

Advanced Calc. Homework 5

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Introduction

Note, I will use the following definition for the convergence (or limit) of a sequence (s_n) to some real number s if:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \text{ a number } N \text{ such that } n > N \text{ implies } |s_n - s| < \varepsilon, \quad (1)$$

then the limit exists and is equal to s .

8.1

Prove the following:

(a) $\lim \frac{(-1)^n}{n} = 0$

(b) $\lim \frac{1}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}} = 0$

(c) $\lim \frac{2n-1}{3n+2} = \frac{2}{3}$

(d) $\lim \frac{n+6}{n^2-6} = 0$

Proof. (a)

Using our definition in (1), let $\varepsilon > 0$ be some given number and $(s_n) = \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$, then we wish to show $s = 0$. I will first examine $|s_n - s|$:

$$\begin{aligned} |s_n - s| &= \left| \frac{(-1)^n}{n} - 0 \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \right| \\ &= \frac{|(-1)^n|}{|n|} \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if we want $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$, we can make the following algebraic manipulations:

$$\begin{aligned} |s_n - s| &< \varepsilon \\ \iff \frac{1}{n} &< \varepsilon && \text{by the above examination} \\ \iff 1 &< n \cdot \varepsilon \\ \iff \frac{1}{\varepsilon} &< n \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if we choose $N = \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$, then it is clear by the above calculations that having $n > N$ implies that $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$, proving that the limit does, indeed, equal 0. \square

Proof. (b)

Using our definition in (1), let $\varepsilon > 0$ be some given number and $(s_n) = \frac{1}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}$, then we wish to show $s = 0$. I will first

examine $|s_n - s|$:

$$\begin{aligned} |s_n - s| &= \left| \frac{1}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}} - 0 \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}} \right| \\ &= \frac{|1|}{|n^{\frac{1}{3}}|} \\ &= \frac{1}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if we want $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$, we can make the following algebraic manipulations:

$$\begin{aligned} |s_n - s| &< \varepsilon \\ \iff \frac{1}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}} &< \varepsilon && \text{by the above examination} \\ \iff \frac{1}{n} &< \varepsilon^3 \\ \iff 1 &< n \cdot \varepsilon^3 \\ \iff \frac{1}{\varepsilon^3} &< n \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if we choose $N = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^3}$, then it is clear by the above calculations that having $n > N$ implies that $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$, proving that the limit does, indeed, equal 0. \square

Proof. (c)

Using our definition in (1), let $\varepsilon > 0$ be some given number and $(s_n) = \frac{2n-1}{3n+2}$, then we wish to show $s = \frac{2}{3}$. I will first examine $|s_n - s|$:

$$\begin{aligned} |s_n - s| &= \left| \frac{2n-1}{3n+2} - \frac{2}{3} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{3(2n-1)}{3(3n+2)} - \frac{2(3n+2)}{3(3n+2)} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{(6n-3) - (6n+4)}{9n+6} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{-7}{9n+6} \right| \\ &= \frac{|-7|}{|9n+6|} \\ &= \frac{7}{9n+6} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if we want $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$, we can make the following algebraic manipulations:

$$\begin{aligned} |s_n - s| &< \varepsilon \\ \iff \frac{7}{9n+6} &< \varepsilon && \text{by the above examination} \\ \iff 7 &< \varepsilon(9n+6) \\ \iff 7 &< 9n\varepsilon + 6\varepsilon \\ \iff 7 - 6\varepsilon &< 9n\varepsilon \\ \iff \frac{7 - 6\varepsilon}{9\varepsilon} &< n \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if we choose $N = \frac{7-6\varepsilon}{9\varepsilon}$, then it is clear by the above calculations that having $n > N$ implies that $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$, proving that the limit does, indeed, equal $\frac{2}{3}$. \square

Proof. (d)

