

# Presentation Problems 1–Proofs

21-355 A

1. Let  $(a_n)$  be a convergent sequence. Then  $(a_n)$  is bounded. In addition, let  $(a_{n_k})$  be a subsequence of  $(a_n)$ . Then the subsequence  $(a_{n_k})$  converges to  $\lim a_n$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $(a_n)$  be a convergent sequence. Then  $(a_n)$  is bounded.*

*Proof.* From the definition of a convergent sequence we know:

$(a_n)$  is convergent  $\Rightarrow \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq N$  it follows that  $|a_n - l| < \epsilon$

In order for  $(a_n)$  to be bounded we must show:

$$\exists M > 0 \text{ s.t. } |a_n| \leq M, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

We know from the convergence of  $(a_n)$  that  $|a_n - l| < \epsilon$ , so by the definition of absolute value it follows that  $-\epsilon < a_n - l < \epsilon$ . From this it follows that  $-\epsilon + l < a_n < \epsilon + l$ . While this is correct we don't know that  $l$  is positive so we will use  $-\epsilon - |l| < a_n < \epsilon + |l|$  so we can be certain that our lower bound is the opposite of our upper bound, which would mean we could rewrite the statement as  $|a_n| < \epsilon + |l|$ .

We now have a value,  $\epsilon + |l|$ , that we can use for  $M$  that we know bounds the sequence when  $n \geq N$ . However we cannot be certain that this value of  $M$  will bound the sequence when  $n < N$ , so we should let  $M = \max(|a_1|, |a_2|, \dots, |a_{N-2}|, \epsilon + |l|)$ .

Note that because every term in the sequence up to  $a_{n-1}$  is less than or equal to the greatest term of that part of the sequence, and every term from  $a_n$  onward it follows that  $|a_n| \leq M \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $(a_{n_k})$  be a sub-sequence of  $(a_n)$ . The the sub-sequence  $(a_{n_k})$  converges to the same limit as  $(a_n)$ .*

*Proof.* Aside: Observe that  $n_1 \geq 1$  because as part of the definition of a sub-sequence the first term of the sub-sequence must be at least the first term of the original sequence. Assume that  $n_k \geq k$  then it follows that:

$$n_k + 1 \geq k + 1$$

$$n_{k+1} \geq n_k + 1$$

Because the  $k + 1$  term of the sub-sequence must be at least the next term of the sequence.

$$n_{k+1} \geq n_k + 1 \geq k + 1 \Rightarrow n_{k+1} \geq k + 1$$

From the definition of a convergent sequence we know:

$(a_n)$  is convergent  $\Rightarrow \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq N$  it follows that  $|a_n - l| < \epsilon$

Since  $n_k \geq k$ , let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $k \geq N$ . This implies that  $n_k \geq N$ , so it follows that  $|a_{n_k} - l| < \epsilon$ . So the sub-sequence converges to the same value as the original sequence. □

2. Let  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  be sequences such that  $\lim a_n = a$  and  $\lim b_n = b$ . Then for any  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\lim(\alpha a_n + \beta b_n) = \alpha a + \beta b$  and  $\lim(a_n b_n) = ab$ . Further,  $\lim \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \frac{a}{b}$  provided  $b \neq 0$ .

**Proposition 3.** Let  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  be real sequences such that  $a_n \rightarrow a$  and  $b_n \rightarrow b$  and let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $\lim(\alpha a_n + \beta b_n) = \alpha a + \beta b$ .

*Proof.* We first prove that  $\lim(a_n + b_n) = a + b$ . Equivalently, we want to show that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for  $n > N$ ,  $|a_n + b_n - (a + b)| < \epsilon$ .  
Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then there is some  $N_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that if  $n \geq N_1$ ,  $|a_n - a| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ . Similarly, there is some  $N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that if  $n \geq N_2$ ,  $|b_n - b| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ . Pick  $N = \max(N_1, N_2)$ , then for  $n \geq N$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |a_n + b_n - (a + b)| &= |(a_n - a) + (b_n - b)| \\ &\leq |a_n - a| + |b_n - b| \\ &< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for  $n > N$ ,  $|a_n + b_n - (a + b)| < \epsilon$  holds for all  $\epsilon > 0$ .  
So  $\lim(a_n + b_n) = a + b$

We then prove that  $\lim(\alpha a_n) = \alpha a$  for any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ . Equivalently, we want to show that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for  $n \geq N$ ,  $|\alpha a_n - \alpha a| < \epsilon$ .

