

TWO CLASSES OF LALESCU'S SEQUENCES

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This year is celebrating 116 years since the publication of Traian Lalescu's problem in Mathematical Gazette. Because a large number of Lalescu's type problems are recently published in international prestigious magazines (some of these can be found also in reference in [4] - http://www.mathproblems-ks.org/?wpfb_dl=20) we present two classes of Lalescu's sequences.

Traian Lalescu's sequence is $(L_n)_{n \geq 2}$ given by $L_n = \sqrt[n+1]{(n+1)!} - \sqrt[n]{n!}$, see [5]. Let be $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ is a sequence of real numbers strictly positive and $x \in R_+$. We define the sequence $M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ of general term

$$(1) \quad M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{a_1^x + a_2^x + \dots + a_n^x}{n} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}}, & x \in R_+^*, \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = \sqrt[n]{a_1 a_2 \dots a_n}, & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

Next we consider a sequence $(r_n)_{n \geq 1}$ of real numbers strictly positive, convergent with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r_n = r \in R_+^*$ and also a sequence $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ of real numbers strictly positive having the property that there exists $k \in R_+$ such that

$$(2) \quad a_{n+1} = a_n + r_n \cdot n^k, \forall n \in N^*$$

Also, we will denote $a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n = a_n!$ and for any $x \in R_+$ we denote $s_n(x) = a_1^x + a_2^x + \dots + a_n^x$.

Next we will calculate some limits useful in proving the theorems from this article.

1. From the definition mode of the sequence $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ it follows that

$$\frac{a_{n+1} - a_n}{n^k} = r_n, \forall n \in N^* \text{ wherefrom we deduce that}$$

$$(3) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1} - a_n}{n^k} = r$$

2. Using Cesaro - Stolz's theorem we obtain

$$(4) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{n^{k+1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1} - a_n}{(n+1)^{k+1} - n^{k+1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{a_{n+1} - a_n}{n^k} \cdot \frac{n^k}{(n+1)^{k+1} - n^{k+1}} \right) = \frac{r}{k+1}$$

3. Using Cauchy - D' Alembert's criterion it follows that

$$(5) \quad \begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{k+1}}{\sqrt[n]{a_n!}} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{\frac{n^{n(k+1)}}{a_n!}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{(n+1)^{(n+1)(k+1)}}{a_{n+1}!} \cdot \frac{a_n!}{n^{n(k+1)}} \right) = \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{(n+1)^{k+1}}{a_{n+1}} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n(k+1)} \right) = \frac{k+1}{r} \cdot e^{k+1} \end{aligned}$$

4. We notice that

$$(6) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{\sqrt[n]{a_n!}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{a_n}{n^{k+1}} \cdot \frac{n^{k+1}}{\sqrt[n]{a_n!}} \right) = \frac{r}{k+1} \cdot \frac{k+1}{r} \cdot e^{k+1}$$

and that

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}!}}{\sqrt[n]{a_n!}} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}!}}{a_{n+1}} \cdot \frac{a_n}{\sqrt[n]{a_n!}} \cdot \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right) = e^{-(k+1)} \cdot e^{k+1} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n + n^k \cdot r_n}{a_n} = \\ &= 1 + r \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^k}{a_n} = 1 + r \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n^{k+1}}{a_n} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \right) = 1 + r \cdot \frac{k+1}{r} \cdot e^{k+1} \cdot 0 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$(8) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}!}}{\sqrt[n]{a_n!}} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{a_{n+1}!}{a_n!} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}!}} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{\sqrt[n+1]{a_{n+1}}} = e^{k+1}$$

5. For $x \in R_+^*$ we calculate

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M_n^{[n]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)}{n^{k+1}} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left(\frac{s_n(x)}{n} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}}}{n^{k+1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{s_n(x)}{n^{(k+1) \cdot x+1}} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}} = \\ &= \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{s_{n+1}(x) - s_n(x)}{(n+1)^{(k+1) \cdot x+1} - n^{(k+1) \cdot x+1}} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}} = \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{(k+1) \cdot x}}{(n+1)^{(k+1) \cdot x+1} - n^{(k+1) \cdot x+1}} \cdot \left(\frac{a_{n+1}}{n^{k+1}} \right)^x \right)^{\frac{1}{x}} = \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{(k+1) \cdot x + 1} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}} \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{n^{k+1}} = \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}} \cdot \frac{r}{k+1} \end{aligned}$$

and also

$$(10) \quad \begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)}{a_n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)}{n^{k+1}} \cdot \frac{n^{k+1}}{a_n} \right) = \\ &= \frac{r}{k+1} \cdot \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}} \cdot \frac{k+1}{r} = \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}} \end{aligned}$$

respectively

$$(11) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M_n^{[n]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)}{M_n^{[y]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{a_n}{M_n^{[y]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)} \cdot \frac{M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)}{a_n} \right) = \frac{(1+y)^{\frac{1}{y}}}{(1+x)^{\frac{1}{x}}}$$

6. If $x \in R_+^*$ and $k \in R_+$, then

$$(12) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1})}{M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)} = 1$$

