

## ~~Series~~ Sequences.

Reading: See 9.1 in AP EX.

Main object of study here are  
infinite sequences of numbers.  
ordered.

$$x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, \dots$$

Can denote the whole sequence as

$$\{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

Typically defined by a function  
or formula on  $n$

We want to formalise and understand  
the concepts of convergence and  
limit of a sequence.

But first an example exploring  
increasing/decreasing nature of a  
sequence.

Example:

Consider the sequence defined by

$$\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \quad \text{and}$$

$$a_n = \frac{3n}{n^2 + 1}.$$

Examining the initial terms of this  
it seems to be a decreasing sequence.

$$\frac{3}{2}, \frac{6}{5}, \frac{9}{10}, \frac{12}{17}, \dots$$

To prove it is decreasing for all  $n$   
we can build a proof by  
considering the difference or ratio  
of neighboring terms.

i.e.

$$a_{n+1} - a_n$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} < 0, \text{ for all } n \geq 1 \\ \text{i.e. decreasing} \\ > 0, \text{ for all } n \geq 1 \\ \text{i.e. an increasing.} \end{array} \right.$$

(and if  $a_n > 0$ )  
for all  $n$ .

OR

$$\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} < 1, \text{ for all } n \geq 1 \\ \text{i.e. decreasing.} \\ > 1, \text{ for all } n \geq 1 \\ \text{i.e. increasing.} \end{array} \right.$$

So back to our example.

$$\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = \frac{3(n+1)}{(n+1)^2 + 1} \cdot \frac{n^2 + 1}{3n}.$$

$$= \frac{(3n+3)(n^2+1)}{(n^2+2n+2)3n}$$

$$= \frac{3n^3 + 3n^2 + 3n + 3}{3n^3 + 6n^2 + 6n}.$$

$$= \frac{(3n^3 + 6n^2 + 6n) - 3n^2 - 3n + 3}{3n^3 + 6n^2 + 6n}$$

$$= 1 - \frac{3n^2 + 3n - 3}{3n^3 + 6n^2 + 6n}.$$

$$< 1 \quad \text{since } 3n^3 + 6n^2 + 6n > 0 \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1$$

$$\text{and } 3n^2 + 3n - 3 > 0 \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1$$

for all  $n \geq 1$ .

So if  $\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} < 1$  for all  $n \geq 1$

$\Rightarrow a_{n+1} < a_n$  " " "

So  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is a decreasing sequence.

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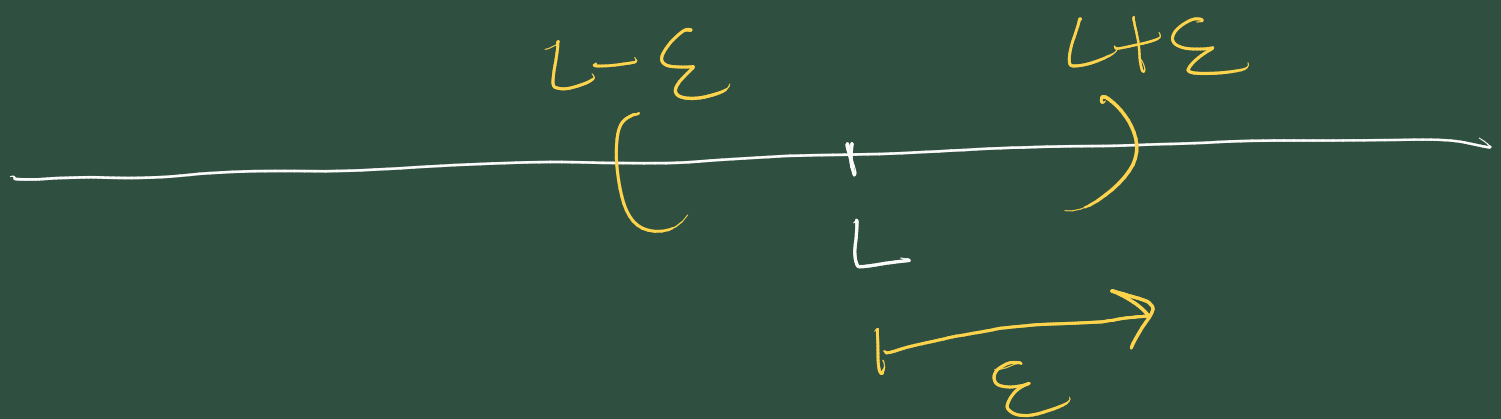
"limit" and "convergence"  
for sequences in def. 9.1.9.

