

Symbols :

$\exists$:= There exist

$\exists$:= Such that

$\subseteq$:= subset

$\supseteq$:= superset

$\cup$:= Union

$\cap$:= Intersection

Notations:

$\mathbb{N}$ = the set of all positive integers.

$$= \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

$\mathbb{Z}$ = the set of all integers

$$= \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$$

$\mathbb{Q}$ = the set of all rational numbers

$$= \left\{ \frac{m}{n} \mid m, n \in \mathbb{Z}, n \neq 0 \right\}.$$

$\mathbb{R}$ = the set of all real numbers.

$\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ = the set of all irrational numbers.

Note:

1. $\mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{R}.$

2. $\mathbb{R} = (\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}) \cup \mathbb{Q}$

3. Every rational number can be written in the form $\frac{m}{n}$, where $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $n > 0$ and $(m, n) = 1$.

Result: $\sqrt{2}$ is ^{not a} rational number.

Pf: Suppose, on contrary, that $\sqrt{2} = \frac{m}{n}$ $\exists m, n$
 $n > 0$ and $(m, n) = 1$.

Since $m^2 = 2n^2$, $\Rightarrow m^2$ is even $\Rightarrow m$ is even

(If m is odd, then $m = 2p-1$, & $m^2 = (2p-1)^2$
 $= 4p^2 - 4p + 1$

$\Rightarrow m^2 = 2(2p^2 - 2p + 1) - 1$ is also odd).

$\therefore$ Since m and n do not have 2 as a common factor, $\therefore (m, n) = 1$

then n must be an odd natural number.

Since m is even, then $m = 2p$ for some $p \in \mathbb{N}$,

and hence $4p^2 = m^2 \Rightarrow 4p^2 = 2n^2 \Rightarrow 2p^2 = n^2$.

$\therefore n^2$ is even $\Rightarrow n$ is even (same argument as above)

which is a contradiction as n cannot be both even and odd.

$\therefore \sqrt{2}$ is not rational.

$\rightarrow$ From the information we know, we can't say that $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational. For this, we need more information/properties of $\mathbb{R}$.

Now we discuss the essential properties of the real number system $\mathbb{R}$.

* Algebraic Properties of $\mathbb{R}$

On the set $\mathbb{R}$ of real numbers there are two binary operations, denoted by $+$ and $\cdot$ and called "addition" and "multiplication", respectively. These operations satisfy the following properties:

A1 : Commutative Property : $a + b = b + a \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$.

A2 : Associative Property : $a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c \quad \forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$.

A3 : Additive identity : $\exists$ an element $0 \in \mathbb{R} \exists 0 + a = a + 0 = a \quad \forall a \in \mathbb{R}$.

A4 : Additive inverse : for each $a \in \mathbb{R} \exists -a \in \mathbb{R} \exists a + (-a) = 0$ and $(-a) + a = 0$.

M1: Commutative Property w.r.t $\cdot$: $a \cdot b = b \cdot a \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

M2: Associative Property w.r.t $\cdot$: $a \cdot (b \cdot c) = (a \cdot b) \cdot c$

M3: Multiplicative identity : $\exists$ ^{an element} $1 (\neq 0) \in \mathbb{R} \ni 1 \cdot a = a, 1 = a$
 $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}.$

M4: Multiplicative inverse: For each $a \neq 0$ in $\mathbb{R} \ni$ an element $1/a$ in $\mathbb{R} \ni a \cdot (1/a) = 1$ and $(1/a) \cdot a = 1$

D: Distributive laws: For all $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$, we have

i), $a \cdot (b + c) = a \cdot b + a \cdot c$

ii), $(b + c) \cdot a = b \cdot a + c \cdot a$

* Order Properties of $\mathbb{R}$.

There is a non-empty subset $\mathbb{R}^+$ of $\mathbb{R}$, called the set of positive real numbers, that satisfies the following properties:

(i) Given $a \in \mathbb{R}$, exactly one of the following holds: $a \in \mathbb{R}^+$ or $a = 0$ or $-a \in \mathbb{R}^+$.

ii), $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^+ \Rightarrow a + b \in \mathbb{R}^+$

iii), $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^+ \Rightarrow a \cdot b \in \mathbb{R}^+.$

Note:- Thanks to the existence of $\mathbb{R}^+$, we can now define the notion of inequality between two real numbers using $\mathbb{R}^+.$

Definition:- let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$.

we define i) $a < b$ if $b - a \in \mathbb{R}^+$.

ii) $a > b$ if $b < a$.

