

§10. Monotone sequences

10/5/2011

Def (s_n) is nondecreasing if $s_n \leq s_{n+1}$ for all n , increasing if " $>$ "
Monotone $s_n \geq s_{n+1}$ for all n , decr. if " $<$ ".

Remark: nondecr. $\Leftrightarrow s_n \leq s_m$ for all $n < m$ (by induction)

Examples (a) $s_n = \frac{1}{n^2} \downarrow$

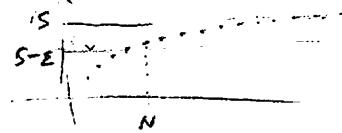
(b) $s_n = \sqrt{1+n^2} \uparrow$

(c) $s_n = 10n - 8^n -$

...
...

Thm 10.2 A bounded monotone sequence converges

WLOG: \uparrow . $S = \{s_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.



Will prove: $\lim s_n = \sup S =: S$ (3).

Let $\varepsilon > 0$. $S - \varepsilon$ is not an upper bd for $S \Rightarrow$

$\exists N \quad s_N > S - \varepsilon$.

Non-decreasing $\Rightarrow s_n > s_N > S - \varepsilon \quad \text{for } n > N$.

Also, $s_n \leq S < S - \varepsilon \quad (M \text{ is an upper bd})$.

$\Rightarrow |s_n - S| < \varepsilon \quad \text{for } n > N$.

QED

Remark $s_n \uparrow \Rightarrow$ converges to $\lim s_n = \sup\{s_n\}$.
 $s_n \downarrow \Rightarrow \lim s_n = \inf\{s_n\}$.

Discussion of decimals $\Rightarrow \pi = 3.1415926 \dots$

Every expression $s = k.d_1d_2d_3d_4\dots$ represents a real number. Why?

Truncate at n ,

$$s_n := k + \frac{d_1}{10} + \frac{d_2}{10^2} + \dots + \frac{d_n}{10^n}.$$

(a) (s_n) non-decreasing

(b) (s_n) bounded: $s_n < k + \underbrace{\frac{9}{10} + \frac{9}{10^2} + \dots + \frac{9}{10^n}}_M < k+1$ (by geom. series).

$\Rightarrow \lim s_n$ exists by Thm 10.2, called s .

Exercise (Thm 10.4a) : (a) (s_n) unbounded, non-decreasing $\Rightarrow \lim s_n = +\infty$
 (b) (s_n) bounded, non-increasing $\Rightarrow \lim s_n = -\infty$.

e

Example $\lim (1+\frac{1}{n})^n$ exists. Called e. (for Euler), $e \approx 2.718281828459045 \dots$

Proof of convergence:

1) $s_n = (1+\frac{1}{n})^{n+1}$ decreasing? $(s_n) = (4, 3.6\dots, 3.05\dots, 2.99\dots, 2.94\dots)$

$$s_{n-1} = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n-1}\right)^n > \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n+1} = s_n ?$$

$$\left(\frac{1 + \frac{1}{n-1}}{1 + \frac{1}{n}}\right)^n > 1 + \frac{1}{n} ?$$

$$\left(\frac{n \cdot n}{(n-1)(n+1)}\right)^n = \left(\frac{n^2}{n^2-1}\right)^n = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n^2-1}\right)^n \geq 1 + n \cdot \frac{1}{n^2-1} \quad (\text{by Bernoulli's inequality})$$

$$\geq 1 + \frac{1}{n} ?$$

$$\frac{n}{n^2-1} > \frac{1}{n} \Rightarrow \text{Yes.}$$

2) $s_n \geq 0 \Rightarrow$ Bdd Below

$\Rightarrow \lim s_n$ exists by Weierstrass Theorem.

Finally, $\lim (1 + \frac{1}{n})^n = \lim \frac{s_n}{1 + \frac{1}{n}} = \frac{\lim s_n}{\lim (1 + \frac{1}{n})} = \lim s_n$. Q.E.D.