

Calculus

Learn Calculus By Example

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1 Limit of a Sequence

- We say that $\{a_n\}$ converges to a limit l , and we write $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = l$ or $a_n \rightarrow l$ if, for every $\epsilon > 0$, there is a number M such that $|a_n - l| < \epsilon$ for all $n > M$.
- We write $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = +\infty$ if for each $N > 0$ we can find $M > 0$ (depends on N) such that $a_n > N$ for all $n > M$. We say a_n diverges to $+\infty$.
- We write $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = -\infty$ if for each $N > 0$ we can find $M > 0$ (depends on N) such that $a_n < -N$ for all $n > M$. We say a_n diverges to $-\infty$.
- Oscillated sequences such $\{(-1)^n\}$ are divergent.

Theorem 1 (Limit is Unique) *If a sequence $\{a_n\}$ has a limit, then this limit is unique.*

Example 1.1

Using definition of the limit of sequence (ϵ and $M(\epsilon)$ language) prove that:

1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n^2-1}{n^2+2} = 2$
2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+4\sqrt{n}+3}{\sqrt{n}+2} = +\infty$
3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-n^2+6\sqrt{n}+3}{n+2} = -\infty$
4. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 3 + \cos(n\pi) = \text{does not exist.}$

Solution

1. We should prove, for all $\epsilon > 0$ there is $M \in \mathbf{N}$ such that $n > M \Rightarrow \left| \frac{2n^2-1}{n^2+2} - 2 \right| < \epsilon$

$$\left| \frac{-5}{n^2+2} \right| < \epsilon \Rightarrow \frac{5}{n^2+2} < \epsilon \Rightarrow n^2 > \frac{5}{\epsilon} - 2 \Rightarrow n > \sqrt{\frac{5}{\epsilon} - 2}$$

Always ϵ presents a very small positive number, so, $M > \left[\sqrt{\frac{5}{\epsilon} - 2} \right] + 1$, is enough big to satisfy the definition.

2. We should prove, for all $N > 0$ there is $M \in \mathbf{N}$ such that $n > M \Rightarrow |a_n| > N$

$$\left| \frac{(\sqrt{n}+2)^2-1}{\sqrt{n}+2} \right| > N \Rightarrow \left| (\sqrt{n}+2) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}+2} \right| > N \Rightarrow \sqrt{n} > N \Rightarrow n > N^2$$

Now, select $M > [N^2] + 1$. This means the given sequence increase without bound and is divergent.

3. We should prove, for all $N > 0$ there is $M \in \mathbf{N}$ such that $n > M \Rightarrow a_n < -N$

$$\frac{-n^2+6\sqrt{n}+3}{n+2} < -N \Rightarrow \frac{n^2-6\sqrt{n}-3}{n+2} > N$$

$$\frac{n^2-6\sqrt{n}-3}{n+2} > \frac{n^2-6\sqrt{n}-3}{n+n} > \frac{n^2-6\sqrt{n}-\sqrt{n}}{2n} = \frac{n}{2} - \frac{7}{2\sqrt{n}} > \frac{n}{2} - \frac{7}{2} > N \Rightarrow n > 2N+7$$

Now, select $M > [2N+7] + 1$.

4. Suppose $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 3 + \cos(n\pi) = l$ and select $\epsilon = 0.1$, by definition, there is $M \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $n > M \Rightarrow |a_n - l| < \epsilon$. Since $\cos(n\pi) = (-1)^n$, $a_{2n} = 4$ and $a_{2n+1} = 2$. So, $|4 - l| < \epsilon$ and $|2 - l| < \epsilon$

$$2 = |(4 - l) - (2 - l)| \leq |(4 - l)| + |(2 - l)| < 2\epsilon \Rightarrow 2 < 2(0.1)$$

that is contradiction. This proves that, the sequence is divergent and there is no limit.

Example 1.2

Is the sequence $a_n = \frac{2n^2+3n-1}{n^2+6n+12}$ convergent or divergent?

