

Name: ***Solutions***

1. In each case find the limit, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ of the sequence $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, or determine that it does not exist.

(a) $a_n = 5 - \frac{3}{n^2}$

(b) $a_n = 2 + (-1)^n$

(c) $a_n = \frac{3n^4 - 7n^2 + 5}{6 - 4n^4}$

(d) $\sqrt{\frac{2n+3}{3n+5}}$

(e) $a_n = \frac{n^2}{2^n}$

(f) $a_n = \left(1 + \frac{4}{n}\right)^n$

Solution:

(a) 5, since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^p} = 0$ if $p > 0$

(b) DNE, the terms alternate between 1 and 3.

(c) $-\frac{3}{4}$. Divide the top and bottom by the highest power in the denominator, n^4 , and use the p -test for sequences as stated in part (a).

(d) $\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$, the same as part (c).

(e) 0. Apply L'Hospital's Rule to $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{2^x}$ twice.

(f) e^4 . Recall in fact that $e = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n$. Therefore

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{4}{n}\right)^n = \left[\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{4}{n}\right)^{n/4} \right]^4 = e^4.$$

Or equivalently, find $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln \left(1 + \frac{4}{x}\right)^x = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \ln \left(1 + \frac{4}{x}\right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(1 + \frac{4}{x})}{1/x} = 4$

by L'Hospital's Rule and then use the fact $b = e^{\ln b}$ for any positive number b and the corresponding limit law.