- Case 1:  $\alpha \neq 0$ . Since  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for  $n \geq N$ , we have  $|a_n - a| < \frac{\epsilon}{|\alpha|}$ . By properties of absolute value,  $|\alpha a_n - \alpha a| < \epsilon$  follows.
- Case 2:  $\alpha = 0$ . Then  $|\alpha a_n - \alpha a| = 0 < \epsilon$

Since  $\lim(a_n + b_n) = a + b$  and  $\lim(\alpha a_n) = \alpha a$ ,  $\lim(\alpha a_n + \beta b_n) = \alpha a + \beta b$  follows immediately. □

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  be real sequences such that  $a_n \rightarrow a$  and  $b_n \rightarrow b$ . Then  $\lim(a_n b_n) = ab$ .*

*Proof.* Equivalently, we want to show that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for  $n > N$ ,  $|a_n b_n - ab| < \epsilon$ .

Since sequence  $(b_n)$  converges to limit  $b$ , it is bounded. Let  $K$  be the bound,  $|b_n| < K$ . Since  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $N_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for  $n \geq N_1$ , we have  $|a_n - a| < \frac{\epsilon}{2(K+1)}$ . Similarly, there is some  $N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that if  $n \geq N_2$ ,  $|b_n - b| < \frac{\epsilon}{2(|a|+1)}$ .

Pick  $N = \max(N_1, N_2)$ , then for  $n \geq N$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |a_n b_n - ab| &= |a_n b_n - ab_n + ab_n - ab| \\ &\leq |(a_n - a)b_n| + |a(b_n - b)| \\ &< \frac{\epsilon}{2(K+1)} \times K + |a| \times \frac{\epsilon}{2(|a|+1)} \\ &< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ &= \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\lim(a_n b_n) = ab$  holds. □

**Proposition 5.** *Let  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  be real sequences such that  $a_n \rightarrow a$  and  $b_n \rightarrow b \neq 0$ . Then  $\lim\left(\frac{a_n}{b_n}\right) = \frac{a}{b}$ .*

*Proof.* We have shown that  $\lim(a_n b_n) = ab$ . If we can prove that  $\lim\left(\frac{1}{b_n}\right) = \frac{1}{b}$ , then  $\lim\left(\frac{a_n}{b_n}\right) = \frac{a}{b}$  follows immediately. Proving  $\lim\left(\frac{1}{b_n}\right) = \frac{1}{b}$  is equivalent to proving that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for  $n > N$ ,  $|\frac{1}{b_n} - \frac{1}{b}| < \epsilon$ .

Suppose  $b > 0$ . Since  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $N_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for  $n \geq N_1$ ,  $|b_n - b| < \frac{b^2}{2}\epsilon$ . Besides, there is some  $N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for  $n \geq N_2$ ,  $|b_n - b| < \frac{b}{2}$ . By properties of absolute value, we have that  $\frac{b}{2} < b_n < \frac{3b}{2}$ . Since we have supposed that  $b > 0$ , this implies that  $|b_n| > \frac{b}{2}$ .

Pick  $N = \max(N_1, N_2)$ , then for  $n > N$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{1}{b_n} - \frac{1}{b} \right| &= \left| \frac{b - b_n}{bb_n} \right| \\ &< \frac{\frac{b^2}{2}\epsilon}{b \times \frac{b}{2}} \\ &= \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $b < 0$ . Since  $\lim(\alpha a_n) = \alpha a$ , we have  $\lim(-1 \times b_n) = -b$ , where  $-b > 0$ . Then by the above proof, we have  $\lim\left(-\frac{1}{b_n}\right) = -\frac{1}{b}$ . Again using  $\lim(\alpha a_n) = \alpha a$ , we have  $\lim\left(-1 \times -\frac{1}{b_n}\right) = \lim\left(\frac{1}{b_n}\right) = -1 \times -\frac{1}{b} = \frac{1}{b}$ .

