

4/28/23

Power Series

power series: $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + \dots$

For what values of x does the series converge?

If the series converges, we get a function

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$$

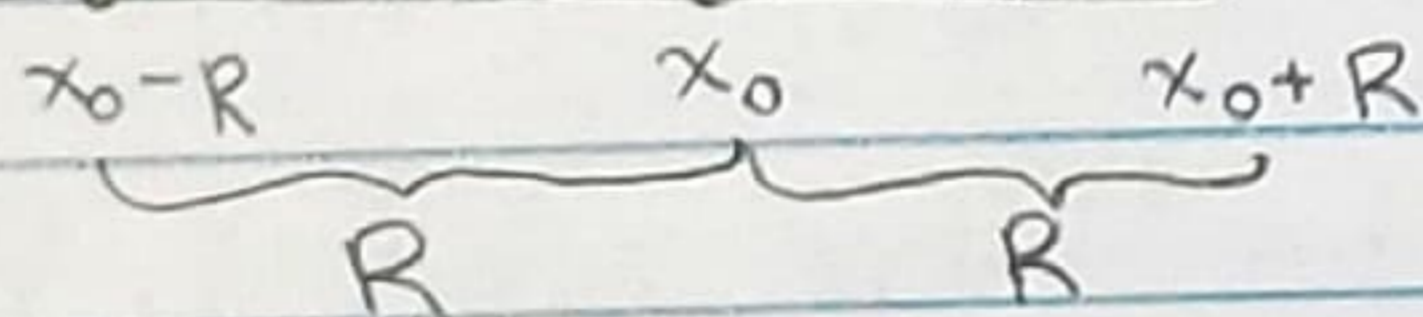
Definition:

A power series centered at x_0 is a series of the form $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x - x_0)^n$

Theorem:

There is a $R \in [0, \infty]$ such that $\sum a_n (x - x_0)^n$ converges if $x \in (x_0 - R, x_0 + R)$ and $\sum a_n (x - x_0)^n$ diverges if $x \in (-\infty, x_0 - R) \cup (x_0 + R, \infty)$.

divergence? convergence? divergence



R is the radius of convergence

R is determined using the ratio test or the root test.

* The set of x 's where the series converges is called the interval of convergence

* to find center only look at the power

ex. Find the interval of convergence of $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n}$.

$\sum a_n (x - 0)^n$ centered at 0

Step 1: Determine R

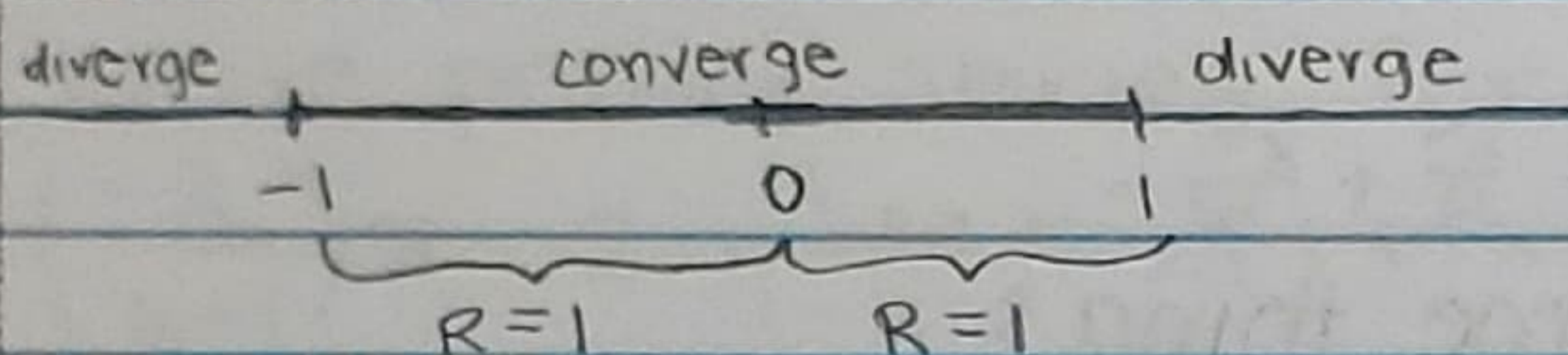
$$a_n = \frac{x^n}{n} \quad \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} \\ \frac{\frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}}{\frac{x^n}{n}} = \frac{x^{n+1} x}{n+1} \cdot \frac{n}{x^n} = \frac{x^n}{n+1}$$

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \left| \frac{x^n}{n+1} \right| = \frac{|x|^{n+1}}{n+1} = \frac{|x| \cdot |x|^n}{n+1} = \frac{|x| \cdot n}{n+1}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|x| \cdot n}{n+1} = |x|$$

By ratio test:

$\sum \frac{x^n}{n}$ converges if $|x| < 1$, diverges if $|x| > 1$.



Step 2: check endpoints

Check $x = -1$:

$$\sum \frac{x^n}{n} = \sum \frac{(-1)^n}{n} = \sum (-1)^n \overbrace{\frac{1}{n}}^{b_n}$$

Series converges by alternating series test.

b_n is decreasing, $\lim b_n = 0$.

Check $x = 1$:

$$\sum \frac{x^n}{n} = \sum \frac{1}{n}$$

diverges because it is a 1-series

Conclusion:

The interval of convergence is $[-1, 1)$.

ex. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2x+1)^{2n}}{9^n} = \frac{(2x+1)^{2n}}{9^n} = \left[\frac{2(x+\frac{1}{2})}{3} \right]^{2n} = \frac{2^{2n} (x+\frac{1}{2})^{2n}}{9^n}$
 $= \frac{2^{2n}}{9^n} (x+\frac{1}{2})^{2n}$ ← looks more like power series

Find interval of convergence.

$$a_n = \frac{(2x+1)^{2n}}{9^n} \quad |a_n| = a_n \sqrt[n]{a_n} = \sqrt[n]{\frac{(2x+1)^{2n}}{9^n}} = \frac{(2x+1)^2}{9}$$

If $\frac{(2x+1)^2}{9} < 1$, we get convergence

$$\Leftrightarrow (2x+1)^2 < 9 = 3^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow |2x+1| < 3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -3 < 2x+1 < 3 \Leftrightarrow -2 < x < 1$$