

MATH 142A: Introduction to Analysis

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Today: Monotone sequences
> Q&A: January 21

Next: Ross § 10

Week 3:

- Homework 2 (due Friday, January 21)
- Midterm 1 on Wednesday, January 26 (lectures 1-7)

Monotone sequences

Def 10.1 A sequence (s_n) is called

an increasing sequence if $\forall n s_n \leq s_{n+1}$

a decreasing sequence if $\forall n s_n \geq s_{n+1}$

a monotone / monotonic sequence if it is increasing or decreasing

Examples

$a_n = 0$ increasing and decreasing

$$e_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \quad \text{not monotonic}$$

$b_n = n$ increasing

$$f_n = \frac{n}{1+n} \quad \text{increasing}$$
$$\frac{n+1}{n+2} - \frac{n}{n+1} = \frac{1}{(n+2)(n+1)} > 0$$

$c_n = -n$ decreasing

$$g_n = n^2 - 4n \quad \text{not monotone}$$
$$-3, -4, -3, \dots$$

$d_n = \frac{1}{n}$ decreasing

$$h_n = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \quad \text{increasing}$$

Bounded monotone sequences converge

Thm 10.2 All bounded monotonic sequences converge.

Proof Let (s_n) be a bounded increasing sequence.

Denote $S := \{s_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Then

(s_n) bounded $\Rightarrow u := \sup S \in \mathbb{R}$

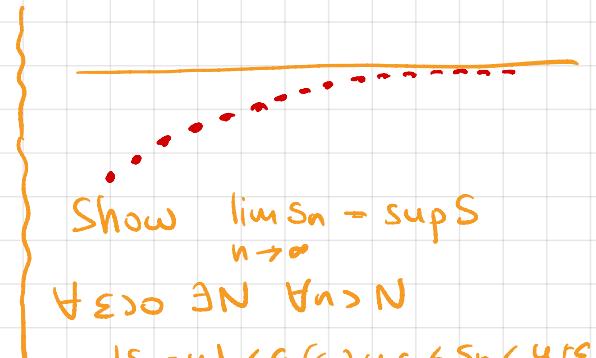
Fix $\varepsilon > 0$. Then

$$\textcircled{1} \quad u = \sup S \Rightarrow \forall n \quad s_n \leq u < u + \varepsilon$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad u = \sup S \Rightarrow \exists N \quad s_N > u - \varepsilon$$

(s_n) is increasing $\Rightarrow \forall n > N \quad u - \varepsilon < s_N \leq s_n$

$\textcircled{1} + \textcircled{2}$ imply that $\forall n > N \quad u - \varepsilon < s_n < u + \varepsilon$



Important example: the number e

Sequence $a_n = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n$ is convergent.

Proof. ① Sequence $b_n := \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n+1}$ is decreasing

$$\forall n \geq 2 \quad \frac{b_{n-1}}{b_n} = \frac{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n-1}\right)^n}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n+1}} = \frac{n}{n+1} \left(\frac{n}{n-1} \cdot \frac{n}{n+1}\right)^n = \frac{n}{n+1} \left(\frac{n^2}{n^2-1}\right)^n = \frac{n}{n+1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n^2-1}\right)^n$$

Now use Bernoulli's inequality: $\left(1 + \frac{1}{n^2-1}\right)^n > 1 + n \cdot \frac{1}{n^2-1} > 1 + \frac{n}{n^2} > 1 + \frac{1}{n}$, so

$$\frac{b_{n-1}}{b_n} > \frac{n}{n+1} \cdot \frac{n+1}{n} = 1 \Rightarrow \forall n \geq 2 \quad b_{n-1} > b_n, (b_n) \text{ is decreasing.}$$

② Sequence b_n is bounded below: $\forall n \quad b_n > 0$

③ ① + ② + Thm. 10.2 \Rightarrow sequence $(b_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converges

$$\text{④} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n+1} \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n+1} = : e$$



Example

Consider the sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ given by $a_1 = \sqrt{5}$, $a_{n+1} = \sqrt{5+a_n}$

Is (a_n) convergent? If yes, what is the limit?

