

§11.8 Power Series:

Motivation: The standard Geometric Sum for $1+x+x^2+x^3+\dots$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n < \frac{1}{1-x} \quad \text{conv for } |x| < 1.$$

$$\text{DIV for } |x| \geq 1.$$

Previously, $\sum a_n$'s n th term a_n we considered **FIXED NUMBERS**. In the rest of the chapter, we want to consider $\sum a_n$ and a_n as **function of x** . Like above, $a_n = x^n$.

Power Series:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n \cdot (x-a)^n = C_0 + C_1 \cdot (x-a)^1 + C_2 \cdot (x-a)^2 + C_3 \cdot (x-a)^3 + \dots + C_n \cdot (x-a)^n + \dots$$

where a is a constant, C_0, C_1, C_2, \dots is a sequence. This series is a function of x , called Power Series. (each term is a power function of x). We also call a the center and C_n the coefficients.

eg1. Find the center and coefficients of the following power series.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 1 \cdot (x-0)^n, \quad a=0, \quad C_0=C_1=C_2=\dots=1 \quad (C_n=1 \text{ for all } n)$$

$$(s16) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k \cdot x^k}{3^k \cdot (k+1)}, \quad a=0, \quad C_k = \frac{(-1)^k}{3^k \cdot (k+1)}, \quad k=0,1,2,\dots$$

$$(s15) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2x+1)^n}{n}, \quad \frac{(2x+1)^n}{n} = \frac{[2(x+\frac{1}{2})]^n}{n} = \frac{2^n}{n} \cdot [x - (-\frac{1}{2})]^n, \quad a = -\frac{1}{2}, \quad C_n = \frac{2^n}{n}$$

Remark: center a can be found by letting $2x+1=0 \Rightarrow x = -\frac{1}{2}$.

$$(f14) \quad \star \quad -3 + 9(x+5) - 27 \cdot (x+5)^2 + 81 \cdot (x+5)^3 - \dots$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-3)^{n+1} \cdot (x+5)^n, \quad a = -5, \quad C_n = (-3)^{n+1}, \quad n=0,1,2,\dots$$

Goal: We want to know FOR WHICH VALUES (of x) does $\sum C_n \cdot (x-a)^n$ converge?

Method: Let $a_n = C_n \cdot (x-a)^n$ and apply Ratio Test to determine the

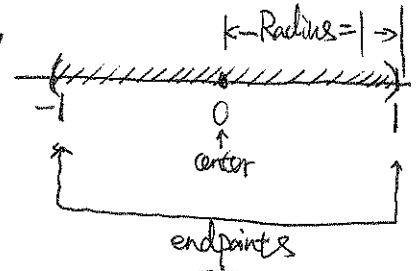
RADIUS of Convergence R and **INTERVAL of Convergence**

eg 2. (Trivial example) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$. According to standard Geometric Series, $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$ is
convergent if $|x| < 1$ and divergent if $|x| \geq 1$.

$|x| < 1$ represents $-1 < x < 1$, i.e., the following interval

Conclusion: Radius of Conv: $R = 1$.

Interval of Conv: $(-1, 1)$ (both sides are open).



(Non-Trivial examples by ratio test)

eg 3 Find the radius of convergence of $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k \cdot x^k}{3^k \cdot (k+1)}$

(s/b, M-C) Solution: Let $a_k = \frac{(-1)^k \cdot x^k}{3^k \cdot (k+1)}$ and apply (full version) Ratio Test.

$$a_{k+1} = \frac{(-1)^{k+1} \cdot x^{k+1}}{3^{k+1} \cdot (k+2)} \quad \left| \frac{a_{k+1}}{a_k} \right| = \left| \frac{\frac{(-1)^{k+1} \cdot x^{k+1}}{3^{k+1} \cdot (k+2)}}{\frac{(-1)^k \cdot x^k}{3^k \cdot (k+1)}} \right| = \left| \frac{(-1)^{k+1} \cdot x^{k+1}}{3^{k+1} \cdot (k+2)} \cdot \frac{3^k \cdot (k+1)}{(-1)^k \cdot x^k} \right|$$

$$= \left| \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{(-1)^k} \cdot \frac{x^{k+1}}{x^k} \cdot \frac{3^k (k+1)}{3^{k+1} (k+2)} \right| = \left| (-1) \cdot x \cdot \frac{k+1}{3(k+2)} \right| = \frac{k+1}{3(k+2)} \cdot |x|$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{k+1}}{a_k} \right| = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k+1}{3(k+2)} \cdot |x| = \frac{1}{3} |x| \quad (x \text{ is fixed, limit does not effect } x)$$

Caution: ***
 x can be both positive and negative. DO NOT drop the abstract value for x.

★ THEN SET ABOVE LIMIT < 1

ie., $\frac{1}{3} |x| < 1$

$|x| < 3$

Radius of Conv $R = 3$

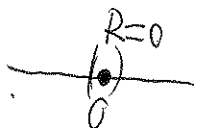
Radius of Conv.

Remark: Radius of Convergence might be $R = 0$ or $R = +\infty$

eg 4. Find radius of Conv for the following power series

• $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (2x)^n$, $a_n = (2x)^n$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(n+1)! (2x)^{n+1}}{n! (2x)^n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |(n+1) \cdot (2x)| = \infty$ (unless $x=0$)

Except $x=0$, for all other values of x, $\lim = \infty > 1$. $R = 0$



• $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(x-1)^n}{n!}$, $a_n = \frac{(x-1)^n}{n!}$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(x-1)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{(x-1)^n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(x-1)}{n+1} \right| = 0$ (for all x)

The limit $= 0 < 1$ for all x. $R = \infty$



★ ex. 5. (Radius + INTERVAL).

