

1. (a) Show that  $a_n \geq n$ . (b) Find  $N$  s.t.  $|\frac{a_n}{a_n+1} - 1| < \varepsilon$ .

[Solution] (a) We prove it by induction. Since  $a_1$  is a positive integer, we know that  $a_1 \geq 1$ . Assume that  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  and  $a_k \geq k$ . Since  $(a_n)$  is a strictly increasing sequence of positive integers, we get  $a_{k+1} - a_k \geq 1$ . So

$$a_{k+1} = (a_{k+1} - a_k) + a_k \geq 1 + k = k + 1$$

Therefore, induction tells us that  $a_n \geq n$  for positive  $n$ .

(b) We are asked to solve the inequality  $|\frac{a_n}{a_n+1} - 1| < \varepsilon$ . The solution is

$$a_n > \frac{1}{\varepsilon} - 1 \quad (1)$$

We hope to find sufficiently large  $n$ 's satisfying (1). It suffices to make  $n$  large enough so that

$$n > \frac{1}{\varepsilon} - 1$$

We might choose  $N_\varepsilon = [\frac{1}{\varepsilon}] + 1$ . Then for  $n \geq N_\varepsilon$ , by (a) we find that

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &\geq n \geq N_\varepsilon = [\frac{1}{\varepsilon}] + 1 \geq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} > \frac{1}{\varepsilon} - 1 \\ &\Rightarrow -\varepsilon < 0 < \frac{1}{a_n + 1} < \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Hence, this  $N_\varepsilon$  does work.

[Note]

By (a) we're expected to use the form  $a_{k+1} = (a_{k+1} - a_k) + a_k$ , and to be familiar with properties about positive integers, i.e. the fact that  $|n - m| \geq 1$  whenever  $n \neq m$ . The proof by mathematical induction is an ideal way due to preciseness.

(b) Many people might find that we have no idea about what  $a_n$  is at the first sight, but part (a) is a helpful message. In fact, we are suggested to solve it on  $a_n$ , and then find relations between  $a_n$  and  $n$ .

2. Show  $|\sin(nx)| \leq n \sin x$ .

[Solution] According to the expression  $\sin \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}}{2i}$ . Substituting  $nx$  to  $\theta$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\sin(nx)| &= \left| \frac{e^{inx} - e^{-inx}}{2i} \right| = \left| \frac{(e^{ix})^n - (e^{-ix})^n}{2i} \right| \\
 &= \left| \frac{e^{ix} - e^{-ix}}{2i} \right| \left| (e^{ix})^{n-1} + (e^{ix})^{n-1}(e^{-ix})^1 + \dots + (e^{-ix})^{n-1} \right| \\
 &\leq \sin x \cdot (|(e^{ix})^{n-1}| + |(e^{ix})^{n-1}(e^{-ix})^1| + \dots + |(e^{-ix})^{n-1}|) \\
 &= \sin x \cdot (1 + 1 + \dots + 1) = n \sin x
 \end{aligned}$$

[note] The key point is to properly use the exponential expression, and to factorize. What to prove will emerge after application of triangular inequality. [Note] If you think the "notation"  $e^{ix}$  cumbersome, you might as well alternatively define the function  $e(x)$  by

$$e(x) = \cos x + i \sin x$$

Then we have (i)  $(e(x))^n = e(nx)$ , and (ii)  $\sin \theta = \frac{e(x) - e(-x)}{2i}$ . Hence we may do the same thing to prove this problem without application of "complex exponentiation".