Using our definition in (1), let $\varepsilon > 0$ be some given number and $(s_n) = \frac{n+6}{n^2-6}$, then we wish to show $s = 0$. I will first

examine $|s_n - s|$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |s_n - s| &= \left| \frac{n+6}{n^2-6} - 0 \right| \\
 &= \left| \frac{n+6}{n^2-6} \right| \\
 &= \frac{|n+6|}{|n^2-6|} \\
 &= \frac{n+6}{n^2-6} && \text{since we can drop } |\cdot| \text{ as long as } n \geq 3 \\
 &\leq \frac{7n}{n^2-6} && \text{since } n+6 \leq 7n \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \\
 &\leq \frac{7n}{\frac{1}{3}n^2} && \text{since } n^2-6 \geq \frac{1}{3}n^2 \forall n \geq 3 \in \mathbb{N} \\
 &= \frac{21}{n}
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if we want $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$, and since we have just shown that $|s_n - s| \leq \frac{21}{n}$, then, if we can show that under some conditions, we have $\frac{21}{n} < \varepsilon$, then we could conclude that $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$ by the transitivity of “ $<$ ” under those same conditions. We can do this by making the following algebraic manipulations:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |s_n - s| &\leq \frac{21}{n} < \varepsilon \\
 \iff 21 &< n \cdot \varepsilon \\
 \iff \frac{21}{\varepsilon} &< n
 \end{aligned}$$

Since the above calculations were only valid under the condition that $n \geq 3$, then we know that N must be at least 3 as well. Therefore, if we choose $N = \max \left\{ 3, \frac{21}{\varepsilon} \right\}$, then it is clear by the above calculations that having $n > N$ implies that $\frac{21}{n} < \varepsilon$, which in turn shows that $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$ since $|s_n - s| \leq \frac{21}{n}$ proving that the limit does, indeed, equal 0. \square

8.2

Determine the limits of the following sequences, and then prove your claims.

- (a) $a_n = \frac{n}{n^2+1}$
- (b) $b_n = \frac{7n-19}{3n+7}$
- (c) $c_n = \frac{4n+3}{7n-5}$
- (d) $d_n = \frac{2n+4}{5n+2}$
- (e) $s_n = \frac{1}{n} \sin(n)$

Answer. (a)

I claim that $\boxed{\lim a_n = 0}$

Proof.

First, given some $\varepsilon > 0$, I will examine $|a_n - 0|$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |a_n - 0| &= \left| \frac{n}{n^2+1} - 0 \right| \\
 &= \frac{|n|}{|n^2+1|} \\
 &= \frac{n}{n^2+1} \\
 &\leq \frac{n}{n^2} && \text{since } n^2+1 > n^2 \\
 &= \frac{1}{n}
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, since $|a_n - 0| \leq \frac{1}{n}$, then finding a condition where $\frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$ would be a sufficient condition to show that $|a_n - 0| < \varepsilon$, we will do this by the following algebraic manipulations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{n} &< \varepsilon \\ \iff \frac{1}{\varepsilon} &< n \end{aligned}$$

Thus, choosing $N = \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ guarantees that with $n > N$, then $\frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$ which in turn guarantees that $|a_n - 0| < \varepsilon$, proving that the limit does, indeed, equal 0. \square

Answer. (b)

I claim that $\lim b_n = \frac{7}{3}$

Proof.

First, given some $\varepsilon > 0$, I will examine $\left| b_n - \frac{7}{3} \right|$:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| b_n - \frac{7}{3} \right| &= \left| \frac{7n - 19}{3n + 7} - \frac{7}{3} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{3(7n - 19)}{3(3n + 7)} - \frac{7(3n + 7)}{3(3n + 7)} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{-106}{9n + 21} \right| \\ &= \frac{|-106|}{|9n + 21|} \\ &= \frac{106}{9n + 21} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, to find a condition in which $\left| b_n - \frac{7}{3} \right| < \varepsilon$, we can do the following algebraic manipulations:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| b_n - \frac{7}{3} \right| &< \varepsilon \\ \iff \frac{106}{9n + 21} &< \varepsilon && \text{by the above calculations} \\ \iff 106 < 9n\varepsilon + 21\varepsilon \\ \iff 106 - 21\varepsilon < 9n\varepsilon \\ \iff \frac{106 - 21\varepsilon}{9\varepsilon} < n \end{aligned}$$

Thus, choosing $N = \frac{106 - 21\varepsilon}{9\varepsilon}$ guarantees that with $n > N$, then $\left| b_n - \frac{7}{3} \right| < \varepsilon$, proving that the limit does, indeed, equal $\frac{7}{3}$. \square

Answer. (c)

I claim that $\lim c_n = \frac{4}{7}$

Proof.

