

MATH 321 WEEK 2 CLAIMED PROBLEM SOLUTIONS

1.2.12. Let $y_1 = 6$, and for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ define $y_{n+1} = (2y_n - 6)/3$.

(1) Use induction to prove that the sequence satisfies $y_n > -6$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

(a) **Base case:** $y_1 = 6 > -6$.

(b) **Inductive step:** Suppose that $y_n > -6$. Then

$$y_{n+1} = \frac{2y_n - 6}{3} > \frac{2(-6) - 6}{3} = \frac{-18}{3} = -6$$

as desired.

(2) Use another induction argument to show the sequence (y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots) is decreasing.

(a) **Base case:** we note that $y_2 = (2 \times 6 - 6)/3 = 2$, and hence that $y_1 = 6 > y_2$.

(b) **Inductive step:** Suppose that $y_n > y_{n+1}$. Then

$$y_{n+2} = \frac{2y_{n+1} - 6}{3} > \frac{2y_n - 6}{3} = y_{n+1}$$

where the inequality is by the induction assumption.

1.3.8. Compute, without proofs, the suprema and infima of the following sets.

(1) $\sup = 1, \inf = 0$

(2) $\sup = 1, \inf = -1$

(3) $\sup = \frac{1}{3}, \inf = 0$ (or $\frac{1}{4}$ if you don't believe that $0 \in \mathbb{N}$)

(4) $\sup = 1, \inf = 0$