

A205

Thursday, February 5, 2014

A Sequence is a function where the domain is the set of positive integers.

We represent the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term as  $a_n$ .

$$\text{Let } a_n = \left\{ \frac{n}{1-2n} \right\}$$

The 1<sup>st</sup> few terms are: -1, -2/3, -3/5, -4/7, ....

The terms of a sequence can be recursively defined.

$$d_1 = 25 \quad d_{n+1} = d_n - 5$$

The 1<sup>st</sup> few terms are: 25, 20, 15, 10, ....

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$  if for each  $\varepsilon > 0, \exists M > 0 . \exists . |a_n - L| < \varepsilon$  whenever  $n > M$ . If the limit  $L$  exists, then the sequence converges to  $L$ . If the limit of a sequence does not exist, then the sequence diverges.

If a real function has a limit as  $n$  approaches infinity, then the corresponding sequence defined at the integers has the same limit.

Do the following sequences converge?

$$\{a_n\} = \{3 + (-1)^n\}$$

$$\{b_n\} = \left\{ \frac{n}{1-2n} \right\}$$

Write a sequence  $\{a_n\}$  with the following 1<sup>st</sup> 5 terms: 2/1, 4/3, 8/5, 16/7, 32/9, ...

$$\{a_n\} = \left\{ \frac{2^n}{2n-1} \right\}$$

Does this sequence Converge or Diverge?

It can be shown to be Divergent, using L'Hôpital's Rule.

A sequence is **Monotonic** if its terms are non decreasing or non increasing.

A sequence is **Bounded Above** if all  $a_n \leq M$  for some real number  $M$ .

A sequence is **Bounded Below** if all  $a_n \geq M$  for some real number  $M$ .

A sequence is **Bounded** if it is Bounded Below and Bounded Above

If a sequence is Bounded and Monotonic, then it converges.

Exer. 1-3: Write the first 5 terms of the sequence.

1.  $a_n = \frac{2n}{n+3}$

2.  $a_n = \frac{2n}{n+3}$

3.  $a_n = 10 + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{6}{n^2}$

Exer. 4: Write the first five terms of the recursively defined sequence.

4.  $a_1 = 4, a_{k+1} = \left(\frac{k+1}{2}\right) a_k$

Exer. 5: Simplify the ratio of factorials.

5.  $\frac{(n+2)!}{n!}$

Exer. 6-9: Determine the convergence or divergence of the sequence with the given nth term. If the sequence converges, find its limit.

6.  $a_n = \frac{3n^2 - n + 4}{2n^2 + 1}$

7.  $a_n = \frac{\ln n^3}{2n}$

8.  $a_n = \frac{n^2}{2n+1} - \frac{n^2}{2n-1}$

9.  $a_n = \left(1 + \frac{k}{n}\right)^n$