



§3.1 The Sandwich Rule

3.1.1 (Sandwich Theorem) Suppose  $(a_n)_n$ ,  $(c_n)_n$  are sequences converging to the same limit  $l$ .

Suppose  $(b_n)_n$  is a sequence such that there is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $a_n \leq b_n \leq c_n \quad \forall n \geq N$ .

Then  $(b_n)_n$  converges to  $l$ .

Proof Given  $\varepsilon > 0$

there is  $N_1$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq N_1, |a_n - l| < \varepsilon$

and there is  $N_2$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq N_2, |c_n - l| < \varepsilon$

So if  $n \geq \max\{N_1, N_2\}$  then  $l - \varepsilon \leq a_n \leq l + \varepsilon$   
and  $l - \varepsilon \leq c_n \leq l + \varepsilon$

So, if  $n \geq \max\{N_1, N_2, N\}$  then

$$\underline{l - \varepsilon} \leq a_n \leq b_n \leq c_n \leq \underline{l + \varepsilon}$$

and hence ~~to~~  $|b_n - l| < \varepsilon \quad \forall n \geq \max\{N_1, N_2, N\}$

So  $b_n \rightarrow l$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .  $\equiv$

Note This is often used with one of the sequences  $(a_n)_n$  ( $(c_n)_n$  being constant.

eg. if  $c_n \rightarrow a$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and if  $\forall n$

we have  $c_n \geq b_n \geq a$

then  $b_n \rightarrow a$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . (Apply the Sandwich Rule with  $a_n = a \quad \forall n$ )

Terminology a sequence that converges to 0

is said to be a null sequence

Theorem 3.1.4 (i) If  $(a_n)_n$  is a null sequence,  
then so are the sequences  $(-a_n)_n$  and  $(|a_n|)_n$

(ii) If  $(a_n)_n$  is a null sequence and if the  
sequence  $(b_n)_n$  is such that, for sufficiently  
large  $n$ , we have  $0 \leq |b_n| \leq |a_n|$ ,  
then  $(b_n)_n$  is a null sequence.

Proof (i) Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then there is  $N$  s.t.  
 $\forall n \geq N, |a_n - 0| = |a_n| < \varepsilon$

So  $||a_n| - 0| = |a_n| < \varepsilon$  for  $n \geq N$   
so  $|a_n| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

and  $|(-a_n) - 0| = |a_n| < \varepsilon$  for  $n \geq N$

so  $-a_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

(ii) Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there is  $N$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq N, |a_n| < \varepsilon$ .

So by (i)  $(|a_n|)_n$  is null

and hence by (i)  $(-|a_n|)_n$  is null.

But  $0 \leq |b_n| \leq |a_n|$  implies  $-|a_n| \leq b_n \leq |a_n|$   
so by the Sandwich Theorem, since both sequences  
 $(-|a_n|)_n$  and  $(|a_n|)_n$  converge to 0,

the sequence  $(b_n)_n$  converges to 0 //

Ex  $(c_n)_n$  where  $c_n = e^{-n} = \frac{1}{e^n}$ .

Claim  $c_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

- This follows since ~~(previously)~~ we have

$e^n \geq n$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , hence

$0 \leq e^{-n} \leq \frac{1}{n}$  and we know  ~~$\frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$~~   $\frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

So by Sandwich Thm,  $e^{-n} \rightarrow 0$   
as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

Recall Sandwich Rule:

21/2/20 (1)

$$I) a_n \leq b_n \leq c_n \quad \forall n \geq N$$

and  $a_n \rightarrow l$  and  $c_n \rightarrow l$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $b_n \rightarrow l$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

Null sequence = sequence that converges to 0

$$\text{Ex } a_n = \frac{e^{n+1}}{e^{n+1} + 1} \leq \frac{e^{n+1}}{e^{n+1}} = \frac{1}{e} + \frac{1}{e^{n+1}}$$

$\uparrow$  constant  $\uparrow \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

so the sequence  $\frac{e^{n+1}}{e^{n+1} + 1} = \frac{1}{e} + \frac{1}{e^{n+1}}$  converges to  $\frac{1}{e}$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

So, if we can show that

$$\frac{1}{e} \leq a_n \quad \forall n, \text{ then}$$

we can use the Sandwich Rule

to deduce that  $a_n \rightarrow \frac{1}{e}$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\left[ \frac{1}{e} \leq a_n \leq \frac{1}{e} + \frac{1}{e^{n+1}} \right]$$

$\nearrow$  show

$$a_n - \frac{1}{e} = \frac{e^{n+1}}{e^{n+1} + 1} - \frac{1}{e} = \frac{e^{n+1} + e - e^{n+1} - 1}{e(e^{n+1} + 1)} = \frac{e - 1}{e(e^{n+1} + 1)} \geq 0 \quad \checkmark$$

# § 3.2 Algebra of Limits

21/2/20 (2)

## Theorem 3.2-1 (Algebra of Limits AoL Theorem)

Suppose  $(a_n)$ ,  $(b_n)$  are convergent sequences with limits  $a$ ,  $b$  respectively. Then:

