



# Sequences part I Exercises sheet



**Exercise 0** Write a program for your calculator which calculate the speed of convergence of a sequence define by recurrence :

1. Input : The limit  $l$ , the first term  $u$  and the accuracy  $p$  we want. (the recurrence function is in Y1)
2. Output : The first rank  $n$  for which  $u_n \in ]l - p ; l + p[$ .
3. Change the program to do the same thing if the sequence is define by  $Y1(n)$

**Exercise 1** For each sequence:

1. Study the variations.
2. Prove if it has an upper or lower bound (you can use a graph).
3. Study its limits.
4. When the sequence converges to  $l$ , find the rank  $p$  from which all the terms of the sequence  $(u_n)$  are in the interval  $]l - 10^{-4} ; l + 10^{-4}[$ .

a) $u_n = \frac{n^2}{n^2 + 1}, n \in \mathbb{N}$	b) $u_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}}, n \in \mathbb{N}$	c) $u_n = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n, n \in \mathbb{N}$
d) $u_n = \frac{1}{1 \times 2} + \frac{1}{2 \times 3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n(n+1)}, n \geq 1$ We will prove: $\frac{1}{k(k+1)} = \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1}$	e) $n \in \mathbb{N}, \begin{cases} u_0 = 2 \\ u_{n+1} - u_n = \sqrt{2} \end{cases}$	f) $n \in \mathbb{N}, \begin{cases} u_0 = 2 \\ u_{n+1} - u_n = u_n \sqrt{2} \end{cases}$

**Exercise 2** Let  $(u_n)$  be a sequence defined for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  by :  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 5 \\ u_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}u_n + 3 \end{cases}$

1. Is  $(u_n)$  a geometric progression?
2. Prove that the sequence defined by  $v_n = u_n - 6$  is a geometric progression.
3. Express  $v_n$  then  $u_n$  using (in terms of)  $n$ .
4. Study  $(u_n)$  (variations, bounds, convergence).
5. Find the sum of the first 10 terms of  $(u_n)$ .

**Exercise 3** For each sequence, calculate  $u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4$  and check your results using your calculator.

a)  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 0 \\ u_{n+1} = \sqrt{u_n + 6} \end{cases}$       b)  $\begin{cases} u_0 = -2 \\ u_{n+1} = \sqrt{u_n + 6} \end{cases}$       c)  $\begin{cases} u_1 = 1 \\ u_{n+1} = \frac{u_n}{u_n + 1} \end{cases}$       d)  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 1 \\ u_{n+1} = u_n - \frac{1}{n+1} \end{cases}$

**Exercise 4** Study the variations of the following sequences:

a)  $u_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}, n \geq 1$       b)  $u_n = 3n + (-1)^n, n \in \mathbb{N}$       c)  $u_n = n - 3^n, n \in \mathbb{N}$       d)  $u_n = \frac{n}{3^n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$   
 e)  $u_n = \frac{2^n + 1}{3^n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$       f)  $u_n = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{4} \times \dots \times \frac{2n-1}{2n}, n \geq 1$       g)  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 1 \\ u_{n+1} = u_n + 2n + 3 \end{cases}$       h)  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 0,5 \\ u_{n+1} = -u_n^2 + 3u_n - 1 \end{cases}$

**Exercise 5** Find the bounds of the following sequences:

a)  $u_n = \frac{3n^2}{n^2 + 1}, n \in \mathbb{N}$       b)  $u_n = \sqrt{2 + \cos n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$       c)  $u_n = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^n - 1, n \in \mathbb{N}$       d)  $u_n = 1 + \frac{2}{7} + \dots + \left(\frac{2}{7}\right)^n, n \in \mathbb{N}$

