

Analysis II

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1 Uniform Convergence

For a subset $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$, have a sequence $f_n : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. What does it mean for the sequence (f_n) to converge? The most basic notion for any $x \in E$ require that the sequence of real numbers $f_n(x)$ to converge in \mathbb{R} . If this holds we can defined a new function $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by setting each value to the limit of the function.

Definition. (Pointwise limit) We say that (f_n) converges *pointwise* if for all x in its domain we have that

$$f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x)$$

converges. We write that $f_n \rightarrow f$ pointwise.

Are properties such as continuity, differentiability integrability, preserved in the limit? We'll use an example to show that continuity is not preserved.

We can see this by taking a sequence of functions which converge to a step function by taking tighter and tighter curvers which get steeper and steeper. For example take,

$$f_n : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad f_n(x) = x^{\frac{1}{2n+1}}.$$

So in the limit we get that

$$f_n(x) \rightarrow f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 < x \leq 1 \\ 0 & x = 0 \\ -1 & -1 \leq x < 0 \end{cases}$$

which is not continious.

For an example where integability is not preserved, let q_1, q_2, q_3, \dots be an enumeration of $\mathbb{Q} \cap [0, 1]$ and define

$$f_n(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in \{q_1, \dots, q_n\} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

so we get $f_n(x)$ continious everywhere on $[0, 1]$ apart from a finite number of points, then f_n is integrable on $[0, 1]$ (IA Analysis I). But,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = \mathbf{1}_{\mathbb{Q}}(x)$$

which we know is not integrable.

If $f_n \rightarrow f$ pointwise, f_n integrable, f integrable, does it follow that $\int f_n \rightarrow \int f$? (Spoiler: No) For example take f_n to be a 'spike' with height n and width $\frac{2}{n}$, concretely,

$$f_n(x) = \begin{cases} n^2 x & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{n} \\ n^2(\frac{2}{n} - x) & \frac{1}{n} \leq x \leq \frac{2}{n} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

So the integral of f_n over $[0, 1]$ is 1, but we can see that f_n converges pointwise to zero. So $\int_0^1 f_n \rightarrow 1$ but $\int_0^1 f \rightarrow 0$.

So we need a better (stronger) notion for the convergence of a sequence of functions. We can't use something too strong, such as $f_n \rightarrow f$ if f_n is eventually f for large enough n . We've got to find something inbetween. This is uniform convergence.

Definition. (Uniform convergence) Let $f_n, f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, for $n \in \mathbb{N}$. We say that (f_n) converges *uniformly* on E if the following holds. For all $\varepsilon > 0$, $\exists N = N(\varepsilon)$ such that for every $n \geq N$ and for every $x \in E$ we have that $|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon$.

Remark. This statement is equivalent to the following,

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N = N(\varepsilon), \text{ s.t. } \forall n \geq N, \sup_{x \in E} |f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon.$$

Comparing this to pointwise convergence, $\forall x \in E$ and $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, $\exists N = N(\varepsilon, x)$ such that $n \geq N \implies |f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon$. So we can change our N value for each individual x . However we can't in uniform convergence, which makes this is stronger statement.

Hence we see Uniform convergence \implies Pointwise convergence. This gives a nice way to compute uniform limits. If a function doesn't converge pointwise then we know it doesn't converge uniformly. If we know a sequence of functions converges pointwise to some limit function, then this function must be the limit of the uniform limit, if it exists.

Definition. (Uniformly Cauchy) Let $f_n : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a sequence of functions. We say that (f_n) is *uniformly Cauchy* on E if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N = N(\varepsilon) \text{ s.t. } n, m \geq N \implies \sup_{x \in E} |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| < \varepsilon.$$

Theorem. (Cauchy criterion for uniform convergence) Let (f_n) be a sequence of functions with $f_n : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. The (f_n) converges uniformly on E if and only if (f_n) is uniformly Cauchy on E .

Proof. Suppose that (f_n) is a sequence converging uniformly in E to some function f . Given some $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a N such that $\sup_{x \in E} |f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon$ for all $n \geq N$. By the triangle inequality $\forall x \in E$, picking $n, m \geq N$,

$$\begin{aligned} |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| &\leq |f_n(x) - f(x)| + |f_m(x) - f(x)| \\ &\leq \sup_E |f_n - f| + \sup_E |f_m - f| \\ &< \varepsilon + \varepsilon \\ &< 2\varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

hence (f_n) is uniformly Cauchy.