From the above, we can say $\mathbb{R}^+ = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x > 0\}$ and

$$\bullet a, b \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow a < b \text{ or } a = b \text{ or } a > b.$$

$$\bullet a, b \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } a < b \Rightarrow a + c < b + c \quad \forall c \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$ac < bc \quad \forall c(>0) \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{and } ac > bc \quad \forall c(<0) \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Examples:-

i) let $a \geq 0$ and $b \geq 0$. Then

$$a \leq b \Leftrightarrow a^2 \leq b^2 \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{a} \leq \sqrt{b}.$$

ii) If $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then their "arithmetic mean" $\frac{1}{2}(a+b)$ is greater than or equal to their "geometric mean" $\sqrt{ab}$.

$$\text{i.e., } \sqrt{ab} \leq \frac{1}{2}(a+b).$$

iii) If $x > -1$, then $(1+x)^n \geq 1+nx \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.

This inequality is known as "Bernoulli's Inequality".

* Absolute value

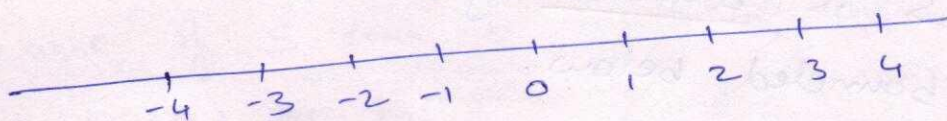
$$\text{For } x \in \mathbb{R}, |x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Basic facts: For any $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$,

- $|x+y| \leq |x|+|y|$ (Triangle inequality)
- $||x|-|y|| \leq |x-y|$
- $|x-y| \leq |x|+|y|$

Note:- The absolute value $|x|$ of an element x in $\mathbb{R}$ is regarded as the distance from x to the origin 0. More generally, the distance between elements x and y in $\mathbb{R}$ is $|x-y|$.

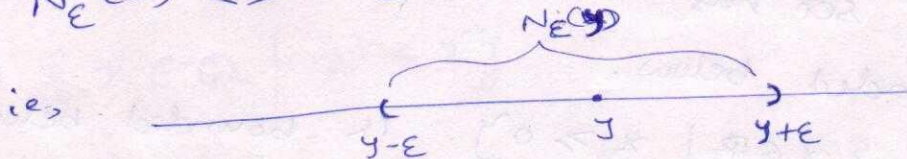
$$|(-1)-(3)| = 4$$



The distance between $x = -1$ and $y = 3$.

Def:- Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. Then the ε -neighborhood of y is the set $N_\varepsilon(y) = \{x \mid |x-y| < \varepsilon\}$.

$$N_\varepsilon(x) \Leftrightarrow -\varepsilon < x-y < \varepsilon \Leftrightarrow y-\varepsilon < x < y+\varepsilon$$



An ε -nbd of y .

* Earlier we have seen that $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$. This observation shows the necessity of an additional property to characterize the real number system. This additional property, the Completeness Property, is an essential property of $\mathbb{R}$. To describe the Completeness Property, we first introduce the notions of upper bound & lower bound.

Def 1: Let S be a nonempty subset of $\mathbb{R}$.

- S is bounded above if $\exists u \in \mathbb{R} \ni x \leq u \forall x \in S$.

Any such u is called an upper bound of S .

- S is bounded below if $\exists w \in \mathbb{R} \ni w \leq x \forall x \in S$.

Any such w is called a lower bound of S .

- S is bounded if it is bounded above as well as bounded below.

Examples:

1. $S_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x < 2\}$ is bounded above. The number 2 and any number larger than 2 is an upper bound of S_1 . *Observe that $2 \notin S_1$.*

This set has no lower bounds, so this set is not bounded below.

2. $S_2 = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \geq 0\}$ is bounded below. The number 0 and any number less than 0 is ~~an~~ a lower bound of S_2 . *Observe that $0 \in S_2$.*

Definition (Supremum (lub or sup) + Infimum (glb or lub))

Let $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$.

a) A real number M is called a supremum ^(sup) or a least upper bound (lub) of S if

- M is an u.b of S i.e., $x \leq M \quad \forall x \in S$
- $M \leq u$ for any upper bound u of S .

b) Similarly, a real number m is called an Infimum (Inf) or a greatest lower bound (glb) of S if

- m is a l.b of S i.e., $m \leq x \quad \forall x \in S$.
- $w \leq m$ for any lowerbound w of S .