**Exercise 6** Find the limits of the following sequences:

- a)  $u_n = 3n^2 - n + \frac{1}{n}, n \geq 1$       b)  $u_n = \frac{n}{2n^2 + 1}, n \in \mathbb{N}$       c)  $u_n = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{5^n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$   
d)  $u_n = \frac{4}{3 - 2^n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$       e)  $u_n = \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$       f)  $u_n = \frac{3^n + 4^n}{3^n + 2^n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$   
g)  $u_n = 2n + (-1)^n, n \in \mathbb{N}$       f)  $u_n = \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n \cos n, n \in \mathbb{N}$       h)  $u_n = \frac{3 - \sin n}{n}, n \geq 1$

**Exercise 7** Let  $(u_n)$  be a sequence defined by  $u_n = 3 + \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n + (-1)^n}, n \geq 2$ . Prove that  $\frac{\sqrt{n}}{n+1} \leq u_n - 3 \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n-1}$ .

Deduce the limit of  $(u_n)$ .

**Exercise 8** Prove that if a sequence converges then it is bounded.

**Exercise 9** For each sequence, find the explicit expression of  $u_n$  and prove it, using induction:

- a)  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 0 \\ u_{n+1} = u_n + n \end{cases}$       b)  $\begin{cases} u_1 = 1 \\ u_{n+1} = \frac{u_n}{u_n + 1} \end{cases}$

**Exercise 10** Using induction, find the variation of the following sequences :

- a)  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 5 \\ u_{n+1} = \sqrt{u_n + 2} \end{cases}$       b)  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 2 \\ u_{n+1} = \frac{u_n}{u_n^2 + 1} \end{cases}$

**Exercise 11** Let  $(u_n)$  be the sequence defined for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  by  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 3 \\ u_{n+1} = 2 + \frac{1}{u_n} \end{cases}$ . Prove that  $2 \leq u_n \leq 3$ .

**Exercise 12:** Let  $(u_n)$  be the sequence defined for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  by  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 1 \\ u_{n+1} = \frac{1}{4}u_n + 3 \end{cases}$

- 1) Using your calculator and a graph, put forward an hypothesis about the convergence of  $(u_n)$ .
- 2) Let  $(v_n)$  be the sequence defined for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  by  $v_n = u_n - 4$ .
  - a) For all natural numbers  $n$ , express  $v_{n+1}$  thanks to  $v_n$ . What kind of sequence is  $(v_n)$ ?
  - b) Prove that  $u_n = -5 \times \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^n + 6$  for all natural numbers  $n$ .
  - c) Prove that  $(u_n)$  converges and find its limit.

**Exercise 13** Let  $(u_n)$  be the sequence defined for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  by:  $u_n = 2^n - n$

- 1) Using your calculator, put forward an hypothesis about the convergence of  $(u_n)$ .
- 2) Study the variations of  $(u_n)$ .
- 3) Prove that, for all natural number  $n, n \geq 3, u_n \geq 1,5^n$ . Deduce the behaviour of  $(u_n)$  at infinity.

**Exercise 17**

**Part A:** Let  $(u_n)$  and  $(S_n)$  be two sequences defined on  $\mathbb{N}$  by:

$$\begin{cases} u_0 = 13 \\ u_{n+1} = \frac{1}{5}u_n + \frac{4}{5} \end{cases} \quad S_n = \sum_{k=0}^n u_k = u_0 + u_1 + \dots + u_n$$

- 1) Using induction, prove that  $u_n = 1 + \frac{12}{5^n}$  for all natural number  $n$ . Deduce the limit of  $(u_n)$ .
- 2) a) Find the variation of  $(S_n)$ .

- Express  $S_n$  as a function of  $n$ .
- Find the limit of  $(S_n)$ .

**Part B:** Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence defined on  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $(S_n)$  be a sequence defined on  $\mathbb{N}$  by:  $S_n = \sum_{k=0}^n u_k$ .

Justify if each proposition is true or false:

- If  $(x_n)$  converges, then  $(S_n)$  converges too.
- The sequences  $(x_n)$  and  $(S_n)$  have the same variation.

