

Ratio Test: used to test for absolute convergence

- (i) If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = L < 1$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is absolutely convergent (and therefore convergent).
- (ii) If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = L > 1$  OR  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \infty$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is divergent.
- (iii) If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = 1$ , the Ratio Test is inconclusive (must use a different test to determine whether it is convergent or divergent).

Definition:  $\sum a_n$  is absolutely convergent if  $\sum |a_n|$  is convergent. Ex:  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n^2}$  is A.C.

Definition:  $\sum a_n$  is conditionally convergent if it is convergent (usually by the Alternating Series Test) but not absolutely convergent. Ex:  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{n}$  is C.C.

1. a. If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = 8 > 1$ , then  $\sum a_n$  diverges by the Ratio Test.

b. If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = 0.8 < 1$ , then  $\sum a_n$  converges by the Ratio Test.

c. If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = 1$ , the Ratio Test is inconclusive.

3.  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-10)^n}{n!}$  Ratio Test:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{10^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{10^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{10 \cdot 10^n}{10^n} \cdot \frac{n!}{(n+1) \cdot n!}$

$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{10}{n+1} = 0 < 1 \Rightarrow$  the series is absolutely convergent, and thus convergent.

5.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{\sqrt[n]{n}}$  Notice that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{1/n}}$  which diverges (p-series,  $p = \frac{1}{n} < 1$ ), so the series is not absolutely convergent.

Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n}} = 0$  and  $\left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{n}} \right\}$  is positive and decreasing, the original series is conditionally convergent by the Alternating Series Test.

[The Ratio Test is inconclusive on #5, since  $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt[n+1]{n+1}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[n]{n}}{1} = \sqrt[n+1]{\frac{n}{n+1}} = \sqrt[n+1]{\frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{n}}} \rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ]

7.  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^k$  Ratio Test:  $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{(k+1) \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{k+1}}{k \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^k} = \frac{k+1}{k} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1 + \frac{1}{k}}{1} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \rightarrow \frac{2}{3} < 1$  (as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ )

Therefore, the series is **absolutely convergent** and thus convergent by the Ratio Test.

9.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{(1.1)^n}{n^4}$  Ratio Test:  $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{(1.1)^{n+1}}{(n+1)^4} \cdot \frac{n^4}{(1.1)^n} = 1.1 \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^4 = 1.1 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}}\right)^4$

$\rightarrow |r| > 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore, the series is **divergent** by the Ratio Test.

11.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{e^{\frac{1}{n}}}{n^3}$  Using the Comparison Test from 11.4: Note that for  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\frac{e^{\frac{1}{n}}}{n^3} \leq \frac{e}{n^3}$ ,

and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{e}{n^3} = e \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3}$  converges since it is a constant multiple of a convergent  $p$ -series. ( $p=3 > 1$ )

So, by the Comparison Test,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{\frac{1}{n}}}{n^3}$  converges. Therefore,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{e^{\frac{1}{n}}}{n^3}$  is **absolutely convergent**.

[The Ratio Test is inconclusive on #11, since  $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{e^{\frac{1}{n+1}}}{(n+1)^3} \cdot \frac{n^3}{e^{\frac{1}{n}}} = \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^3 \cdot \frac{e^{\frac{1}{n+1}}}{e^{\frac{1}{n}}} \rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .]

The Integral Test can also be used on #11:

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{e^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^3} dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^t \frac{e^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^3} dx \stackrel{\star}{=} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ e^{\frac{1}{x}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{x}\right) \right]_1^t = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[ e^{\frac{1}{t}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{t}\right) - e^1 (1 - 1) \right]$$

$$\star \int \frac{e^{\frac{1}{x}}}{x^3} dx = - \int e^{\frac{1}{x}} \cdot \frac{1}{x} \cdot \frac{-1}{x^2} dx = - \int u e^u du = - [u e^u - \int e^u du] = -u e^u + e^u = e^u (1 - u) = e^{\frac{1}{x}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{x}\right)$$

$u = \frac{1}{x}$   
 $du = -\frac{1}{x^2} dx$   
 $U = u \quad V = e^u$   
 $dU = du \quad dV = e^u du$

$\rightarrow = e^0 \cdot 1 = 1$ . Since the integral converges, by the Integral Test the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{\frac{1}{n}}}{n^3}$  also converges.

Therefore,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{e^{\frac{1}{n}}}{n^3}$  is **absolutely convergent**.

13.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{10^n}{(n+1) 4^{2n+1}}$  Ratio Test:  $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{10^{n+1}}{(n+2) 4^{2(n+1)+1}} \cdot \frac{(n+1) 4^{2n+1}}{10^n} =$  (next line)

$$= 10 \cdot \frac{n+1}{n+2} \cdot \frac{4^{2n+1}}{4^2 \cdot 4^{2n+1}} = 10 \cdot \frac{1 + \frac{1}{n}}{1 + \frac{2}{n}} \cdot \frac{4^{2n+1}}{4^2 \cdot 4^{2n+1}} \rightarrow \frac{10}{16} < 1 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Therefore, by the Ratio Test the series is **absolutely convergent**.

15.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \arctan n}{n^2}$  Using the Comparison Test from 11.4:  $\frac{\arctan n}{n^2} \leq \frac{\frac{\pi}{2}}{n^2}$  for  $n \geq 1$ ,

and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(\frac{\pi}{2})}{n^2} = \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$  converges (it is a constant multiple of a convergent  $p$ -series).  
[ $p=2 > 1$ ]

So, by the Comparison Test,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\arctan n}{n^2}$  converges.

Therefore,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \arctan n}{n^2}$  is **absolutely convergent**.