Solution

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n^2 + 3n - 1}{n^2 + 6n + 12} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2(2 + \frac{3}{n} - \frac{1}{n^2})}{n^2(1 + \frac{6}{n} + \frac{12}{n^2})} = 2$$

So, $\{a_n\}$ is converge to 2.

Example 1.3

Is the sequence $a_n = \frac{n}{\sqrt{n+2}}$ convergent or divergent?

Solution

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{\sqrt{n+2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{\sqrt{n(1 + \frac{2}{n})}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{2}{n}}} = \frac{\infty}{\sqrt{1+0}} = \infty$$

So, $\{a_n\}$ is divergent.

Theorem 2 (Bounded Sequence) Every convergent sequence is a bounded sequence. There are two numbers m (lower bound) and M (upper bound) such that $m \leq \{a_n\} \leq M$.

Remark Example 1.1.4 shows that, there exist bounded, but divergence sequence.

Rate of Grow

A sequence $\{b_n\}$ **grows faster than** $\{a_n\}$ if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_n}{a_n} = \infty \text{ or } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = 0.$$

In this case we write $\{a_n\} \ll \{b_n\}$. We can write

$$\frac{\text{slow}}{\text{fast}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } \frac{\text{fast}}{\text{slow}} \rightarrow \infty.$$

Sequence $\{a_n\}$ and $\{b_n\}$ **grow at the same rate** if for some $L, 0 < L < \infty$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = L.$$

We call $\{a_n\}$ and $\{b_n\}$ **Equivalent Sequences** if $L = 1$.

Theorem 3 (Orders of Growth)

$$\ln \ln n \ll \ln n \ll \dots \ll \sqrt[3]{n} \ll \sqrt{n} \ll n \ll n^2 \ll \dots \ll 2^n \ll e^n \ll n! \ll n^n \ll e^{n^2}$$

Example 1.4

By using **Rate of Grow**, evaluate limit of sequences.

1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3+4\ln n}{3n+5}$
2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+2}+1}{\ln n+5}$
3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^n+3^n}{3^{n+1}+2^{n+5}}$
4. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3 \cdot 4^n}{(n+3)!}$

Solution

1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3+4\ln n}{3n+5} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4\ln n}{3n} = \frac{4}{3} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n}{n} = 0$
2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n+2}+1}{\ln n+5} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\ln n} = +\infty$
3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^n+3^n}{3^{n+1}+2^{n+5}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3^n}{3^{n+1}} = \frac{1}{3}$
4. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3 \cdot 4^n}{(n+3)!} = 3 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4^n}{(n+3)!} = 0$

Theorem 4 (Squeeze Theorem) If $a_n \leq b_n \leq c_n$ for $n \geq m$ and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = l,$$

then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = l$.

Example 1.5

By using **Squeeze Theorem**, evaluate limit of sequences.

1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n!}{n^n}$
2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{2^n + 3^n + 4^n}$
3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3}{n} \cos^3(n!)$
4. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+n}}$

Solution

$$1. a_n = \frac{n!}{n^n} = \frac{1}{n} \left(\frac{2 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot n}{n \cdot n \cdot \dots \cdot n} \right)$$

$$0 < a_n \leq \frac{1}{n}$$

We know that $\frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$. Therefore $a_n \rightarrow 0$ by the Squeeze Theorem.

$$2. a_n = \sqrt[n]{2^n + 3^n + 4^n}$$

$$4^n \leq 2^n + 3^n + 4^n \leq 4^n + 4^n + 4^n = 3 \cdot 4^n$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{4^n} = 4, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{3 \cdot 4^n} = 4 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{3} = 4 \cdot 1 = 4$$

Therefore $a_n \rightarrow 4$ by the Squeeze Theorem.

3. $a_n = \frac{3}{n} \cos^3(n!)$

$$-\frac{3}{n} \leq \frac{3}{n} \cos^3(n!) \leq \frac{3}{n}$$

Since $-\frac{3}{n} \rightarrow 0$ and $\frac{3}{n} \rightarrow 0$, $a_n \rightarrow 0$, by the Squeeze Theorem.