**Exercise 18**

In a shooting stand, a person shoot several times to hit several targets. The probability of the first target being hit is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . When a target is hit, the probability if the following target being hit is  $\frac{3}{4}$ . When a target is not hit, the

probability if the following target being hit is  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  $n > 0$ :

- $A_n$  is the event: «the  $n^{\text{th}}$  target is hit»;
- $\overline{A_n}$  is the event: «the  $n^{\text{th}}$  target is not hit»;
- $a_n$  is the probability of  $A_n$
- $b_n$  is the probability of  $\overline{A_n}$ .

- Using a probability tree diagram, find  $a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2$ .
- Prove that  $a_{n+1} = \frac{3}{4}a_n + \frac{1}{2}b_n$  and then, that  $a_{n+1} = \frac{1}{4}a_n + \frac{1}{2}$ .
- Let  $(U_n)$  be the sequence defined by  $U_n = a_n - \frac{2}{3}$ .
  - Prove that  $(U_n)$  is a geometric progression. Give the first term and the common ratio of  $(U_n)$ .
  - Express  $U_n$  as a function of  $n$ , then express  $a_n$  as a function of  $n$ .
  - Find the limit of the sequence  $(a_n)$ .
  - Find the smaller natural number  $n$  so that  $a_n \geq 0.6665$ .

**Exercise 19** Calculator program to calculate the terms of  $u_0$  given and  $u_{n+1} = f(u_n)$

**Nom=** SuiteRec

To type	What is the calculator doing	Where to find what we need
Prompt N,U	These are the values you will be asked to run the program. U and N are the first term of $(u_n)$ and its rank.	In <b>PRGM E/S</b> : Prompt, Disp, Lbl, Goto, Pause
Lbl 0	<b>Lbl</b> labels a line of the program. It needs to be numbered. Here, it is line 0.	
N+1 → N Y1(U) → U	We calculate the next term and its rank and we display them on the screen.	→ : is " <b>sto</b> "
Disp «N»,N Disp «U»,U		
Pause		In <b>VAR Y-VAR f</b>
Goto 0	To <b>run the program</b> , remember to enter the function $f$ in « $f(x)$ », Y1.	<b>unction</b> : Y1

**Exercise 20:**

- We suppose the number  $4^p + 1$ , with  $p$  a random natural number, can be divided by 3. Prove that  $4^{p+1} + 1$  can be divided by 3.
- Can we conclude that  $4^p + 1$  can be divided by 3 for all natural numbers  $n$ ?

3) Prove, using induction, that  $4^n - 1$  can be divided by 3 for all natural numbers  $n$ .

**Exercise 21 :**

1) Let  $(u_n)$  be a sequence defined by:  $u_0 = 5$  and  $u_{n+1} = 3 u_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Prove that  $u_n = 5 \times (3)^n$ , for all natural numbers  $n$ .

2) Let  $(u_n)$  be a sequence defined by:  $u_0 = 0$  and  $u_{n+1} = 2u_n + 1$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Prove that  $u_n = 2^n - 1$  for all natural numbers  $n$ .

**Exercise 22** Let  $(u_n)$  be a sequence defined by  $u_0 = 0$  and  $u_{n+1} = \sqrt{u_n + 6}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Using induction, prove that, for all natural numbers  $n$ ,  $0 \leq u_n \leq 3$ .

**Exercise 23 :** 1) Prove that, for all natural numbers  $n$ ,  $1 + 2 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ .

2) Prove that, for all natural numbers  $n$ ,  $1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$ .

**Exercise 24 :**

To play a lottery game, you are asked to turn two wheels of 20 sectors.

The wheel A has 18 black sectors and 2 red sectors.

The wheel B has 16 black sectors and 4 red sectors.

The arrows of each wheels point to each sector with the same probability.

