

# §10. Monotone sequences

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

Remark: nondecr:  $\exists S_n \leq S_m$  for all  $n < m$  (by induction)

- Examples (a)  $S_n = \frac{1}{n^2} \downarrow$   
 (b)  $S_n = \sqrt{1+n^2} \uparrow$   
 (c)  $S_n = 10n - e^n -$

Thm 10.2 A bounded monotone sequence converges

$(S_n)$   
 WLOG:  $\uparrow$ .  $S = \{S_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .



Will prove:  $\lim S_n = \sup S =: S$  ( $\exists$ )

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

$$\exists N \quad S_N > S - \epsilon.$$

Non-decreasing  $\Rightarrow S_n > S_N > S - \epsilon$  for  $n > N$ .

Also,  $S_n \leq S < S + \epsilon$  ( $M$  is an upper bd)

$$\Rightarrow |S_n - S| < \epsilon \text{ for } n > N. \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

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  $\exists \pi = 3.1415926 \dots$

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

$d_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$

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:  $S_n < k + \frac{9}{10} + \frac{9}{10^2} + \dots + \frac{9}{10^n} < k+1$  (by geom series).

$\Rightarrow \lim S_n$  exists by Thm 10.2, called  $\boxed{S}$ .

Exercise (Thm 10.4a): (a)  $(s_n)$  unbounded, non-decreasing  $\Rightarrow \lim s_n = +\infty$   
 (b)  $(s_n)$  unbdd, 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?  $(s_n) = (4, 3.16, 3.05, 2.99, 2.94, \dots)$

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

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

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

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

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

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. J