

(IIAM)

Fri  
March 28

# Ch 11 Infinite Sequences & Series

## 11.1 Sequences

A sequence is a list of numbers with a definite order.

$$a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1}, \dots$$

examples:

$$\{a_n\} = 5, 11, 23, 47, \dots$$

$$a_1 = 5, \quad a_n = \underbrace{2 \cdot a_{n-1} + 1}_{\text{rule}}$$

$$\{b_n\} = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{4}{5}, \dots, \frac{n}{n+1}, \dots, \frac{1,000,000}{1,000,001}, \dots$$

↑  
rule

Each number in the sequence is called a term.

More complicated definition:

A sequence is a function

where the domain is  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

the positive integers

& the range is the terms of the sequence.

We don't use  $f(x)$  or even  $x$ ,

we use  $a_n$ :  $n$  is the input,  $a_n$  is the output.

More notation

$$\{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots\} = \{a_n\} = \{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

↑ means the whole sequence

$a_1$  = 1st term

$a_2$  = 2nd

$a_n$  = nth term

Limits + convergence or divergence

Defn: A sequence  $\{a_n\}$  has the limit  $L$  which we write

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$$

if we can make the terms  $a_n$  as close to  $L$  as we want by making  $n$  sufficiently large.

$$(a_n \rightarrow L \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty)$$

If the limit exists then we say the sequence converges or is convergent.

If the limit does not exist, we say the sequence diverges or is divergent.

On p. 1 of our notes:

$\{a_n\} = 5, 11, 23, 47, \dots$  diverges

$\{b_n\} = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{4}{5}, \dots, \frac{n}{n+1}, \dots, \frac{1,000,000}{1,000,001}, \dots$

converges to 1.

Further tweaking of definition of limit for sequences.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$$

$\{a_n\}$  converges if

for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there is some integer  $N > 0$

such that if  $n > N$ , then  $|a_n - L| < \epsilon$ .

How to test for convergence??

1st test compares the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  to an ordinary function  $f(x)$ .

compare  $n \leftrightarrow x$

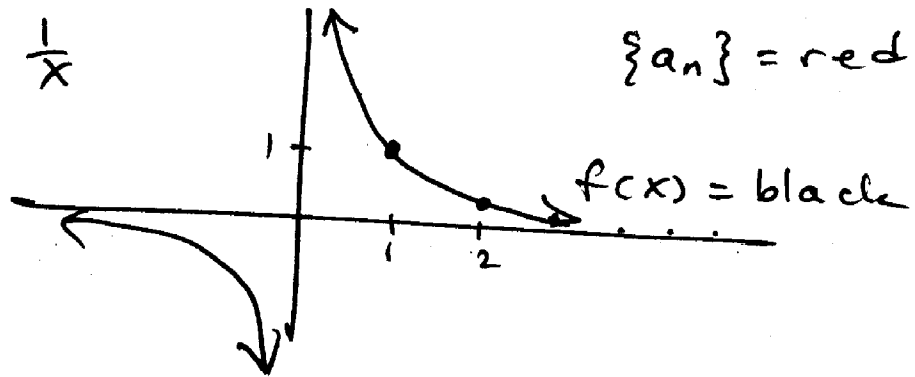
\* compare  $a_n \leftrightarrow f(x)$ .

If in the function  $f(x)$ ,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L$

then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$  also. example:  $\rightarrow$

$$\{a_n\} = \left\{\frac{1}{n}\right\} = 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \dots$$

Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$



We know  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$ .

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0.$$

Defn: What does this mean?

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \infty$$

It means  $\{a_n\}$  is divergent,  
it diverges to  $\infty$

So this means

for every positive number  $M$



there is  
some int  $N$   
such that  
if  $n > N$   
then  $a_n > M$ .

A sequence can diverge without diverging to  $\infty$ .

$$\{a_n\} = -a_n^2 = -1, -4, -9, -16, \dots$$

diverges to  $-\infty$

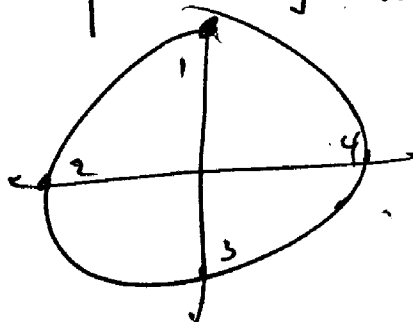
$$\{b_n\} = (-n)^n = -1, +4, -27, 256, -3125, \dots$$

diverges

$$\{c_n\} = \sin(n \cdot \frac{\pi}{2}) = \{1, 0, -1, 0, 1, 0, -1, 0, \dots\}$$

diverges

$n$	$n \frac{\pi}{2}$	$\sin(\frac{n\pi}{2})$
1	$\frac{\pi}{2}$	1
2	$\pi$	0
3	$\frac{3\pi}{2}$	-1
4	$2\pi$	0
5	$\frac{5\pi}{2}$	1
6	$3\pi$	0
7	$\frac{7\pi}{2}$	-1
8	$4\pi$	0
		...



