

Review Notes on Sequences (by Dawit)

Sequences: $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ or $\{a_n\}$ or $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots$
 (representation) always starts @ 1.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \begin{cases} L \Rightarrow \text{Sequence Converges to } L \\ \pm \infty \Rightarrow > \text{diverges to } \pm \infty \\ \text{DNE} \Rightarrow > > \end{cases}$$

➔ Common Sequences (: define a_n as the n^{th} -term or general-term of the Sequence)

1. Arithmetic Sequence: (Common difference d) $\Rightarrow a_n = a_1 + d(n-1)$

2. Geometric Sequence: (Common ratio r) $\Rightarrow a_n = a_1 r^{n-1}$

3. Sign Alternator: $a_n = \begin{cases} (-1)^n \rightarrow 1^{\text{st}} \text{ term is } -ve \\ (-1)^{n+1} \rightarrow > > > +ve \end{cases}$

4. Binary Sequence: $a_n = 2^{n-1} \Rightarrow 1, 2, 4, 8, \dots, 2^{n-1}, \dots$

5. Power Sequences: $a_n = n^2 \Rightarrow 1, 4, 9, 16, \dots, n^2, \dots$
 $a_n = n^3 \Rightarrow 1, 8, 27, 64, \dots, n^3, \dots$
 \vdots

6. Factorial Sequence: $a_n = n! \Rightarrow 1, 2, 6, 24, 120, \dots, n!, \dots$

7. Product Sequences: $a_n = 2^n n! \Rightarrow 2, 2 \cdot 4, 2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6, \dots, 2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \dots (2n), \dots$

$$a_n = \frac{(2n)!}{2^n \cdot n!} \Rightarrow 1, 1 \cdot 3, 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5, \dots, 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \dots (2n-1), \dots$$

$$a_n = \frac{(2n-1)!}{2^{n-1} (n-1)!} \Rightarrow 1, 1 \cdot 3, 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5, \dots, 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \dots (2n-1), \dots$$

⇒ Hierarchy of Sequences as $n \rightarrow \infty$ $k > 1, a > 1, b \geq 2$

$$\text{constants} \ll \ln(\ln n) \ll \ln n \ll n^{1/k} \ll n^k \ll a^n \ll n! \ll (bn)! \ll n^n \ll \dots$$

n (numbers)

the above statement is useful when evaluating limits of the form,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(n)}{D(n)} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } N(n) \text{ is to the left of } D(n) \\ \infty & \text{if } N(n) \text{ is to the right of } D(n) \end{cases} \quad \left. \vphantom{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(n)}{D(n)}} \right\} \text{in the list}$$

⇒ Some important limit Laws:

1. If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = f(L)$

2. If $a_n \leq b_n \leq c_n$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = L$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = L \quad \text{Squeeze (Sandwich) theorem}$$

L'H (L'Hopital's rule)

3. If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(n)}{D(n)} = \begin{cases} \frac{0}{0} \\ \frac{\infty}{\infty} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(x)}{D(x)} \stackrel{L'H}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N'(x)}{D'(x)} = L$

⇒ The seven forms of indeterminates are $\frac{0}{0}, \frac{\infty}{\infty}, \infty - \infty, 0 \cdot \infty, 1^\infty, 0^0, \infty^0$

* - The first 2 forms are ready for L'H

* - The next 2 need algebraic manipulation $\begin{cases} \text{rationalization for } \infty - \infty \\ \text{reciprocation for } 0 \cdot \infty \end{cases}$

* the $\infty - \infty$ will not require L'H

* - The last 3 have to be converted by taking the \ln -function.

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Some Special limits of Sequences

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r^n = \begin{cases} \text{Converges to zero if } |r| < 1 \\ 1 \text{ if } r = 1 \\ \text{DNE if } r = -1 \\ \text{diverges if } |r| > 1 \end{cases} < \begin{cases} \text{diverges to } \infty \text{ if } r > 1 \\ \text{DNE if } r < -1 \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-1)^n b_n = \begin{cases} \text{Converges to zero if } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0 \\ \text{Diverges otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{\square}{n}\right)^n = e^{\square}, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|Kx|^n}{n!} = 0 \quad \text{for any } x \text{ and Constant } K.$$