Uniqueness: It is easy to see that if a supremum exists, then it is unique. We denote the supremum of a set S by $\sup S$.

Likewise, if S has an infimum, then it is unique and is denoted by $\inf S$.

Examples:-

1. $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 < x \leq 1\}$

$$\inf S = 0, \quad \sup S = 1 = \max S \quad (\because 1 \in S)$$

2. $S = \{x \in \mathbb{Q} \mid x^2 < 2\}$

$$\inf S = -\sqrt{2}, \quad \sup S = \sqrt{2}$$

Note:- $S \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ but $\sup S \notin \mathbb{Q}$ & $\inf S \notin \mathbb{Q}$ because $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$

* Completeness Property of $\mathbb{R}$:

Every nonempty subset of $\mathbb{R}$ that is bounded above has a supremum in $\mathbb{R}$.

With this property, we can conclude that $\sqrt{2}$ is an element of $\mathbb{R}$ and is not a rational number. Hence $\sqrt{2}$ is an irrational number.

Note:- Using Completeness Property of $\mathbb{R}$, we can also

conclude the following: (along with algebraic & order properties too)

1. "Every non-empty subset of $\mathbb{R}$ that is bounded below has an infimum in $\mathbb{R}$ ".

2. [Archimedean Property]

Given $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} \ni n > x$.

3. [Existence of n^{th} roots]

Given $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $a \in \mathbb{R}$ with $a \geq 0$, $\exists$ unique $b \in \mathbb{R} \ni b \geq 0$ and $b^n = a$.

Here $b = a^{\frac{1}{n}}$ or $b = \sqrt[n]{a}$.

4. [Density Theorem]

- Given any $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ with $a < b$, there is a rational as well as irrational between a & b .

- Between any two real numbers, there are infinitely many rationals as well as irrationals.

Intervals:

If $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfy $a < b$, then

- open interval, $(a, b) := \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a < x < b\}$
- closed interval, $[a, b] := \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a \leq x \leq b\}$.
- Semi-open intervals (or semi-closed)

$$(a, b] := \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a < x \leq b\}$$

$$\& [a, b) := \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a \leq x < b\}.$$

There are five types of unbounded intervals for which the symbols ∞ and $-\infty$ are used as notation convenience. They are:

(i), $(a, \infty) := \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x > a\}$

(ii), $(-\infty, b) := \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x < b\}$.

(iii), $[a, \infty) := \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \geq a\}$

(iv), $(-\infty, b] := \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \leq b\}$

(v), $(-\infty, \infty) := \mathbb{R}$.

General Definition: A subset I of $\mathbb{R}$ is called an

interval if $x, y \in I, x < y \Rightarrow [x, y] \subseteq I$.

Sequences

Definition:

A sequence in $\mathbb{R}$ is a function from $\mathbb{N}$ to $\mathbb{R}$.

* If $X: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a sequence, we will usually denote the value of X at n by the symbol x_n rather than using the function notation $X(n)$.

we usually denote a sequence by $\langle x_n \rangle$.

x_n is called the n^{th} term of the seq. $\langle x_n \rangle$.

Examples:

- $\langle n \rangle \sim 1, 2, 3, \dots$
- $\langle (-1)^n \rangle \sim -1, 1, -1, 1, -1, 1, \dots$
- $\langle \frac{1}{2^n} \rangle \sim \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{8}, \dots$
- $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 1, x_{n+1} = x_{n-1} + x_n \ (n \geq 2)$.

Then $\langle x_n \rangle = 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, \dots$

"This sequence is known as 'Fibonacci Sequence'."

Basic Definitions:

Def: A sequence $\langle x_n \rangle$ is said to be

- bounded above if the set $\{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$ of its terms is bounded above, i.e., $\exists \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $x_n \leq \alpha \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.
- bounded below if the set $\{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$ of its terms is bounded below, i.e., $\exists \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $x_n \geq \beta \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.
- bounded if $\exists M(>0) \in \mathbb{R} \ni |x_n| \leq M \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Examples:

- $\langle (-1)^n \rangle$, $\langle \frac{1}{n} \rangle$, $\langle \frac{1}{2^n} \rangle$, $\langle \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} \rangle$ are bounded,
- $\langle n \rangle$, $\langle 2^n \rangle$, Fibonacci sequence are bounded below but not bounded above.

