

## 9.1 Sequences

1. a.  $a_n = \frac{2^{n-1}}{n^2}$

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{1}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{4}{9}, \frac{8}{16}, \frac{16}{25}, \dots \right\}$$

b.  $a_n = 9\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)^n$

$$\left\{ 9, -\frac{18}{3}, \frac{36}{9}, -\frac{72}{27}, \frac{144}{81}, \dots \right\}$$

known as a geometric  
 $a_n = ar^n$

c.  $a_n = \frac{n!}{2^n}$

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{1}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{4}, \frac{6}{8}, \frac{24}{16}, \dots \right\}$$

d.  $a_n = \frac{2^{n+1}}{3^n}$

$$\left\{ \frac{4}{3}, \frac{8}{9}, \frac{16}{27}, \frac{32}{81}, \frac{64}{243}, \dots \right\}$$

could be rewritten  
as  $2\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^n$  geometric

$$a_n = 2\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^n$$

e.  $a_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{n(n-1)}$

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{12}, -\frac{1}{20}, \frac{1}{30}, \dots \right\}$$

f.  $a_n = \frac{x^n}{n!}$

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{1}, \frac{x}{1}, \frac{x^2}{2}, \frac{x^3}{6}, \frac{x^4}{24}, \dots \right\}$$



$$g. a_n = \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!}$$

$$\left\{ \frac{x}{1}, -\frac{x^3}{6}, \frac{x^5}{120}, -\frac{x^7}{5040}, \frac{x^9}{362880}, \dots \right\}$$

$$h. a_n = \frac{x^{2n}}{(2n)!}$$

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{1}, \frac{x^2}{2}, \frac{x^4}{24}, \frac{x^6}{720}, \frac{x^8}{40320}, \dots \right\}$$

$$2. a. \left\{ \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{15}, \frac{1}{24}, \dots \right\} \quad a_n = \frac{1}{n^2 - 1}, \quad n \geq 2$$

$$b. \left\{ \frac{1}{1}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{7}, \frac{1}{15}, \frac{1}{31}, \dots \right\} \quad a_n = \frac{1}{2^n - 1}, \quad n \geq 1$$

$$c. \left\{ \frac{1}{1}, \frac{2}{1}, \frac{5}{2}, \frac{10}{6}, \frac{17}{24}, \dots \right\} \quad a_n = \frac{n^2 + 1}{n!}, \quad n \geq 0$$

$$d. \left\{ -\frac{1}{1}, \frac{2}{1}, -\frac{4}{2}, \frac{8}{6}, -\frac{16}{24}, \dots \right\} \quad a_n = \frac{(-1)^{n+1} 2^n}{n!}, \quad n \geq 0$$

$$e. \left\{ 1, -\frac{3}{5}, \frac{9}{25}, -\frac{27}{125}, \frac{81}{625}, -\frac{243}{3125}, \dots \right\} \quad a_n = (1) \left(-\frac{3}{5}\right)^n, \quad n \geq 0$$

geometric



3. a.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{2n+1} = \frac{1}{2}$  converges

L'Hopital's or equal powers of  $n$

b.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{n+1} = \infty$  diverges

L'Hopital's or powers of  $n$

c.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(n+1)!} = 0$  b/c  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^n}{(n+1)!} \right| = 0$  converges

d.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^{n+1}}{2^{n-1} + 1} = 4$  converges

L'Hopital's or simplify by multiplying by  $\frac{1}{2^n}$

e.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^n}{(2n)!} = 0$  converges

exponentials vs. factorials

f.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \frac{2^n}{2^{n+1}} = \frac{1}{2}$   $(1 - 1/2)$  converges

g.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + (-1)^n}{n^2} = 0$  converges

non-zero terms  $\rightarrow 0$

h.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin(n\pi/2)}{n(n+1)} = 0$  converges  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\sin(n\pi/2)}{n(n+1)} \right| = 0$   
non-zero terms  $\rightarrow 0$



4.  $a_1 = 3$   $a_n = 2a_{n-1} + 1$

$$\{3, 7, 15, 31, 63, \dots\}$$

$$a_1 = 3$$

$$a_2 = 2a_1 + 1 = 2(3) + 1 = 7$$

$$a_3 = 2a_2 + 1 = 2(7) + 1 = 15$$

etc.

5.  $a_n = \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1}$  known as telescoping

$$\left\{ \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right), \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}\right), \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4}\right), \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{5}\right), \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{6}\right), \dots \right\}$$

the above does simplify to  $\left\{ \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{12}, \frac{1}{20}, \frac{1}{30}, \dots \right\}$

but actually that's not the point...