17.  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{\ln n}$  Using the Comparison Test:  $\ln n < n$ , so  $\frac{1}{\ln n} > \frac{1}{n}$ .

We know  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$  diverges, so by the Comparison Test  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\ln n}$  also must diverge,

which means that  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{\ln n}$  is not absolutely convergent.

Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\ln n} = 0$  (and  $\left\{ \frac{1}{\ln n} \right\}_{n=2}^{\infty}$  is positive and decreasing), by the Alternating

Series Test the series  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{\ln n}$  is **conditionally convergent**.

The Ratio Test is inconclusive on #17:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\ln(n+1)} \cdot \frac{\ln n}{1} =$  (next line)

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{\ln(x+1)} \stackrel{H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{\frac{1}{x+1}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x+1}{x} = 1.$$

19.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(\frac{n\pi}{3})}{n!}$  Since  $|\cos \frac{n\pi}{3}| \leq 1$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{|\cos \frac{n\pi}{3}|}{n!} \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!}$ .

Using the Ratio Test on  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!}$ :  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+1} = 0 < 1$ ,

so  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!}$  is absolutely convergent.

Therefore, by the Comparison Test  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{|\cos(\frac{n\pi}{3})|}{n!}$  is convergent,

which implies that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos(\frac{n\pi}{3})}{n!}$  is **absolutely convergent**.



The Root Test: useful when  $n$ th powers occur

(i) If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = L < 1$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is absolutely convergent (and therefore convergent).

(ii) If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = L > 1$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is divergent.

(iii) If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = 1$ , the Root Test is inconclusive.

21.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{n^2+1}{2n^2+1}\right)^n$  Root Test:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2+1}{2n^2+1} = \frac{1}{2} < 1$ , so the series is absolutely convergent.

$$23. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n^2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n\right]^n$$

Root Test:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\left[\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n\right]^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = e > 1$ , so the series is divergent.

Or think of it as:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n^2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n^2}\right]^{\frac{1}{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = e > 1 \Rightarrow \text{divergent by the Root Test.}$$

$$25. 1 - \frac{1 \cdot 3}{3!} + \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}{5!} - \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7}{7!} + \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1)}{(2n-1)!}$$

$$\text{The series is } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1)}{(2n-1)!}$$

$$\text{Ratio Test: } \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (2(n+1)-1)}{(2(n+1)-1)!} \cdot \frac{(2n-1)!}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1)}$$

$$= \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n+1)}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1)} \cdot \frac{(2n-1)!}{(2n+1)!} = \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1) \cdot (2n+1)}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n-1)} \cdot \frac{(2n-1)!}{(2n+1)(2n)(2n-1)!}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n} \rightarrow 0 < 1 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \text{ Therefore the series is } \text{absolutely convergent} \text{ by the Ratio Test.}$$

$$27. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdots (2n)}{n!} \quad \text{Ratio Test: } \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdots (2(n+1))}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdots (2n)}$$

$$= \frac{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdots (2n) \cdot (2n+2)}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdots (2n)} \cdot \frac{n!}{(n+1)n!} = \frac{2n+2}{n+1} \rightarrow 2 > 1 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \text{ Therefore, the series is } \boxed{\text{divergent}} \text{ by the Ratio Test.}$$

Or on #27, the Test for Divergence can be used, as follows:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdots (2n)}{n!} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2 \cdot 1) \cdot (2 \cdot 2) \cdot (2 \cdot 3) \cdots (2 \cdot n)}{n!} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^n \cdot n!}{n!} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n$$

Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2^n = \infty \neq 0$ , the series is  $\boxed{\text{divergent}}$  by the Test for Divergence.

Yet another approach is to note that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n$  is a divergent geometric series ( $r=2 > 1$ ).

31. a.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3}$  This is a convergent  $p$ -series ( $p=3 > 1$ ), but the  $\boxed{\text{Ratio Test is inconclusive}}$ :

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{1}{(n+1)^3} \cdot \frac{n^3}{1} = \left( \frac{n}{n+1} \right)^3 = \left( \frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{n}} \right)^3 \rightarrow 1 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \text{ (No conclusion from Ratio Test.)}$$

$$b. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n} \quad \text{Ratio Test: } \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{n+1}{2^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{2^n}{n} = \frac{n+1}{n} \cdot \frac{2^n}{2 \cdot 2^n} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} < 1,$$

so the series is  $\boxed{\text{convergent}}$  by the ratio test. (Conclusive)

$$c. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-3)^{n-1}}{\sqrt{n}} \quad \text{Ratio Test: } \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{3^{(n+1)-1}}{\sqrt{n+1}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n}}{3^{n-1}} = \frac{3^n}{3^{n-1}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n+1}}$$

$$= \frac{3 \cdot 3^{n-1}}{3^{n-1}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{n}{n+1}} = 3 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{n}}} \rightarrow 3 > 1 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty, \text{ so the series is } \boxed{\text{divergent}} \text{ by the Ratio Test. (conclusive)}$$

$$d. \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{1+n^2} \quad \text{Ratio Test: } \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{1+(n+1)^2} \cdot \frac{1+n^2}{\sqrt{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{n}} \cdot \frac{n^2+1}{n^2+2n+2} \rightarrow 1,$$

so the  $\boxed{\text{Ratio Test is inconclusive}}$ . However, using the Comparison Test, we have

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}}{1+n^2} \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n^2} = \frac{1}{n^{3/2}} \text{ and } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{3/2}} \text{ converges (} p\text{-series, } p=\frac{3}{2} > 1), \text{ so}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{1+n^2} \text{ is convergent by the Comparison Test.}$$