

Theorem:  $\{a_n\}$  convergent  $\Rightarrow \{a_n\}$  bounded.

Note that by taking the contrapositive we get:

Corollary: If  $\{a_n\}$  is not bounded, then  $\{a_n\}$  is divergent.

Example: The sequence  $a_n = \frac{n^2}{2n+1}$  is divergent since it is not bounded above

[ If  $\exists M > 0$  such that  $\frac{n^2}{2n+1} \leq M \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\frac{n^2}{3n} \leq M \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$  too,  
(since  $\frac{n^2}{2n+1} > \frac{n^2}{2n+n} = \frac{n^2}{3n}$ ) & hence  $n \leq 3M \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$  But this  
contradicts the fact that  $\mathbb{N}$  is unbounded above. ]

Proof of Theorem

Since  $\exists a \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = a$  we know  $\exists N$  such that

$n > N$  implies  $|a_n - a| < 1$  (take  $\varepsilon = 1$  in defn)

Since  $|a_n| = |(a_n - a) + a| \leq |a_n - a| + |a|$  it follows that

$|a_n| \leq 1 + |a|$  for all  $n > N$ .

and hence that  $|a_n| \leq \max\{|a_1|, |a_2|, \dots, |a_N|, 1 + |a|\}$ .  $\square$

$\triangle$  Converse of this Theorem is FALSE  $\triangle$

Ex:  $(-1)^n$  is bounded, but not convergent.