

1. Write the first four terms of (a_n) , where for each natural number n , a_n is given by $a_n = 5^n$.

$$a_1 = 5^1 = 5,$$

$$a_2 = 5^2 = 25,$$

$$a_3 = 5^3 = 125,$$

$$a_4 = 5^4 = 625$$

2. Show that the sequence (a_n) is increasing and the sequence (b_n) is decreasing, where

a) $a_n = \frac{n+3}{n+5}$

b) $b_n = \frac{n}{n^2+1}$

$$\begin{aligned} a_{n+1} - a_n &= \frac{n+1+3}{n+1+5} - \frac{n+3}{n+5} \\ &= \frac{n+4}{n+6} - \frac{n+3}{n+5} \\ &= \frac{(n+5)(n+4)}{(n+5)(n+6)} - \frac{(n+6)(n+3)}{(n+5)(n+6)} \\ &= \frac{n^2+9n+20}{(n+5)(n+6)} - \frac{n^2+9n+18}{(n+5)(n+6)} \\ &= \frac{2}{(n+5)(n+6)} \end{aligned}$$

Both numerator and denominator are positive for all n , so the entire expression is always positive. Thus $a_{n+1} - a_n > 0$, so a_n is increasing.

$$\begin{aligned} b_{n+1} - b_n &= \frac{n+1}{(n+1)^2+1} - \frac{n}{n^2+1} \\ &= \frac{n+1}{n^2+2n+2} - \frac{n}{n^2+1} \\ &= \frac{(n+1)(n^2+1) - n(n^2+2n+2)}{(n^2+2n+2)(n^2+1)} \\ &= -\frac{n^2+n-1}{(n^2+2n+2)(n^2+1)} \\ &= -\frac{(n+\frac{1}{2})^2 - \frac{5}{4}}{(n^2+2n+2)(n^2+1)} \end{aligned}$$

rewrite


For all n , both numerator and denominator are positive, so the entire expression is negative due to negative sign. Thus $b_{n+1} - b_n < 0$, or $b_{n+1} < b_n$ so b_n is decreasing.

3. Identify an example of a sequence (a_n) with the following properties:

a) (a_n) is strictly increasing and converges to 2

b) (a_n) is strictly decreasing and converges to $\frac{1}{4}$

a) $a_n = 2 - \frac{1}{n}$

b) $a_n = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{n}$

4. Use only the Archimedean property of \mathbb{R} to show that for any positive real number ε , there is a natural number N so that if n is greater than N , then

$$|a_n - L| < \varepsilon,$$

for the following choices of (a_n) and L :

a) $a_n = \frac{9n+2}{3n+4}$ and $L = 3$

b) $a_n = \sqrt{16 + \frac{1}{n}}$ and $L = 4$.

a) Note that for any n ,

$$\begin{aligned} a_n - L &= \frac{9n+2}{3n+4} - 3 \\ &= \frac{9n+2 - 3(3n+4)}{3n+4} \\ &= -\frac{10}{3n+4}, \end{aligned}$$

so $|a_n - L| = \frac{10}{3n+4}$.

If $|a_n - L| < \varepsilon$, then

$$|a_n - L| < \varepsilon$$

$$\frac{10}{3n+4} < \varepsilon$$

$$\frac{10}{\varepsilon} < 3n+4$$

$$\frac{10}{\varepsilon} - 4 < 3n$$

$$\frac{10}{3\varepsilon} - \frac{4}{3} < n$$

By the Archimedean property, there is a natural number N so that

$$N > \frac{10}{3\varepsilon} - \frac{4}{3}$$

So for any $n > N$,

$$n > \frac{10}{3\varepsilon} - \frac{4}{3} \text{ implies that } \frac{10}{3n+4} < \varepsilon.$$

Thus for $n \geq N$, $|a_n - L| < \varepsilon$.

b) Note that for any n ,

$$\begin{aligned} a_n - L &= \sqrt{16 + \frac{1}{n}} - 4 \\ &= (\sqrt{16 + \frac{1}{n}} - 4) \left(\frac{\sqrt{16 + \frac{1}{n}} + 4}{\sqrt{16 + \frac{1}{n}} + 4} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{16 + \frac{1}{n} - 16}{\sqrt{16 + \frac{1}{n}} + 4}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{n}}{\sqrt{16 + \frac{1}{n}} + 4}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{16 + \frac{1}{n}} + 4}$$

so $|a_n - L| = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{16 + \frac{1}{n}} + 4}$ Since $\sqrt{16 + \frac{1}{n}} + 4 > \sqrt{16} + 4 = 4$
so $\frac{1}{4} > \frac{1}{\sqrt{16 + \frac{1}{n}} + 4}$
 $< \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{4}.$

If $\frac{1}{4n} < \varepsilon$, then $\frac{1}{4\varepsilon} < n$.

By the Archimedean property, there is a natural number N so that

$$N > \frac{1}{4\varepsilon}.$$

So for any $n > N$,

$$n > \frac{1}{4\varepsilon} \text{ implies that } \frac{1}{4n} < \varepsilon.$$

Thus for $n \geq N$,

$$|a_n - L| < \varepsilon.$$

5. Calculate $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{100 + \frac{1}{n}}$. Carefully justify your reasoning.

