

# Lecture XLIV: §13.2 (cont.) Convergent series

Recall:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = L$  if for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , we can find  $N_0$  in  $\mathbb{N}$  so that if  $n \geq N_0$  we have  $|x_n - L| < \epsilon$ .

Last time: many examples, but what are the main techniques?

## §1. Limit laws

Prop If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = L$  &  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = M$ , then the sequences

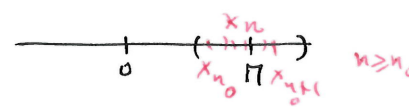
$\{x_n \pm y_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  &  $\{x_n \cdot y_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  are convergent &  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (x_n \pm y_n) = L \pm M$   
 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (x_n \cdot y_n) = LM$

Furthermore, if  $M \neq 0$ , the sequence  $\{x_n/y_n\}_{n \geq n_0}$  converges &  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x_n}{y_n} = \frac{L}{M}$ .

Proof: Variant of  $\epsilon/\delta$  games for limit laws of functions. Note: first few terms of  $\{y_n\}$  can be zero, but if  $M \neq 0$ , we know eventually they are all  $y_n \neq 0 \forall n \geq n_0$ . (after some  $n_0$ )

Example:  $z_n = \frac{n^2 + 4}{5n^2 + 6n + 7} = \frac{1 + \frac{4}{n^2}}{5 + 6 + \frac{7}{n^2}} = \frac{x_n}{y_n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{5}$

↓ divide by  $n^2$



$z_n = \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n} = (\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}) \frac{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} = \frac{n+1 - n}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$

## §2. Squeeze - Thm:

Thm: Suppose 3 sequences  $\{a_n\}_n$ ,  $\{x_n\}_n$ ,  $\{b_n\}_n$  satisfy

(1)  $a_n \leq x_n \leq b_n$  for all  $n \geq n_0$  ("n large enough")

(2)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = L$

Then  $\{x_n\}_n$  is convergent &  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = L$

Example (1)  $x_n = \frac{1}{n!}$

$0 \leq x_n \leq \frac{1}{n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$  so  $x_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$

(2)  $x_n = \frac{a^n}{n!}$  for  $a > 0$  fixed. Claim:  $x_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$

- $0 \leq x_n$  for all  $n$ , so take  $a_n = 0$  constant sequence.
- Need to find  $\{b_n\}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rightarrow 0$  with  $x_n \leq b_n$  for all  $n$  large enough.

IDEA:  $x_n = \frac{a}{n} \underbrace{\frac{a}{n-1} \dots \frac{a}{2} \frac{a}{1}}_{= x_{n-1}}$

Pick  $n_0 > 0$  with  $\frac{a}{n_0} < \frac{1}{2}$  & write any  $n \geq n_0$  as  $n = n_0 + k$  for  $k \geq 0$ .

So  $x_n = \frac{a^n}{n!} = \frac{a^{n_0+k}}{(n_0+k)!} = \frac{a^{n_0}}{n_0!} \cdot \frac{a}{n_0+1} \cdot \frac{a}{n_0+2} \dots \frac{a}{n_0+k} < \frac{a^{n_0}}{n_0!} \left(\frac{a}{n_0}\right)^k < \frac{a^{n_0}}{n_0!} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k$

$< \frac{a}{n_0} \dots < \frac{a}{n_0} < \frac{1}{2}$

Set  $b_n = \begin{cases} \frac{a^{n_0}}{n_0!} 2^{n-n_0} & \text{for } n \geq n_0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a^{n_0}}{n_0!} \frac{1}{2^{n-n_0}} = 0$

Then  $x_n \leq b_n$  for  $n \geq n_0$ . & by Squeeze Thm  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 0$ .

Note:  $y_n$  grows for a while if  $a$  is large, but then it starts decreasing, right after  $\frac{a}{n} < 1$ .

§ 3 Convergence Criteria

THM 1: Assume  $\{x_n\}$  is increasing ( $x_n \leq x_{n+1}$  for all  $n$  large enough). Then  $\{x_n\}$  is convergent if and only if  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded (from above)

THM 2: Assume  $\{y_n\}$  is decreasing ( $y_n \geq y_{n+1}$  for all  $n$  large enough). Then  $\{y_n\}$  is convergent if and only if  $\{y_n\}$  is bounded (from below)

Observation: Need only show THM 1. To show THM 2, given  $y_n$ , we set  $x_n = -y_n$ . Then  $x_n$  will be increasing &  $x_n$  bounded  $\Leftrightarrow y_n$  bounded.  $x_n$  convergent  $\Leftrightarrow y_n$  convergent.

To prove THM 1, we need to check both implications. The direction  $(\Rightarrow)$  holds in general, so we write it as a separate lemma.

Lemma: If  $\{x_n\}_n$  is convergent, then  $\{x_n\}_n$  is bounded. 3

Proof: Write  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = L$ . For  $\epsilon = 1$ , we can find  $n_0$  such that

$$|x_n - L| < 1 = \epsilon \quad \text{for all } n \geq n_0, \text{ meaning } L-1 < x_n < L+1 \quad \text{for } n \geq n_0$$

For  $n < n_0$ , we need a different bound:

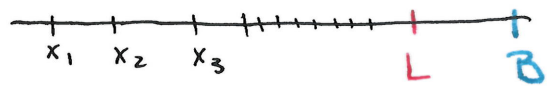
$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{Pick } M &= \max \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n_0-1}\} \\ N &= \min \{ \text{---} \} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ so } M \leq x_n \leq N \quad \text{for } n=1, \dots, n_0-1$$

Take  $A = \min \{N, L-1\}$  and  $B = \max \{M, L+1\}$ . Then  $A \leq x_n \leq B$  for all  $n$ , so  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded.  $\square$

Proof of Thm 1: By double implication.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Is the statement of the Lemma.