Therefore,  $\lim\left(\frac{1}{b_n}\right) = \frac{1}{b}$  holds. Since  $\lim(a_n b_n) = ab$ ,  $\lim\left(\frac{a_n}{b_n}\right) = \frac{a}{b}$  holds provided that  $b \neq 0$ .  $\square$

3. Let  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  be sequences such that  $\lim a_n = a$  and  $\lim b_n = b$ .

- (a) If  $a_n \geq \alpha$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $a \geq \alpha$ . Similarly, if  $a_n \leq \beta$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $a \leq \beta$ .

*Proof.* Assume for sake of contradiction that  $a < \alpha$ . By definition of a limit of a sequence, for any arbitrary  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n > N$ , we have that  $|a_n - a| < \epsilon$ . Fix an arbitrary  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then we have  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n > N$ ,  $|a_n - a| < \epsilon$ . We now want to show that  $|a_n - \alpha| < \epsilon$ . This implies that  $\alpha$  is a limit of  $(a_n)$ , and by the uniqueness of limits, then  $a = \alpha$  and we would have a contradiction. By the assumption,  $a < \alpha \implies a_n - a > a_n - \alpha$ . Since  $a_n \geq \alpha$ , then  $a_n - \alpha \geq 0$  and so  $|a_n - a| \geq |a_n - \alpha| > 0$ . However, since  $|a_n - a| < \epsilon$ , this means that  $|a_n - \alpha| < \epsilon$ . Since  $\epsilon$  was arbitrary, this proves that  $\alpha$  is a limit of  $(a_n)$ , and we are done.

A similar proof follows for the case where  $a_n \leq \beta$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  by assuming that  $a > \beta$ . By definition of a limit of a sequence, we have for any arbitrary  $\epsilon$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n > N$ ,  $|a_n - a| < \epsilon$ . By the assumption,  $a - a_n > \beta - a_n$ . Also, since  $\beta - a_n \geq 0$ , then  $a - a_n > \beta - a_n \geq 0 \implies |a - a_n| > |\beta - a_n|$  and thus  $\epsilon > |a_n - a| = |a - a_n| > |\beta - a_n| = |a_n - \beta| \geq 0 \implies |a_n - \beta| < \epsilon$ . Then  $\beta$  is a limit of  $(a_n)$ , thus  $\beta = a$ , and we have a contradiction.  $\square$

- (b) If  $a_n \leq b_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $a \leq b$ .

*Proof.* Assume for sake of contradiction that  $a > b$ . Then  $b$  cannot be the limit of  $(a_n)$  because limits are unique.

By negation of the definition of limit of a sequence, there exists  $\epsilon$  such that for all  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists  $n > N$  such that  $|a_n - b| > \epsilon$ . Let us choose this  $\epsilon$ .

By definition of limits of a sequence, there exists  $N_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n > N_1$ ,  $|a_n - a| < \epsilon$

Similarly, there exists  $N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n > N_1$ ,  $|b_n - b| < \epsilon$

Let  $N = N_1 + N_2$  and let  $n > N$  be arbitrary and fixed. Then we have the following five inequalities:

- (1)  $|a_n - b| > \epsilon$
- (2)  $|a_n - a| < \epsilon$
- (3)  $|b_n - b| < \epsilon$
- (4)  $a_n \leq b_n$
- (5)  $a > b$

Given our choice of  $n$ , there are 2 cases: either  $b \geq a_n$  or  $b < a_n$ .

i. If  $b \geq a_n$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &< |a_n - b| \text{ [by (1)]} \\ &= b - a_n \text{ [since } b \geq a_n \text{ for this case]} \\ &< a - a_n \text{ [since } a > b \text{ by (5)]} \\ &= |a - a_n| \text{ [since } a > b \geq a_n]. \end{aligned}$$

This is a contradiction because by (2) we have that  $|a_n - a| < \epsilon$

ii. If  $b < a_n$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &< |a_n - b| \text{ [by (1)]} \\ &= a_n - b \text{ [since } a_n > b \text{ for this case]} \\ &\leq b_n - b \text{ [since } b_n \geq a_n \text{ by (4)]} \\ &= |b_n - b| \text{ [since } b_n \geq a_n \geq b]. \end{aligned}$$

This is a contradiction because by (3) we have that  $|b_n - a| < \epsilon$ .