4. $a_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+2}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+n}}$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+n}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+n}} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+2}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+n}} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+1}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+1}}$$

$$n \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+n}} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+2}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+n}} \leq n \frac{1}{\sqrt{n^2+1}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{\sqrt{n^2+n}} = 1, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{\sqrt{n^2+1}} = 1$$

Therefore $a_n \rightarrow 1$ by the Squeeze Theorem.

Theorem 5 (Sub-Sequences) *If a sequence converges then all sub-sequences converge and all convergent sub-sequences converge to the same limit.*
If $\{a_n\}$ is a sequence that either has a sub-sequence that diverges or two convergent sub-sequences with different limits then $\{a_n\}$ is divergent.

Example 1.6

Use Theorem 4, to proof divergence of sequences.

1. $a_n = \tan(4n+1)\frac{\pi}{3}$

3. $a_n = \frac{n}{2n+3} + \cos \frac{2n\pi}{3}$

2. $a_n = \frac{n \cos(n\pi) + 2}{2n+3}$

4. $a_n = \left[2 + \frac{\sin n}{n}\right]$

Solution

1. Select two sub-sequences with different limits. Select a_{3n} and a_{3n+1} ,

$$a_{3n} = \tan(4(3n)+1)\frac{\pi}{3} = \tan(4n\pi + \frac{\pi}{3}) = \tan(\frac{\pi}{3}) = \sqrt{3} \rightarrow \sqrt{3}$$

$$a_{3n+1} = \tan(4(3n+1)+1)\frac{\pi}{3} = \tan(4n\pi + \frac{5\pi}{3}) = -\sqrt{3} \rightarrow -\sqrt{3}$$

Therefore, $\{a_n\}$ is a sequence that has two convergent sub-sequences with different limits, so $\{a_n\}$ is divergent.

2. Select two sub-sequences with different limits. Select a_{2n} and a_{2n+1} . We know that $\cos(n\pi) = (-1)^n$.

$$a_{2n} = \frac{2n \cos(2n\pi) + 2}{4n+3} = \frac{2n+2}{4n+3} = \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$$

$$a_{2n+1} = \frac{(2n+1) \cos((2n+1)\pi) + 2}{4n+5} = \frac{-2n+1}{4n+5} = -\frac{1}{2} \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}$$

Therefore, $\{a_n\}$ is a sequence that has two convergent sub-sequences with different limits, so $\{a_n\}$ is divergent.

3. Select two sub-sequences with different limits. Select a_{3n} and a_{3n+1} .

$$a_{3n} = \frac{3n}{6n+3} + \cos \frac{2(3n)\pi}{3} = \frac{3n}{6n+3} + \cos 2n\pi \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} + 1 = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$a_{3n+1} = \frac{3n+1}{6n+5} + \cos \frac{2(3n+1)\pi}{3} = \frac{3n+1}{6n+5} + \cos(2n\pi + \frac{2\pi}{3}) \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} = 0$$

Therefore, $\{a_n\}$ is a sequence that has two convergent sub-sequences with different limits, so $\{a_n\}$ is divergent.

4. By Squeeze Theorem we know:

$$-1 \leq \sin n \leq 1 \Rightarrow \frac{\sin n}{n} \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow 2 + \frac{\sin n}{n} \rightarrow 2$$

Select two types of a_n terms, where $\sin n > 0$ and where $\sin n < 0$

If $\sin n > 0$ we have $2 + \frac{\sin n}{n} > 2$, so $a_n \rightarrow 2$ and if $\sin n < 0$ we have $2 + \frac{\sin n}{n} < 2$, so $a_n \rightarrow 1$.

Therefore, $\{a_n\}$ is divergent.

Example 1.7

Prove the divergence of the sequence. $1, \frac{1}{2}, 3, 1, \frac{1}{4}, 6, 1, \frac{1}{8}, 9, 1, \frac{1}{16}, 27, \dots$

Solution Here we can see 3 sub-sequences $a_{3n+1} \rightarrow 1$, $a_{3n+2} \rightarrow 0$ and $a_{3n} \rightarrow +\infty$, so the sequence is unbounded and therefore divergence.

