

## Sequences

Example: Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $a_n = c$  for  $n=1, 2, 3, \dots$  then  $a_n \rightarrow c$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

Proof: check definition. We need to show  $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \ n \geq n_0 \Rightarrow |a_n - c| < \epsilon \quad \text{but } a_n = c \text{ so } a_n - c = 0$$

given any  $\epsilon > 0$ , choose  $n_0 = 1$ . Then  $\forall n > n_0$  we have

$$|a_n - c| = |c - c| = 0 < \epsilon. \text{ The definition holds so } a_n \rightarrow c \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \quad \square$$

NOTE: We can take ANY  $n_0$  we like.

Let  $a_n: n \in I$  be a sequence let  $S \subseteq I$ .  $S$  infinite write  $S = \{n_1, n_2, n_3, \dots\}$

with  $n_1 < n_2 < n_3 < \dots$  ~~Example~~

Example:  $I = \mathbb{N}$   $S \subseteq I$  is even numbers list  $S$  as  $2, 4, 6, 8, \dots$   $n_k = 2k$

We say that  $a_{n_k}$  is a subsequence of  $a_n$

Example  $a_n = \frac{1}{n}$   $n \in \mathbb{N}$   $S = \text{even numbers}$  then  $a_{n_k} = a_{2k} = \frac{1}{2k}$

$$a_n: 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \dots \quad a_{2k}: \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{8}, \dots$$

Proposition: If  $a_n \rightarrow L$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $a_{n_k}$  is a subsequence then  $a_{n_k} \rightarrow L$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .

Proof: for simplicity let  $I = \mathbb{N}$ . To say  $a_n \rightarrow L$  means  $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ .

s.t.  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \ n > n_0 \Rightarrow |a_n - L| < \epsilon$ . We have to show  $a_{n_k} \rightarrow L$

that is  $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $k > k_0 \Rightarrow |a_{n_k} - L| < \epsilon$ .

key idea:  $n_k$  is always  $\geq k$   $n_1 \geq 1$  and  $n_{k+1} > n_k$

so  $n_{k+1} \geq n_k + 1$  so  $n_k \geq k \Rightarrow n_{k+1} \geq k+1$ .

Given  $\epsilon > 0 \exists n_0$  s.t.  $n > n_0 \Rightarrow |a_n - L| < \epsilon$ . Let  $k_0 = n_0$

If  $k > k_0$  then  $n_k > k_0 = n_0$  thus  $|a_n - L| < \epsilon$  holds for  $n = n_k$

In other words  $|a_{n_k} - L| < \epsilon$  if  $k > k_0$   $\square$ .

We will show that if  $a_n \rightarrow a$  and  $b_n \rightarrow b$  then  $a_n b_n \rightarrow ab$ .

Assume this for now (check it later).

Example.  $a_n = \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

proof:  $a_n$  is bounded and monotonic so it converges

$\exists a$  s.t.  $a_n \rightarrow a$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow$  subsequence  $a_{2k} \rightarrow a$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$

but  $a_{2k} = \frac{1}{2k} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{k} \right)$   $\frac{1}{k} \rightarrow a$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\frac{1}{2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .

$a_{2k} = a_k b_k$   $a_k = \frac{1}{k}$   $b_k = \frac{1}{2}$   $a_k \rightarrow a$  and  $b_k \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$  so  $a_{2k} \rightarrow a \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}a$ .

On the other hand we already said  $a_{2k} \rightarrow a \Rightarrow a = \frac{1}{2}a$  so  $2a = a$

so  $a = 0$ . so  $\frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$   $\square$ .

Example  $a_n = \frac{1}{2^n} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

proof:  $a_n$  converges (bdd and Monotonic). Look at subsequence

$$a_{k+1} = \frac{1}{2^{k+1}} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2^k}$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{k+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{k+1} = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2^k} = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0 \quad \square$$

Theorem:  $\mathbb{R}$  has the Archimedean property. In other words  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$

$x, y > 0 \exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n \cdot x > y$ . We'll prove this later.

Example  $a_n = \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

Second proof: We must show  $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$n > n_0 \Rightarrow |a_n - 0| < \varepsilon \quad \text{but } |a_n - 0| = \left| \frac{1}{n} - 0 \right| = \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\frac{1}{\varepsilon} < n \cdot 1 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$$

By the Archimedean property for  $x=1, y=\frac{1}{\varepsilon}$  there exists a natural number  $n_0$  such that  $n_0 \cdot x > y$ , i.e.  $n_0 \cdot 1 > \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$

for any  $n > n_0$  then  $n > \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$  so  $\frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$ .

We have shown that given any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is an  $n_0$  s.t.  $n > n_0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$   
i.e.  $|a_n - 0| < \varepsilon$  Thus  $a_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$   $\square$ .