① (a_n) is monotonic ✓

$$a_{n+1} - a_n = \sqrt{5+a_n} - \sqrt{5+a_{n-1}} = \frac{5+a_n - (5+a_{n-1})}{\sqrt{5+a_n} + \sqrt{5+a_{n-1}}} = \frac{a_n - a_{n-1}}{\underbrace{\sqrt{5+a_n} + \sqrt{5+a_{n-1}}}_{>0}}$$

$$a_2 - a_1 = \sqrt{5+\sqrt{5}} - \sqrt{5} > 0 ; \text{ if } a_n - a_{n-1} > 0, \text{ then } a_{n+1} - a_n > 0$$

① $\forall n \quad a_n > 0$

Principle of math induction $\Rightarrow \forall n \quad a_{n+1} - a_n > 0$, (a_n) is increasing

② (a_n) is bounded above ✓

$$\begin{aligned} a_{n+1} = \sqrt{5+a_n} &= \sqrt{5\left(1 + \frac{a_n}{5}\right)} \stackrel{\text{AM-GM}}{\leq} \frac{5 + 1 + \frac{a_n}{5}}{2} = 3 + \frac{a_n}{10} \leq 3 + \frac{1}{10} \left(3 + \frac{a_{n-1}}{10}\right) \\ &\leq 3 + \frac{3}{10} + \frac{3}{10^2} + \cdots + \frac{3}{10^{n+1}} = 3 \left(1 + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{10^2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{10^{n+1}}\right) < 3 \cdot 2 = 6 \end{aligned}$$

① + ② + Thm. 10.2 $\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = A \in \mathbb{R}$. Define $b_n := a_{n+1} \cdot a_{n+1} - a_n - 5 = 0$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0 \stackrel{\text{Thm 9.4, 9.3}}{=} A^2 - A - 5 \Rightarrow A \in \left\{ \frac{1 + \sqrt{21}}{2}, \frac{1 - \sqrt{21}}{2} \right\} \Rightarrow A = \frac{1 + \sqrt{21}}{2}$$

Unbounded monotone sequences

Thm 10.4 (i) If (s_n) is unbounded and increasing, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = +\infty$

(ii) If (s_n) is unbounded and decreasing, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = -\infty$

Proof (i) Fix $M > 0$. (s_n) unbounded $\Rightarrow \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \quad s_N > M$

(s_n) increasing $\Rightarrow \forall n > N \quad s_n \geq s_N > M$

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Corollary 10.5 If (s_n) is a monotone sequence, then it has a limit

i.e., (s_n) converges or diverges to $+\infty$ or diverges to $-\infty$.

limsup and liminf

Let (s_n) be convergent, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s$. Then $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists N$

$$\forall n > N |s_n - s| < \varepsilon \Leftrightarrow \forall n > N s - \varepsilon < s_n < s + \varepsilon \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\inf \{s_n : n > N\} \geq s - \varepsilon$$

$$\sup \{s_n : n > N\} \leq s + \varepsilon$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s \text{ iff } \forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists N s - \varepsilon \leq \inf \{s_n : n > N\} \leq \sup \{s_n : n > N\} \leq s + \varepsilon$$

$$\begin{array}{l|l}
\left(u_n \right)_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{ is increasing} & \Rightarrow \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = s \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n = s \end{array} \right) \\
\left(v_n \right)_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{ is decreasing} &
\end{array}$$

Def 10.6 Let (s_n) be a sequence. We define

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \overline{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n} = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{s_n : n > N\}$$

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \underline{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n} := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \inf \{s_n : n > N\}$$

