

M413
Introduction to Analysis I
Assignment IX

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October 3, 2008

Problem 1. Prove that $\lim(-1)^n/n = 0$.

Discussion 1. We wish to show that $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N \ni n > N \Rightarrow$

$$\left| \frac{(-1)^n}{n} - 0 \right| = \frac{(-1)^n}{n} < \epsilon \Rightarrow \frac{1}{n} < \epsilon \Rightarrow n > \frac{1}{\epsilon}.$$

So, $N = 1/\epsilon$.

Proof. Let $\epsilon > 0$ and $N = 1/\epsilon$. Assume that $n > N$, that is $n > 1/\epsilon$. Then $|(-1)^n/n - 0| = |(-1)^n/n| = 1/n < \epsilon$.

$\therefore \lim(-1)^n/n = 0$. □

Problem 2. Prove that $\lim(2n - 1)/(3n + 2) = 2/3$

Discussion 2. We wish to show that $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N \ni n > N \Rightarrow$

$$\left| \frac{2n - 1}{3n + 2} - \frac{2}{3} \right| < \epsilon$$

So we note that

$$\left| \frac{2n - 1}{3n + 2} - \frac{2}{3} \right| \rightarrow \left| \frac{6n - 3 - 6n - 4}{3(3n + 2)} \right| \rightarrow \left| \frac{-7}{3(3n + 2)} \right|,$$

and assuming that $n > -2/3$, we see that

$$\left| \frac{-7}{3(3n + 2)} \right| = \frac{7}{3(3n + 2)} < \epsilon \Rightarrow \frac{7}{3} < \epsilon(3n + 2) \rightarrow n > \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{7}{3\epsilon} - 2 \right).$$

So, N will be $\max \left\{ \frac{-2}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{7}{3\epsilon} - 2 \right) \right\}$.

Proof. Let $\epsilon > 0$ and let $N = \max \left\{ \frac{-2}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{7}{3\epsilon} - 2 \right) \right\}$. Assume that $n > N$. Then $|(2n - 1)/(3n + 2) - 2/3| = |-7/(3(3n + 2))| = 7/(3(3n + 2)) < \epsilon$

$\therefore \lim(2n - 1)/(3n + 2) = 2/3$. □