

# Chap 10 Sequences and Series

Why do we care about infinite sequences and series?

Example

$$* \int_0^1 (1+x^3)^{\frac{1}{2}} dx = ?$$

\* Solve

$$y'' - 2ty' - 2y = 0$$

Possible solution method:

\* Given  $f(x)$ , can we find

$a_n \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n \quad ?$$

\* It is known that, if

$a_n$  exists, then

$$a_n = \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!}$$

\* Is it true that

$$f(x) \neq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} x^n$$

for  $x \neq 0$ ?

\* Is it true that

$$f'(x) \neq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n x^{n-1}$$

$$\int_0^x f(t) dt \neq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n+1} x^{n+1}$$

# Fundamental Questions

Sequence:  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots$

How to define

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L ?$$

Given any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists an integer  $N$ ,

such that " $n > N \Rightarrow |a_n - L| < \varepsilon$ "

(for all  $n > N$ , we have  $|a_n - L| < \varepsilon$ )

## How to define

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \begin{matrix} \infty \\ -\infty \end{matrix} ?$$

Given any  $M \in \mathbb{R}$  there  
exists an integer  $N$ ,

such that for all  $n > N$ ,

we have  $a_n > M$   
 $a_n < m$

Example 1  $a_n = \{1, -1, 1, -1, \dots\}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq \pm \infty$$
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 1$$
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq -1$$
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq \text{any } L \in \mathbb{R}$$

Example 2:  $a_n = \{1, 0, 2, 0, 3, 0, \dots\}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq \pm \infty$$
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq \text{any } L \in \mathbb{R}$$

Example 3:  $A_n = \{1, 4, 9, 16, \dots\}$

Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \infty$

Since given any  $M \in \mathbb{R}$   
(assume  $M > 0$ )

take  $N = [\sqrt{M}] + 1$ ,

for all  $n > N$ ,

we have  $A_n = n^2 > M$

Example 4: (Sandwich Thm)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cos n}{n} = ?$$

Since  $-\frac{1}{n} \leq \frac{\cos n}{n} \leq \frac{1}{n}$

and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{1}{n} = 0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n}$

$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cos n}{n} = 0$



Example 5:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln n}{n} = ?$

Ans: find  $\lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow \infty \\ x \in \mathbb{R}}} \frac{\ln x}{x}$

l'Hôpital Rule:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{1} = 0$$

Example 6:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{n+1}{n-1} \right)^n$

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

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \ln \left( \frac{x+1}{x-1} \right) = ?$$

$$x \ln\left(\frac{x+1}{x-1}\right) = x \ln\left(1 + \frac{2}{x-1}\right)$$

$$= \frac{\ln\left(1 + \frac{2}{x-1}\right)}{\frac{1}{x}}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} = \frac{\ln\left(1 + \frac{2}{x-1}\right)'}{\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)'}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{1 + \frac{2}{x-1}} \cdot 2 \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{(x-1)^2}\right)}{-\frac{1}{x^2}} = 2$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n+1}{n-1}\right)^n = e^{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n \ln\left(\frac{n+1}{n-1}\right)} = e^2$$

Example 7:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{\frac{1}{n}}$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (e^{\ln n})^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\left(\frac{\ln n}{n}\right)}$$

$$= e^{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\ln n}{n}\right)}$$

$$= e^0 = 1$$

Example 8:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)^n, x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{n \ln\left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)}{1}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln\left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)}{\frac{1}{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln\left(1 + \frac{x}{n}\right)'}{\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)'}$$

( ' =  $\frac{d}{dn}$  )

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{1 + \frac{x}{n}} \cdot \left(\frac{-x}{n^2}\right)}{\frac{-1}{n^2}} = x$$

$$\Rightarrow = e^{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (x)} = e^x$$

Theorem (from advanced Calculus)

If there exists an integer  $N$ , such that

$$\begin{array}{l} a_n \leq a_{n+1} \quad \text{and} \quad a_n \leq M \\ a_n \geq a_{n+1} \quad \text{and} \quad a_n \geq m \end{array}$$

for all  $n > N$ ,

then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  exists

(and  $\begin{array}{l} \leq M \\ \geq m \end{array}$ )