The rule of the lottery game is:

- The player pays 1 euros and turns wheel A.
- If the arrow points to a red sector, then the player turns wheel B. He write down the colour of the sector the arrow points to, and the game is over.
- If the arrow points to a black sector, then the player turns wheel A again. He write down the colour of the sector the arrow points to, and the game is over.

1) Draw up the probability tree diagram of this random experiment.

2) Let E and F be the following events:

E: «At the end of the game, the two sectors are red»

F: «At the end of the game, only one sector is red».

Prove that  $p(E) = 0,02$  and  $p(F) = 0,17$ .

3) If the two sectors are red, the player wins 10 euros; if only one sector is red, the player wins 2 euros; otherwise, he doesn't win anything.

X is the random variable equal to the amount of money in euros won or lost by the player.

a) Write the probability distribution of X.

b) Find the mean value of X and comment your result.

4) The player wants to play  $n$  games ( $n$  is a natural number greater or equal to 2).

Each game is independent from the other.

a. Prove that the probability that the player turns wheel B at least once is equal to:  $p_n = 1 - (0.9)^n$ .

b. Justify that the sequence  $(p_n)$  converges and find its limit.

c. What is the smallest value of  $n$  so that  $p_n > 0.9$ ?



# Sequences part I

## Exercises sheet answers (samples)

**Exercise 0**

```
PROGRAM: SEQSPED
:Prompt L
:Prompt P
:Prompt U
:0→N
:U→X
:While abs(V1(X)
-L)≥P
:While abs(V1(X)
-L)≥P
:N+1→N
:V1(X)→X
:End
:DISP N
:■
```

**Exercise 1** For  $u_n = \frac{n^2}{n^2 + 1}$  :

5. Study the variations:  $u_{n+1} - u_n = \frac{(n+1)^2}{(n+1)^2 + 1} - \frac{n^2}{n^2 + 1} = \dots = \frac{2n+1}{[(n+1)^2 + 1][n^2 + 1]} > 0$  so  $u$  is increasing.
6. Prove if it has an upper or lower bound (you can use a graph):  $u_n = \frac{n^2}{n^2 + 1} < 1$  since  $n^2 < n^2 + 1$  and  $u_n = \frac{n^2}{n^2 + 1} \geq 0$ . Therefore 0 is a lower bound and 1 an upper bound.
7. Study its limits :  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{n^2}{n^2 + 1} = 1$  rule of the term of highest degree for polynomials
8. When the sequence converges to  $\ell$ , find the rank  $p$  from which all the terms of the sequence  $(u_n)$  are in the interval  $]\ell - 10^{-4}; \ell + 10^{-4}[$  :  $u_n - 1 = \frac{n^2}{n^2 + 1} - 1 = \frac{-1}{n^2 + 1}$ , we have to choose  $n$  so that  $n^2 + 1 > 10^4$  so  $n=100$

**Exercise 2** Let  $(u_n)$  a sequence defined for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  by :  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 5 \\ u_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}u_n + 3 \end{cases}$

6. Is  $(u_n)$  a geometric progression? No, since the recurrence function is not in the form  $u_{n+1} = b \times u_n$
7. Prove that the sequence defined by  $v_n = u_n - 6$  is a geometric progression :  $\frac{v_{n+1} = u_{n+1} - 6}{v_n} = \frac{u_{n+1} - 6}{u_n - 6} = \frac{0.5u_n + 3 - 6}{u_n - 6} = \frac{0.5u_n - 3}{u_n - 6} = \frac{0.5(u_n - 6)}{u_n - 6} = 0.5$  so  $v_n$  is a geometric progression with common ratio 0.5
8. Express  $v_n$  then  $u_n$  using (in terms of)  $n$  :  $v_n = v_0 0.5^n = -0.5^n$  so  $u_n = v_n + 6 = -0.5^n + 6$
9. Study  $(u_n)$  (variations, bounds, convergence) : the sequence  $0.5^n$  is decreasing, so  $(u_n)$  is increasing. Its limit is 6 since  $-0.5^n$  tends to 0. It's then bounded by 5 and 6.
10. Find the sum of the first 10 terms of  $(u_n)$  :  $\sum_0^9 v_n = v_0 \frac{1 - 0.5^{10}}{1 - 0.5} = -\frac{1023}{2048}$  so

$$\sum_0^9 u_n = \sum_0^9 (v_n + 6) = \sum_0^9 v_n + \sum_0^9 6 = -\frac{1023}{2048} + 60 = \frac{121857}{2048}$$

