

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

$$a_n > \frac{1}{\varepsilon} - 1 \tag{1}$$

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_ε 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 θ , we get

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

[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".