□

4. Let  $(a_n)$ ,  $(b_n)$ , and  $(c_n)$  be sequences in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $a_n \leq b_n \leq c_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $\lim a_n = \lim c_n = \gamma$ , then  $\lim b_n = \gamma$ . **Note:** It is NOT given that  $(b_n)$  converges.

*Proof.* Suppose  $\lim a_n = \lim c_n = \gamma$ .

Then for all  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $n \geq N$  for some  $N = \max\{N_1, N_2\}$ ,  $N_1, N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$

$|a_n - \gamma| < \epsilon$ , and  $|c_n - \gamma| < \epsilon$ .

$\Rightarrow -\epsilon < a_n - \gamma < \epsilon$  and  $-\epsilon < c_n - \gamma < \epsilon$

$\Rightarrow -\epsilon + \gamma < a_n < \gamma + \epsilon$  and  $-\epsilon + \gamma < c_n < \gamma + \epsilon$

Since  $b_n \geq a_n$ ,  $-\epsilon + \gamma < a_n \leq b_n$

and since  $b_n \leq c_n$ ,  $b_n \leq c_n < \epsilon + \gamma$

Thus  $-\epsilon + \gamma < b_n < \epsilon + \gamma$

$\Rightarrow |b_n - \gamma| < \epsilon$

Therefore  $\lim b_n = \gamma$

□

5. Prove that an increasing, bounded sequence  $(a_n)$  converges to  $\sup\{a_n\}$  and a decreasing, bounded sequence  $(b_n)$  converges to  $\inf\{b_n\}$ . Show that for any bounded sequence  $(a_n)$ , the sequences  $(y_n)$  and  $(z_n)$  where

$$y_n := \sup\{a_k : k \geq n\}$$

and

$$z_n := \inf\{a_k : k \geq n\}$$

converge. (These limits are defined as the limit superior,  $\limsup a_n$ , and the limit inferior,  $\liminf a_n$ , respectively. Thus, any bounded sequence has a limit superior and limit inferior.)

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $(a_n)$  be an increasing, bounded sequence and  $(b_n)$  be a decreasing, bounded sequence. Then  $a_n \rightarrow \sup\{a_n\}$  and  $b_n \rightarrow \inf\{b_n\}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $s$  be the least upper bound of the sequence  $(a_n)$ . so  $s = \sup\{a_n\}$   
We want to show that  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \geq N, |a_n - s| < \epsilon$ .

It is equivalent to show that  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \geq N, s - \epsilon < a_n < s + \epsilon$   
Since  $s$  is the supremum,  $s + \epsilon$  is an upper bound of  $(a_n)$ . So  $a_n < s + \epsilon \forall a_n \in (a_n)$

Since  $s$  is the supremum,  $s - \epsilon$  must not be an upper bound of  $(a_n)$ . So  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \geq N, a_n > s - \epsilon$

We've shown  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \geq N, s - \epsilon < a_n < s + \epsilon$

Thus the supremum of  $(a_n)$  is also the limit of the sequence. Hence, an increasing, bounded sequence  $(a_n)$  converges to  $\sup\{a_n\}$

Similarly, we can prove that a decreasing, bounded sequence  $(b_n)$  converges to  $\inf\{b_n\}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 7.** *Let  $(a_n)$  be a bounded sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $\limsup a_n$  and  $\liminf a_n$  exist.*

*Proof.* By the definition of the sequence  $(y_n)$ , the sequence continuously takes the largest element from part of  $(a_n)$ . Hence,  $(y_n)$  must be a decreasing sequence. Since  $(a_n)$ ,  $(y_n)$  is bounded as well. Since  $(y_n)$  is a decreasing, bounded sequence, by the first part of the problem, we know that  $(y_n)$  converges to its infimum.

