+1)!x^n$  and  $u_{n+1} = (n+1+1)!x^{n+1} = (n+2)!x^n x^1$

Note:  $(n+1)! = (n+1)(n)(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)\cdots(3)(2)(1)$

$(n+2)! = (n+2)(n+1)(n)(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)\cdots(3)(2)(1)$

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+2)!x^n x^1}{(n+1)!x^n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+2)!}{(n+1)!} \right| |x| \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+2)(n+1)(n)(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)\cdots(3)(2)(1)}{(n+1)(n)(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)\cdots(3)(2)(1)} \right| |x| \end{aligned}$$

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

Example 8 (con't):

Note:  $L = \infty > 1$ . Hence, the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+1)!x^n$  diverges for any real number  $x$ , except  $x = 0$ .

When  $x = 0$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+1)!x^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+1)! \cdot 0^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+1)! \cdot 0 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 0 = 0$ .

Therefore, Interval of Convergence is  $\{0\}$ .