Asymptotic Sequences

We say $\{a_n\}$ is asymptotic to $\{b_n\}$ and write $a_n \sim b_n$ if $\frac{a_n}{b_n} \rightarrow 1$.
Consider k, m, r are constants and $r > 0$. We can write:

$$a_n = \sqrt{n+k} - \sqrt{n+m} \sim \frac{k-m}{2\sqrt{n}} \rightarrow 0 \quad (1)$$

$$a_n = \sqrt[r]{n+k} - \sqrt[r]{n+m} \sim \frac{k-m}{r\sqrt[r]{n^{r-1}}} \rightarrow 0 \quad (2)$$

Example 1.8

Find limit of the sequence.

1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n(\sqrt{n^2+1} - n)$

3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n}(\sqrt[3]{n+12} - \sqrt[3]{n+4})$

2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2(\sqrt[3]{n^3+1} - n)$

4. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n+3} - \sqrt{n}$

Solution

1. Use (1.1) equivalency, substitute n^2 to n

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n(\sqrt{n^2+1} - n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n(\sqrt{n^2+1} - \sqrt{n^2}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n\left(\frac{1}{2\sqrt{n^2}}\right) = \frac{1}{2}$$

2. Use (1.2) equivalency, substitute n^3 to n

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2(\sqrt[3]{n^3+1} - n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2(\sqrt[3]{n^3+1} - \sqrt[3]{n^3}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2\left(\frac{1}{3\sqrt[3]{n^6}}\right) = \frac{1}{3}$$

3. Use (1.2) equivalency,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n}(\sqrt[3]{n+12} - \sqrt[3]{n+4}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n}(\frac{12-4}{3\sqrt[3]{n^2}}) = 0$$

4. By dividing into subtraction, we will use (1.1) equivalency, two times.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n+3} + \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1-3}{2\sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}} = 0$$

Example 1.9

Find limit of the sequence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n^2 + 6n + 1} - n$$

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n^2 + 6n + 1} - n &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n^2 + 6n + 9} - 8 - n = \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{(n+3)^2} - 8 - n &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (n+3) - n = 3 \end{aligned}$$

Asymptotic Sequences

Consider a, b, c, k are constants and $a > 0, k > 0$. We can write:

$$\sqrt{an^2 + bn + c} \sim \sqrt{a}(n + \frac{b}{2a}) \quad (3)$$

$$\sqrt[k]{an^k + bn^{k-1} + c + \dots} \sim \sqrt[k]{a}(n + \frac{b}{ka}) \quad (4)$$

Example 1.10

Find the limit of the sequence or show that it diverges.

1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{4n^2 + 6n + 1} - \sqrt{4n^2 + 2}$
2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[3]{2n^3 + 18n^2 + n + 1} - \sqrt[3]{2n^3 + 24n^2 - 5}$
3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{2n^2 + 12n - 1} - \sqrt{2n^2 - 8n + 11}$

Solution Use (1.3) and (1.4) equations.

1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{4n^2 + 6n + 1} - \sqrt{4n^2 + 2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2(n + \frac{6}{8}) - 2n = \frac{3}{2}$
2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[3]{2n^3 + 18n^2 + n + 1} - \sqrt[3]{2n^3 + 24n^2 - 5} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[3]{2}((n + \frac{18}{6}) - (n + \frac{24}{6})) = -\sqrt[3]{2}$
3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{2n^2 + 12n - 1} - \sqrt{2n^2 - 8n + 11} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{2}((n + \frac{12}{4}) - (n - \frac{8}{4})) = 5\sqrt{2}$

2 Monotonic Sequences

We say that $\{x_n\}$ is **increasing** if $x_n \leq x_{n+1}$ for all n and strictly increasing if $x_n < x_{n+1}$ for all n . Similarly, We say that $\{x_n\}$ is **decreasing** if $x_{n+1} \leq x_n$ for all n and strictly decreasing if $x_{n+1} < x_n$ for all n . Sequences which are either increasing or decreasing are called **monotone**.