For the converse, suppose that (f_n) is a sequence uniformly Cauchy in E . Then the sequence of real numbers $(f_n(x))$ is Cauchy so by IA Analysis I, this sequence has a limit, call it $f(x)$. So (f_n) converges pointwise to f . Now we check that $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly on E . Pick any $\varepsilon > 0$ and note that by the hypothesis that (f_n) is uniformly Cauchy, there exists a number N such that for all $n, m \geq N$ we have $|f_n(x) - f_m(x)| < \varepsilon$. Fix $n \geq N$ and let $m \rightarrow \infty$ in this. So since $f_m(x)$ converges to $f(x)$ pointwise, we get that

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \varepsilon$$

hence (f_n) converges uniformly in E . □

For an example consider $f_n : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f_n(x) = \frac{x}{n}$. So $f_n \rightarrow 0$ pointwise on \mathbb{R} . But $|f_n - 0|$ is unbounded so the supremum doesn't exist so f_n does not converge uniformly on \mathbb{R} . However if we restrict the domain of f_n to $[-a, a]$ then we get uniform convergence.

Theorem. (Continuity is preserved under uniform limits) Let $f_n, f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Suppose that (f_n) converges to f uniformly on $[a, b]$. If $x \in [a, b]$ is such that f_n is continuous at x for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then f is continuous at x .

Proof. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ by uniform convergence of $f_n \rightarrow f$ we have some $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n \geq N$,

$$\sup_{y \in [a, b]} |f_n(y) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$$

. By continuity of f_N at x we have $\delta = \delta(N, x, \varepsilon) > 0$ s.t. $y \in [a, b], |x - y| < \delta \implies |f_N(y) - f_N(x)| < \varepsilon$.

Then $y \in [a, b], |x - y| < \delta$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} |f(y) - f(x)| &\leq |f(y) - f_N(y)| + |f_N(y) - f_N(x)| + |f_N(x) - f(x)| \\ &< \varepsilon + \varepsilon + \varepsilon \\ &< 3\varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Hence f is continuous at x . □

It is instructive to see where this proof goes wrong if we only assume that (f_n) converges to f pointwise.

Corollary. (Uniform limits of continuous functions are continuous) If $f_n, f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly on $[a, b]$ and if f_n is continuous on $[a, b]$ for every n then f is continuous on $[a, b]$.

Proof. Immediate from the previous theorem. □

From now on we will denote $C([a, b]) = \{f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : f \text{ is continuous on } [a, b]\}$.

Theorem. Let (f_n) be a uniformly Cauchy sequence of functions in $C([a, b])$ then it converges to a function in $C([a, b])$.

Proof. Trivial from our theorems earlier proved. □

Theorem. (Uniform convergence implies convergence of integrals) For $f_n, f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be such that f_n, f are bounded and integrable on $[a, b]$. If $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly on $[a, b]$ then

$$\int_a^b f_n(x) dx \rightarrow \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

Remark. The assumption that f is integrable is redundant. We will see later that integrability of f_n implies that f is integrable if $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_a^b f_n(x) dx - \int_a^b f(x) dx \right| &= \left| \int_a^b f_n(x) - f(x) dx \right| \\ &\leq \int_a^b |f_n(x) - f(x)| dx \\ &\leq \sup_{x \in [a, b]} |f_n(x) - f(x)| (b - a) \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

by assumption.

1.1 Differentiation and uniform convergence

This is more subtle if $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly on some interval and if f_n are differentiable it does not follow that

- (i) That f is differentiable.
- (ii) Even if f is differentiable that $f'_n(x) \rightarrow f'(x)$.

We can view this in the example of $f_n : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $f_n(x) = |x|^{1+\frac{1}{n}}$. Hence we have that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f_n(x) - f_n(0)}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \operatorname{sgn}(x^{\frac{1}{n}}) = 0$$

So f_n is differentiable at 0 with $f_n(0) = 0$ and clearly f_n is differentiable everywhere where $x \neq 0$ too. We can check that $f_n \rightarrow |x|$ uniformly. But $|x|$ is not differentiable at $x = 0$.