First, given some $\varepsilon > 0$, I will examine $\left| c_n - \frac{4}{7} \right|$:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| c_n - \frac{4}{7} \right| &= \left| \frac{4n + 3}{7n - 5} - \frac{4}{7} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{7(4n + 3)}{7(7n - 5)} - \frac{4(7n - 5)}{7(7n - 5)} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{41}{49n - 35} \right| \\ &= \frac{|41|}{|49n - 35|} \\ &= \frac{41}{49n - 35} \end{aligned}$$

since $49n - 35 > 0 \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

Thus, to find a condition in which $\left|c_n - \frac{4}{7}\right| < \varepsilon$, we can do the following algebraic manipulations:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left|c_n - \frac{4}{7}\right| < \varepsilon \\
& \iff \frac{41}{49n - 35} < \varepsilon && \text{by the above calculations} \\
& \iff 41 < 49n\varepsilon - 35\varepsilon \\
& \iff 41 + 35\varepsilon < 49n\varepsilon \\
& \iff \frac{41 + 35\varepsilon}{49\varepsilon} < n
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, choosing $N = \frac{41 + 35\varepsilon}{49\varepsilon}$ guarantees that with $n > N$, then $\left|c_n - \frac{4}{7}\right| < \varepsilon$, proving that the limit does, indeed, equal $\frac{4}{7}$. □

Answer. (d)

I claim that $\lim d_n = \frac{2}{5}$

Proof.

First, given some $\varepsilon > 0$, I will examine $\left|d_n - \frac{2}{5}\right|$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\left|d_n - \frac{2}{5}\right| &= \left|\frac{2n+4}{5n+2} - \frac{2}{5}\right| \\
&= \left|\frac{5(2n+4)}{5(5n+2)} - \frac{2(5n+2)}{5(5n+2)}\right| \\
&= \left|\frac{16}{25n+10}\right| \\
&= \frac{|16|}{|25n+10|} \\
&= \frac{16}{25n+10}
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, to find a condition in which $\left|d_n - \frac{2}{5}\right| < \varepsilon$, we can do the following algebraic manipulations:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left|d_n - \frac{2}{5}\right| < \varepsilon \\
& \iff \frac{16}{25n+10} < \varepsilon && \text{by the above calculations} \\
& \iff 16 < 25n\varepsilon + 10\varepsilon \\
& \iff 16 - 10\varepsilon < 25n\varepsilon \\
& \iff \frac{16 - 10\varepsilon}{25\varepsilon} < n
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, choosing $N = \frac{16 - 10\varepsilon}{25\varepsilon}$ guarantees that with $n > N$, then $\left|d_n - \frac{2}{5}\right| < \varepsilon$, proving that the limit does, indeed, equal $\frac{2}{5}$. □

Answer. (e)

I claim that $\lim s_n = 0$

Proof.

First, given some $\varepsilon > 0$, I will examine $|s_n - 0|$:

$$\begin{aligned}
|s_n - 0| &= \left|\frac{1}{n} \sin(n) - 0\right| \\
&= \left|\frac{1}{n}\right| \cdot |\sin(n)| \\
&\leq \frac{1}{n} && \text{since } -1 \leq \sin(n) \leq 1 \forall n \in \mathbb{N}
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, to find a condition in which $|s_n - 0| < \varepsilon$, it suffices to find a condition in which $\frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$ since $|s_n - 0| \leq \frac{1}{n}$. We have seen several times that this is equivalent to the condition that $\frac{1}{\varepsilon} < n$.

