

# Lecture 1

---

## Sequence of real numbers

Large collection of numbers  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots \quad \forall \quad x_i \in \mathbb{R}$  in some particular order is called a sequence.

mathematically, sequence is  $X : \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}, X(i) = x_i$ .

Ex:  $\{1, 1/2, 1/3, \dots\}$  can be expressed as a function as

$$X : \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}, X(i) = \frac{1}{i}$$

or

$$\left\{ X(n) = \frac{1}{n} \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

or

$$\left\langle X(n) \right\rangle_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

Ex:  $\{c, c, \dots\} = \left\{ X(n) = c \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is a constant sequence.

Ex:  $\{-1, 1, -1, 1, \dots\} = \left\{ X(n) = (-1)^n \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$

- The sequence  $\left\{ X(n) = \frac{1}{n} \right\}$  approaches 0 as  $x \longrightarrow \infty$ .

---

## Convergence of a sequence $\left\{ X(n) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$

Sequence converges to L if for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a stage  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $|x_n - L| < \epsilon \quad \forall \quad n \geq n_1$ .

In other words we can say that for the sequence  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n_1}, \dots\}$  we can find a stage  $n_1$  such that all  $x_n$  after  $x_{n_1}$  lies in the epsilon neighbourhood of L.

Thus it follows that,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = L$$

- $\epsilon$  neighbourhood of L can be represented as  $N_\epsilon(L)$  and it is also referred to as epsilon ball of L & denoted by  $B(L, \epsilon)$ .
- 

Ex:  $\{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots\} = \left\{X(n) = \frac{1}{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$

We can take  $L = 0$  as  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 0$  &  $n_1 = 3, \epsilon = 1/2$ .

So all values for  $n \geq 3$  lie within the  $\epsilon$  neighbourhood of zero.

Ex:  $\{X(n) = (-1)^n\} = \{1, -1, 1, -1, \dots\}$

We are unable to find any stage  $n_1$  such that for all  $n \geq n_1$  values lie within the  $\epsilon$  neighbourhood of L.

$\Rightarrow$  Divergent sequence & limit does not exist.

**Theorem.** Limit of a sequence is unique.

---

[#semester-1](#) [#mathematics](#) [#real-analysis](#)