



### Some thoughts and advice:

- You should expect to spend at least 1 – 2 hours on problem sets. A lot of practice problem-solving is essential to understand the material and skills covered in class. Be organised and do not leave problem sets until the last-minute. Instead, get a good start on the problems as soon as possible.
- When approaching a problem think about the following: *do you understand the words used to state the problem? what is the problem asking you to do? can you restate the problem in your own words? have you seen a similar problem worked out in class? is there a similar problem worked out in the textbook? what results/skills did you see in class that might be related to the problem?*

If you are stuck for inspiration, use the course **piazza** forum (accessible via the course Canvas site), come to office hours, or send me an email. However, don't just ask for the solution - provide your thought process, the difficulties you are having, and ask a coherent question in complete English sentences. Remember the 3RA approach to asking questions outlined in the course syllabus.

- Form study groups - get together and work through problem sets. **This will make your life easier!** You can use **piazza** to arrange meet-ups. However, you must write your solutions *on your own* and *in your own words*.
- If you would like more practice then there are (hundreds of) problems in the supplementary course textbooks mentioned in the syllabus, or you can check out [khanacademy.org](http://khanacademy.org).

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1. Each of the following sequences  $(a_n)$  converges. Determine the limit  $L$  and provide a careful justification for why  $(a_n)$  is convergent with limit  $L$ .

(a)  $a_n = \frac{3n^2+4n+5}{2n^2+1}$

(b)  $a_n = \frac{n^2}{\sqrt{n^6+2n+1}}$

(c)  $a_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{2\sqrt{n}}$

(d)  $a_n = 2 + \frac{(-1)^n}{n+\pi}$

2. Write down a formula for the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term of the sequence assuming that the pattern of the first few terms continues.

(a)  $(1, -4, 16, -64, 256, \dots)$

(b)  $(3, 9, 15, 21, 27, \dots)$

(c)  $(0, -1, 0, 1, 0, -1, 0, \dots)$  (*Hint: a trigonometric function might be useful here*)

(d)  $(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{8}{9}, \frac{26}{27}, \frac{80}{81}, \dots)$

3. (a) Give an example of a convergent sequence that is neither increasing nor decreasing. Make sure you explain why your example satisfies the required conditions.  
(b) Give an example of a convergent sequence  $(a_n)$  bounded below by 0 with limit  $L = 5$ . Make sure you explain why your example satisfies the required conditions.
4. True/False (no justification needed)

- (a) Every divergent sequence is unbounded.
- (b) If  $(a_n)$  is a sequence having positive terms (i.e.  $a_n > 0$ , for every  $n$ ) and convergent with limit  $L$  then  $(b_n)$ , where  $b_n = \frac{a_n}{a_n+1}$ , is convergent with limit  $\frac{L}{L+1}$ .
- (c) If  $(a_n)$  is divergent and  $(b_n)$  is divergent then the sequence  $(c_n)$ , where  $c_n = \frac{a_n}{b_n}$ , is divergent.
- (d) If  $(a_n)$  is divergent and  $(b_n)$  is divergent then  $(\frac{a_n}{b_n})$  is divergent.

5. Let  $(a_n)$  be a convergent sequence with limit  $L$ .

- (a) Explain why there is some natural number  $k$  with the property that  $L-1 < a_n < L+1$ , whenever  $n \geq k$ .
- (b) Explain why it's possible to find real numbers  $m$  and  $M$  with the property that

$$m \leq a_n \leq M, \quad \text{whenever } 1 \leq n < k.$$

- (c) Use the previous problems to provide argument establishing the following **Theorem**: *if  $(a_n)$  is a convergent sequence then  $(a_n)$  is bounded.*

The Theorem that you have just proved is equivalent to the following

**Test for Divergence:**

*if  $(a_n)$  is unbounded then  $(a_n)$  is divergent.*