Thus, choosing $N = \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ guarantees that with $n > N$, then $|s_n - 0| \leq \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$, proving that the limit does, indeed, equal 0. \square

8.3

Let (s_n) be a sequence of nonnegative real numbers, and suppose $\lim s_n = 0$. Prove $\lim \sqrt{s_n} = 0$. This will complete the proof for Example 5.

Proof.

We are given that for every $\varepsilon_1 > 0$, there exists some $N_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $|s_n - 0| < \varepsilon_1$ for every $n > N_1$. From this, we wish to show that for every $\varepsilon_2 > 0$, there exists some $N_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $|\sqrt{s_n} - 0| < \varepsilon_2$ for every $n > N_2$. Let us choose $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_2^2$. Therefore we know the following holds for n greater than or equal to some N_1 :

$$\begin{aligned}
 |s_n - 0| &< \varepsilon_1 && \text{by assumption} \\
 \implies |s_n| &< \varepsilon_1 \\
 \implies s_n &< \varepsilon_1 && \text{since the sequence is nonnegative} \\
 \implies s_n &< \varepsilon_2^2 && \text{by our assignment of } \varepsilon_1 \\
 \implies \sqrt{s_n} &< \varepsilon_2 \\
 \implies |\sqrt{s_n} - 0| &< \varepsilon_2 && \text{since square roots are positive and we can freely subtract 0}
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we know that N_2 exists where the above condition is satisfied. In particular, with N_1 given by the choice of $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_2^2$, $N_2 = N_1$, so it obviously exists; thus, $\lim \sqrt{s_n} = 0$. \square

8.4

Let (t_n) be a bounded sequence, i.e., there exists M such that $|t_n| \leq M$ for all n , and let (s_n) be a sequence such that $\lim s_n = 0$. Prove that $\lim(s_n t_n) = 0$.

Proof.

I will start by noting that for any $\varepsilon_1 > 0$, we know that there exists some N_1 such that $|s_n - 0| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N_1$. In particular, if we are given some $\varepsilon_2 > 0$, then we know that N_1 exists for $\varepsilon_1 = \frac{\varepsilon_2}{M}$. From this I will examine $|s_n t_n - 0|$ in the following manner with some ε_2 given:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |s_n t_n - 0| &= |s_n t_n| \\
 &= |s_n| \cdot |t_n| \\
 &\leq |s_n| \cdot M && \text{since } |t_n| \leq M \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \\
 &= |s_n - 0| \cdot M \\
 &\leq \varepsilon_1 \cdot M && \text{for all } n > N_1 \text{ by assumption} \\
 &= \frac{\varepsilon_2}{M} \cdot M && \text{by our choice of } \varepsilon_1 \\
 &= \varepsilon_2
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have shown that $|s_n t_n - 0| < \varepsilon_2$ under the condition that $n > N_1$. Therefore, since ε_2 was arbitrarily given to us, we can conclude that $\lim(s_n t_n) = 0$, just as desired. \square

8.5

- (a) Consider three sequences (a_n) , (b_n) , and (s_n) such that $a_n \leq s_n \leq b_n$ for all n and $\lim a_n = \lim b_n = s$. Prove that $\lim s_n = s$.
- (b) Suppose that (s_n) and (t_n) are sequences such that $|s_n| \leq t_n$ for all n and $\lim t_n = 0$. Prove that $\lim s_n = 0$.

Proof. (a)

What we know:

- (1) $a_n \leq s_n$ and $s_n \leq b_n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$
- (2) For every $\varepsilon_1 > 0$ there exists some N_1 such that $|a_n - s| < \varepsilon_1$ for all $n > N_1$ (since $\lim a_n = s$)

(3) For every $\varepsilon_2 > 0$ there exists some N_2 such that $|b_n - s| < \varepsilon_2$ for all $n > N_1$ (since $\lim a_n = s$)

(4) $|x - y| < z$ is equivalent to $y - z < x < y + z$ according to Exercise (3.7)(b)