We say  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  converges  
to the limit  $L$  if and only if  
given any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there  
exists a  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  
for all  $n \geq N$  we have.

$$|a_n - L| < \varepsilon$$

i.e. eventually (for all  $n \geq N$ )

the sequence lives in the interval  $(L - \varepsilon, L + \varepsilon)$



Associated notation

- $a_n \rightarrow L$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

" $a_n$  converges to  $L$  as  $n$  tends to infinity"

- $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$

"the limit of  $a_n$ , as  $n$  tends to infinity, is  $L$ "

Example Use this  $\varepsilon$ - $N$  definition to prove that

$$\frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

$$\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}, \quad a_n = \frac{1}{n}$$

Proof Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given.

The claimed limit is  $L = 0$ .

$$|a_n - L| = \left| \frac{1}{n} - 0 \right|$$

$$= \left| \frac{1}{n} \right|$$

$$= \frac{1}{n}, \text{ since } n \geq 1$$

So now we can say.

$$|a_n - L| < \varepsilon \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$$

$$\Leftrightarrow n > \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

So we can choose  $N$  to be any integer greater than  $\frac{1}{\varepsilon}$

So that if  $n \geq N$  then

$$n > \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

and so.

$$|a_n - L| < \varepsilon$$

So this shows the def of convergence is satisfied,

and so  $\frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$  as  
required.

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We can also use the definition to  
establish rules/properties for convergence  
of sequences.

see theorem 9.1.20.

We will prove a linearity result  
that combines 1, 4 of Theorem 9.1.20.

"Algebra of limits theorem".

Claim: If  $a_n \rightarrow L$ ,  $b_n \rightarrow K$   
as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  then for any pair  $\alpha, \beta \neq 0$ ,  
the new sequence  $\{\alpha a_n + \beta b_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$   
is also convergent and

$\alpha a_n + \beta b_n \rightarrow \alpha L + \beta K$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Proof Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given.  
Let's investigate the goal inequality.



$$|(\alpha a_n + \beta b_n) - (\alpha L + \beta K)| < \varepsilon$$

$$\Leftrightarrow |\alpha(a_n - L) + \beta(b_n - K)| < \varepsilon$$

and

$$|\alpha(a_n - L) + \beta(b_n - K)|$$

$$\leq |\alpha(a_n - L)| + |\beta(b_n - K)|$$

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{2|\beta|}$$

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{2|\alpha|}$$

$\Delta$  inequality.

$$|u+v| \leq |u| + |v|$$

$$= |\alpha| |a_n - L| + |\beta| |b_n - K|$$

$$|uv| = |u||v|$$

$$< \varepsilon/2$$

$$\varepsilon/2$$

<

$\varepsilon$

GOAL.

So by the definition of convergence  
there exists points  $N_1, N_2$

such that

$$n \geq N_1 \Rightarrow |a_n - L| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2|\alpha|} \checkmark$$

$$n \geq N_2 \Rightarrow |b_n - K| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2|\beta|} \checkmark$$

So finally choose  $N = \max(N_1, N_2)$

And recognize now that

if  $n \geq N$  then

$$|(\alpha a_n + \beta b_n) - (\alpha L + \beta K)| < \varepsilon$$

(seen from above investigations).

So by the def. of convergence

$$\alpha a_n + \beta b_n \rightarrow \alpha L + \beta K$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  as required.

Can construct proofs for products and ratios cases of theorem 9.1.20 in a similar way (take inspiration for these from corresponding proofs for limiting values of functions).

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Bounded sequences 2

Monotone Convergence Theorem.