Indeed, for any $x \in R_+^*$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1})}{M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1})}{a_{n+1}} \cdot \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \cdot \frac{a_n}{M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)} \right) = \\ &= \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}} \cdot \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{\frac{1}{x}} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

7. If $x \in R_+^*$ and $k \in R_+$, then

$$(13) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1})}{M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)} \right)^n = e^{k+1}$$

$$\text{Indeed, } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1})}{M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)} \right)^n = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{s_{n+1}(x)}{n+1} \cdot \frac{n}{s_n(x)} \right)^{\frac{n}{x}} =$$

$$(14) \quad = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\left(\frac{s_{n+1}(x)}{s_n(x)} \right)^n \cdot \left(\frac{n}{n+1} \right)^n \right)^{\frac{1}{x}} = e^{-\frac{1}{x}} \cdot \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{s_{n+1}(x)}{s_n(x)} \right)^n \right)^{\frac{1}{x}},$$

We notice that

$$(15) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{s_{n+1}(x)}{s_n(x)} \right)^n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{a_{n+1}^x}{s_n(x)} \right)^n = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\left(1 + \frac{a_{n+1}^x}{s_n(x)} \right)^{s_n(x) \cdot a_{n+1}^{-x}} \right)^{\frac{n \cdot a_{n+1}^x}{s_n(x)}} = e^t$$

where

$$(16) \quad \begin{aligned} t &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \cdot a_{n+1}^x}{s_n(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{a_{n+1}}{n^{k+1}} \right)^x \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{(k+1) \cdot x+1}}{s_n(x)} = \\ &= \left(\frac{r}{k+1} \right)^x \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^{(k+1) \cdot x+1}}{s_{n+1}(x) - s_n(x)} = \left(\frac{r}{k+1} \right)^x \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)^{(k+1) \cdot x+1} - n^{(k+1) \cdot x+1}}{n^{(k+1) \cdot x}} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{(k+1) \cdot x}}{a_{n+1}^x} = \\ &= \left(\frac{r}{k+1} \right)^x \cdot \left(\frac{k+1}{r} \right)^x \cdot (1 + (k+1) \cdot x) = 1 + (k+1) \cdot x \end{aligned}$$

From (14), (15) and (16) we deduce that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1})}{M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)} \right)^n = e^{-\frac{1}{x}} \cdot e^{\frac{1}{x} + k+1} = e^{k+1} \text{ which follows from (13)}$$

Next we will consider $k = 0$, namely $a_{n+1} = a_n + r_n, \forall n \in N^*$ with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_{n+1} - a_n) = r > 0$ and we will prove

Theorem 1. If the sequence of real numbers strictly positive $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ verify the relationship $a_{n+1} = a_n + r_n, \forall n \in N^*$, then the sequence $(L_n(x))_{n \geq 1}$ of general term

$$L_n(x) = M_{n+1}^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1}) - M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \text{ is convergent and}$$

$$(17) \quad L(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_n(x) = \begin{cases} r \cdot (1+x)^{-\frac{1}{x}}, & x \in R_+^*, \\ r \cdot e^{-1}, & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

Proof. For any $x \in R_+^*$ avem

$$(18) \quad L(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \cdot (u_n(x) - 1) \right)$$

where $u_n(x) = \frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1})}{M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)}$ and according to (12) we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n(x) = 1 \text{ and hence } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n(x) - 1}{\ln u_n(x)} = 1.$$

$$\text{So, } L(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \cdot \frac{u_n(x) - 1}{\ln u_n(x)} \cdot \ln u_n(x) \right) =$$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)}{n} \cdot \frac{u_n(x) - 1}{\ln u_n(x)} \cdot \frac{u_n(x) - 1}{\ln u_n(x)} \cdot \ln(u_n(x))^n \right)$, wherefrom if we take into account relationships (9), and (13) we deduce that

$$L(x) = r \cdot (1+x)^{-\frac{1}{x}} \cdot 1 \cdot \ln e = r \cdot (1+x)^{-\frac{1}{x}} = \frac{r}{(1+x)^{\frac{1}{x}}} \text{ for } x \in R_+^*.$$

If $x = 0$, then $L(0) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left({}^{n+1}\sqrt{a_{n+1}!} - \sqrt[n]{a_n!} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sqrt[n]{a_n!} \cdot (u_n(0) - 1) \right) =$

$$(19) \quad = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\sqrt[n]{a_n!}}{n} \cdot \frac{u_n(0) - 1}{\ln u_n(0)} \cdot \ln(u_n(0))^n \right)$$

If we take into account relationships (5) and (8) from relationship (19) we obtain

$$(20) \quad L(0) = \frac{r}{e} \cdot 1 \cdot \ln e = \frac{r}{e}$$

With these theorem it is proved. \square

Observation 1. If $r_n = 1, \forall n \in N^*$ and $a_1 = 1$, then $a_n = n, \forall n \in N^*$ and relationship (20) becomes

$$(21) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left({}^{n+1}\sqrt{(n+1)!} - \sqrt[n]{n!} \right) = e^{-1}$$

we have obtained the limit of Traina Lalescu's sequence.