I will use items (2) and (4) above to conclude that $s - \varepsilon_1 < a_n < s + \varepsilon_1$. Next, I will use items (3) and (4) above to conclude that $s - \varepsilon_2 < b_n < s + \varepsilon_2$. Using these results, I can conclude the following:

$$\begin{array}{lll} s - \varepsilon_1 < a_n & \text{and} & a_n \leq s_n & \implies & s - \varepsilon_1 < s_n \\ b_n < s + \varepsilon_2 & \text{and} & s_n \leq b_n & \implies & s_n < s + \varepsilon_2 \end{array}$$

Since lines (2) and (3) above hold for all ε_1 or ε_2 , respectively, I can choose $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_2 = \varepsilon > 0$ and still get the same results above. Therefore, we have that $s - \varepsilon < s_n < s + \varepsilon$. Again, from line (4) above, this shows that $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$. However, since line (2) only holds for $n > N_1$ and line (3) only holds for $n > N_2$, then we can only validly claim that the last inequality holds whenever $n > N := \max\{N_1, N_2\}$. Therefore, we have, at last, shown that for any given $\varepsilon > 0$, we have $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$; thus, $\lim s_n = s$. \square

Proof. (b)

From Exercise (3.5)(a), we know that $|b| \leq a$ if and only if $-a \leq b \leq a$. From this we can use the assumption that $|s_n| \leq t_n$ for all n to conclude that $-t_n \leq s_n \leq t_n$ for all n . Furthermore, we know from the assumption that $\lim t_n = 0$ that for some given $\varepsilon > 0$, that $|t_n - 0| = |t_n| < \varepsilon$ for all n satisfying $n > N$ for some N . Using Exercise (3.7)(a), we can see that $-\varepsilon < t_n < \varepsilon$ for $n > N$. Thus,

$$\begin{array}{lll} t_n < \varepsilon & \implies & -\varepsilon < -t_n \\ -\varepsilon < -t_n & \text{and} & -t_n \leq s_n & \implies & -\varepsilon < s_n \\ s_n \leq t_n & \text{and} & t_n < \varepsilon & \implies & s_n < \varepsilon \\ -\varepsilon < s_n & \text{and} & s_n < \varepsilon & \implies & |s_n| < \varepsilon \text{ by Exercise (3.7)(a) once again} \end{array}$$

These above inequalities only hold for $n > N$. Thus, we know that for some given $\varepsilon > 0$, we have that $|s_n| = |s_n - 0| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$ for the same N as given above. Thus, we have shown that $\lim s_n = 0$. \square

8.6

Let (s_n) be a sequence in \mathbb{R}

(a) Prove $\lim s_n = 0$ if and only if $\lim |s_n| = 0$.

(b) Observe that if $s_n = (-1)^n$, then $\lim |s_n|$ exists, but $\lim s_n$ does not exist.

Proof. (a)

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Assume that $\lim s_n = 0$, i.e. given some arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists some N such that $|s_n - 0| = |s_n| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$. Now, I will examine $||s_n| - 0|$:

$$\begin{aligned} ||s_n| - 0| &= ||s_n|| \\ &= |s_n| \\ &< \varepsilon \quad \forall n > N \text{ by assumption of the the limit of } s_n \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $||s_n| - 0| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$, so we have shown that $\lim |s_n| = 0$.

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Assume that $\lim |s_n| = 0$, i.e. given some arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists some N such that $||s_n| - 0| = ||s_n|| = |s_n| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$. I will examine $|s_n - 0|$:

$$\begin{aligned} |s_n - 0| &= |s_n| \\ &< \varepsilon \quad \forall n > N \text{ by assumption of the the limit of } |s_n| \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have shown that $|s_n - 0| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$, so we have shown that $\lim s_n = 0$. \square

Proof. (b)

First, note that $|s_n| = |(-1)^n| = 1$. Thus, $\lim |s_n| = \lim 1 = 1$ since $|1 - 1| = 0 < \varepsilon$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$ no matter what N we choose. Therefore, $\lim |s_n| = 1$.