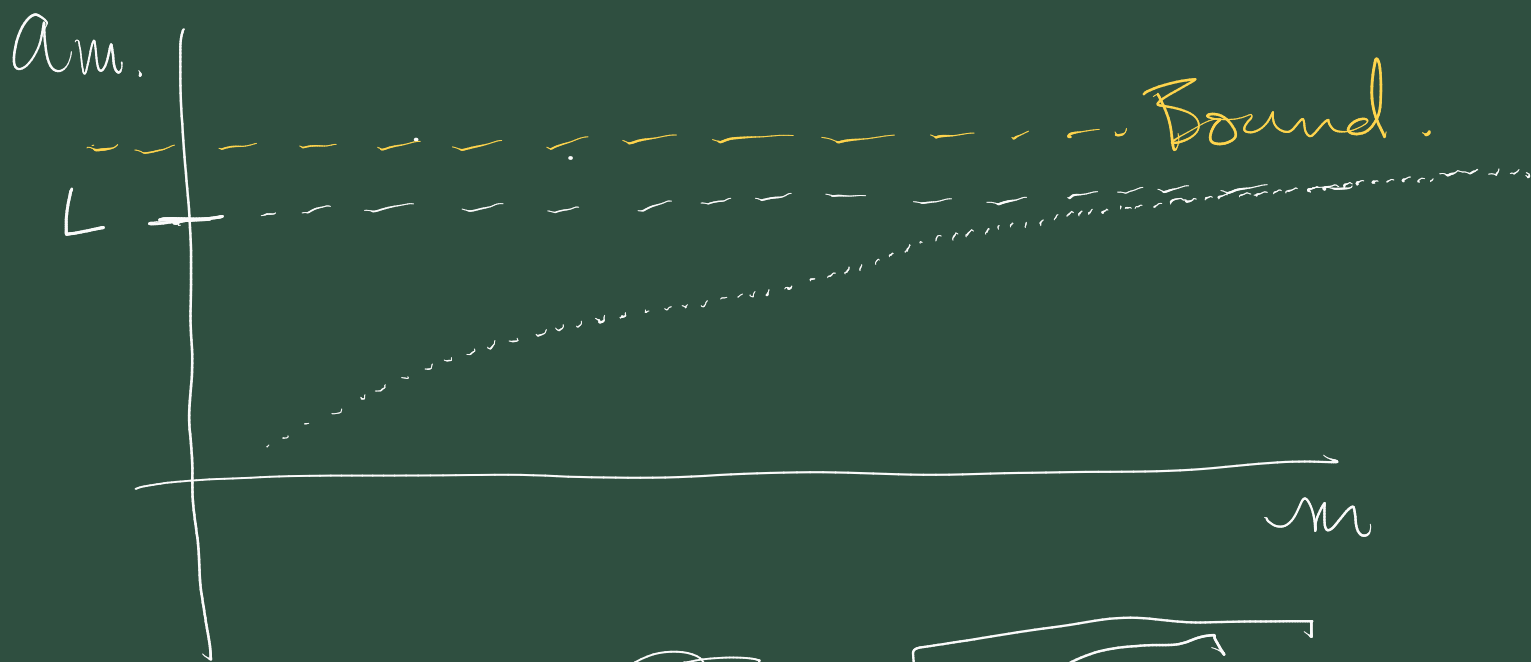
See def 9.1.28.

A sequence is monotonic if it is always increasing or always decreasing.

MCT (Monotone Convergence Theorem) 9.1.32 says that

bounded monotone sequences are convergent.

IDEA  $\{a_m\}_{m=1}^{\infty}$  monotone increasing.



(Q8.)  $\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2\sqrt{2}}, \sqrt{2\sqrt{2\sqrt{2}}}, \dots, \infty$

a). Call the sequence  $\{a_m\}_{m=1}^{\infty}$

$$a_1 = \sqrt{2}, a_2 = \sqrt{2a_1} = \sqrt{2\sqrt{2}}$$

$$a_3 = \sqrt{2\sqrt{2\sqrt{2}}} = \sqrt{2a_2}$$

and so on.

$$\text{So } a_{n+1} = \sqrt{2a_n} \quad \text{for } n \geq 1$$

(b) By investigating initial values we see the sequence seems to be increasing, and all  $< 2$ .

First we'll prove sequence is bounded above by 2.

