

Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of real numbers.

1. Provide examples of sequences  $\{a_n\}$  that satisfy each of the statements below.

- (a) For all  $\epsilon > 0$ , for all but finitely many  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$a_n < 5 + \epsilon \text{ and } a_n > -11 - \epsilon$$

**Solution:**

**Example 1:**  $a_n = 4$  for all  $n \geq 1$

**Example 2:**  $a_n = -11 + \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$  for all  $n \geq 1$

**Example 3:**  $a_n = 5 + \frac{1}{n}$  for all  $n \geq 1$

**Example 4:** Any sequence  $a_n$  which has no limit points in  $(-\infty, -11) \cup (5, \infty)$  will satisfy the above hypothesis.

**Exercise:** Prove that  $a_n$  satisfies (a) if and only if  $-11 < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n < 5$ .  $\square$

- (b) For all  $\epsilon > 0$ , there are infinitely many  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$|a_n - L| < \epsilon$$

for  $L = -1, 0, 3$  and  $a_n \notin \{-1, 0, 3\}$  for all  $n \geq 1$

**Solution:**

**Example:**

$$a_n = \begin{cases} -1 + \frac{1}{n} & \text{if } n = 3k \text{ for some } k \geq 1 \\ \frac{1}{n} & \text{if } n = 3k + 1 \text{ for some } k \geq 1 \\ 3 + \frac{1}{n} & \text{if } n = 3k + 2 \text{ for some } k \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

**Exercise:** Let  $S$  be the set of limit points of the sequence  $a_n$ . Prove that  $a_n$  satisfies (b) if and only if  $S \supset \{-1, 0, 3\}$ .  $\square$

- (c) For  $a > 0$  there are infinitely many  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$a_n > a \text{ and}$$

there are infinitely many  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$a_n < -a.$$

**Solution:**

**Example :** Let  $\alpha > 0$  and  $a_n = (-1)^n n^\alpha$  for all  $n \geq 1$

**Exercise:** Prove that  $a_n$  satisfies (c) if and only if  $-\infty = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n < \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \infty$ .  $\square$

2. Write the below statements using logical notation:

- (a) For every  $\epsilon > 0$  there are infinitely many  $n$  such that distance of  $a_n$  to 0 is less than  $\epsilon$

**Solution:**

**In Logical Notation:**  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \forall N \geq 1$  there exists  $m_0 > N$  such that  $|a_{m_0}| < \epsilon$

**Note:**  $m_0$  depends on  $\epsilon$  and  $N$   $\square$

- (b) For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , all but finitely many elements of the sequence  $a_n$  are below  $11 + \epsilon$  and infinitely many above  $11 - \epsilon$

**Solution:**

**In Logical Notation:**  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N \geq 1$  such that for all  $n > N$  such that  $a_n < 11 + \epsilon, \forall \epsilon > 0$  and  $\forall N \geq 1$  there exists  $m_0 > N$  such that  $a_{m_0} > 11 - \epsilon$   $\square$

3. Consider the following statements:

- (a) For every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $N > 0$  such that  $|a_n - L| < \epsilon$  for all  $n > N$ .
- (b) There is a  $C > 0$  such that for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $N > 0$  such that  $|a_n - L| \leq C\epsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$ .
- (c) For every  $N > 0$  there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that for all  $n > N$  implies  $|a_n - L| < \epsilon$ .
- (d) There exists  $N > 0$  such that for all  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $n > N$  implies  $|a_n - L| < \epsilon$ .
- (e) For every  $\epsilon > 0$  and for all  $n \geq 1$ , there exists  $N > 0$  such that  $m > N$  implies  $|a_m - L| < \epsilon$ .
- (f) For every  $\epsilon > 0$  and for all  $n \geq 1$ , there exists  $N > 0$  such that  $N > n$  and  $|a_N - L| < \epsilon$ .

Decide which of the above versions are equivalent to the definition of

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$$

and which are not. For those that are not equivalent to  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$  determine, in as simple a language as possible, what they really define. Find examples (if they exist) of sequences that satisfy the definition and of sequences that don't satisfy it.

**ANSWER:**  $(a) \iff (b) \iff (e) \iff \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L, (d) \implies \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L \implies (c), (f).$

**Exercise:** Show that if a sequence satisfies (d) if and only if  $\exists N > 0$  such that  $a_n = L$  for all  $n > N$ . Show that if a sequence satisfies (c) or (f) then  $L$  is a limit point of  $a_n$  but need not be its limit.