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Assume  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded, we want to find the limit.



• Pick  $B$  with  $B \geq x_n$  for all  $n$   
• The smaller the  $B$ , the better the bound

We can find a least upper bound on  $\mathbb{R}$  by the way  $\mathbb{R}$  is constructed:  
L.U.B.

• Least Upper Bound Axiom for  $\mathbb{R}$ : every non-empty set  $S$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  that has an upper bound also has a least upper bound ( $= \inf \{B \in \mathbb{R} : x \leq B \text{ for all } x \in S\}$ )

Set  $L =$  least upper bound for  $\{x_n\} = \{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$

$\hookrightarrow$  tightest upper bound

•  $\mathbb{Q}$  does not have this property:

$S = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} : x < \sqrt{2}\}$  has upper bounds (11=4, for example), but  $LUB = \sqrt{2}$  not in  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Claim:  $L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n$

Def of L.U.B. says that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $L - \epsilon$  is not an upper bound, so we can

$$\text{find } n_0 \text{ with } L - \epsilon < x_{n_0} \leq L$$

But  $x_n$  is increasing, so  $L - \epsilon < x_{n_0} \leq x_n \leq L$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

Then  $|x_n - L| < \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ , as we wanted.

Examples ①  $x_n = \frac{\sin(n!)}{3^n} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$  by Squeeze Thm:

$$\frac{-1}{3^n} \leq \frac{\sin n!}{3^n} \leq \frac{1}{3^n} \quad (-1 \leq \sin x \leq 1)$$

$$\downarrow n \rightarrow \infty \quad \downarrow n \rightarrow \infty$$

$$0 \quad 0$$

②  $x_n = 1 - \frac{1}{3^n} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} 1$  We can see this in 2 ways.

(1) Limit Laws:  $\left. \begin{array}{l} 1 \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} 1 \\ \frac{1}{3^n} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} 0 \end{array} \right\} x_n = 1 - \frac{1}{3^n} \xrightarrow{} 1 - 0 = 1$

(2)  $x_n \leq x_{n+1}$  because  $\frac{1}{3^{n+1}} \leq \frac{1}{3^n}$  so  $1 - \frac{1}{3^{n+1}} \geq 1 - \frac{1}{3^n}$

so  $(x_n)$  is increasing

$\{x_n\}$  is bounded by 1. so  $(x_n)$  converges by THM1.

In fact  $1 = \text{L.U.B.}$  so the limit is 1.

③  $x_n = \frac{n^n}{3^{n^2}}$

Write  $x_n = \frac{n^n}{3^{n^2}} = \frac{n^n}{(3^n)^n} = \left(\frac{n}{3^n}\right)^n \sim 0^\infty$

Take  $f(x) = \frac{x^x}{3^{x^2}} \sim \frac{\infty}{\infty}$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  We can use L'Hospital!

Take  $\ln(f(x)) = x \ln x - x^2 \ln 3 = x^2 \left(\frac{\ln x}{x} - \ln 3\right)$

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

So  $\ln(f(x)) = x^2 \left(\frac{\ln x}{x} - \ln 3\right) \xrightarrow{\text{L'Hosp}} -\infty$

Conclusion:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = e^{-\infty} = 0$

Q: What can we say about  $y_n = \frac{n^n}{3^{n^2}}$  for a fixed  $n$ ?

If  $a > 0$ , we have  $3^{n^a} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} \infty$  & we can use same ideas as before:

$$f(x) = \frac{x^x}{3^{x^a}} \sim \frac{\infty}{\infty} \quad \ln(f(x)) = x \ln x - x^a \ln 3 = x^a \left( x \frac{\ln x}{x^a} - \ln 3 \right)$$

• If  $a > 1$   $\Rightarrow \frac{x \ln x}{x^a} = \frac{\ln x}{x^{a-1}} \xrightarrow[x \rightarrow \infty]{} \frac{\infty}{\infty}$  by L'Hôsp.  ~~$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x^{a-1}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x}{(a-1)x^{a-2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(a-1)x^a}$~~

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x^{a-1}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(a-1)x^{a-2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(a-1)x^{a-1}} = 0$$

So  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln(f(x)) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^a \left( \underbrace{x \frac{\ln x}{x^a}}_{> 1} - \ln 3 \right) = -\infty$

So  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^n}{3^{n^a}} = e^{-\infty} = \boxed{0}$  if  $a > 1$

• If  $a = 1$ :  $y_n = \left(\frac{n}{3}\right)^n \sim \infty^\infty = 0$  so  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = \boxed{0}$ .

• If  $0 < a < 1$   $\ln f(x) = x^a \left( x \frac{\ln x}{x^a} - \ln 3 \right)$  but

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x^{a-1}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^{1-a} \ln x = \infty$$

So  $\ln f(x) = x^a \left( \underbrace{x \frac{\ln x}{x^a}}_{\infty} - \ln 3 \right) = \infty$  so  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = e^\infty = \boxed{\infty}$

• If  $a \leq 0$  with  $y_n = \frac{n^n}{3^{n^{-a}}} = \frac{n^n}{3^{1/n^a}} \rightarrow b = -a > 0$ .

Now  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{n^b} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} 0 \\ n^n \rightarrow \infty \end{array} \right\}$  so  $3^{1/n^b} \rightarrow 3^0 = 1 \neq 0$  } Limit laws give  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = \infty$  if  $a < 0$

Conclusion:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^n}{3^{n^a}} = \begin{cases} 0 & a \geq 1 \\ \infty & a < 1 \end{cases}$