

# Power Series

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Last time

- Limit Comparison
- Alternating Series

Today

Power series

- Radius of Conv.
- Interval of Conv.

## Questions

- What is a function?
- What is a power series?
- Why are power series important?
  - Construct new functions
  - Represent original functions as power series.

# Power Series

## What is a function?

Loosely speaking a function is a rule that takes an input and uniquely assigns an output value.

## What is a power series?

- Given a sequence  $(c_n)$ , and fixed number  $a$ , we can construct an expression

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (z-a)^n.$$

### Central

**Question:** What values of  $z$  are we allowed to plug in?

Then we think  $z \mapsto \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (z-a)^n$  as a function

## Radius of convergence:

- Every power series has a unique  $0 \leq R \leq \infty$  s.t.

$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (z-a)^n$

- converge absolutely when  $|z-a| < R$
- diverge when  $|z-a| > R$

This number is called the radius of convergence.

## Three Examples

$$\textcircled{1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n}$$

R.O.C.?

I.O.C.?

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{n+1} = 1$$

$[-1, 1)$

$$\textcircled{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n^2}$$

$R = 1$

I.O.C.

$[-1, 1]$

$$\textcircled{3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n x^n$$

R.O.C.?

I.O.C.?

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{n+1} = 1$$

$(-1, 1)$

$$\textcircled{4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

R.O.C.?

$R =$

$(-\infty, \infty)$

\* The "Faster the coefficient grow" the bigger the radius of convergence.

We mean  $(a_n)$  grows faster than  $(b_n)$

if  $\left(\frac{a_n}{b_n}\right) \rightarrow \infty$  or  $\left(\frac{b_n}{a_n}\right) \rightarrow 0$ .

## Useful Facts

① Thm: If the power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$  converges at some  $b \neq 0$ , then it converges for all

$$|z| < b.$$

pf:

Why can't we say at  $|z| \leq b$ ?

— See examples above where I.O.C  $[-r, r)$

# The Ratio Test

Given  $(a_n)$  sequence, and suppose

$$q = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$$

If  $q < 1$ , then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$  converge

If  $q > 1$ , then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$  diverge

If  $q = 1$ , inconclusive.

Proof: Suppose  $q < 1$ . We need to show

$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=0}^k |a_n|$  converge. Well since  $q < 1$ ,

pick  $q < s < 1$ . Then since  $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| \rightarrow q$

$\exists N > 0$  s.t

$$\frac{|a_{n+1}|}{|a_n|} < q + \epsilon < s$$

$$\Rightarrow |a_{n+1}| < s |a_n|$$

But  $\frac{|a_{n+2}|}{|a_{n+1}|} < s$

$$\Rightarrow |a_{n+2}| < S|a_{n+1}| < S^2|a_n|$$

In general,

$$|a_{n+k}| < S^k |a_n|$$

$$So \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} |a_n| < \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} |a_n| S^n$$

fixed const

and since  $S < 1$ , by geometric series and direct comparison,

$$\sum_{n=N}^{\infty} |a_n| \text{ conv}$$

• If  $q > 1$ , let  $\epsilon > 0$  s.t.  $q - \epsilon > 1$ ,

then  $\exists N > 0$  s.t

$$\frac{|a_{n+1}|}{|a_n|} > q - \epsilon, \text{ all } n \geq N$$

$$\Rightarrow |a_{n+1}| > (q - \epsilon) \cdot |a_n|$$

$$\Rightarrow |a_{n+2}| > (q - \epsilon) |a_{n+1}| > (q - \epsilon)^2 |a_n|$$

So we bound from below by

$$\sum_{n=N}^{\infty} |a_n| > \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} |a_n| \cdot (q^{-\varepsilon})^n$$

also  $q^{-\varepsilon} > 1$ , so geometric  
series diverge. then  $\sum_{n=N}^{\infty} |a_n| = \infty$

So not absolute conv.



## Types of Questions

① Find radius of convergence

- use ratio test, root test, geometric series.
- Ratio test works sometimes.

## Examples 1 (Finding R.O.C)

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^n}{n \cdot 3^n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n \cdot 3^n} \cdot x^n$$

$$C_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{n \cdot 3^n}$$

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)3^{n+1}}{n \cdot 3^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n} \cdot 3 = 3$$

What happens for  $\pm 3$ ?

- $x = 3$ , we get  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$  converges by alt series test.
- $x = -3$ , we get  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$  diverges since

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \text{ div.}$$



## Example 2 (Most important function in Mathematics)

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n!}}{\frac{1}{(n+1)!}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)!}{n!} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n = \infty.$$

Has radius of convergence all of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

## Example:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2n(2n-2) \dots 4 \cdot 2}{n!} (x-2)^n$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cancel{2n(2n-2) \dots 4 \cdot 2}}{n!} \cdot \frac{(n+1)!}{\cancel{(2n+2)(2n) \dots 4 \cdot 2}}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{2n+2} = 2 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n+1} = \boxed{2} \text{ RoC}$$

And interval of conv  $|x-2| < 2$

$$\Rightarrow -2 < x-2 < 2$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 < x < 4 \quad \text{What happens at}$$

$$I = (0, 4)$$

0 and 4?

