

Theorem: Let  $\{u_n\}$  be a sequence of positive real numbers such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = l$ .

(i) If  $0 \leq l < 1$  then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$ .

(ii) if  $l > 1$  then  $u_n$  is divergent (Actually  $u_n \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ )

Note: If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = 1$ ,

no definite conclusion can be made about the nature of the sequence.

For example, i) if  $u_n = \frac{n+1}{n}$  then  $\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{n+2}{n+1} \cdot \frac{n}{n+1}$   
$$= \frac{n^2 + 2n}{n^2 + 2n + 1}$$
$$= \frac{1 + \frac{2}{n}}{1 + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = 1.$$

Also  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) = 1.$

ii) if  $u_n = \frac{1}{n}$  then  $\frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = \frac{n}{n+1} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}}$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_{n+1}}{u_n} = 1$$

But in this case,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$ .

Theorem: let  $\{u_n\}$  be a sequence of positive real numbers such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (u_n)^{\frac{1}{n}} = l.$$

i) If  $0 \leq l < 1$  then  $\lim u_n = 0$

ii) if  $l > 1$  then  $u_n \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Note: If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n^{\frac{1}{n}} = 1$ , no definite conclusion can be made about the nature of the sequence  $\{u_n\}$ .

For example, i) if  $u_n = \frac{n+1}{n}$  then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (u_n)^{\frac{1}{n}} = 1$

$$\text{and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 1,$$

ii) if  $u_n = \frac{n+1}{2^n}$  then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (u_n)^{\frac{1}{n}} = 1$

$$\text{and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = \frac{1}{2}.$$

## \* Monotone Sequence.

A real sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is said to be a monotone increasing sequence if  $x_{n+1} \geq x_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $x_n \uparrow$

A real sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is said to be a monotone decreasing sequence if  $x_{n+1} \leq x_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $x_n \downarrow$

Example: i) Let  $f(n) = 2^n$ ,  $n \geq 1$

then  $f(n+1) > f(n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$\therefore$  the sequence  $\{f(n)\}$  is a monotone increasing sequence. It is strictly monotone.

ii) Let  $f(n) = \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n}$   $n \geq 1$

Then  $f(n+1) - f(n) = \frac{1}{2n+1} + \frac{1}{2n+2} - \frac{1}{n+1} = \frac{1}{(2n+1)(2n+2)} > 0 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$\therefore \{f(n)\}$  monotone increasing. [16]

iii) The sequence  $\{(-2)^n\}$  is neither a monotone increasing sequence, nor a monotone decreasing sequence.

A real sequence  $\{f(n)\}$  is said to be a monotone sequence if it is either a monotone increasing or a monotone decreasing sequence.

Theorem: A monotone increasing sequence, if bounded above, is convergent and it converges to the least upper bound.

Proof: Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a monotone increasing sequence bounded above and let  $M$  be its least upper bound.

then i)  $x_n \leq M$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and

ii) for a pre-assigned  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a natural number  $k$  such that

$$x_k > M - \epsilon$$

Since  $\{x_n\}$  is a monotone increasing sequence,

$$M - \epsilon < x_k \leq x_{k+1} \leq x_{k+2} \leq \dots \leq M.$$

That is,  $M - \epsilon < x_n < M + \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq k$ .

This shows that the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is convergent and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = M.$$

Theorem: A monotone decreasing sequence, if bounded below, is convergent and converges to the greatest lower bound.

The proof is similar.



Example: The sequence  $\{(1+\frac{1}{n})^n\}$  is convergent.

Proof: let  $u_n = (1+\frac{1}{n})^n$ .

$$\text{Then } u_{n+1} = (1+\frac{1}{n+1})^{n+1}.$$

Let us consider  $(n+1)$  positive numbers  $1+\frac{1}{n}, 1+\frac{1}{n}, 1+\frac{1}{n}, \dots$   
 $\dots 1+\frac{1}{n}$  ( $n$  times) and 1.

Applying A.M. > G.M., we have

$$\frac{n(1+\frac{1}{n})+1}{n+1} > (1+\frac{1}{n})^{\frac{n}{n+1}}$$

$$\text{or, } (1+\frac{1}{n+1})^{n+1} > (1+\frac{1}{n})^n$$

$$\text{i.e. } u_{n+1} > u_n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

This shows that the sequence  $\{u_n\}$  is a monotone increasing sequence.

$$\text{Now } u_n = 1 + 1 + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} \frac{1}{n^2} + \dots + \frac{n(n-1)\dots 2 \cdot 1}{n!} \cdot \frac{1}{n^n}$$

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

$$< 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2!} + \dots + \frac{1}{n!} \quad \text{for all } n \geq 2$$

We have  $n! > 2^{n-1}$  for all  $n > 2$ . Utilising this

$$1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2!} + \dots + \frac{1}{n!} < 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}, \quad \text{for } n > 2.$$

$$\text{Also } 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} = 1 + 2 \left[ 1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \right] < 3 \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

It follows that  $u_n < 3$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , proving that the sequence  $\{u_n\}$  is bounded above.

Thus the sequence  $\{u_n\}$  being a monotone increasing sequence bounded above, is convergent.

The limit of the sequence is denoted by  $e$ .

Since  $u_1 = 2$ , it follows that  $2 < u_n < 3$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

① Let  $x_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}$  for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$x_{n+1} - x_n = \frac{1}{n+1} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{n+1} > x_n \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$\therefore$  the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is monotonically increasing.

$$\text{Now, } x_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8}\right) + \dots + \left(\frac{1}{2^{n-1}+1} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n}\right)$$

$$\geq 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{8}\right) + \dots + \left(\frac{1}{2^n} + \frac{1}{2^n} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n}\right)$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{4} + \frac{4}{8} + \dots + \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n}$$

$$= 1 + \frac{n}{2}$$

So,  $x_n \geq 1 + \frac{n}{2}$  for all  $n$ .