(5/15). Find all values of x for which the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2x+1)^n}{n}$ converges.

Solution: • (Step 1: Ratio Test for Radius of Conv)

$$a_n = \frac{(2x+1)^n}{n}, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(2x+1)^{n+1}}{(n+1)} \cdot \frac{n}{(2x+1)^n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| (2x+1) \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} \right| = |2x+1| \quad (\text{KEEP the abstract value})$$

Set the limit to be less than 1. $|2x+1| < 1$ ($R = \frac{1}{2}$ since $|x + \frac{1}{2}| < (\frac{1}{2})$).

Solve the inequality for x . $-1 < 2x+1 < 1$

ie. $-2 < 2x < 0 \Rightarrow$ $-1 < x < 0$, $x \in (-1, 0)$

Caution: Two sided inequality when Abs is removed.

Two endpoints are $x = -1$, $x = 0$.

• (Step 2: Test endpoints)

at $x = 0$, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2x+1)^n}{n} \stackrel{x=0}{=} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1)^n}{n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$, p-Series, $p=1$, DIV.

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2x+1)^n}{n}$ is DIV at $x=0$, therefore, $x=0$ is NOT included (open).

at $x = -1$, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2x+1)^n}{n} \stackrel{x=-1}{=} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-2+1)^n}{n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$, alternating series with $b_n = \frac{1}{n}$.

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0$ and $\frac{1}{n}$ is decreasing, therefore, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$ is convergent.

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2x+1)^n}{n}$ is Conv at $x = -1$, therefore, $x = -1$ is included (closed)

So the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2x+1)^n}{n}$ converges on $[-1, 0)$, (or converges for $x \in [-1, 0)$)
(or converges for $-1 \leq x < 0$)

Conclusion: Find all values of x for which $\sum C_n(x-a)^n$ converges:

Step 1: Set $a_n = C_n(x-a)^n$. Compute $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = L < 1$

Step 2: Set limit $L < 1$, we have such inequality $C|x-a| < 1 \Leftrightarrow |x-a| < \frac{1}{C} = R$

Solve for x , we have an interval $(a - \frac{1}{C}, a + \frac{1}{C})$

Step 3: Test the two endpoints $x = a - \frac{1}{C}$ and $x = a + \frac{1}{C}$ (separately).
Usually, one endpoint will need A.S. Test.

e.g. 6 Consider $-3 + 9(x+5) - 27(x+5)^2 + 81(x+5)^3$
 (f14) (a). Write the Series in $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ (b). What is the center? (c) Find the interval of ConV!

(a). (eg. 1) $a_n = (-3)^{n+1} \cdot (x+5)^n$ (double check your expression by plugging $n=0, 1, 2, 3$)
 $n=0, 1, 2, \dots$

ie. $-3 + 9(x+5) - 27(x+5)^2 + 81(x+5)^3 + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-3)^{n+1} \cdot (x+5)^n$

(b). Center $a = -5$. (ie. $(x+5)^n = [x - (-5)]^n$, or solve for $x+5=0 \Rightarrow x=-5$)
 Δa

(c). Ratio Test: $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \left| \frac{(-3)^{n+2} \cdot (x+5)^{n+1}}{(-3)^{n+1} \cdot (x+5)^n} \right| = |(-3) \cdot (x+5)| = 3|x+5|$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = 3|x+5| < 1 \Rightarrow |x+5| < \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow -\frac{1}{3} < x+5 < \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow -5 - \frac{1}{3} < x < -5 + \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow \boxed{-\frac{16}{3} < x < -\frac{14}{3}} \quad \text{endpoints } x = -\frac{16}{3}, x = -\frac{14}{3}$$

Test endpoints:

$$x = -\frac{16}{3}, \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-3)^{n+1} \cdot \left(-\frac{16}{3} + 5\right)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-3)^{n+1} \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)^n \quad \text{Hint: } (-3)^{n+1} \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)^n = (-3)^{n+1} \cdot \frac{1}{(-3)^n} \\ = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-3) \quad \text{DIV. (constant series)} = (-3)^{n+1-n} \\ = -3$$

$$x = -\frac{14}{3}, \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-3)^{n+1} \cdot \left(-\frac{14}{3} + 5\right)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-3)^{n+1} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^n \quad \text{Hint: } (-3)^{n+1} = (-1)^{n+1} \cdot 3^{n+1} \\ = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} +3 \cdot (-1)^{n+1} \quad \text{DIV. (DIV test)}$$

i.e., both endpoints are divergent.

Therefore, the interval of convergence of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-3)^{n+1} \cdot (x+5)^n$ is $\boxed{\left(-\frac{16}{3}, -\frac{14}{3}\right)}$.

Remark 1: Abs inequality $|\square \cdot x + \Delta| < 0$ yields two sided ineq. $-0 < \square \cdot x + \Delta < 0$

Remark 2: For $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n \cdot (x-a)^n$, a ~~directly~~ direct formula for Radius of ConV is

$$R = \frac{1}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{C_{n+1}}{C_n} \right|} \quad (\text{can be derived via Ratio Test})$$

Remark 3: If $R=0$, then interval of ConV is $\{a\}$ (only the center point)
 $(x=a)$

If $R=\infty$, then interval of ConV is $(-\infty, +\infty)$ (for all x).