

Use the [completed handout](#) to complete the notes.



Watch this [video](#) about the Ratio test:



## The Ratio Test

The *Ratio Test* is a test for absolute convergence.

**Theorem:** Let  $\sum a_i$  be a series with nonzero terms.

1.  $\sum a_i$  **converges** absolutely if  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{i+1}}{a_i} \right| < 1$

2.  $\sum a_i$  **diverges** if  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{i+1}}{a_i} \right| > 1$

3. The *Ratio Test* is **inconclusive** if  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{i+1}}{a_i} \right| = 1$

Watch this [video](#) of a problem similar to Exercise 1:



Exercise 1: Determine whether  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{i^3 4^{i+1}}{5^i}$  **converges** or **diverges**.

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{a_{i+1}}{a_i} \right| &= \left| \frac{\frac{(i+1)^3 4^{i+2}}{5^{i+1}}}{\frac{i^3 4^{i+1}}{5^i}} \right| = \frac{(i+1)^3 4^{i+2}}{5^{i+1}} \cdot \frac{5^i}{i^3 4^{i+1}} = \frac{(i+1)^3}{i^3} \cdot \frac{5^i}{5^{i+1}} \cdot \frac{4^{i+2}}{4^{i+1}} \\ &= \left( \frac{i+1}{i} \right)^3 \cdot \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{4}{1} = \frac{4}{5} \left( \frac{i+1}{i} \right)^3 \quad \text{Therefore, } \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{i+1}}{a_i} \right| = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4}{5} \left( \frac{i+1}{i} \right)^3 \\ &= \frac{4}{5} \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{i+1}{i} \right)^3 = \frac{4}{5} \left( \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \frac{i+1}{i} \right)^3 = \frac{4}{5} (1)^3 = \frac{4}{5} < 1 \Rightarrow \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{i^3 4^{i+1}}{5^i} \text{ converges (absolutely)} \end{aligned}$$



Watch this [video](#) of a problem similar to Exercise 2:

Exercise 2: Determine whether  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{i^i}{i!}$  **converges** or **diverges**.

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{a_{i+1}}{a_i} \right| &= \left| \frac{\frac{(i+1)^{i+1}}{(i+1)!}}{\frac{i^i}{i!}} \right| = \frac{(i+1)^{i+1}}{(i+1)!} \cdot \frac{i!}{i^i} = \frac{(i+1)^i (i+1)^1}{i! (i+1)} \cdot \frac{i!}{i^i} = \frac{(i+1)^i \cancel{(i+1)^1}}{\cancel{i!} (i+1)} \cdot \frac{\cancel{i!}}{i^i} \\ &= \frac{(i+1)^i}{i^i} = \left( \frac{i+1}{i} \right)^i = \left( 1 + \frac{1}{i} \right)^i \quad \text{Therefore, } \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{i+1}}{a_i} \right| = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{i} \right)^i = e > 1 \\ \text{Thus, } \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{i^i}{i!} &\text{ diverges.} \end{aligned}$$

See Handout 8.7  
Page 4  
Exercise 6

**Exercise 3:** Determine whether  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^i \sqrt{i}}{i+1}$  **converges** or **diverges**.

$$\left| \frac{b_{i+1}}{b_i} \right| = \left| \frac{(-1)^{i+1} \sqrt{i+1}}{i+1+1} \cdot \frac{i+1}{(-1)^i \sqrt{i}} \right| = \frac{|(-1)^{i+1}| \cdot |\sqrt{i+1}|}{|i+1+1|} \cdot \frac{|i+1|}{|(-1)^i| \cdot |\sqrt{i}|} = \frac{1 \cdot \sqrt{i+1}}{i+2} \cdot \frac{i+1}{1 \cdot \sqrt{i}} = \sqrt{\frac{i+1}{i}} \cdot \frac{i+1}{i+2}$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{b_{i+1}}{b_i} \right| = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{i+1}{i}} \cdot \frac{i+1}{i+2} = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{i+1}{i}} \cdot \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \frac{i+1}{i+2} = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$

Thus, the *Ratio Test* is **inconclusive**. We need to try a different test: the **Alternating Series Test**

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^i \sqrt{i}}{i+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (-1)^i a_i \text{ where } a_i = \frac{\sqrt{i}}{i+1}$$

**AST Condition 1:**  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_i = 0$  Proof 1: Let  $f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x}}{x+1}$ .  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x}}{x+1} \rightarrow \frac{\infty}{\infty}$  **indeterminate**

**L'Hôp.**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\sqrt{x})'}{(x+1)'} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}}{1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} = 0$ . Therefore,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{i}}{i+1} = 0$  also.

**AST Condition 2:**  $a_i \geq a_{i+1}$  Proof 2: Again, let  $f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x}}{x+1}$ .

$$f'(x) = \frac{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}(x+1) - \sqrt{x} \cdot 1}{(x+1)^2} = \frac{\frac{x+1}{2\sqrt{x}} - \sqrt{x}}{(x+1)^2} \cdot \frac{2\sqrt{x}}{2\sqrt{x}} = \frac{x+1-2x}{(x+1)^2 \cdot 2\sqrt{x}} = \frac{1-x}{(x+1)^2 \cdot 2\sqrt{x}}$$

If  $x > 1$ , then  $1-x < 0$ .  $(x+1)^2 > 0$  and  $2\sqrt{x} > 0$  are true as well for  $x > 1$ .

