

MATH 155 - Chapter 9.6 - The Ratio Test and Root Test:
(Can apply to positive and negative-term series)

Dr. Nakamura

1. **Theorem: Ratio Test**

Let $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ be a series with nonzero terms, and suppose that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|a_{n+1}|}{|a_n|} = \rho.$$

1. If $\rho < 1$, then series converges absolutely, hence converges.
2. If $\rho > 1$ or $\rho = \infty$, the series diverges.
3. If $\rho = 1$, the test is inconclusive.

2. **Theorem: Root Test**

Let $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ be a series, and suppose that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{|a_n|} = \rho.$$

1. If $\rho < 1$, then series converges absolutely, hence converges.
2. If $\rho > 1$ or $\rho = \infty$, the series diverges.
3. If $\rho = 1$, the test is inconclusive.