For any natural number, $\sqrt{100 + \frac{1}{n}} > 10$.
Therefore, there is a positive real number so that

$$\sqrt{100 + \frac{1}{n}} = 10 + \epsilon_n$$

Notice that

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{100 + \frac{1}{n}} &= 10 + \epsilon_n \\ 100 + \frac{1}{n} &= (10 + \epsilon_n)^2 \\ 100 + \frac{1}{n} &= 100 + 20\epsilon_n + \epsilon_n^2 \\ \frac{1}{n} &= 20\epsilon_n + \epsilon_n^2\end{aligned}$$

Since ϵ_n is positive,

$$\frac{1}{n} = 20\epsilon_n + \epsilon_n^2 > \epsilon_n^2$$

implies that

$$\epsilon_n < \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}.$$

Since

$$0 < \epsilon_n < \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}},$$

(ϵ_n) is bounded above and below by null sequences. Therefore by the Squeeze theorem for null sequence, (ϵ_n) is a null sequence.

Thus, by the sum limit law,

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{100 + \frac{1}{n}} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (10 + \epsilon_n) \\ &= 10 + 0 \\ &= 10.\end{aligned}$$

6. Take (a_n) , (b_n) , and (c_n) to be sequences with

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 5, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 1, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = -2.$$

Use the limit laws to compute the following:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(a_n)^3 + 2b_n}{c_n + \frac{1}{n^5}}.$$

Use the limit laws to obtain that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(a_n)^3 + 2b_n}{c_n + \frac{1}{n^5}} = \frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} ((a_n)^3 + 2b_n)}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (c_n + \frac{1}{n^5})}$$

quotient limit law

$$= \frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n)^3 + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2b_n}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^5}}$$

sum limit law

$$= \frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^5}}$$

product limit law

$$= \frac{5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 + 2 \cdot 1}{-2 + 0}$$

evaluate limits

$$= -\frac{127}{2}$$

7. Use the limit laws to determine the following limits:

a) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5n}{3n-1}$

b) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2+4n}{n^5+n^2+2}$

a) Rewrite like this

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5n}{3n-1} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5n}{3n-1} \cdot \frac{\frac{1}{n}}{\frac{1}{n}} \quad \text{multiply numerator and denominator} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5}{3-\frac{1}{n}} \\ &= \frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 5}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 3 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n}} \quad \text{quotient and sum limit law} \\ &= \frac{5}{3-0} \quad \text{evaluate limit} \\ &= \frac{5}{3} \end{aligned}$$

b) Rewrite like this

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2+4n}{n^5+n^2+2} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2+4n}{n^5+n^2+2} \cdot \frac{\frac{1}{n^5}}{\frac{1}{n^5}} \quad \text{multiply both numerator and denominator} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n^3} + \frac{4}{n^4}}{1 + \frac{1}{n^3} + \frac{2}{n^5}} \quad \text{quotient and sum law} \\ &= \frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^3} + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4}{n^4}}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^3} + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{n^5}} \quad \text{quotient and sum law} \\ &= \frac{0+0}{1+0+0} \quad \text{evaluate limit} \\ &= \frac{0}{1} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

8. Take (a_n) and (b_n) to be sequences with

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_n}{a_n} = 18.$$

Carefully justify that (b_n) is convergent and calculate its limit.

Since (a_n) converges to a non-zero limit, there exists an N in \mathbb{N}

So that $a_n \neq 0$ for all $n \geq N$.

Rewrite b_n like this

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= b_n \cdot \frac{a_n}{a_n} \\ &= \frac{b_n}{a_n} \cdot a_n, \end{aligned}$$

for $n \geq N$.

So

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

$$= 18 \cdot 2 \quad \text{evaluate limit}$$

$$= 36$$

9. Calculate $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\sqrt{100 + \frac{1}{n}} - 10 \right)$. Carefully justify your reasoning.

Rewrite like this:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \left(\sqrt{100 + \frac{1}{n}} - 10 \right) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \frac{100 + \frac{1}{n} - 100}{\sqrt{100 + \frac{1}{n}} + 10} \quad \text{multiply numerator} \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \frac{\frac{1}{n}}{\sqrt{100 + \frac{1}{n}} + 10} \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \cdot \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{100 + \frac{1}{n}} + 10} \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{100 + \frac{1}{n}} + 10} \\
 &= \frac{1}{10 + 10} \quad \text{evaluate limit} \\
 &= \frac{1}{20}
 \end{aligned}$$

10. Take a_n to be the sequence that is given by

$$a_n = \frac{20n^2 + 5n \cos(n)}{4n^2 + 4}.$$

Calculate $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$. Carefully justify your reasoning.

① upper bound

For all n , $\cos(n) \leq 1$.

Since $20n^2$ and $5n$ are always positive, we have

$$20n^2 + 5n \cos(n) \leq 20n^2 + 5n.$$

Since $4n^2 + 4$ is always positive,

$$\underbrace{\frac{20n^2 + 5n \cos(n)}{4n^2 + 4}}_{a_n} \leq \underbrace{\frac{20n^2 + 5n}{4n^2 + 4}}_{b_n}$$

② lower bound

For all n , $-1 \leq \cos(n)$.

We have

$$20n^2 + 5n \cos(n) \geq 20n^2 - 5n$$

Since $4n^2 + 4$ is always positive,

$$\underbrace{\frac{20n^2 + 5n \cos(n)}{4n^2 + 4}}_{a_n} \geq \underbrace{\frac{20n^2 - 5n}{4n^2 + 4}}_{c_n}$$

③ conclusion

Since

$$c_n \leq a_n \leq b_n$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = 5, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 5,$$

we have by the squeeze

theorem that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{20n^2 + 5n \cos(n)}{4n^2 + 4} = 5.$$

11. Determine whether the sequence diverges to either infinity or negative infinity:

a) $a_n = \left(\frac{1}{8}\right)^{-n}$

b) $a_n = \ln(n+1)$

c) $a_n = -n^5$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{8}\right)^{-n} = \infty$$

diverges to infinity

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln(n+1) = \infty$$

diverges to infinity

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} -n^5 = -\infty$$

diverges to negative infinity