Thus, for  $x > 1$ ,  $f'(x) = \frac{\ominus}{\oplus \cdot \oplus} = \ominus$

That is,  $f'(x) < 0$  for  $x > 1$ .  $\Rightarrow f(x)$  is decreasing for  $x > 1$

$\Rightarrow f(i) = a_i$  is a decreasing sequence for  $i > 1$

$\Rightarrow a_i \geq a_{i+1}$  for  $i > 1$

Both conditions of the Alternating Series Test have been met, so  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^i \sqrt{i}}{i+1}$  **converges**.



Watch this [video](#) about the Root test:

## The Root Test

The *Root Test* works especially well for series involving  $n^{\text{th}}$  powers.

**Theorem:** Let  $\sum a_i$  be a series with nonzero terms.

1.  $\sum a_i$  **converges** absolutely if  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[i]{|a_i|} < 1$

2.  $\sum a_i$  **diverges** if  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[i]{|a_i|} > 1$  or  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[i]{|a_i|} = \infty$

3. The *Root Test* is inconclusive if  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[i]{|a_i|} = 1$

**Exercise 4a:** Use the *Ratio Test* to determine whether  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2i}}{i^i}$  **converges** or **diverges**.

$$\left| \frac{a_{i+1}}{a_i} \right| = \left| \frac{\frac{e^{2(i+1)}}{(i+1)^{i+1}}}{\frac{e^{2i}}{i^i}} \right| = \frac{e^{2i+2}}{(i+1)^{i+1}} \cdot \frac{i^i}{e^{2i}} = \frac{e^{2i} \cdot e^2}{e^{2i}} \cdot \frac{i^i}{(i+1)^i(i+1)} = e^2 \left( \frac{i}{i+1} \right)^i \cdot \frac{1}{i+1}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{i+1}}{a_i} \right| = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \left[ e^2 \left( \frac{i}{i+1} \right)^i \cdot \frac{1}{i+1} \right] = e^2 \cdot \frac{1}{e} \cdot 0 = 0$$

By the Ratio Test,  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2i}}{i^i}$  **converges**.



Watch this [video](#) of a problem similar to Exercise 4b:

**Exercise 4b:** Use the *Root Test* to determine whether  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2i}}{i^i}$  **converges** or **diverges**.

$$\sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = \sqrt[n]{\left| \frac{e^{2n}}{n^n} \right|} = \sqrt[n]{\frac{(e^2)^n}{n^n}} = \frac{e^2}{n}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^2}{n} = 0$$

By the Root Test,  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2i}}{i^i}$  **converges**.

## More Videos and Resources:

Video 1



Video 2



Video 3



Video 4



## Textbook Exercises: Section 9.6

Problems: 1-6, 19, 23, 27, 29, 33, 35, 37, 43, 49, 51, 55, 57, 63, 67, 69, 87, 91

## Textbook Exercises Videos: Section 9.6

Problem 9



Problem 39



Problem 59



## Textbook PowerPoints Slides: Section 9.6



View a summary of the textbook reading in [PowerPoint](#) form.

## Hyperlinks:

- Completed Handout: <https://cwoer.cbcmd.edu/math/math252/m252c9s6sol.pdf>
- Video about the Ratio Test: <http://www.larsoncalculus.com/etf6/content/calculus-videos/chapter-9/section-6/proofratiotest/>
- Video similar to Exercise 1: [http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/blackboard/shared/content/video\\_explanations/v02328b.html](http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/blackboard/shared/content/video_explanations/v02328b.html)
- Video similar to Exercise 2: [http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/blackboard/shared/content/video\\_explanations/v02328a.html](http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/blackboard/shared/content/video_explanations/v02328a.html)
- Video the Root Test: [http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/blackboard/shared/content/video\\_explanations/v01417a.html](http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/blackboard/shared/content/video_explanations/v01417a.html)
- Video similar to Exercise 4b: [http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/blackboard/shared/content/video\\_explanations/v01418a.html](http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/blackboard/shared/content/video_explanations/v01418a.html)
- Video Resource 1: <https://youtu.be/iy8mhbZTY7g>
- Video Resource 2: <https://youtu.be/gay5CEXnkhA>
- Video Resource 3: <https://youtu.be/av947KCWf2U>
- Video Resource 4: [http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/blackboard/shared/content/video\\_explanations/v02509a.html](http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/blackboard/shared/content/video_explanations/v02509a.html)
- Textbook Exercises Video 9.6 Problem 23: <https://youtu.be/n34XxF3qSWA>
- Textbook Exercises Video 9.6 Problem 39: [https://youtu.be/PgnsHZvi\\_po](https://youtu.be/PgnsHZvi_po)
- Textbook Exercises Video 9.6 Problem 59: <https://youtu.be/6lnSz1197ts>
- Textbook Summary PowerPoint Section 9.6: <https://cwoer.cbcmd.edu/math/math252/Math252Section0906.pptx>