

4. A sequence $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ satisfies

$$a_1 = 1, \quad a_2 = A, \quad \text{and} \quad a_n = \frac{a_{n-1} + a_{n-2}}{a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}} \cdot a_{n-1} \quad \text{for } n \geq 3,$$

where A is a real number such that $A \neq 1$, $A \neq 0$, $A \neq -1$.

a. In the following, fill in the s with real numbers that will make the sentence into a true statement.

If $A =$, then $a_3 =$ and $a_4 =$.

b. In each of the following, fill in the with a real number that will make the corresponding sentence into a true statement.

❶ If $A =$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \infty$.

❷ If $A =$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$.

❸ If $A =$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n| \neq \infty$.

c. Now choose exactly one of the statements you made in **Part b** by putting a **X** in the corresponding , and prove it fully and carefully by using correct mathematical reasoning and notation.

If $A = \sqrt{2} - 1$, then $a_3 = \frac{\sqrt{2}-1+1}{\sqrt{2}-1-1} \cdot (\sqrt{2}-1) = -1$, $a_4 = \frac{-1+\sqrt{2}-1}{-1-(\sqrt{2}-1)} \cdot (-1) = 1-\sqrt{2}$,

$a_5 = \frac{1-\sqrt{2}+(-1)}{1-\sqrt{2}-(-1)} \cdot (1-\sqrt{2}) = 1$, $a_6 = \frac{1+1-\sqrt{2}}{1-(1-\sqrt{2})} \cdot 1 = \sqrt{2}-1$.

Hence the pattern $1, \sqrt{2}-1, -1, 1-\sqrt{2}, 1, \sqrt{2}-1, \dots$ repeats.

Therefore $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n| \neq \infty$.