

Department of Mathematics
Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati
MA 101: Mathematics I
Model solutions of Quiz-I

1. Let $x_n = \sin \frac{n\pi}{3}$, $n \geq 1$.

(a) Find $\liminf x_n$ and $\limsup x_n$.

1+1

Solution. We have $x_1 = \sin \frac{\pi}{3} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$, $x_2 = \sin \frac{2\pi}{3} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$, $x_3 = \sin \frac{3\pi}{3} = 0$,
 $x_4 = \sin \frac{4\pi}{3} = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$, $x_5 = \sin \frac{5\pi}{3} = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$, $x_6 = \sin \frac{6\pi}{3} = 0, \dots$
Hence, $x_n \in \{-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, 0, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\}$ for all $n \geq 1$. [1]

Since x_n takes the value $-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ for infinitely many values of n ,
so $z_n = \inf\{x_k : k \geq n\} = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ for all n , and hence $\liminf x_n = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$.
Also x_n takes the value $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ for infinitely many values of n ,
so $y_n = \sup\{x_k : k \geq n\} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ for all n . Hence, $\limsup x_n = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$. [1] □

- (b) Let (x_{n_k}) be a subsequence of (x_n) such that $x_{n_k} \rightarrow \ell$. Find all possible values of ℓ .
To each possible values of ℓ , find a subsequence of (x_n) converging to ℓ . **1+1**

Solution. Let $x_{n_k} \rightarrow \ell$. If $\ell \notin \{-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, 0, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\}$, then either $\ell < -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ or $-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} < \ell < 0$ or
 $0 < \ell < \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ or $\ell > \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$. Let $\ell < -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$. Take $\varepsilon = \frac{|-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \ell|}{2}$. Then $x_n \notin (\ell - \varepsilon, \ell + \varepsilon)$ for
any n . Hence, (x_{n_k}) does not converge to ℓ . Using similar argument, it follows that
 (x_{n_k}) does not converge to ℓ if $\ell \notin \{-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, 0, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\}$. Hence, $\ell \in \{-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, 0, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\}$. [1]

We have $x_{3n} = \sin \frac{3n\pi}{3} = \sin n\pi \rightarrow 0$.
 $x_{6n+1} = \sin \frac{(6n+1)\pi}{3} = \sin(2n\pi + \frac{\pi}{3}) \rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$.
 $x_{6n-2} = \sin \frac{(6n-2)\pi}{3} = \sin(2n\pi - \frac{2\pi}{3}) \rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$. [1] □

2. Let $x_1 = 1$ and $x_{n+1} = \frac{3n}{3n+1}x_n^2$, $n \geq 1$.

(a) Show that (x_n) is bounded.

1

Solution. We have $x_n^2 \geq 0$ for all n , and so $x_{n+1} = \frac{3n}{3n+1}x_n^2 \geq 0$ for all $n \geq 1$. Also,
 $x_1 = 1$. Hence $x_n \geq 0$ for all n . Suppose that $x_n \leq 1$. Then $x_{n+1} \leq 1$. Since $x_1 = 1$,
by the principle of mathematical induction $x_n \leq 1$ for all n . Thus, $0 \leq x_n \leq 1$ for
all n . □

(b) Show that (x_n) is decreasing.

1

Solution. We have $x_n - x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{3n}{3n+1}x_n^2 = x_n(1 - \frac{3n}{3n+1}x_n) \geq 0$ for all n . Hence
 (x_n) is decreasing. □

(c) Find $\lim x_n$.

1

Solution. By monotone convergence theorem, (x_n) is convergent. Suppose that $x_n \rightarrow$
 ℓ . Then $\ell = \ell^2$. Hence, $\ell = 0$ or $\ell = 1$. We have $x_2 = \frac{3}{4}$. Since (x_n) is decreasing, so
 $x_n \leq \frac{3}{4}$ for all $n \geq 2$. This yields $\ell \leq \frac{3}{4}$. Therefore, $\ell = 0$. □

3. Test the convergence/divergence of the infinite series $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(\log n)^{2019}}$.

3

Solution. Here $x_n = \frac{1}{(\log n)^{2019}}$ is decreasing and positive for all $n \geq 2$. By Cauchy condensation test,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(\log n)^{2019}} \text{ is convergent} &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} 2^n \frac{1}{n^{2019} (\log 2)^{2019}} \text{ is convergent} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{(\log 2)^{2019}} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n^{2019}} \text{ is convergent} \end{aligned} \quad \left[1\frac{1}{2}\right]$$

Let $y_n = \frac{2^n}{n^{2019}}$. Then $\frac{y_{n+1}}{y_n} = \frac{2^{n+1}}{(n+1)^{2019}} \times \frac{n^{2019}}{2^n} = \frac{2}{(1 + \frac{1}{n})^{2019}} \rightarrow 2$.

By Ratio test, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} y_n$ is divergent and hence $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(\log n)^{2019}}$ diverges. $[1\frac{1}{2}]$ \square