Def: A sequence $\langle x_n \rangle$ is

- increasing (or monotonically increasing) if $x_1 \leq x_2 \leq x_3 \leq \dots$, i.e., $x_n \leq x_{n+1} \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.
- decreasing (or monotonically decreasing) if $x_1 \geq x_2 \geq x_3 \geq \dots$, i.e., $x_n \geq x_{n+1} \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.
- Monotonic if it is ^{either} increasing or decreasing.

Examples:

- $\langle 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, n, \dots \rangle = \langle n \rangle$,

$\langle a^n \rangle$, where $a > 1$,

$\langle 2^n \rangle$, Fibonacci sequence

are increasing sequences.

- $\langle \frac{1}{n} \rangle$, $\langle \frac{1}{2^n} \rangle$, $\langle b^n \rangle$, where $0 < b < 1$, are decreasing sequences.

- $\langle (-1)^n \rangle$, $\langle (-1)^n n \rangle$ are not monotonic.

Most important def. (Convergence / limit of a sequence)

Def: A sequence $\langle x_n \rangle$ is said to be convergent if $\exists$ a real number l such that for every $\epsilon > 0$,

$$|x_n - l| < \varepsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

Intuitively this means that the terms approach l as n becomes larger and larger.

NOTE: If a sequence has a limit, we say that the sequence is convergent; A sequence is said to be divergent if it is not convergent.

Observations:

1. A sequence in $\mathbb{R}$ can have at most one limit. i.e., if the limit exists, then that limit is unique.
2. If $\langle x_n \rangle$ cgs to l , then, we write $x_n \rightarrow l$ to indicate $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = l$.
3. The convergence of a sequence is unaltered if a finite number of its terms are replaced by other terms.
4. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = l \Leftrightarrow$ for each ε -nbd $N_\varepsilon(l)$, all but a finite number of terms of $\langle x_n \rangle$ belongs to $N_\varepsilon(l)$.

Examples:

1. If $\langle x_n \rangle$ is a constant sequence, i.e., $x_n = c \quad \forall n$, then $x_n \rightarrow c$.

Here for a given $\varepsilon > 0$, we can choose any $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ which satisfies the condition $|x_n - c| < \varepsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_0$.

2. If $x_n = \frac{1}{n} \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, then $x_n \rightarrow 0$.

i.e., $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 0$.

Sol: If $\epsilon > 0$ is given, then $\frac{1}{\epsilon} > 0$.

By the Archimedean Property, $\exists K \in \mathbb{N} \exists$

$$\frac{1}{K} < \epsilon.$$

Then, if $n \geq K$, we have $\frac{1}{n} \leq \frac{1}{K} < \epsilon$.

$\therefore$ Given $\epsilon > 0$, choose $K \in \mathbb{N} \exists \frac{1}{K} < \epsilon$, then

$$\left| \frac{1}{n} - 0 \right| \leq \frac{1}{n} < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq K.$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0.$$

3. The sequence $\langle (-1)^n \rangle$ is not convergent.

Sol: Suppose if $\exists l \in \mathbb{R} \exists (-1)^n \rightarrow l$, then for $\epsilon := 1$

we could find $n_0 \in \mathbb{N} \exists |(-1)^n - l| < \epsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_0$.

$$\Rightarrow |(-1)^n - l| < 1 \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

$$\text{In particular } |(-1)^{2n_0} - l| < 1 \quad \& \quad |(-1)^{2n_0+1} - l| < 1$$

$$\therefore 2 = |(-1)^{2n_0} - (-1)^{2n_0+1}| \leq |(-1)^{2n_0} - l| + |(-1)^{2n_0+1} - l|$$

$$< 1 + 1 = 2$$

$\Rightarrow 2 < 2$, which is a contradiction.

$\therefore \langle (-1)^n \rangle$ is not convergent.

Some basic Results!

1. Every convergent sequence of real numbers is bounded.

Proof: Suppose that $x_n \rightarrow l$ and let $\epsilon = 1$.

Then $\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N} \ni |x_n - l| < 1 \quad \forall n \geq n_0$.

$$\text{Now } |x_n| = |x_n - l + l| \leq |x_n - l| + |l| < 1 + |l| \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

If we set $M := \max\{|x_1|, |x_2|, \dots, |x_{n_0}|, 1 + |l|\}$, then $|x_n| \leq M \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.

* As a consequence, we can immediately say that $\langle n \rangle$ and $\langle 2^n \rangle$ are divergent. (as these sequences are unbounded).