Now consider the example $f_n : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with

$$f_n(x) = \frac{\sin(nx)}{\sqrt{n}}.$$

So $f_n \rightarrow 0$ uniformly on \mathbb{R} . So we have a differentiable limit but $f'_n(x) = \sqrt{n} \cos(nx)$ which is not convergent as $n \rightarrow \infty$. So we don't have $f'_n(x) \rightarrow f'(x)$ pointwise on \mathbb{R} .

Theorem. Let $f_n : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a sequence of differentiable functions (at the end points this means that the one-sided derivative exists). Suppose that:

- (i) $f'_n \rightarrow g$ uniformly for some function $g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.
- (ii) For some $c \in [a, b]$ the sequence $(f_n(c))$ converges.

Then (f_n) converges uniformly to some function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ where f is differentiable everywhere on $[a, b]$ and $f'(x) = g(x)$ for all $x \in [a, b]$.

This proves that

$$\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n \right)' = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f'_n$$

i.e. we can exchange the derivative and limit in this case.

Remark. If we assume that f'_n are continuous, then the proof is more straightforward and can be based on the fundamental theorem of calculus.

Proof. By the mean value theorem applied to the difference $(f_n - f_m)$ we have that for any $x \in [a, b]$

$$\begin{aligned} f_n(x) - f_m(x) &= f_n(c) - f_m(c) + (x - c)(f_n - f_m)'(x_{n,m}) \\ \implies |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| &\leq |f_n(c) - f_m(c)| + (b - a)|f_n'(x_{n,m}) - f_m'(x_{n,m})| \\ \implies \sup |f_n - f_m| &< |f_n(c) - f_m(c)| + (b - a) \sup |f_n' - f_m'| \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$. So (f_n) is uniformly Cauchy and hence there is an $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly.

For the next part fix some $y \in [a, b]$. Define

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y} & x \neq y \\ g(y) & x = y \end{cases}$$

Now we only have to establish that h is continuous at y to show that f is differentiable at y with $f'(y) = g(y)$. Let

$$h_n(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{f_n(x) - f_n(y)}{x - y} & x \neq y \\ f_n'(y) & x = y \end{cases}$$

then since f_n is differentiable at y we see that h_n is continuous on $[a, b]$. The pointwise limit of (h_n) is h almost by definition since $f_n' \rightarrow g$ at $x = y$. Since the uniform limit of sequence of continuous functions is continuous, we just need to show that (h_n) is uniformly Cauchy on $[a, b]$ since the limit must be h since it converges pointwise to h .

$$h_n(x) - h_m(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{(f_n - f_m)(x) - (f_n - f_m)(y)}{x - y} & x \neq y \\ (f_n' - f_m')(y) & x = y \end{cases}.$$

By the mean value theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} h_n(x) - h_m(x) &= \begin{cases} (f_n - f_m)'(x_{n,m}) \text{ for some } x_{n,m} \text{ between } x \text{ and } y & x \neq y \\ (f_n - f_m)'(y) & x = y \end{cases} \\ \sup_{[a,b]} |h_n - h_m| &\leq \sup_{[a,b]} |f_n' - f_m'| \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

as $n, m \rightarrow \infty$. So (h_n) is uniformly Cauchy so we're done. \square

Remark. f_n' need not be continuous consider

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x} & x \neq 0 \\ 0 & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

the f is differentiable on $[-1, 1]$ with $f'(x)$ not continuous at $x = 0$ and we can take $f_n(x) = f(x)$ for all n (or $f_n(x) = f(x) + \frac{x}{n}$).

We have a shorter proof of the above theorem, assuming that (f_n') are continuous in addition to the hypothesis. For any $x \in [a, b]$ we can write

$$f_n(x) = f_n(c) + \int_c^x f_n'(t) dt$$

by FTC. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| &= \left| f_n(c) - f_m(c) + \int_c^x (f'_n(t) - f'_m(t)) dt \right| \\ &\leq |f_n(c) - f_m(c)| + \sup_{t \in [a, b]} |f'_n(t) - f'_m(t)| (b - a) \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

as $n, m \rightarrow \infty$. So (f_n) is uniformly Cauchy, hence converges uniformly.

Note that

$$\int_c^x f'_n(t) dt \rightarrow \int_c^x g(t) dt$$

by uniform convergence of $f'_n \rightarrow g$ which implies g is continuous and hence also integrable. We can let $n \rightarrow \infty$ the first equation for $f_n(x)$ which gives that

$$f(x) = f(c) + \int_c^x g(t) dt$$

So we can take the derivative of both sides giving that $f'(x) = g(x) = \lim f'_n(x)$. \square

Proposition. If $f_n, g_n : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly on E and $g_n \rightarrow g$ uniformly on E then $f_n + g_n$ converges uniformly to $f + g$ on E , and if $h : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a bounded function then $hf_n \rightarrow hf$ uniformly on E also.