**Exercise 3** For a)  $u_0 = 0, u_1 = \sqrt{6} \approx 2.45, u_2 = \sqrt{\sqrt{6} + 6} \approx 2.91, u_3 = \sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{6} + 6} + 6} \approx 2.98, u_4 = \sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{6} + 6} + 6} + 6} \approx 2.997$   
Check with wolframalpha (  $u(n+1) = \text{sqrt}(u(n)+6), u(0) = 0$  )

**Exercise 4** Study the variations of the following sequences:

For a)  $u_{n+1} - u_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} - \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \dots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} > 0$  so  $u$  is increasing

**Exercise 5** Find the bounds of the following sequences:

For a)  $u_n = \frac{3n^2}{n^2+1}$ ,  $\frac{3n^2}{n^2+1} < 3$  since  $n^2 < n^2+1$  and  $\frac{3n^2}{n^2+1} \geq 0$ . Therefore 0 is a lower bound and 3 an upper bound

**Exercise 6** Find the limits of the following sequences:

For a)  $u_n = 3n^2 - n + \frac{1}{n} = 3n^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{3n} + \frac{1}{3n^3}\right)$ ,  $\lim 3n^2 = +\infty$  and  $\lim \left(1 - \frac{1}{3n} + \frac{1}{3n^3}\right) = 1$  so, by product  $\lim u_n = +\infty$ .

b)  $u_n = \frac{n}{2n^2+1}$ ,  $\lim(u_n) = 0$       c)  $u_n = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{5^n}$ ,  $\lim(u_n) = \frac{1}{4}$

d)  $u_n = \frac{4}{3-2^n}$ ,  $\lim(u_n) = 0$       e)  $u_n = \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}$ ,  $\lim(u_n) = 0$       f)  $u_n = \frac{3^n + 4^n}{3^n + 2^n}$ ,  $\lim(u_n) = +\infty$

g)  $u_n = 2n + (-1)^n$ ,  $\lim(u_n) = +\infty$       f)  $\lim(u_n) = 0, n \in \mathbb{N}$       h)  $u_n = \frac{3 - \sin n}{n}$ ,  $\lim(u_n) = 0$

**Exercise 7** Let  $(u_n)$  a sequence defined by  $u_n = 3 + \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n + (-1)^n}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ . Prove that  $\frac{\sqrt{n}}{n+1} \leq u_n - 3 \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n-1}$ .

Deduce the limit of  $(u_n)$  :  $\lim(u_n) = 3$

**Exercise 8** Prove that if a sequence converges then it is bounded.

**Exercise 9** For each sequence, find the explicit expression of  $u_n$  and prove it, using induction:

a)  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 0 \\ u_{n+1} = u_n + n \end{cases}$        $u_n = 0.5n(n-1)$       b)  $\begin{cases} u_1 = 1 \\ u_{n+1} = \frac{u_n}{u_n+1} \end{cases}$        $u_n = \frac{1}{n+1}$

**Exercise 10** Using induction, find the variation of the following sequences :

a)  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 5 \\ u_{n+1} = \sqrt{u_n + 2} \end{cases}$       Decreasing, limit 2      b)  $\begin{cases} u_0 = 2 \\ u_{n+1} = \frac{u_n}{u_n^2 + 1} \end{cases}$       Decreasing, limit 0