Use "proof by induction"

Certainly  $a_1 = \sqrt{2} < 2$

"Base case of induction"

Let's assume that

$$a_n < 2.$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_{n+1} &= \sqrt{2a_n} \\ &= \sqrt{2} \sqrt{a_n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &< \sqrt{2} \sqrt{2}, \text{ since } \underline{a_n < 2}. \\ &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

This proves.

$$a_n < 2 \Rightarrow a_{n+1} < 2.$$

Known as the "induction step"

By the principle of induction  
for all  $n \geq 1$   $a_n < 2$ .

With this we can prove  $\sum a_n$   $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}$   
is increasing.

$$a_n = \sqrt{a_n} \sqrt{a_n}$$

$$< \sqrt{2} \sqrt{a_n}, \text{ since } a_n < 2$$

$$= \sqrt{2a_n}$$

$$= a_{n+1}$$

So  $\sum a_n$  is increasing.

So by Monotone Convergence

Theorem  $\{a_n\}$  must be  
convergent. Let's call the  
limit  $L$ .

(C).  $a_n \rightarrow L$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Consider the recurrence  
relation.

$$a_{n+1} = \sqrt{2a_n}, \quad n \geq 1.$$

Let's take the limit of both  
sides

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sqrt{2a_n} \right).$$

$$\Rightarrow L = \sqrt{2} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sqrt{a_n} \right) \quad , \text{ by linearity.}$$

$$= \sqrt{2 \sqrt{L}}$$

will follow by a continuity result,  $\sqrt{\cdot}$  is continuous.

$$\Rightarrow L^2 = 2L.$$

$$\Rightarrow L = 2.$$

Q10 Consider  $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$

with  $x_0 = 2$

$$x_n = \frac{1}{3 - x_{n-1}} \text{ for all } n \geq 1.$$

Experimentation suggests  $\{x_n\}$  is decreasing and convergent.

Boundedness (use induction)

Claim: for all  $n \geq 0$   $0 < x_n \leq 2$ .



Certainly true for  $x_0 = 2$ .

$$0 < x_0 \leq 2.$$

Now assume  $0 < \underline{x_n} \leq 2$ .

$$\text{So } x_n \leq 2.$$

$$\Rightarrow -x_n \geq -2.$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 - x_n \geq 3 - 2 = 1.$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3 - x_n} \leq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{n+1} \leq 1 < 2.$$

$$\text{So } x_{n+1} \leq 2 \text{ also.}$$

$$\text{Secondly, } x_n > 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow -x_n < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 - x_n < 3$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3 - x_n} > \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{n+1} > \frac{1}{3} > 0$$

$$\text{So } x_{n+1} > 0.$$

So In summary

$$0 < x_{n+1} \leq 2.$$

So we've proved the induction step.

So by induction, we've proved,

for all  $n \geq 0$   $\boxed{0 < x_n \leq 2.}$

Now claim  $\{x_n\}$  is decreasing  
(using proof by induction)

$$x_0 = 2, \quad x_1 = 1.$$

So

$$\boxed{x_0 > x_1}$$

Now assume that

$$\boxed{x_n > x_{n+1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow -x_n < -x_{n+1}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 - x_n < 3 - x_{n+1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3 - x_n} > \frac{1}{3 - x_{n+1}}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$x_{n+1} > x_{n+2}$$

So by induction, for all  $n \geq 0$

$x_n > x_{n+1}$ , i.e. the sequence is decreasing.

The Monotone Convergence Theorem says that

$x_n \rightarrow L$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for some limit  $L$ .

$$L = ?$$

Consider the recurrence relation.

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{3 - x_n}.$$

Take the limit of both sides to see

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{3 - x_n}.$$

$$\Rightarrow L = \frac{1}{3 - L}.$$

, by algebra of limits  
theorem 9.1.20.

$$\Rightarrow 3L - L^2 = 1.$$

$$\Rightarrow L^2 - 3L + 1 = 0.$$

There are solutions,

$\Rightarrow$  given by the quadratic formula.

$$L = \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

the solution  $L = \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} > 2$ .

so this is excluded since

$$0 < x_n \leq 2 \text{ so } 0 \leq L \leq 2$$

so it must be that

$$L = \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2}$$