Proof. On the example sheet.

2 Series of functions

Definition. (Convergence of a series of functions) Let $g_n : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ then write

$$f_n = \sum_{j=1}^n g_j$$

defined pointwise. Then we say that that,

- (i) The series of functions $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n$ is convergent at a point $x \in E$ if the sequence of partial sums $(f_n(x))$ converges.
- (ii) The series of functions $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n$ uniformly on E if the sequence (f_n) converges uniformly on E .
- (iii) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n$ converges absolutely at $x \in E$ if the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |g_n(x)|$ converges.
- (iv) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n$ converges absolutely uniformly on E if $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |g_n|$ converges uniformly on E .

We know from IA Analysis I that absolute convergence \implies convergence for a sequences in \mathbb{R} . From this we have that if $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n$ converges absolutely at a point $x \in E$ then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n$ converges at x . Similiar to this we have the following proposition relating absolute uniform convergence and uniform convergence.

Proposition. (Absolute uniform convergence implies uniform convergence) If $g_n : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and if $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n$ converges absolutely uniformly on E then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n$ converges uniformly on E .

Proof. Let $f_n = \sum_{i=1}^n g_i$ Then

$$\begin{aligned} |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| &= \left| \sum_{i=m+1}^n g_i(x) \right| \\ &= \sum_{i=m+1}^n |g_i(x)| = h_n(x) - h_m(x), \quad \text{where } h_n(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n |g_i(x)| \\ \sup_{x \in E} |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| &\leq \sup_{x \in E} |h_n(x) - h_m(x)| \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

as $n, m \rightarrow \infty$ so (f_n) converges uniformly on E . □

Remark. Uniform convergence and absolute pointwise convergence aren't enough to conclude that the series convergence absolutely uniformly.

Theorem. (Weierstrass M-test) Let $g_n : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a sequence of functions and suppose that $\exists M_n$ such that

$$\sup_{x \in E} |g_n(x)| \leq M_n$$

and that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} M_n$$

converges. Then

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n$$

converges absolutely uniformly on E .

Proof. Let

$$h_n(x) = \sum_{j=1}^n |g_j(x)|$$

for $n > m$,

$$\begin{aligned} h_n(x) - h_m(x) &= \sum_{j=m+1}^n |g_j(x)| \leq \sum_{j=m+1}^n M_j = \sum_{j=1}^n M_j - \sum_{j=1}^m M_j \\ \implies \sup_{x \in E} |h_n(x) - h_m(x)| &\leq \left| \sum_{j=1}^n M_j - \sum_{j=1}^m M_j \right| \quad \forall n, m \end{aligned}$$

by assumption the right hand side $\rightarrow 0$ since $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} M_j$ is convergent, hence (h_n) is uniformly Cauchy hence converges uniformly.

2.1 Power series

We'll now specialise to the case where $g_n(x) = c_n(x - a)^n$ for $a, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$. This gives a real power series.

Theorem. (Radius of convergence) Let $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x - a)^n$ be a real power series then there exists a $R \in [0, \infty]$ called the *radius of convergence* of the power series such that

- (i) If $|x - a| < R$ then the power series converges absolutely.
- (ii) If $|x - a| > R$ then the power series diverges.
- (iii) R is given by

$$R = \frac{1}{\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |c_n|^{\frac{1}{n}}}$$

where if the limit is zero, then $R = \infty$.

- (iv) For any $r \in (0, R)$ we have the power series converges uniformly on $[a - r, a + r]$, in particular the function that the power series converges to is continuous on $(a - R, a + R)$.

Proof. The proof for (i), (ii), and (iii) are in IA Analysis I. We'll just prove (iv). Note first that the power series converges absolutely at $x = a + r$ i.e. we have that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |c_n| r^n$$

is convergent. Since $|c_n(x - a)^n| \leq |c_n| r^n$ for any $x \in [a - r, a + r]$ we can apply the Weierstrass M -test with $M_n = |c_n| r^n$ to conclude that the series

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x - a)^n \rightarrow f$$

converges absolutely uniformly on $[a - r, a + r]$. It follows that f is continuous. at any point in $(a - R, a + R)$ by picking r small enough.