4. Find the interval of convergence of the following power series:

(a)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^n}{n}$  (solution:  $(-1, 1]$ )

(b)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4^n (x - 4)^n}{n}$  (solution:  $[15/4, 17/4)$ )

(c)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{4^n}$  (solution:  $(-2, 2)$ )

(d)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n! x^n}{(2n)!}$  (solution:  $(-\infty, \infty)$ )

(e)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n! (x - 5)^n}{3^n}$  (solution:  $x = 5$ )

(f)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-2x)^n}{n^2 + 1}$  (solution:  $[-1/2, 1/2]$ )

(g)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n! (x + 1)^n}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n - 1)}$  (solution:  $(-3, 1)$ )

5. Find the radius of convergence of the power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(3n)!}{(n!)^3} x^n$ . (solution:  $1/27$ .)

## Exercice:

$$\sum \frac{(-1)^{n+1} x^{2n}}{n (\ln(n))^2}$$

- Is this still a power series?
- Yes, a lot of 0 coefficients.

• Center?

• R.O.C.?

• Endpoints?

• Interval of conv?

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1) (\ln(n+1))^2}{n \cdot (\ln(n))^2}$$
$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n+1}{n} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{\ln(n+1)}{\ln(n)} \right)^2 =^* 1.$$

\* well

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(n+1)}{\ln(n)} \stackrel{C/n}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n+1}}{\frac{1}{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{n+1} = 1.$$

So  $R = 1$ .

Converge at  $\pm 1$  by alternating series test.

Exercise:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n^2 (x+4)^n}{2^{3n}}$$

Center?  $a = -4$

R.O.C?

Interval of conv?

Endpoints?

$$\bullet \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{2^{3n}} \cdot \frac{2^{3(n+1)}}{(n+1)^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^2 \cdot 2^3 = 8$$

So R.O.C is 8:

• We need  $|x-a| < R$

$$\Leftrightarrow |x - (-4)| < 8$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -8 < x+4 < 8$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -12 < x < 4$$

So I.O.C  $I = (-12, 4)$

• What happens at the endpoints?

$$\bullet \sum \frac{n^2 (8)^n}{2^{3n}} = \sum \frac{n^2 8^n}{(8)^n} = \sum n^2 \cdot \left(\frac{8}{8}\right)^n = \infty$$

$$\bullet \sum \frac{n^2 (-8)^n}{8^n} = \sum (-1)^n n^2 \cdot \left(\frac{8}{8}\right)^n = \infty, \text{ by test for div.}$$

Exercise

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n! x^n}{100^n}$$

Find the R.O.C.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{100^n} \cdot \frac{100^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{100}{n+1} = 0$$

So R.O.C  $R = 0$ . Meaning the only  $x$  for which the series converge is 0.

**Exercise 1** : Find radius of conv & Interval of Conv.

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2n)!}{n^{2n}} \cdot x^n$$

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

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2 + 2n + 1}{4n^2 + 2n + 2} \cdot \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^{2n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^{2n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2n \cdot \ln \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)}{\frac{1}{2n}} \quad \frac{1 \cdot n - (n+1) \cdot 1}{(n+1)^2}$$

$$\stackrel{\text{L'H}}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{n}{n+1} \cdot \frac{-1}{(n+1)^2}}{-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{n^2}} = \frac{-1}{(n+1)^2}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2 \cdot \frac{n^3}{(n+1)^3} \quad \frac{\frac{1}{2} n^{-1}}{-\frac{1}{2} n^{-2}}$$

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

$$= 2$$

$$\text{So } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^{2n} = e^2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{4} e^2}$$

Exercis ③

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n (x-4)^n}{(n+1)^2}$$

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} / \frac{1}{(n+2)^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n+2}{n+1} \right)^2 = 1$$

So we have convergence of  $(-4-1, -4+1)$   
 $= (-5, -3)$

$$x = -5$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cdot (-5-4)^n}{n+1}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{9^n}{n+1}, \text{ diverge since } \left( \frac{9^n}{n+1} \right) \rightarrow \infty$$

$$x = -3$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n (-3-4)^n}{n+1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{7^n}{n+1} = \infty$$

I.O.C.  $(-5, -3)$

# Exercise ④

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2)^n x^{n+1}}{n+1}$$

$$R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}} \right|$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^n}{n+1} \cdot \frac{n+2}{2^{n+1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+2}{n+1} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Center : 0 so  $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2)^n \cdot (\frac{1}{2})^{n+1}}{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2)^n \cdot (\frac{1}{2})^n}{n+1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n+1} \quad \text{conv by alt. ser}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2)^n \cdot (\frac{1}{2})^{n+1}}{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n+1} \quad \text{div}$$

$(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$  f.o.c.



Exer(3)

$$\sum \frac{n! (x-1)^n}{(2n)!}$$