

Q. Prove that every convergent sequence is bounded. Also show that the converse of the theorem is not true.

Let $\{a_n\}$ be a convergent sequence. So a_n must tend to a limit l as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Then by definition of the limit of a sequence it follows that for a given arbitrary small positive number ϵ there exists a positive integer p such that

$$|a_n - l| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq p$$

$$\text{i.e. } l - \epsilon < a_n < l + \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq p \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\text{Let } M = \max. \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_{p-1}, l + \epsilon\}$$

$$\& m = \min. \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_{p-1}, l - \epsilon\}$$

$$\text{Then } m \leq a_n \leq M \quad \forall n$$

Hence by definition the sequence $\{a_n\}$ is bounded.

The converse of the theorem need not be true.

For example, let us consider the sequence $\{a_n\}$,

$$\text{where } a_n = (-1)^n$$

We see that the sequence $\{a_n\}$ is bounded for

$$a_n = -1 \text{ or } 1 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

But $\{a_n\}$ has no limit. Hence the sequence $\{a_n\}$ is not convergent.

Q. Prove that a convergent sequence possesses its limit uniquely.

If possible, let the convergent sequence $\{a_n\}$ has two distinct limits l & l' .

Since $\{a_n\}$ is convergent, therefore by definition it follows that for a given arbitrary small positive number ϵ there exists a positive integer m such that

$$|a_n - l| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad \forall n \geq m \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\& |a_n - l'| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad \forall n \geq m \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\text{Now, } |l - l'| = |(a_n - l') - (a_n - l)|$$

$$\leq |a_n - l'| + |a_n - l|$$

$$< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad \forall n \geq m \quad [\text{from (1) \& (2)}]$$

$$\text{i.e. } |l - l'| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq m$$

But ϵ is an arbitrary small positive number, therefore $l = l'$.
Hence the limit of the sequence is unique.

Q. Prove that every monotonic increasing sequence tends to its least upper bound.

Let $\{a_n\}$ be a monotonic increasing sequence whose least upper bound is M .

Then by definition of upper bound,

$$a_n \leq M \quad \forall n \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

& $a_n > M - \epsilon$ for at least one value of n , where ϵ is an arbitrary small positive number.

Let this be true for $n = m$

$$\text{Then } a_m > M - \epsilon \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Since the sequence $\{a_n\}$ is monotonic increasing, therefore

$$a_n \geq a_m \quad \text{for all } n \geq m \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

From (2) & (3), we get

$$a_n > M - \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq m \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

$$\text{Again from (1), } a_n \leq M \quad \forall n$$

$$\text{i.e. } a_n < M + \epsilon \quad \forall n \quad \& \text{ hence also for } n \geq m \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

Combining the results (4) & (5), we have

$$M - \epsilon < a_n < M + \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq m$$

$$\text{i.e. } |a_n - M| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq m$$

Hence $\{a_n\}$ tends to M , the least upper bound of $\{a_n\}$
i.e. every monotonic increasing sequence tends to its l.u.b.