

SEQUENCES:
DEFINITION AND FIRST PROPERTIES

February 11th, 2019

Warm up

Write a formula for the general term of these sequences

1 $(a_n)_{n \geq 1} = (1, 4, 9, 16, 25, \dots)$

2 $(b_n)_{n \geq 1} = (1, -2, 4, -8, 16, -32, \dots)$

3 $(c_n)_{n \geq 0} = (1, -2, 4, -8, 16, -32, \dots)$

4 $(d_n)_{n \geq 1} = \left(\frac{2}{1!}, \frac{3}{2!}, \frac{4}{3!}, \frac{5}{4!}, \dots \right)$

5 $(e_n)_{n \geq 0} = (1, 4, 7, 10, 13, \dots)$

For next lecture

For Wednesday (Feb 13), watch the videos:

- Theorems about sequences: 11.5, 11.6, 11.7, 11.8

Convergence and divergence

Let $(a_n)_{n \geq K}$ be a sequence. Write the formal definition of the following notions:

1 $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} a_n = L$

2 $(a_n)_n$ is convergent.

3 $(a_n)_n$ is divergent.

4 $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} a_n = +\infty$

Definition of limit of a sequence

Let $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence. Let $L \in \mathbb{R}$.

Which of these statements are equivalent to $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} a_n = L$?

- 1 $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \implies |L - a_n| < \varepsilon.$
- 2 $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n > n_0 \implies |L - a_n| < \varepsilon.$
- 3 $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{R}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \implies |L - a_n| < \varepsilon.$
- 4 $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \in \mathbb{R}, n \geq n_0 \implies |L - a_n| < \varepsilon.$
- 5 $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \implies |L - a_n| \leq \varepsilon.$
- 6 $\forall \varepsilon \in (0, 1), \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \implies |L - a_n| < \varepsilon.$
- 7 $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \implies |L - a_n| < \frac{1}{\varepsilon}.$
- 8 $\forall \varepsilon \in (0, 1), \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \implies |L - a_n| < \frac{1}{\varepsilon}.$
- 9 $\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}, \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \implies |L - a_n| < k.$
- 10 $\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}, \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 \implies |L - a_n| < \frac{1}{k}.$

A sequence defined by recurrence

Consider the sequence $(R_n)_{n \geq 0}$ defined by

$$\begin{cases} R_0 = 1 \\ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, R_{n+1} = \frac{R_n + 2}{R_n + 3} \end{cases}$$

Compute R_1, R_2, R_3 .

Is this proof correct?

Let $(R_n)_{n \geq 0}$ be the sequence in the previous slide.

Claim:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} R_n = -1 + \sqrt{3}.$$

Proof.

- Let $L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n.$
- $R_{n+1} = \frac{R_n + 2}{R_n + 3}$
- $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_{n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{R_n + 2}{R_n + 3}$
- $L = \frac{L + 2}{L + 3}$
- $L(L + 3) = L + 2$
- $L^2 + 2L - 2 = 0$
- $L = -1 \pm \sqrt{3}$
- L must be positive, so $L = -1 + \sqrt{3}$

□

A sequence defined by recurrence

Consider the sequence $(R_n)_{n \geq 0}$ defined by

$$\begin{cases} R_0 = 1 \\ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, R_{n+1} = \frac{R_n + 2}{R_n + 3} \end{cases}$$

- 1 Prove that $(R_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is bounded from below by 0.
- 2 Prove that $(R_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is decreasing.
- 3 Prove that $(R_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is convergent.
- 4 Conclude.