



Why

In the case that it is not possible to easily identify (or guess) the limit of a sequence, we may be interested in other conditions on the sequence which is equivalent to convergence.

Definition

A sequence $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbf{N}}$ in \mathbf{R} is said to be *egopox* (or *Cauchy* or a *Cauchy sequence*) if for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $N \in \mathbf{N}$ so that for all $m, n > N$,

$$|x_m - x_n| < \varepsilon$$

Notation

We sometimes denote this property as

$$|x_n - x_m| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as} \quad m, n \rightarrow \infty.$$