Remark. (Boundary behaviour. Let

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x - a)^n$$

with power series boundary R with $0 < R < \infty$. If the power series converges at one of the boundary points of the interval of convergence, say at $x = a + R$ i.e. $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n R^n$ is convergent then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a+R} f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n R^n$$

so f extends to $(a - R, a + R]$ as a continuous function.

Moreover, under the same conditions that $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n R^n$ converges we have that the series converges uniformly on $[a - r, a + r]$ for any $r \in (0, R)$. Same discussion applies at the endpoint $a - R$.

Theorem. (Differentiation of power series) Let $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$ be a power series with radius of convergent $R > 0$. Let

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$$

defined on $(a-R, a+R)$. We have the following

(i) The derived series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n c_n(x-a)^{n-1}$$

has radius of convergent R .

(ii) f is differentiable on $(a-R, a+R)$ with

$$f'(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n c_n(x-a)^{n-1} \quad \forall x \in (a-R, a+R)$$

Proof. Before we prove the theorem let's give a definition we've seen slightly before.

Definition. If (a_n) is a sequence of reals let

$$p_n = \sup\{a_m : m \geq n\}$$

$$q_n = \inf\{a_m : m \geq n\}.$$

Then we define

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n$$

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} q_n.$$

which exists in $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ since (q_n) and (p_n) are monotone.

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} (n|c_n|)^{\frac{1}{n}} = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} |c_n|^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

since we have that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{\frac{1}{n}} = 1$. So we have (i).

Define $f_n(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n c_j(x-a)^j$ is clearly differentiable on \mathbb{R} with $f'_n(x) = \sum_{j=1}^n j c_j(x-a)^{j-1}$. By (i) we have that $f'_n(x)$ converges uniformly on $[a-r, a+r]$ for all $r < R$ and $f_n(a) = c_0 \forall n$ so $(f_n(a))$ converges. So the limit is differentiable in $[a-r, a+r]$, with

$$f'(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f'_n(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=1}^n j c_j(x-a)^{j-1}$$

□

If we have a power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$ we say the power series converges *locally uniformly* on the interval of convergence $(a-R, a+R)$ i.e. for all $0 < r < R$ the power series converges uniformly on $[a-r, a+r]$.

Remark. By repeatedly applying the above theorem we get that if $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$ has radius of convergence $R > 0$ then f is differentiable to any order $k \in \mathbb{N}$ in $(a-R, a+R)$ and the k th derivative is given by

$$f^{(k)}(x) = \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} n(n-1) \cdots (n-k+1) c_n (x-a)^{(n-k)}.$$

Plugging in $x = a$ we get that

$$c_n = \frac{f^{(k)}(a)}{k!}.$$

This says that f is uniquely determined by its values in an arbitrarily small interval around the point $x = a$ since that's all we need to capture it's derivatives and form its power series.

3 Uniform continuity and Riemann integrability

3.1 Uniform continuity

Definition. (Uniform continuity) Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and let $f : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. We say that f is *Uniformly continuous* on E if $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $\forall x, y \in E$ we have that

$$|x - y| < \delta \implies |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$$

This differs from our usual definition of continuity. We require some δ to work for *any* $x, y \in E$ given some ε , rather than picking a δ for each ε and x value. Clearly uniform continuity implies continuity but the converse is not true. For an example consider $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ on $(0, 1)$. Clearly continuous at each x , but not uniformly continuous since it gets too steep around 0.

Not even boundedness and continuity is enough for uniform continuity, consider $\sin(\frac{1}{x})$, take $x_n = \frac{1}{2n\pi}$ and $y_n = \frac{1}{2n+\frac{1}{2}}\pi$ then $|f(x) - f(y)| = 1$, so no δ works, we can always choose an n large enough.

Theorem. Let $[a, b]$ be a closed, bounded interval and $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a continuous function. Then f is uniformly continuous.