## Limit Laws for Sequences

Let  $\{a_n\} + \{b_n\}$  be 2 convergent sequences  
+ let  $c$  be a constant.

Then

$$1. \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n + b_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n) + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n).$$

$$2. \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n - b_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n) - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n).$$

$$3. \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (c \cdot a_n) = c \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n).$$

$$4. \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (c) = c$$

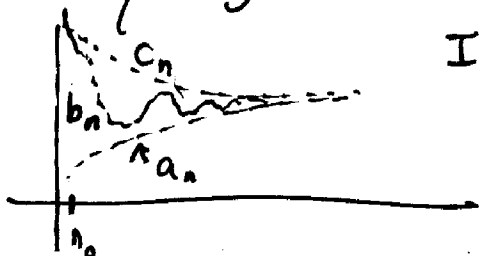
$$5. \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n \cdot b_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n) \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n)$$

$$6. \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{a_n}{b_n} \right) = \frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n)}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n)} \quad \text{if } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n) \neq 0.$$

$$7. \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n)^p = \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \right)^p \quad \underline{\text{if}} \quad p > 0 \text{ \& } a_n > 0.$$

(because  $0^{\text{neg \#}}$  is undefined  
+  $(\text{neg \#})^{\text{sq, rt, etc}}$  is not a real \#)

Squeeze Theorem applied to sequences:



If  $a_n \leq b_n \leq c_n$  for all  $n \geq n_0$   
and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = L$

then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = L$ .

Theorem: If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n| = 0$  then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ .

$$\text{Let } \{a_n\} = \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{16}, -\frac{1}{25}, \frac{1}{36}, \frac{1}{49}, \frac{1}{64}, \frac{1}{81}, \frac{1}{100}, -\frac{1}{121}, \dots$$

$$\text{Since } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n| = 0, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0.$$

Find the following limits:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{\sqrt{10+n}} \quad \text{div num + denom by } \sqrt{n}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{n}{\sqrt{n}}}{\frac{\sqrt{10+n}}{\sqrt{n}}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{\frac{10}{n} + \frac{n}{n}}}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{\frac{10}{n} + 1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{1}$$

$$\uparrow \quad 0+1=1 \quad \sqrt{1}=1$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n} = \infty \quad (\text{diverges})$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n}{n} \quad \frac{\infty}{\infty} \quad \therefore \underline{\text{L'Hospital}}$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n}}{1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0 \quad (\text{converges})$$

$$\textcircled{3} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0$$

↑ playing:  $\{a_n\} = -1, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \dots$

(alternating sequence)

look at  $|a_n| = 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \dots$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = 0 \quad \therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$$

Theorem: If:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$

and let  $f$  be a function is continuous at  $x=L$ ,  
then

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

Ex: Find  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right)$

First look at  $\frac{\pi}{n}$ :  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\pi}{n} = 0$

Let  $f(x) = \sin(x)$ .  $f(x) = \sin x$  is continuous  
at  $x=0$ .

$$\text{then } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right) = \sin(0) = 0.$$

Ex: Find  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right)$ .  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\pi}{n} = 0$ ,  $\cos x$  is cont. @  $x=0$ .  
 $\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{n}\right) = \cos(0) = 1.$



Ex: Consider  $a_n = \frac{n!}{n^n}$ . Does this converge?

$n$	$a_n$
1	$\frac{1!}{1^1} = \frac{1}{1} = 1$
2	$\frac{2!}{2^2} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$
3	$\frac{3!}{3^3} = \frac{\cancel{3} \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{\cancel{3} \cdot 3 \cdot 3} = \frac{2}{9}$
4	$\frac{4!}{4^4} = \frac{\cancel{4} \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{\cancel{4} \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4}$
$n$	$\frac{n!}{n^n} = \frac{n \cdot (n-1) \cdot \dots \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{n \cdot n \cdot \dots \cdot n \cdot n \cdot n}$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \left( \underbrace{\frac{2}{n} \cdot \frac{3}{n} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{(n-1)}{n} \cdot \frac{n}{n}}_{< 1 \text{ for } n > 2} \right)$   
 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  this will always be  $< 1$

$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{n} \right) \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \text{a number between } 0 \text{ \& } 1 \right)$

So  $a_n$  terms are between  $\underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \cdot 0}_{= 0}$  +  $\underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \cdot 1}_{= \frac{1}{n}}$

We know  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 0 = 0$  +  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0$

$\therefore$  by the squeeze theorem,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ .