

## Monotonic Sequence

+ Monotonic increasing and decreasing sequences:

A sequence  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is said to be a monotonically increasing sequence if

$$U_{n+1} \geq U_n, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Similarly  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is said to be a monotonically decreasing sequence if

$$U_{n+1} \leq U_n, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

For example:

the sequence  $\langle U_n \rangle = \langle n^2 \rangle$ , i.e. 1, 4, 9, 16, ... is an increasing sequence.

and

the sequence  $\langle \frac{1}{n} \rangle$  i.e. 1,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ , ... is a decreasing sequence.

Example - (i) Show that the sequence  $\langle U_n \rangle$ , where  $U_n = \frac{1}{n}$  is monotonically decreasing.

Soln:  $U_n = \frac{1}{n}$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} = \frac{1}{n+1}$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} - U_n = \frac{1}{n+1} - \frac{1}{n}$$

$$= \frac{n - (n+1)}{n(n+1)}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{n(n+1)} < 0 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} - U_n < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow U_{n+1} < U_n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Hence  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is monotonically decreasing.

Example - (3) Show that the sequence  $\langle U_n \rangle$ ,

where  $U_n = \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n}$  is

monotonically increasing.

Sol<sup>n</sup>

Here

$$U_n = \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n}$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} = \frac{1}{n+2} + \frac{1}{n+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n+2}$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} = \frac{1}{n+2} + \frac{1}{n+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n+2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n+2} + \frac{1}{n+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n} + \frac{1}{2n+1} + \frac{1}{2n+2}$$

Now

$$U_{n+1} - U_n = \frac{1}{2n+1} + \frac{1}{2n+2} - \frac{1}{n+1}$$

$$= \frac{(2n+2)(n+1) + (2n+1)(n+1) - (2n+1)(2n+2)(n+1)}{(2n+1)(2n+2)(n+1)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n+1} + \frac{1}{2(n+1)} - \frac{1}{(n+1)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n+1} + \frac{2-1}{2(n+1)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n+1} + \frac{1}{2n+2}$$

$$= \frac{2n+2 + 2n+1}{(2n+1)(2n+2)}$$

$$= \frac{4n+3}{(2n+1)(2n+2)} > 0 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} - U_n > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow U_{n+1} > U_n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Hence  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is monotonically increasing.

Example 4. Examine if the sequence  $\langle U_n \mid U_n = \frac{2n-7}{3n+2} \rangle$  is monotonic increasing and bounded above.

Sol<sup>n</sup>

Here

$$U_n = \frac{2n-7}{3n+2}$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} = \frac{2(n+1)-7}{3(n+1)+2}$$

$$= \frac{2n+2-7}{3n+3+2}$$

$$= \frac{2n-5}{3n+5}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore U_{n+1} - U_n &= \frac{2n-5}{2n+5} - \frac{2n-7}{3n+2} \\
 &= \frac{(2n-5)(3n+2) - (2n-7)(2n+5)}{(2n+5)(3n+2)} \\
 &= \frac{6n^2 + 4n - 15n - 10 - 6n^2 - 10n + 21n + 35}{(2n+5)(3n+2)} \\
 &= \frac{25}{(2n+5)(3n+2)} > 0 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} - U_n > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow U_{n+1} > U_n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Hence  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is monotonically increasing.

Again,

$$1 - U_n = 1 - \frac{2n-7}{3n+2}$$

$$= \frac{3n+2 - 2n-7}{3n+2}$$

$$= \frac{n+9}{3n+2} > 0$$

$$\therefore 1 - U_n > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 > U_n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\Rightarrow U_n < 1 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$\therefore \langle U_n \rangle$  is bounded above

Hence  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is monotonically increasing and bounded above.

Theorem: 1

Prove that a monotonic increasing bounded above sequence is convergent and converges to the upper bound (Supremum).

Proof: let  $\langle U_n \rangle$  be a monotonic increasing and bounded above sequence.

let  $\beta$  be the supremum of  $\langle U_n \rangle$

$$\therefore U_n \leq \beta, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Then for any given small  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists at least one value of  $n$ , say  $m$  such that

$$U_m > \beta - \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta - \epsilon < U_m \text{ --- (i)}$$

Since  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is monotonic increasing, therefore

$$U_m \leq U_n, \forall n \geq m$$

$$\therefore \text{(i)} \Rightarrow \beta - \epsilon < U_n, \forall n \geq m \text{ --- (ii)}$$

Again,  $U_n \leq \beta, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\Rightarrow U_n < \beta + \epsilon, \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ --- (iii)}$$

$\therefore$  eqn (ii) and (iii)

$$\Rightarrow \beta - \epsilon < U_n < \beta + \epsilon, \forall n \geq m$$

$$\Rightarrow -\epsilon < U_n - \beta < \epsilon, \forall n \geq m$$

$$\Rightarrow |U_n - \beta| < \epsilon, \forall n \geq m$$

Hence  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is convergent and converges to the upper bound  $\beta$ .

Theorem - 2

Prove that a monotonic decreasing bounded below sequence is convergent and converges to the lower bound (infimum).

Proof: let  $\langle U_n \rangle$  be a monotonic decreasing and bounded below sequence.

let  $\beta$  be the infimum of  $\langle U_n \rangle$

$$\therefore U_n \geq \beta; \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Then for any given small  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists at least one value of  $n$ , say  $m$  such that

$$U_m < \beta + \epsilon \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

Since  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is monotonic decreasing,

therefore  $U_n \leq U_m, \forall n \geq m$

$$\therefore \text{(i)} \Rightarrow U_n < \beta + \epsilon, \forall n \geq m \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

Again,  $U_n \geq \beta, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\Rightarrow U_n > \beta - \epsilon, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta - \epsilon < U_n, \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \text{--- (iii)}$$

eqn (ii) and (iii)

$$\Rightarrow \beta - \epsilon < U_n < \beta + \epsilon, \forall n \geq m$$

$$\Rightarrow -\epsilon < U_n - \beta < \epsilon, \forall n \geq m$$

$$\Rightarrow |U_n - \beta| < \epsilon, \forall n \geq m$$

Hence the sequence  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is convergent and converges to the lower bound  $\beta$ .

Example - ①

Show that the sequence  $\langle U_n \rangle$ , where

$$U_n = \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n+n} \text{ is convergent.}$$

Soln:

Here,

$$U_n = \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n+n}$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} = \frac{1}{n+2} + \frac{1}{n+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n+2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n} + \frac{1}{2n+1} + \frac{1}{2n+2}$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} - U_n = \frac{1}{2n+1} + \frac{1}{2n+2} - \frac{1}{n+1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n+1} + \frac{1}{2(n+1)} - \frac{1}{n+1} \quad (i)$$

$$= \frac{2(n+1) + 2n+1 - 2(2n+1)}{2(n+1)(2n+1)} \quad (ii)$$

$$= \frac{4n+3-4n-2}{2(n+1)(2n+1)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2(n+1)(2n+1)} > 0, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} - U_n > 0 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\Rightarrow U_{n+1} > U_n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$\therefore \langle U_n \rangle$  is monotonically increasing.

$$\text{Again, } U_n = \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n+n} < \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+1} + \dots + \frac{1}{n+1} \\ = \frac{n}{n+1} < 1, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\therefore U_n < 1, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$\Rightarrow \langle U_n \rangle$  is bounded above.

Thus  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is monotonically increasing and bounded above and hence is convergent.

Example - (2)

Examine for convergence the following sequences, and find its limit.

(i)  $\left\{ \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{5}{6}, \frac{7}{8}, \dots \right\}$

(ii) Soln

Here,  $U_n = \frac{2n-1}{2n}$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} = \frac{2(n+1)-1}{2(n+1)}$$

$$= \frac{2n+2-1}{2n+2} \\ = \frac{2n+1}{2n+2}$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} - U_n = \frac{2n+1}{2n+2} - \frac{2n-1}{2n}$$

$$= \frac{(2n+1)(2n) - (2n-1)(2n+2)}{2n(2n+2)}$$



$$= \frac{4n^2 + 2n - (4n^2 + 4n - 2n - 2)}{2n(2n+2)}$$

$$= \frac{4n^2 + 2n - 4n^2 - 2n + 2}{2n(2n+2)}$$

$$= \frac{2}{2n(2n+2)} > 0 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\therefore U_{n+1} - U_n > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow U_{n+1} > U_n, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Thus  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is monotonically increasing.

Again,

$$1 - U_n = 1 - \frac{2n-1}{2n}$$

$$= \frac{2n - 2n + 1}{2n}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - U_n > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow U_n < 1, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$\therefore \langle U_n \rangle$  is bounded above

Thus  $\langle U_n \rangle$  is monotonically increasing and bounded above and hence it is convergent.

Now

To find limit

we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n-1}{2n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(2 - \frac{1}{n})}{n(2)}$$

$$= \frac{2}{2} = 1$$

$$\text{So, } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_n = 1 \quad //$$