If $\sup \{s_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} = +\infty$, $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = +\infty$; if $\inf \{s_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} = -\infty$, $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = -\infty$

limsup and liminf

Examples 1) $a_n = n$, $\forall N \sup\{a_n : n > N\} = +\infty \Rightarrow \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} n = +\infty$

$\forall N \inf\{a_n : n > N\} = N+1 \Rightarrow \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} n = +\infty$

2) $b_n = \frac{1}{n}$, $\forall N \sup\{b_n : n > N\} = \frac{1}{N+1} \Rightarrow \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0$

$\forall N \inf\{b_n : n > N\} = 0 \Rightarrow \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0$

3) $c_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$ $\forall N \sup\{c_n : n > N\} \leq \frac{1}{N+1} \Rightarrow \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \leq 0$

$\forall N \inf\{c_n : n > N\} \geq -\frac{1}{N+1} \Rightarrow \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \geq 0$

4) $d_n = (-1)^n$ $\forall N \sup\{d_n : n > N\} = 1 \Rightarrow \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-1)^n = 1$

$\forall N \inf\{d_n : n > N\} = -1 \Rightarrow \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-1)^n = -1$

5) $e_n = n^{(-1)^n}$ $\forall N \sup\{e_n : n > N\} = +\infty \Rightarrow \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{(-1)^n} = +\infty$

$\forall N \inf\{e_n : n > N\} = 0 \Rightarrow \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{(-1)^n} = 0$

Convergence and limsup/liminf

Thm. 10.7 Let (s_n) be a sequence in \mathbb{R} , $s \in \mathbb{R}$ or $s \in \{+\infty, -\infty\}$.

Then

$$(i) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s \Rightarrow \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s$$

$$(ii) \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s$$

Proof Denote $u_n = \inf \{s_n : n > N\}$, $v_N = \sup \{s_n : n > N\}$, $u = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$, $v = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n$

(i) Three cases: $s = +\infty$, $s = -\infty$, $s \in \mathbb{R}$

$s = +\infty$ Fix $M > 0$. Then $\exists N \forall n > N s_n > 2M$, and this implies

$$\text{that } \forall n > N u_n \geq u_N \geq 2M > M \Rightarrow \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} u_N = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = +\infty$$

On the other hand, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = +\infty \Rightarrow \forall n v_n = +\infty \Rightarrow \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = +\infty$

$s \in \mathbb{R}$ Fix $\varepsilon > 0$. Then $\exists N \forall n > N s - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} < s_n < s + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ Then

$$\textcircled{1} u_n \geq u_N \geq s - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} > s - \varepsilon \Rightarrow \forall n > N u_n > s - \varepsilon \quad \textcircled{2} v_n \leq v_N \leq s + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} < s + \varepsilon \Rightarrow \forall n > N v_n < s + \varepsilon$$

$$\textcircled{3} u_n \leq v_n \quad \textcircled{1} + \textcircled{2} + \textcircled{3} \Rightarrow \forall n > N s - \varepsilon < u_n \leq v_n < s + \varepsilon$$

Convergence and limsup/liminf

(ii) Three cases: $s = +\infty$, $s = -\infty$, $s \in \mathbb{R}$.

$s = +\infty$

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = +\infty \Rightarrow \forall M > 0 \exists N \quad \forall n > N \quad s_n > M$$

$$\text{Then } s_{N+1} = \inf \{s_n : n > N+1\} > M \Leftrightarrow \forall n > N+1 \quad s_n > M$$

$s \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = c, \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = c$$

$$\forall n \geq 2 \quad s_{n-1} = \inf \{s_k : k > n-1\} \leq s_n \leq \sup \{s_k : k > n-1\} = s_{n-1}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \downarrow \\ n \rightarrow \infty \\ s \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \downarrow \\ n \rightarrow \infty \\ s \end{matrix} \quad (\text{Squeeze Lemma})$$

$$\begin{matrix} \downarrow \\ n \rightarrow \infty \\ s \end{matrix}$$

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