Theorem 6 (Monotonic Sequence Theorem) *Every bounded, monotonic sequence is convergent.*

1. Suppose $\{x_n\}$ is a bounded and increasing sequence. Then the $\sup(x_n)$ is the limit of $\{x_n\}$.
2. Suppose $\{x_n\}$ is a bounded and decreasing sequence. Then the $\inf(x_n)$ is the limit of $\{x_n\}$.

Example 2.11

Prove that $a_n = \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}$ is decreasing and bounded. Find $\inf(a_n)$ and $\sup(a_n)$.

Solution

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}) \cdot \frac{(\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} =$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} = 0$$

So, $a_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}},$

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

$$\inf = 0 < a_n \leq \sup = \sqrt{2} - 1$$

Example 2.12

Prove that $a_n = \frac{2n+1}{n+5} \cos(\frac{\pi}{2n+2})$ is monotone and find limit.

Solution

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n+1}{n+5} \cos(\frac{\pi}{2n+2}) = 2 \cdot \cos(0) = 2$$

We know that $(\frac{ax+b}{cx+d})' = \frac{ad-bc}{(cx+d)^2}$, therefore if $f(x) = \frac{2x+1}{x+5}$ then $f'(x) > 0$. It shows that $x_n = \frac{2n+1}{n+5}$ is increasing. Also by growing n , the $\text{arc} = \frac{\pi}{2n+2}$ is variate from $\frac{\pi}{4}$ to zero, therefore $y_n = \cos(\frac{\pi}{2n+2}) > 0$ and increasing between $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ to 1. So, $a_n = x_n \cdot y_n$ is multiply of two positive and increasing sequences, therefore a_n is increasing and converges to 2 and bounded $a_1 = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \leq a_n < 2$.

Example 2.13

Prove that $a_n = (1 + \frac{1}{n})^n$ is increasing and bounded.

Solution We can use binomial theorem to expand the expression

$$a_n = (1 + \frac{1}{n})^n = 1 + n(\frac{1}{n}) + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}(\frac{1}{n})^2 + \dots + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2) \dots 1}{n!}(\frac{1}{n})^n$$

$$a_n = 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2!} \frac{n(n-1)}{n \cdot n} + \frac{1}{3!} \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{n \cdot n \cdot n} + \dots + \frac{1}{n!} \frac{n(n-1)(n-2) \dots 1}{n \cdot n \cdot n \dots n}$$

$$a_n = 2 + \frac{1}{2!}(1 - \frac{1}{n}) + \frac{1}{3!}(1 - \frac{1}{n})(1 - \frac{2}{n}) + \dots + \frac{1}{n!}(1 - \frac{1}{n})(1 - \frac{2}{n}) \dots (1 - \frac{n-1}{n})$$

Similarly for a_{n+1} we have

$$a_{n+1} = 2 + \frac{1}{2!}(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}) + \frac{1}{3!}(1 - \frac{1}{n+1})(1 - \frac{2}{n+1}) + \cdots + \frac{1}{(n+1)!}(1 - \frac{1}{n+1})(1 - \frac{2}{n+1}) \cdots (1 - \frac{n}{n+1})$$

Because $(1 - \frac{k}{n+1}) - (1 - \frac{k}{n}) = \frac{k}{n(n+1)} \geq 0$ we have $a_{n+1} - a_n \geq 0$, therefore it is increasing sequence.

Next, we need to show it is bounded.

$$a_n = 2 + \frac{1}{2!}(1 - \frac{1}{n}) + \frac{1}{3!}(1 - \frac{1}{n})(1 - \frac{2}{n}) + \cdots + \frac{1}{n!}(1 - \frac{1}{n})(1 - \frac{2}{n}) \cdots (1 - \frac{n-1}{n})$$

$$a_n \leq 2 + \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{3!} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n!} \leq 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{2^3} + \cdots + \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} < 3$$

So, a_n is increasing and bounded.