Similarly, we can show that  $(z_n)$  is an increasing, bounded sequence, and it converges to its supremum.  $\square$

6. Prove that for any bounded sequence  $(a_n)$ ,  $\liminf a_n \leq \limsup a_n$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $(a_n)$  is bounded. Let  $p_n := \inf\{a_k : k \geq n\}$  and let  $q_n := \sup\{a_k : k \geq n\}$ .

So  $\liminf a_n = \lim p_n := x$  and  $\limsup a_n = \lim q_n := y$ .

Assume for sake of contradiction that  $x > y$ .

So  $\exists \delta_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n \geq \delta_1 \implies |p_n - x| < \frac{|x-y|}{2}$

and  $\exists \delta_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n \geq \delta_2 \implies |q_n - x| < \frac{|x-y|}{2}$

Without loss of generality, assume  $\delta_1 \geq \delta_2$ .

We now have  $\frac{y-x}{2} = \frac{-|x-y|}{2} < p_{\delta_1} - x \implies \frac{y+x}{2} < p_{\delta_1}$

and  $q_{\delta_1} - y < \frac{|x-y|}{2} = \frac{x-y}{2} \implies q_{\delta_1} < \frac{x+y}{2}$

and so  $q_{\delta_1} < \frac{x+y}{2} < p_{\delta_1} \implies q_{\delta_1} < p_{\delta_1}$ .

This means that the infimum of a set is larger than the supremum, which is a contradiction since the infimum is a lower bound and the supremum is an upper bound.

Therefore  $\liminf a_n \leq \limsup a_n$ .  $\square$

Show that  $\liminf a_n = \limsup a_n$  if and only if  $\lim a_n$  exists.

*Proof.* ( $\implies$ ) Assume  $\liminf a_n = \limsup a_n := L$ .

Let  $I_n = \inf\{a_k : k \geq n\}$

So  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists q \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n \geq q \implies |I_n - L| < \varepsilon$

We know  $I_q \leq a_i \forall i \geq q$  and  $|I_q - L| < \varepsilon \implies -\varepsilon < I_q - L$ .

So  $\forall i \geq q, a_i - L > -\varepsilon$ .

Now let  $S_n = \sup\{a_k : k \geq n\}$ .

We know  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists p \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n \geq p \implies |S_n - L| < \varepsilon$ .

We also know  $S_p \geq a_i \forall i \geq p$  and  $|S_p - L| < \varepsilon \implies S_p - L < \varepsilon$ .

So  $\forall i \geq p, a_i - L < \varepsilon$ .

Therefore,  $\forall i \geq \max(p, q), -\varepsilon < a_i - L < \varepsilon$

and so  $\forall i \geq \max(p, q), |a_i - L| < \varepsilon$  as desired.

( $\impliedby$ ) Assume  $\lim a_n$  exists, then want to show that  $\limsup a_n = \liminf a_n$ .

First, we know that  $a_n$  is bounded and converges, so it has  $\limsup a_n$  and  $\liminf a_n$ .

Now WTS  $\limsup a_n = \lim a_n = L$

By the definition of limit, we know that  $\exists N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $|a_k - L| < \varepsilon/2 \forall k \geq N_2$ .

$\limsup a_n = \lim S_n$  where  $S_n = \sup\{a_k : k \geq n\}$

From Lemma 1.3.8, we know that  $S_{N_2}$  is the supremum iff

$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists a_x \in \{a_k : k \geq N_2\}$  such that  $|S_{N_2} - a_x| < \varepsilon/2$

$|S_{N_2} - L| = |S_{N_2} - a_x + a_x - L| \leq |S_{N_2} - a_x| + |a_x - L| < \varepsilon/2 + \varepsilon/2 = \varepsilon \forall k \geq N_2$

So  $\limsup a_n = L$

$\liminf a_n = \lim I_n$  where  $I_n = \inf\{a_k : k \geq n\}$

By the same reasoning as in the last part, we have

$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists a_x \in \{a_k : k \geq N_2\}$  such that  $|I_{N_2} - a_x| < \varepsilon/2$

$|I_{N_2} - L| = |I_{N_2} - a_x + a_x - L| \leq |I_{N_2} - a_x| + |a_x - L| < \varepsilon/2 + \varepsilon/2 = \varepsilon \forall k \geq N_2$

So  $\liminf a_n = L$ , and so  $\limsup a_n = \liminf a_n$   $\square$

## 7. A Cauchy sequence is bounded and a convergent sequence is Cauchy.

*Proof.* Let  $(a_n)$  be a Cauchy sequence. Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By definition of Cauchy sequence, we know that there exists some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that if  $m, n \geq N$  then

$$|a_m - a_n| < \varepsilon.$$

By the properties of absolute value and since  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we know that

$$-\varepsilon < a_n - a_m < \varepsilon.$$

We take  $m = N$ , giving us

$$-\varepsilon < a_n - a_N < \varepsilon.$$

Adding  $a_N$  to both sides this gives us the inequality

$$-\varepsilon + a_N < a_n < \varepsilon + a_N.$$

Now we have that for all  $n \geq N$

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &< \varepsilon + a_N, \\ a_n &> -\varepsilon + a_N. \end{aligned}$$

Notice that this gives us an upper and lower bound for all the elements in  $(a_n)$  after some finite index  $N$ . This means that if we take the maximum and minimum over the elements before index  $N$  (with the above bounds included), we can derive an upper and lower bound for all elements in  $(a_n)$ . It follows that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &\leq \max\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{N-1}, \varepsilon + a_N\}, \\ a_n &\geq \min\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{N-1}, -\varepsilon + a_N\}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $(a_n)$  is bounded.

Let  $(a_n)$  be a convergent sequence and  $L$  be its limit. Recall that by definition of limits, we know that for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that if  $n \geq N$  then

$$|a_n - L| < \varepsilon.$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since  $\frac{\varepsilon}{2} > 0$ , we know by definition of limits that there exists some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n \geq N$  we have that

$$|a_n - L| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2},$$

We will now show that  $(a_n)$  is Cauchy. Let  $m, n \geq N$ . Notice that it is enough to show that

$$|a_m - a_n| < \varepsilon.$$

By the triangle inequality, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} |a_m - a_n| &\leq |a_m - L| + |L - a_n| \\ &= |a_m - L| + |a_n - L| \\ &< \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \\ &= \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have shown that  $|a_m - a_n| < \varepsilon$ , so it follows that  $(a_n)$  is Cauchy.  $\square$



8. Let  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k = A$  and  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k = B$ . Then for any  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha a_k + \beta b_k = \alpha A + \beta B.$$

*Proof.* For any  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , we denote the following partial sums:

$$s_m = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i$$
$$t_m = \sum_{i=1}^m r_i$$

We also denote the corresponding infinite series as

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$$
$$B = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} b_i$$

Finally, we let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be arbitrary real constants. Then by the definition of an infinite series, we know that

$$A = \lim(t_m)$$
$$B = \lim(s_m)$$

Multiplying both sides of both equations by constants gives

$$\alpha A = \alpha \lim(t_m)$$
$$\beta B = \beta \lim(s_m)$$

We know algebraic properties of limits from Problem 2 of this set of presentations. For now we utilize the scalar multiple property to conclude

$$\alpha A = \alpha \lim(t_m) = \lim(\alpha t_m)$$
$$\beta B = \beta \lim(s_m) = \lim(\beta s_m)$$

Then, adding these two equations together,

$$\alpha A + \beta B = \lim(\alpha t_m) + \lim(\beta s_m)$$

Next, we can use the additive property of limits from Problem 2 to conclude that

$$\alpha A + \beta B = \lim(\alpha t_m + \beta s_m)$$

Finally, we conclude by the definition of an infinite series that

$$\alpha A + \beta B = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\alpha a_i + \beta b_i),$$

as desired. □

9. The series  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k$  converges if and only if for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n > m \geq N$ ,

$$\left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n x_k \right| < \varepsilon.$$

Conclude that if  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k$  converges, then  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_k = 0$ .