However, when we look at $\lim s_n = \lim(-1)^n$, we get a different picture. Suppose that $\lim s_n$ does exist, i.e., $\lim s_n = s$ for some $s \in \mathbb{R}$. By the definition of the limit this means that for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists some N such that $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$. For convenience, let's limit ourselves to the specific case where $\varepsilon = 1$. This means that $|(-1)^n - s| < 1$ for all $n > N$. Let's break this down into two different cases, we have that $|-1 - s| < 1$ for all odd $n > N$ and $|1 - s| < 1$

for all even $n > N$. This means that the number s must satisfy both of these inequalities. However, if we take these two inequalities to be true we get the following:

$$\begin{aligned} 2 = |1 - (-1)| &= |(1 - s) - (-1 - s)| = |(1 - s) + -1(-1 - s)| \leq |1 - s| + |-1(-1 - s)| && \text{by Triangle Inequality} \\ &= |1 - s| + |-1 - s| \\ &< 1 + 1 && \text{by the above inequalities} \\ &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

However, this asserts that $2 < 2$, which is ridiculous, so our initial assumption that the limit exists must have been false. Thus, $\lim s_n$ can not exist. \square

8.7

Show that the following sequences do not converge.

(a) $\cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{3}\right)$

(b) $s_n = (-1)^n n$

(c) $\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{3}\right)$

Proof. (a)

Assume that the sequence converges (equivalently that the limit of the sequence exists), i.e. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{3}\right)\right) = a$ for some $a \in \mathbb{R}$. This means that for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists some N such that $\left|\cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{3}\right) - a\right| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$. In particular, if $n > N$ is of the form $n = 6k$ or $n = 6k + 3$ for $k \in \mathbb{N}$, and we choose $\varepsilon = 1$, then we get the following 2 inequalities: $|\cos(\frac{6k\pi}{3}) - a| = |1 - a| < 1$ and $|\sin(\frac{(6k+3)\pi}{3}) - a| = |-1 - a| < 1$. However, in Question 8.6(b) of this homework assignment, we have already shown that the existence of these two inequalities at one time leads to a contradiction asserting that $2 < 2$, which cannot happen. Therefore, our assumption on the existence of the limit must have been false, so this sequence does not converge. \square

Proof. (b)

Assume that the sequence converges (equivalently that the limit of the sequence exists), i.e. $\lim(-1)^n n = b$ for some $b \in \mathbb{R}$. This means that for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists some N such that $|(-1)^n n - b| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$. Let us consider $n > N$ to be even and then also consider $n + 2$ which must also be even (Note that $(-1)^n n = n$ for n even). Furthermore, let $\varepsilon = 1$, giving the following inequalities: $|n - b| < 1$ and $|n + 2 - b| < 1$. From these inequalities, we can get:

$$\begin{aligned} 2 = |(n + 2 - b) - (n - b)| &= |(n + 2 - b) + -1(n - b)| \leq |n + 2 - b| + |-1(n - b)| && \text{by Triangle Inequality} \\ &= |n + 2 - b| + |n - b| \\ &< 1 + 1 && \text{by the above inequalities} \\ &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we conclude that $2 < 2$ (uh-oh). This is a contradiction, so our assumption that the limit exists must have been false; therefore, the sequence does not converge. \square

Proof. (c)

Assume that the sequence converges (equivalently that the limit of the sequence exists), i.e. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{3}\right)\right) = c$ for some $c \in \mathbb{R}$. This means that for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists some N such that $\left|\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{3}\right) - c\right| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$. In particular, I will consider the cases where $n > N$ is of the form $n = 6k + 1$ and when $n > N$ is of the form $n = 6k + 4$ for $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Furthermore, taking $\varepsilon = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ gives the following two inequalities: $|\sin(\frac{(6k+1)\pi}{3}) - c| = |\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - c| < \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ and $|\sin(\frac{(6k+4)\pi}{3}) - c| = |-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - c| < \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$. From these inequalities, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{3} &= \left|\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)\right| = \left|\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - c\right) + -1\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - c\right)\right| \\ &\leq \left|\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - c\right| + \left|-1\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - c\right)\right| && \text{by Triangle Inequality} \\ &= \left|\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - c\right| + \left|-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - c\right| \\ &< \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} && \text{by the above inequalities} \\ &= \sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

This shows that $\sqrt{3} < \sqrt{3}$ which is obviously a contradiction. Therefore, my assumption that the limit exists must have been false; thus, the sequence does not converge. \square

8.9

Let (s_n) be a sequence that converges.