As  $\left\{1 + \frac{n}{2}\right\}$  is an unbounded <sup>above</sup> sequence,  $\{x_n\}$  is also unbounded.

$\therefore \{x_n\}$  is NOT convergent.

\* A monotone increasing sequence is convergent iff bounded above.

②

We shall show that  $\{u_n\}$  is convergent.

let  $x_n = u_{2n-1}$  and  $y_n = u_{2n}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $x_{n+1} - x_n = \frac{1}{2n+1} - \frac{1}{2n} \leq 0$   
 $= u_{2n+1} - u_{2n} \Rightarrow x_{n+1} \leq x_n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\begin{aligned} y_{n+1} - y_n &= u_{2n+2} - u_{2n} \\ &= \frac{1}{2n+1} - \frac{1}{2n+2} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$y_{n+1} \geq y_n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$\therefore$  the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is monotonically decreasing  
and " "  $\{y_n\}$  " " ~~is~~ increasing.

$u_n = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{1}{n}$   
 $\Rightarrow u_n = 1 - \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{5} + \dots + (-1)^n \cdot \frac{1}{n} \right)}_{\text{positive}}$   
 $\leq 1$

Also  $u_n = (1 - \frac{1}{2}) + (\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4}) + \dots + \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1} \right)$   
 $\geq \frac{1}{2}$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{2} \leq u_n \leq 1.$$

As  $\{u_n\}$  is bounded below by  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded below by  $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
Since,  $\{u_n\}$  " " above by 1,  $\{y_n\}$  " " above by 1.

$\therefore$  both  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  are convergent to the same limit.  
 $\Rightarrow \{u_n\}$  is convergent.  $\left[ x_n - y_n = \frac{1}{2n} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \right]$   
 $\Rightarrow x = y$



## \* Subsequence

Let  $\{u_n\}$  be a real sequence and  $\{r_n\}$  be a strictly increasing sequence of natural numbers, i.e.,  $r_1 < r_2 < r_3 < \dots < r_n < \dots$

Then the sequence  $\{u_{r_n}\}$  is said to be a subsequence of the sequence  $\{u_n\}$ .

The elements of the subsequence  $\{u_{r_n}\}$  are  $u_{r_1}, u_{r_2}, \dots, u_{r_n}, \dots$

Example: i) Let  $u_n = \frac{1}{n}$  and  $r_n = 2n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Then } \{u_{r_n}\} &= \{u_2, u_4, u_6, \dots\} \\ &= \left\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{6}, \dots\right\}\end{aligned}$$

ii) Let  $u_n = \frac{1}{n}$  and  $r_n = 2n-1$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Then } \{u_{r_n}\} &= \{u_1, u_3, u_5, \dots\} \\ &= \left\{1, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{5}, \dots\right\}\end{aligned}$$

iii) Let  $u_n = 1 + \frac{1}{n}$  and  $r_n = n^2$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Then } \{u_{r_n}\} &= \left\{1 + \frac{1}{n^2} \mid 1 + \frac{1}{1}, 1 + \frac{1}{2^2}, 1 + \frac{1}{3^2}, \dots\right\} \text{ is a} \\ &\text{subsequence of } \left\{1 + \frac{1}{n}\right\}.\end{aligned}$$

Theorem: If a sequence  $\{u_n\}$  converges to  $l$  then every subsequence of  $\{u_n\}$  also converges to  $l$ .

Proof: Let  $\{r_n\}$  be a strictly increasing sequence of natural numbers. Then  $\{u_{r_n}\}$  is subsequence of the sequence  $\{u_n\}$ .

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given. Since  $\lim u_n = l$ , there exists a natural number  $k$  such that  $l - \epsilon < u_n < l + \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq k$ .

Since  $\{r_n\}$  is a strictly increasing sequence of natural numbers, there exists a natural number  $k_0$  such that  $r_n > k$ ,  $\forall n \geq k_0$ .

$$\therefore l - \epsilon < u_{r_n} < l + \epsilon \text{ for all } n \geq k_0.$$

Since  $\epsilon$  is arbitrary,  $\lim u_{r_n} = l$ .

1) Prove that  $\lim (1 + \frac{1}{2n})^n = \sqrt{e}$

$$\text{let } u_n = (1 + \frac{1}{n})^n,$$

$$v_n = (1 + \frac{1}{2n})^{2n} \quad \text{and} \quad w_n = (1 + \frac{1}{2n})^n$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Note that  $\lim u_n = e$ .

Since  $v_n = u_{2n}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\{v_n\}$  is a subsequence of  $\{u_n\}$  and  $\lim v_n = e$

$$\text{Now } w_n = \sqrt{v_n} \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\therefore \lim w_n = \lim \sqrt{v_n} = \sqrt{e}.$$

2) Prove that the sequence  $\{(-1)^n\}$  is divergent.

$$\text{let } u_n = (-1)^n \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\text{let } v_n = u_{2n} \text{ and } w_n = u_{2n-1}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Then  $\{v_n\}$  is ~~the~~ a subsequence of  $\{u_n\}$  with  $\lim v_n = 1$ ,

$\{w_n\}$  is a subsequence of  $\{u_n\}$  with  $\lim w_n = -1$ .

Since two different subsequences converge to two different limits, the sequence  $\{u_n\}$  is divergent.