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $L \in \mathbb{R}$  be the limit of the series  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k$ . Then we know that the sequence of partial sums  $(S_n)$  is convergent. As we have proved that a convergent series is Cauchy.  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that for any  $n > m \geq N$ , we have

$$|S_n - S_m| < \varepsilon.$$

WLOG let  $n \geq m$  and we can rewrite the inequality above as

$$\left| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k - \sum_{k=1}^m x_k \right| = \left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n x_k \right| < \varepsilon.$$

( $\Leftarrow$ ) We can rewrite  $\left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n x_k \right|$  as

$$\left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n x_k \right| < \left| \sum_{k=1}^n x_k - \sum_{k=1}^m x_k \right| < \varepsilon$$

the last inequality following from the fact that we can choose  $m, n$  larger than some  $N$ . Thus, we know the sequence of partial sums is Cauchy, which implies the convergence of this series.

Since  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k$  converges, we know for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n > m \geq N$ ,

$$\left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n x_k \right| < \varepsilon.$$

Let  $m = n - 1$  and this inequality yields

$$\left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n x_k \right| = \left| \sum_n x_k \right| = |x_n| < \epsilon$$

Since this is true for all  $n > N$ , it must follow that  $(x_n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

□

10. If  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |x_k|$  converges, then  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k$  converges.

*Proof.* From the result of 9, it is enough to show that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n > m \geq N$ ,

$$\left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n x_k \right| < \epsilon$$

Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then by using the result from 9 along with the fact that  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |x_k|$  converges, we know that there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any  $n > m \geq N$ ,

$$\left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n |x_k| \right| < \epsilon$$

Now, let  $n > m \geq N$  be arbitrary. Then we know that for  $m+1 \leq k \leq n$ , by the properties of absolute value

$$-|x_k| \leq x_k \leq |x_k|$$

which tells us that

$$- \sum_{k=m+1}^n |x_k| = \sum_{k=m+1}^n -|x_k| \leq \sum_{k=m+1}^n x_k \leq \sum_{k=m+1}^n |x_k|$$

We can then conclude that, by the properties of absolute value,

$$\left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n x_k \right| \leq \left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n |x_k| \right| < \epsilon$$

So we have found  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n > m \geq N$ ,

$$\left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n x_k \right| < \epsilon$$

Thus by the result of 9, we know that  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k$  converges.

□

11. Let  $(x_n)$  be a decreasing sequence such that  $\lim x_n = 0$ . Then  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{k+1} x_k$  converges.

*Proof.* Let 
$$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^{k+1} x_k.$$

First, we show  $x_i \geq 0$  for all  $i$ . If  $x_i < 0$  for some  $i$ , choose  $\epsilon = -\frac{x_i}{2}$ ; since  $(x_n)$  is decreasing, for all  $j \geq i$ ,  $x_j < 0$  and  $|x_j| = -x_j \geq -x_i > \epsilon$ , so  $(x_n)$  does not converge. Thus  $x_i \geq 0$  for all  $i$ .

For all  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N$  such that  $\forall n \geq N$ ,  $x_i \leq |x_i| < \epsilon$ .

We show  $(x_n)$  to be Cauchy. Let  $m, n \geq N$  and without loss of generality,  $m \leq n$ . There are four cases:

- **$m$  is even,  $n$  is odd.** Since  $(x_n)$  is nonnegative and decreasing,  $S_n - S_m = x_{m+1} - x_{m+2} + \cdots + x_n = (x_{m+1} - x_{m+2}) + \cdots + (x_{n-2} - x_{n-1}) + x_n \geq x_n \geq 0$  and  $S_n - S_m = x_{m+1} + (-x_{m+2} + x_{m+3}) + \cdots + (-x_{n-1} + x_n) \leq x_{m+1} < \epsilon$ . Thus  $|S_n - S_m| < \epsilon$ .
- **$m$  is even,  $n$  is even.** Then  $S_n - S_m = x_{m+1} - x_{m+2} + \cdots - x_n = x_{m+1} + (-x_{m+2} + x_{m+3}) + \cdots + (-x_{n-2} + x_{n-1}) - x_n \leq x_{m+1} - x_n \leq x_{m+1} < \epsilon$ . Thus  $|S_n - S_m| < \epsilon$ .
- **$m$  is odd,  $n$  is odd.** Then  $S_n - S_m = -x_{m+1} + x_{m+2} - \cdots + x_n = (-x_{m+1} + x_{m+2}) + \cdots + (-x_{n-1} + x_n) \leq 0$  since  $(x_n)$  is decreasing. However,  $S_n - S_m = -x_{m+1} + (x_{m+2} - x_{m+3}) + \cdots + (x_{n-2} - x_{n-1}) + x_n \geq -x_{m+1} + x_n \geq -x_{m+1} > -\epsilon$ , so  $|S_n - S_m| < \epsilon$ .
- **$m$  is odd,  $n$  is even.** Then  $S_n - S_m = -x_{m+1} + x_{m+2} - \cdots - x_n = (-x_{m+1} + x_{m+2}) + \cdots + (-x_{n-2} + x_{n-1}) - x_n \leq -x_n \leq 0$  since  $(x_n)$  is decreasing and nonnegative. But  $S_n - S_m = -x_{m+1} + (x_{m+2} - x_{m+3}) + \cdots + (x_{n-1} - x_n) \geq -x_{m+1} > -\epsilon$ . Thus  $|S_n - S_m| < \epsilon$ .

Thus,  $(x_n)$  meets the Cauchy criterion, and by the result of Problem 9,  $S_n$  converges.  $\square$

12. Let  $f : \mathbb{N} \mapsto \mathbb{N}$  be bijective. Let  $(x_k)$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  and define  $y_k := x_{f(k)}$ . If  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k$  converges absolutely, then

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} y_k.$$

*Proof.* Denote  $S_n := \sum_{k=1}^n x_k$  and  $T_n := \sum_{k=1}^n y_k$ . By presentation problem 10, since  $\sum_{k \geq 1} x_k$  is absolutely convergent, we know it converges to some

$x < \infty$ , such that with an  $\varepsilon > 0$  that is arbitrary and fixed

$$(6) \quad \exists N_1 \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ such that } \forall n \geq N_1, |S_n - x| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$$

And by presentation problem 9 along with absolute convergence, we also know that

$$(7) \quad \exists N_2 \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ such that } \forall n > m \geq N_2, \left| \sum_{k=m+1}^n |x_k| \right| = \sum_{k=m+1}^n |x_k| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$$

Let  $N = \max\{N_1, N_2\}$  and let  $N_3 = \max\{f(k) \mid k \in [N]\}$ , where  $[N] = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, N\}$  and  $f^{-1}$  is well defined because  $f$  is a bijection. Notice that  $N_3 \geq N$  since  $[N]$  contains the smallest  $N$  integers of the naturals and  $f : \mathbb{N} \mapsto \mathbb{N}$ . By construction of  $N_3$ , the first  $N_3$  elements of  $(y_n)$  must contain the first  $N$  elements of  $(x_n)$ . So  $T_{N_3}$  is equal to  $S_N$  plus the sum of extra terms, denoted  $E$ . There are exactly  $N_3 - N$  extra terms each taking the form  $x_{N+i}$  for positive  $i$  (since we already accounted for the first  $N$  terms of  $(x_n)$  with  $S_N$ ). Thus,  $E \leq \sum_{k=N+1}^M |x_k|$  where  $M = \max\{f^{-1}(k) \mid k \in [N_3]\}$ . (Once again, note that  $M \geq N_3 \geq N$   $f$  is a bijection. We can use (2) to say  $E < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ , so since  $T_{N_3} - S_N = E$ , we know  $T_{N_3} - S_N < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . See

$$\begin{aligned} |T_{N_3} - x| &= |T_{N_3} - S_N + S_N - x| \\ &\leq |T_{N_3} - S_N| + |S_N - x| \quad \text{by triangle inequality} \\ &< \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\varepsilon$  was arbitrary, any  $n > N_3$  guarantees  $|T_n - x| < \varepsilon$ , and thus,  $T_n$  converges to  $x$ . Hence,  $\sum_{k \geq 1} x_k = \sum_{k \geq 1} y_k$ .  $\square$