

Task

Prove (from the definition of a limit of a sequence) that if the sequence $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ tends to limit L as $n \rightarrow \infty$, then for any fixed number $M > 0$, the sequence $\{Ma_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ tends to the limit ML .

Solution

Task is equivalent to proving the following theorem:

Theorem. $\forall M \in \mathbb{R}, M > 0 : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} = L \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{Ma_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} = ML$.

Proof. Let's take arbitrary $M \in \mathbb{R}, M > 0$. By definition of limit,

$(\forall \epsilon \in \mathbb{R}, \epsilon > 0) (\exists n \in \mathbb{N}) (\forall m > n) [|a_n - L| < \epsilon]$.

Let's take arbitrary $\delta \in \mathbb{R}, \delta > 0$ and take $\epsilon = \frac{\delta}{M}$. Then, for this ϵ ,

$(\exists n \in \mathbb{N}) (\forall m > n) [|a_n - L| < \epsilon]$

$\Rightarrow (\exists n \in \mathbb{N}) (\forall m > n) [M|a_n - L| < M\epsilon]$ (multiplying by $M > 0$)

$\Rightarrow (\exists n \in \mathbb{N}) (\forall m > n) [|Ma_n - ML| < M\epsilon]$

$\Rightarrow (\exists n \in \mathbb{N}) (\forall m > n) [|Ma_n - ML| < M(\frac{\delta}{M})]$ (by definition of ϵ)

$\Rightarrow (\exists n \in \mathbb{N}) (\forall m > n) [|Ma_n - ML| < \delta]$.

Since δ was taken arbitrarily, $(\forall \delta \in \mathbb{R}, \delta > 0) (\exists n \in \mathbb{N}) (\forall m > n) [|Ma_n - ML| < \delta]$.

But this is precisely definition of $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{Ma_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} = ML$.

Hence, $\forall M \in \mathbb{R}, M > 0 : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} = L \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{Ma_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} = ML$.

□