2. Let $\langle x_n \rangle$ and $\langle y_n \rangle$ be sequences of real no. that converge to l and m , respectively, and let $c \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

- $x_n + y_n \rightarrow l + m$

- $c x_n \rightarrow c l$

- $x_n \cdot y_n \rightarrow l m$

- If $m \neq 0$, then $\exists N \in \mathbb{N} \ni y_n \neq 0 \quad \forall n \geq N$ and the seq. $\langle \frac{x_n}{y_n} \rangle_{n \geq N}$ converges to $\frac{l}{m}$.

Proof: [Take it as an exercise.]

2. If $x_n \rightarrow l$ then $|x_n| \rightarrow |l|$. Converse need not

4. If $\langle x_n \rangle$ is a convergent sequence of real no.'s and if $x_n \geq 0 \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x \geq 0$.

Proof:- On the contrary, if $x < 0$; then for $\epsilon = -x > 0$,
 $\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N} \ni x - \epsilon < x_n < x + \epsilon \forall n \geq n_0$.

In particular, $0 \leq x_n < x + \epsilon = x + (-x) = 0$.

$\therefore 0 \leq x_n < 0$, which contradicts.

$\therefore x \geq 0$.

5. Sandwich / Squeeze Theorem

Suppose $x_n \leq y_n \leq z_n \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, and suppose

that $\lim x_n = \lim z_n = l$. Then $\lim y_n = l$.

Proof:- for $\epsilon > 0 \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N} \ni |x_n - l| < \epsilon$ & $|z_n - l| < \epsilon \forall n \geq n_0$.

$\therefore x_n - \epsilon < y_n - \epsilon < z_n - \epsilon \forall n \geq n_0$

[we can choose such large n_0 which satisfies both.]

$\Rightarrow -\epsilon < x_n - l \leq y_n - l \leq z_n - l < \epsilon \forall n \geq n_0$.

$\therefore y_n \rightarrow l$.

Examples:-

1. $x_n = \frac{\sin n}{n}$

Note that $-1 \leq \sin n \leq 1$.

Then it follows that

$$-\frac{1}{n} \leq \frac{\sin n}{n} \leq \frac{1}{n} \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$\therefore -\frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$ & $\frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$, by Sandwich / Squeeze th,

$$\frac{\sin n}{n} \rightarrow 0. \quad \therefore \lim \left(\frac{\sin n}{n} \right) = 0.$$

2. Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ with $|x| < 1$. Define $x_n = x^n$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

If $x = 0$, then clearly $x_n \rightarrow 0$.

Suppose $x \neq 0$. Then $\frac{1}{|x|} > 1$ and hence we can write $\frac{1}{|x|} = 1 + K$ with $K > 0$.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{|x|^n} = (1+K)^n = 1 + nK + \binom{n}{2}K^2 + \dots \geq nK \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\therefore 0 < |x_n| = |x|^n \leq \frac{1}{nK} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

$$\Rightarrow x_n \rightarrow 0.$$

*

Theorem 1.

A monotone sequence of real numbers is convergent if and only if it is bounded.

More precisely,

a) If $\langle x_n \rangle$ is a bounded increasing sequence (bounded above is enough to be precise) then $\lim x_n = \sup \{x_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

b) If $\langle y_n \rangle$ is a bounded (bounded below is enough) decreasing seq., then $\langle y_n \rangle$ is convergent and $y_n \rightarrow \inf \{y_n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

Proof 1.

a) Suppose $\langle x_n \rangle$ is increasing and bounded above. Then $M = \sup \{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$ exists.

Given any $\varepsilon > 0$, we have $M - \varepsilon < M$ and so

$$\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N} \ni x_{n_0} > M - \varepsilon.$$

$$\text{But then } M - \varepsilon < x_n < x_n \leq M < M + \varepsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

$$\Rightarrow |x_n - M| < \varepsilon \quad \forall n \geq n_0.$$

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$$\therefore x_n \rightarrow M.$$

b) [Proof is similar as in (a)].

Example :-

$$\text{Consider } x_n = 1 + \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} + \dots + \frac{1}{n!}$$

Clearly $\langle x_n \rangle$ is an increasing sequence.

$$\text{Also } x_n \leq 1 + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} = 1 + 2\left(1 - \frac{1}{2^n}\right) < 3.$$

$\therefore$ By monotone cgs. th, $\langle x_n \rangle$ is convergent.

~~Q.E.D.~~