- (a) Show that if $s_n \geq a$ for all but finitely many n , then $\lim s_n \geq a$.
- (b) Show that if $s_n \leq b$ for all but finitely many n , then $\lim s_n \leq b$.
- (c) Conclude that if all but finitely many s_n belong to $[a, b]$, then $\lim s_n \in [a, b]$.

Proof. (a)

If $s_n \geq a$ for all but finitely many n , then that means there exists some N_0 such that $s_n \geq a$ for all $n > N_0$. Let $s = \lim s_n$ and assume that $s < a$. Since the sequence converges, $s \in \mathbb{R}$ and we know that for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists some N such that $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$. Let $\varepsilon = a - s$ (note $\varepsilon > 0$ since we assumed $s < a$) and use Exercise (3.7)(b) to conclude that $s - (a - s) < s_n < s + (a - s)$ for all $n > N$ which simplifies to $2s - a < s_n < a$ for all $n > N$. If we make sure our N above satisfies $N > N_0$, then this shows that $s_n < a$ for all $n > N > N_0$. However, one of our conditions on s_n is that it satisfies $s_n \geq a$ for all $n > N_0$, so we have a contradiction. Therefore, our assumption that $s < a$ must have been false, therefore $s \geq a$, just as desired. \square

Proof. (b)

If $s_n \leq b$ for all but finitely many n , then that means there exists some N_0 such that $s_n \leq b$ for all $n > N_0$. Let $s = \lim s_n$ and assume that $s > b$. Since the sequence converges, $s \in \mathbb{R}$ and we know that for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists some N such that $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$. Let $\varepsilon = s - b$ (note $\varepsilon > 0$ since we assumed $s > b$) and use Exercise (3.7)(b) to conclude that $s - (s - b) < s_n < s + (s - b)$ for all $n > N$ which simplifies to $b < s_n < 2s - b$ for all $n > N$. If we make sure our N above satisfies $N > N_0$, then this shows that $s_n > b$ for all $n > N > N_0$. However, one of our conditions on s_n is that it satisfies $s_n \leq b$ for all $n > N_0$, so we have a contradiction. Therefore, our assumption that $s > b$ must have been false, therefore $s \leq b$, just as desired. \square

Proof. (c)

If $s_n \in [a, b]$ for all but finitely many n , then that means there exists some N_0 such that $a \leq s_n \leq b$ for all $n > N_0$. Let $s = \lim s_n$, then by part (a) of this question, we know that $a \leq s$. Similarly, by part (b) of this question we can conclude that $s \leq b$. Together, this tells us that $a \leq s \leq b$ or, equivalently, $s \in [a, b]$, just as desired. \square

8.10

Let (s_n) be a convergent sequence, and suppose that $\lim s_n > a$. Prove there exists a number N such that $n > N$ implies $s_n > a$.

Proof.

Since s_n converges, we know that $\lim s_n = s$ for some $s \in \mathbb{R}$, i.e. for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists some N such that $|s_n - s| < \varepsilon$ for all $n > N$. Since this question supposes that $s > a$, we may choose $\varepsilon = s - a$ (a positive number) and use Exercise (3.7)(b) to conclude that $s - (s - a) < s_n < s + (s - a)$ for all $n > N$ which simplifies to $a < s_n < 2s - a$ for all $n > N$. Thus, the left of these two inequalities shows that there does, indeed, exist some N such that $s_n > a$ for all $n > N$ and that N is precisely the same N that guarantees $|s_n - s| < s - a$ for all $n > N$. \square