

## 11.5 Alternating Series (Recall)

$$(i) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} b_n \quad \text{with}$$

$$b_n \geq 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{b_{n+1} \leq b_n} \quad \text{for } n \geq N_0$$

$$\text{and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$$

then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} b_n$  is convergent.

$$\text{Ex. } \underline{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}}$$

is convergent.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} b_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \geq 0 \\ b_n \rightarrow 0 \\ b_{n+1} \leq b_n \end{array} \right.$$

(ii) How to estimate  $S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} b_n$ ?

Define the partial sum

$$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^{k-1} b_k$$

then if the conditions in (i) are satisfied.

we have

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \quad |S - S_n| \leq b_{n+1} !$$

Q. How many terms in  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$  to get a two-digit accuracy?

$$\text{We need } b_{n+1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} \leq 0.01$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{n+1} \leq 0.0001 \Rightarrow n+1 \geq 10000$$

## 11.6. Absolute convergence.

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

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

then we say  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is absolutely convergent

Ex. Consider  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$   $\Rightarrow$  is convergent.

$\Rightarrow$  is Not absolutely convergent.

Since  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$  is divergent.

Ex.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin n}{n^2}$  (2) is absolutely convergent.

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{|\sin n|}{n^2} \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$  is convergent

(2) is convergent

Sketch of the proof:

$$(i) \lim \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = L < 1$$

for  $n$  big enough,  $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| \leq r < 1$  ( $r \geq L$ )

$$\underline{|a_{n+1}| \leq |a_n| r}$$

$$|a_{n+2}| \leq |a_{n+1}| r \leq |a_n| r^2$$

⋮

$$|a_{n+k}| \leq |a_n| r^k$$

$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |a_n| r^k$  is convergent  
for  $|r| < 1$

$\Rightarrow \sum |a_n|$  is convergent

$$(ii) \text{ If } \lim \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = L > 1$$

$$\text{for } n \text{ big enough } \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| \geq r > 1$$

$$|a_{n+1}| \geq |a_n| r > |a_n|$$

$\lim |a_n| \neq 0 \Rightarrow \sum a_n$  is divergent.

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

$$\text{then } \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{\frac{1}{n+1}}{\frac{1}{n}} = \frac{n}{n+1} \rightarrow 1$$

but  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1}{n}$  is convergent.

$$(b) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}, \text{ then } \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| \rightarrow 1$$

but it is divergent.

Def. If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is convergent but not absolutely convergent, we say

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

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

then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  has to be convergent.

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

$$0 \leq \underline{a_n} + \underline{|a_n|} \leq 2|a_n|$$

by comparison test,  $\Rightarrow \sum (a_n + |a_n|)$  is convergent.

$\Rightarrow \sum a_n = \sum (a_n + |a_n|) - \sum |a_n|$  is convergent.

Ratio test: for  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$

(i)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = L < 1 \Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is absolutely convergent.

(ii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = L > 1 \Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is divergent.

(iii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = 1$ , nothing can be concluded.

Ex.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n^4}{2^n}$  with  $a_n = (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n^4}{2^n}$ .

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{(n+1)^4 / 2^{n+1}}{n^4 / 2^n} = \frac{(n+1)^4}{2n^4} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2}$$

$\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n^4}{2^n}$  is absolutely convergent.

Ex.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{2^n}{n^4}$  is divergent!

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

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{\frac{(n+1)!}{(n+1)^{n+1}}}{\frac{n!}{n^n}} = \frac{(n+1) n^n}{(n+1) (n+1)^n}$$

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

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{e} < 1 \quad \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^n = e \right)$$

The root test,

(i)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{a_n} = L < 1 \Rightarrow \sum a_n$  is absolutely convergent.

(ii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{a_n} = L > 1 \Rightarrow \sum a_n$  is divergent

(iii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{a_n} = 1 \Rightarrow$  Nothing can be concluded.

Ex.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{2n-1}{5n+3} \right)^n$  is absolutely convergent.

root test:

$$\sqrt[n]{\left( \frac{2n-1}{5n+3} \right)^n} = \frac{2n-1}{5n+3} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{5} < 1$$