Proof. Argue by contradiction. Suppose that f is not uniformly continuous, so there exists an $\varepsilon > 0$ such that for all $\delta > 0$ there is a pair of points $x, y \in [a, b]$ such that $|y - x| < \delta$ but $|f(x) - f(y)| \geq \varepsilon$. Now let $\delta_n = \frac{1}{n}$, so we get a sequence of functions x_n and y_n satisfying the above for each δ_n . By Bolzano-Weiestrass, there exists a subsequence (x_{n_k}) that converges to a point $x \in [a, b]$.

$$|x - y_{n_k}| \leq |x - x_{n_k}| + |x_{n_k} - y_{n_k}| \leq |x - y_{n_k}| + \frac{1}{n_k} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

By the continuity of f at x we get $f(x_{n_k}) \rightarrow f(x)$ and $f(y_{n_k}) \rightarrow f(x)$. But this is contradiction since $f(x)$ and $f(y_{n_k})$ are always separated by some distance ε . \square

We can actually strengthen this theorem.

Theorem. Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ where $-\infty < a < b < \infty$ be any function. Suppose that there is a collection \mathcal{C} of open intervals $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ such that if

$$F = [a, b] \setminus \bigcup_{I \in \mathcal{C}} I$$

then f is continuous at every point in F (i.e. the set of discontinuities is contained in the union). Then $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$ s.t. $x \in F, y \in [a, b]$, with $|x - y| < \delta \implies |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$.

Proof. Same as above, using the fact that F is *closed* so it contains all of its limit points.

Let's show some applications of uniform continuity.

3.2 Riemann Integration

We'll do a quick recap of Riemann integration. For full proofs, look at IA Analysis I. Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bounded function. Say that $m \leq f(x) \leq M$ for $m, M \in \mathbb{R}$. Let $P = \{a_0 = a, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n = b\}$ be a partition of the interval $[a, b]$ with $a_0 < a_1 < \dots < a_n$. We will write $P = \{a_0 = a < a_1 < \dots < a_n = b\}$ as shorthand.

We write that $I_j = [a_j, a_{j+1}]$ for $0 \leq j < n$. Define the upper sum of f with P as

$$U(P, f) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (a_{j+1} - a_j) \sup_{I_j} f$$

and the lower sum of f with P as

$$L(P, f) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (a_{j+1} - a_j) \inf_{I_j} f.$$

We can see immediately that $m(b - a) \leq L(P, f) \leq U(P, f) \leq M(b - a)$. When we refine the partition by adding finitely many new points the upper sum decreases or stays the same, and the lower sum increases or stays the same. So now we can define the upper and lower Riemann integral as

$$I^*(f) = \inf_P U(P, f)$$

$$I_*(f) = \sup_P L(P, f).$$

We say that f is Riemann integrable if $I^*(f) = I_*(f)$. We denote

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx$$

as this common value.

Theorem. (Riemann criterion for integrability) For $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ bounded, f is integrable if and only if for all $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a partition P of $[a, b]$ such that

$$U(P, f) - L(P, f) < \varepsilon$$

Proof. In IA Analysis I.

Theorem. Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow [A, B]$ be integrable and $g : [A, B] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ continuous. Then the composite function $g \circ f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is integrable.

We may ask does this hold if we switch the order? i.e. given the both conditions is $f \circ g$ always be integrable?

Proof. Since g is continuous in a bounded interval, it is uniformly continuous. Given any $\varepsilon > 0$ there is a δ such that $x, y \in [A, B]$ with $|y - x| < \delta \implies |g(x) - g(y)| < \varepsilon$. We also have by integrability that there exists a partition P such that $U(P, f) - L(P, f) < \varepsilon'$ for all $\varepsilon' > 0$.

$$U(P, g \circ f) - L(P, g \circ f) = \sum (a_{j+1} - a_j) \left(\sup_{I_j} g \circ f - \inf_{I_j} g \circ f \right)$$

Take $J = \{j : \sup_{I_j} f - \inf_{I_j} f \leq \delta\}$. For any $j \in J$ for all $x, y \in I_j$ we must have that

$$|f(x) - f(y)| \leq \sup_{z_1, z_2 \in I_j} (f(z_1) - f(z_2)) = \sup_{I_j} f - \inf_{I_j} f \leq \delta.$$