Theorem 7 (Leonhard Euler "e" number) The sequence $a_n = (1 + \frac{1}{n})^n$ is increasing and bounded, and so has a limit which denote by e . The value of $e = 2.718281828459045 \cdots$.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + \frac{1}{n})^n = e$$

Remark Suppose $a_n \rightarrow 0$ and $b_n \rightarrow +\infty$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + a_n)^{b_n} = \exp(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \cdot b_n)$

Example 2.14

Evaluate following limits.

1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + \frac{5n+3}{n^3+n+2})^{n^2}$
2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{4n+3}{4n+1})^{3n+2}$
3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\cos \frac{1}{3n})^{n^2}$

Solution

$$1. \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + \frac{5n+3}{n^3+n+2})^{n^2} = \exp(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{5n+3}{n^3+n+2}) \cdot n^2) = \exp(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5n^3+3n^2}{n^3+n+2}) = e^5$$

$$2. \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{4n+3}{4n+1})^{3n+2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + (\frac{4n+3}{4n+1} - 1))^{3n+2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + \frac{2}{4n+1})^{3n+2} =$$

$$\exp(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{2}{4n+1}) \cdot 3n+2) = \exp(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6n+4}{4n+1}) = e^{\frac{6}{4}}$$

$$3. \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\cos \frac{1}{3n})^{n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + (\cos \frac{1}{3n} - 1))^{n^2} =$$

$$\exp(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\cos \frac{1}{3n} - 1) \cdot n^2) = \exp(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{9n^2}) \cdot n^2) = e^{-\frac{1}{18}}$$

3 Recurrent Sequences

Example 3.15

Consider $\{x_n\}$ defined by recurrent formula :

$$x_1 = 10, x_{n+1} = \sqrt{21 + 4x_n}$$

Prove $\{x_n\}$ is convergent and find its limit.

Solution By induction we will show that x_n is bounded and $7 \leq x_n \leq 10$ and is a decreasing sequence, then by Monotonic Sequence Theorem x_n is convergent. This is true for initial steps $x_1 = 10 \geq 7, x_2 = \sqrt{61} \geq 7$, assume $x_n \geq 7$, then

$$x_n \geq 7 \Rightarrow 21 + 4x_n \geq 49 \Rightarrow x_{n+1} \geq 7.$$

Now, we will prove that x_n is decreasing

$$\frac{x_{n+1}}{x_n} = \sqrt{\frac{21 + 4x_n}{x_n^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{21}{x_n^2} + \frac{4}{x_n}} \leq \sqrt{\frac{21}{49} + \frac{4}{7}} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{x_{n+1}}{x_n} \leq 1 \Rightarrow x_{n+1} \leq x_n$$

So, x_n is decreasing and has lower bound, assume the limit is equal to l

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = l \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{21 + 4x_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n \\ \sqrt{21 + 4l} &= l \Rightarrow l = 7 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3.16

Consider $\{x_n\}$ defined by recurrent formula :

$$x_1 = 1, x_{n+1} = \sqrt{10 + 3x_n}$$

Prove $\{x_n\}$ is convergent and find its limit.

Solution By induction we will show that x_n is bounded and $1 \leq x_n \leq 5$ and is an increasing sequence, then by Monotonic Sequence Theorem x_n is convergent. This is true for initial steps $x_1 = 1 \leq 5, x_2 = \sqrt{13} \leq 5$, assume $x_n \leq 5$, then

$$x_n \leq 5 \Rightarrow 10 + 3x_n \leq 25 \Rightarrow x_{n+1} \leq 5.$$

Now, we will prove that x_n is increasing

$$\frac{x_{n+1}}{x_n} = \sqrt{\frac{10 + 3x_n}{x_n^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{10}{x_n^2} + \frac{3}{x_n}} \geq \sqrt{\frac{10}{25} + \frac{3}{5}} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{x_{n+1}}{x_n} \geq 1 \Rightarrow x_{n+1} \geq x_n$$

So, x_n is increasing and has upper bound, assume the limit is equal to l

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = l \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{10 + 3x_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n \\ \sqrt{10 + 3l} &= l \Rightarrow l = 5 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3.17

Newton Sequence to Approximate \sqrt{a}

Let $x_1 = 2$ and $x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}(x_n + \frac{5}{x_n})$ for $n \geq 2$.