Let be $(r_n)_{n \geq 1}$ a sequence of real strictly positive numbers such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r_n = r \in R_+$ and $(a_n)_{n \geq 1} : a_1 \in R_+, a_{n+1} = a_n \cdot r_n \cdot n^k, \forall n \in N^*, k \in R$, and

$$(22) \quad M_n^{[x]}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^x \right)^{\frac{1}{x}}, \forall n \in N^*,$$

We have the next

Theorem 2.

$$(23) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(n^{-k} \left(M_{n+1}^{[x]} - M_n^{[x]} \right) \right) = r \cdot \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}}$$

Proof. We have $B_n(x) = n^{-k} \left(M_{n+1}^{[x]} - M_n^{[x]} \right) = n^{-k} \cdot M_n^{[x]} \cdot (u_n(x) - 1) =$

$$= \frac{M_n^{[x]} \cdot u_n(x) - 1}{n^k \cdot \ln u_n(x)} \cdot \ln(u_n(x)) = \frac{M_n^{[x]} \cdot u_n(x) - 1}{n^{k+1} \cdot \ln u_n(x)} \cdot \ln(u_n(x))^n, \forall n \geq 2, \text{ where } u(x) = \frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}}{M_n^{[x]}}, \forall n \geq 2.$$

According with (9) we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}}{(n+1)^{k+1}} \cdot \frac{n^{k+1}}{M_n^{[x]}} \cdot \left(\frac{n+1}{n} \right)^{k+1} \right) =$

$$= \frac{r}{k+1} \cdot \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}} \cdot \frac{k+1}{r} \cdot \frac{1}{(1 + (k+1) \cdot x)^{-\frac{1}{x}}} \cdot 1 = 1.$$

So $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{u_n(x) - 1}{\ln u_n(x)} = 1$ and according with (13)

$$(24) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (u_n(x))^n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}}{M_n^{[x]}} \right)^n = e^{k+1}$$

Then, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} B_n(x) = \frac{r}{k+1} \cdot \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}} \cdot 1 \cdot \ln e^{k+1} = r \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}}$,
q.e.d. \square

Theorem 3.

$$(25) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}}{(n+1)^k} - \frac{M_n^{[x]}}{n^k} \right) = \frac{r}{k+1} \cdot \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}}$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} L_n(x) &= \frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}}{(n+1)^k} - \frac{M_n^{[x]}}{n^k} = \frac{M_n^{[x]}}{n^k} \cdot (v_n(x) - 1) = \frac{M_n^{[x]}}{n^k} \cdot \frac{v_n^x - 1}{\ln v_n(x)} \cdot \ln v_n(x) = \\ &= \frac{M_n^{[x]}}{n^{k+1}} \cdot \frac{v_n^x - 1}{\ln v_n(x)} \cdot \ln(v_n(x))^n, \forall n \geq 2, \text{ where } v_n(x) = \frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}}{M_n^{[x]}} \left(\frac{n}{n+1} \right)^k, \forall n \geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

So, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}}{(n+1)^{k+1}} \cdot \frac{n^{k+1}}{M_n^{[x]}} \cdot \frac{n+1}{n} \right)$ and with relationship (9) it follows $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n(x) = 1$ wherefrom

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{v_n(x) - 1}{\ln v_n(x)} = 1 \text{ and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (v_n(x))^n = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{M_{n+1}^{[x]}}{M_n^{[x]}} \right)^n \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{n}{n+1} \right)^{n \cdot k} = e^{k+1} \cdot e^{-k} = e.$$

Then, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} L_n(x) = \frac{r}{k+1} \cdot \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}} \cdot 1 \cdot \ln e = \frac{r}{k+1} \cdot \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}}$,
q.e.d. \square

Observation 2. From theorem 3 it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} L_n(x) \right) &= \frac{r}{k+1} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + (k+1) \cdot x \right)^{-\frac{1}{x}} = \\ &= \frac{r}{k+1} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\left(1 + (k+1)x \right)^{-\frac{1}{(k+1)x}} \right)^{-(k+1)} = \frac{r}{k+1} \cdot e^{-(k+1)}, \end{aligned}$$

wherefrom from $k = 0$ and $r = 1$ we obtain again the limit of Traian Lalescu's sequence, namely

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sqrt[n+1]{(n+1)!} - \sqrt[n]{n!} \right) = \frac{1}{e}$$

Comment. Other methods for calculating the limits of some Traian Lalescu's sequences can be found in [2]

<http://elib.mi.sanu.ac.rs/files/journals/tm/31/tm1624.pdf>

Other classes of Lalescu's sequences can be consulted in [3]

http://www.kappamuepsilon.org/pages/a/Pentagon/Vol_73.Num_2.Spring_2014.pdf

This year is celebrating 116 years since the publication of Traian Lalescu's problem in *Mathematical Gazette*. A large number of Lalescu's type problems, published in prestigious international magazines, can be found also in [4]

http://www.mathproblems-ks.org/?wpfb_dl=20

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