Hence we get that

$$|g \circ f(x) - g \circ f(y)| < \varepsilon$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{I_j} (g \circ f(x) - g \circ f(y)) &\leq \varepsilon \\ \sup_{I_j} g \circ f - \inf_{I_j} g \circ f &\leq \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

which gives that

$$\begin{aligned} U(P, g \circ f) - L(P, g \circ f) &= \sum_{j=0}^n (a_{j+1} - a_j) \left(\sup_{I_j} g \circ f - \inf_{I_j} g \circ f \right) \\ &= \sum_{j \in J} (a_{j+1} - a_j) \left(\sup_{I_j} g \circ f - \inf_{I_j} g \circ f \right) + \sum_{j \notin J} (a_{j+1} - a_j) \left(\sup_{I_j} g \circ f - \inf_{I_j} g \circ f \right), \\ &\leq \varepsilon(b - a) + 2 \sup_{[A, B]} |g| \sum_{j \notin J} (a_{j+1} - a_j) \end{aligned}$$

hence it suffices to make the sum over the j s not in J small enough. We know that

$$\sum_{j \notin J} (a_{j+1} - a_j) < \frac{\varepsilon'}{\delta}$$

so if we pick $\varepsilon' = \varepsilon\delta$ we get that

$$U(P, g \circ f) - L(P, g \circ f) < \left((b - a) + 2 \sup_{[A, B]} |g| \right) \varepsilon. \quad \square$$

Corollary. If f is continuous then it is integrable

Proof. Apply the theorem with $g = \text{id}$ which is clearly integrable. \square

Theorem. (Uniform limits of integrable functions are integrable) Suppose we have $f_n : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a sequence of Riemann integrable functions and $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly. Then f is bounded, Riemann integrable and

$$\int_a^b f_n \rightarrow \int_a^b f$$

Proof.

$$\sup_{[a,b]} |f| \leq \sup_{[a,b]} |f - f_n| + \sup_{[a,b]} |f_n| \leq 1 + \sup_{[a,b]} |f_n|$$

for n sufficiently large (setting $\varepsilon = 1$). Hence f is bounded.

Let $P = \{a_0, \dots, a_m\}$ be a partition of $[a, b]$. Given some $\varepsilon > 0$ and consider

$$\begin{aligned} U(P, f) - L(P, f) &= \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} (a_{j+1} - a_j) \left(\sup_{I_j} f - \inf_{I_j} f \right) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} (a_{j+1} - a_j) \left(\sup_{I_j} (f - f_n + f_n) - \inf_{I_j} (f - f_n + f_n) \right) \\ &\leq \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} (a_{j+1} - a_j) \left(\sup_{I_j} (f - f_n) + \sup_{I_j} (f_n) - \inf_{I_j} (f - f_n) - \inf_{I_j} (f_n) \right) \\ &\leq U(P, f_n) - L(P, f_n) + 2(a - b) \sup_{[a,b]} |f - f_n| \end{aligned}$$

So for our $\varepsilon > 0$ choose some N such that $2(b - a) \sup_{[a,b]} |f - f_N| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ by uniform convergence. Now also choose a partition P such that $U(P, f_N) - L(P, f_N) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ since f_N is Riemann integrable. Hence $U(P, f) - L(P, f) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = \varepsilon$ for any $\varepsilon > 0$ so f is integrable by the Riemann criterion. The last part have been proved previously in the course. \square

Non-examinable We'll now prove an equivalent condition for a function to be Riemann integrable. First we'll set up some frameworks. For a function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ bounded, we use \mathcal{D}_f to denote its set of discontinuities. We know that there are functions with \mathcal{D}_f non-empty which are still Riemann integrable, such as Thomae's function which has $\mathcal{D}_f = \mathbb{Q}$. We also know that all monotone functions are integrable. What condition on \mathcal{D}_f do we need for integrability?

Definition. (Null set) A subset $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is said to be a *null set* (or a set of *Lebesgue measure zero*) if $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ there exists an at most countable collection of open intervals $I_j = (a_i, b_i)$ such that

$$\mathcal{D} \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n I_i$$

and

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |I_j| \leq \varepsilon$$

where $|I_j| = b_j - a_j$.

We have a few examples of null sets.

- (i) The empty set and singleton sets are null.
- (ii) Any subset of small enough sets are null.
- (iii) Any countable union of null sets is null (namely \mathbb{Q} is a null set and any other countable set like the algebraic numbers).
- (iv) The (standard) Cantor set is a null set even though it's uncountable.
- (v) However not every set is a null set, every (open or closed) interval is not a null set.

Now for the big theorem completely characterising Riemann integrable functions.

Theorem. (Lebesgue's theorem on the Riemann integral) Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ bounded. Then f is Riemann integrable if and only if \mathcal{D}_f is a null set.

Proof. See Part II Probability and Measure.