- i)  $(|a_n|)_n$  is convergent to  $|a|$
- ii)  $\forall k \in \mathbb{R}$   $(kan)_n$  converges to  $ka$
- iii)  $(a_n + b_n)_n$  converges to  $a + b$
- iv)  $(a_n - b_n)_n$  converges to  $a - b$
- v)  $(a_n b_n)_n$  converges to  $ab$
- vi) If  $b_n \neq 0 \forall n$  and if  $b \neq 0$  then  $(\frac{a_n}{b_n})_n$  converges to  $\frac{a}{b}$
- vii) If  $b_n \neq 0 \forall n$  and if  $b \neq 0$  then  $(\frac{1}{b_n})_n$  converges to  $\frac{1}{b}$

Proof i) Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , note  $||a_n| - |a|| \leq |a_n - a|$   
So choose  $N$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq N$   $|a_n - a| < \varepsilon$ , and hence  $||a_n| - |a|| < \varepsilon$  as required. 223

ii) [to prove  $(kan)_n$  converges to  $ka$ ]

rough work  
Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we want  $|kan - ka| < \varepsilon$   
 $|k||a_n - a|$   
so it's enough to get  $|a_n - a| < \frac{\varepsilon}{|k|}$

Formal  
If  $k=0$  the result is obvious  
Assume  $k \neq 0$   
Given  $\varepsilon > 0$  we choose, since  $a_n \rightarrow a$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq N$   $|a_n - a| < \frac{\varepsilon}{|k|}$   
Then  $|k||a_n - a| < \varepsilon$  i.e.  $|kan - ka| < \varepsilon$   
as required

iii) [ to prove  $a_n + b_n \rightarrow a + b$  ] 21/2/20(3)

Rough work [ We want  $|(a_n + b_n) - (a + b)| < \epsilon$

$$|(a_n - a) + (b_n - b)| \leq |a_n - a| + |b_n - b|$$

we can make these, by choosing  $N$  large enough, as small as we like, say  $< \frac{\epsilon}{2}$

Formal Given  $\epsilon > 0$

proof

choose  $N_1$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq N_1, |a_n - a| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$

$N_1$  exists since  $a_n \rightarrow a$

choose  $N_2$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq N_2, |b_n - b| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$

$N_2$  exists since  $b_n \rightarrow b$

Set  $N = \max\{N_1, N_2\}$

Then, if  $n \geq N$  we have both and

$$\text{and hence } |(a_n + b_n) - (a + b)| = |(a_n - a) + (b_n - b)|$$

$$\leq |a_n - a| + |b_n - b| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon$$

$\Delta$  inequality

as required

iv)  $a_n - b_n \rightarrow a - b$  - follows immediately from (ii) and (iii) (take  $k = -1$  in (ii))

v) [ to prove  $a_n b_n \rightarrow a b$  ]

Rough work

[ We want  $|a_n b_n - a b| < \epsilon$

$$= |a_n b_n - a b_n + a b_n - a b|$$

$$= \cancel{|a_n b_n - a b_n|} = |(a_n - a) b_n + a (b_n - b)|$$

can make small

bounded since convergent

constant

can make small

(choose  $n$  big enough)

So if we choose

$$C = \max\{B, |a| + 1\} \text{ when } |b_n| \leq B \forall n$$

$$\text{Then } |a_n b_n - a b| \leq |a_n - a| |b_n| + |a| |b_n - b|$$

$$\leq |a_n - a| C + C |b_n - b|$$

so, if we choose  $n$  s.t.  $|a_n - a|, |b_n - b| < \frac{\epsilon}{2C}$  then  $< \epsilon$

Formal  
proof that  $a_n b_n \rightarrow ab$  :

21/2/20 (4)

Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,

Choose  $B \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $|b_n| \leq B \forall n$  ( $B$  exists since  $(b_n)$  is convergent hence bounded)

and let  $C = \max\{B, |a|+1\}$

and choose  $N_1$  so that  $\forall n \geq N_1, |a_n - a| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2C}$

and choose  $N_2$  so that  $\forall n \geq N_2, |b_n - b| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2C}$

let  $N = \max\{N_1, N_2\}$  and

let  $n \geq N$ .

$$\text{Then } |a_n b_n - ab| = |a_n b_n - a b_n + a b_n - ab|$$

$$= \cancel{|(a_n - a) b_n|} + |(a_n - a) b_n + a(b_n - b)|$$

$$\leq |(a_n - a) b_n| + |a(b_n - b)| = |a_n - a| |b_n| + |a| |b_n - b|$$

$\Delta$  ineq.

$$\begin{array}{cccc} < \frac{\varepsilon}{2C} & \leq B & \leq C & < \frac{\varepsilon}{2C} \\ & \text{hence} & & \\ & \leq C & & \end{array}$$

$$< \frac{\varepsilon}{2C} \cdot C + C \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{2C} = \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = \varepsilon$$

i.e.  $a_n b_n \rightarrow ab$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  ← as required