1. Find x_2, x_3 .

2. Prove that x_n is convergent.

3. Find the limit of sequence.

Solution $x_1 = 2, x_2 = \frac{161}{72} = 2.2361 \dots, x_3 = \frac{51841}{23184} = 2.236067977$

By induction we will show that x_n is bounded and $1 \leq x_n \leq \sqrt{5}$ and is a increasing sequence, then by Monotonic Sequence Theorem x_n is convergent. This is true for initial steps $x_1 = 1 \leq \sqrt{5}, x_2 \leq \sqrt{5}$. Now, we will prove that x_n is increasing

$$x_{n+1} - x_n = \frac{5 - x_n^2}{2x_n} \geq 0 \Rightarrow x_{n+1} \geq x_n$$

So, x_n is increasing and has upper bound, assume the limit is equal to l

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = l \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2} \left(l + \frac{5}{l} \right) = l \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \left(l + \frac{5}{l} \right) = l \Rightarrow l = \sqrt{5}$$

4 Sequential Characterization of Limits of Functions

Theorem 8 $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = l$ if and only if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = l$ for every sequence $x_n \neq a$, and $x_n \rightarrow a$.

Conclusion If there are two sequences $\{a_n\}$ and $\{b_n\}$, such that $a_n \neq a$ and $b_n \neq a$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) \neq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(b_n)$ then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ does not exist.

Example 4.18

By using sequences, show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$ does not exist.

Solution Let $a_n = \frac{1}{2n\pi}$ and $b_n = \frac{1}{2n\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}}$

$$f(a_n) = \sin\left(\frac{1}{a_n}\right) = \sin(2n\pi) = 0 \rightarrow 0$$

$$f(b_n) = \sin\left(\frac{1}{b_n}\right) = \sin\left(2n\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 1 \rightarrow 1$$

So, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$ does not exist.

Example 4.19

Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[x \left[\frac{1}{x} \right] \right]$ does not exist.

Solution Let $a_n = \frac{1}{n}$ and $b_n = \frac{1}{n+0.5}$, $a_n \rightarrow 0$ and $b_n \rightarrow 0$.

$$f(a_n) = \left[\frac{1}{n} \left[n \right] \right] = \left[\frac{n}{n} \right] = 1 \rightarrow 1$$

$$f(b_n) = \left[\frac{1}{n+0.5} \left[n+0.5 \right] \right] = \left[\frac{n}{n+0.5} \right] = 0 \rightarrow 0$$

So, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[x \left[\frac{1}{x} \right] \right]$ does not exist.

Example 4.20

For given function f and $\{a_n\}$ sequence. Find limit of $\{f(a_n)\}$ sequence.

1. $f(x) = \frac{3}{x^2-1} \left| \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}x\right) \right|$ and $a_n = \sqrt{n^2 + 6n + 10} - n - 2$
2. $f(x) = \frac{3x^2-4\lfloor x^2 \rfloor}{x-2}$ and $a_n = \frac{2n+1}{n+3}$

Solution

1. Use asymptotic sequences to evaluate limit of a_n ,

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \sqrt{n^2 + 6n + 10} - n - 2 \sim (n + 3) - n - 2 \rightarrow 1 \text{ and} \\ a_n &= \sqrt{(n + 3)^2 + 1} - n - 2 > (n + 3) - n - 2 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = -\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{3}{x^2-1} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}x\right) = -\frac{3}{2} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}x\right)}{x-1} = \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}x - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)}{x-1} = \frac{3}{2} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}(x-1)\right)}{x-1} = \frac{3}{2} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{\frac{\pi}{2}(x-1)}{x-1} = \frac{3\pi}{4} \end{aligned}$$

2. $a_n \rightarrow 2$ and $a_n < 2$.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{3x^2 - 4\lfloor x^2 \rfloor}{x-2} = \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{3x^2 - 12}{x-2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{3(x-2)(x+2)}{x-2} = 12 \end{aligned}$$
