

## Continuity

Functions  $f$

Domain: set on which  $f$  is defined  
written as  $\text{dom}(f)$ .

A rule/formula specifying  $f(x)$  at  $x$  in  $\text{dom}(f)$ .

Real-valued function:  $\text{dom}(f) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  and  $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}$   
for all  $x \in \text{dom}(f)$ .

$f$  represents the function

$f(x)$  represents the value at  $x$ .

Sometimes the domain is omitted. Assume it's valid on a "natural domain": the largest subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  on which the function is well-defined.

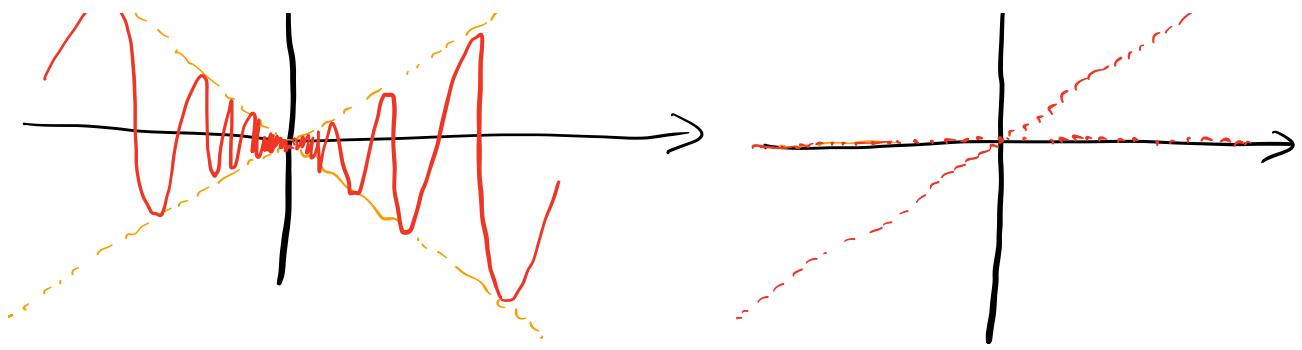
$$\text{e.g. } f(x) = \frac{1}{x} \quad \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \neq 0\}$$

$$g(x) = \sqrt{4-x^2} \quad [-2, 2].$$

## Continuity

$$f_1(x) = \begin{cases} x \sin \frac{1}{x} & x \neq 0 \\ 0 & x=0 \end{cases} \quad f_2(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \notin \mathbb{Q} \\ x & x \in \mathbb{Q} \end{cases}$$





### Definition

Let  $f$  be a real-valued function whose domain is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . The function  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$  in  $\text{dom}(f)$  if for every sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $\text{dom}(f)$  that converges to  $x_0$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(x_0)$ . If  $f$  is continuous at each point of a set  $S \subseteq \text{dom}(f)$ , then  $f$  is said to be continuous on  $S$ .

Example Polynomial  $p(x) = \sum_{k=0}^N a_k x^k$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0 \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(x_n) = p(x_0).$$

$\Rightarrow$  all polynomials  
are continuous  
for  $\mathbb{R}$

Theorem Let  $f$  be a real-valued function, whose domain is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0 \in \text{dom}(f)$  if and only if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0 \text{ s.t. } x \in \text{dom}(f) \text{ and } |x - x_0| < \delta \text{ then } |f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon. \quad (*)$$

Proof Suppose that  $(*)$  is true. Take a sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $\text{dom}(f)$  s.t.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0$ .

Aim to prove  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(x_0)$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$

$\exists \delta > 0$  s.t.  $x \in \text{dom}(f)$  and  $|x - x_0| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$ .

$\exists N$  s.t.  $n > N \Rightarrow |x - x_0| < \delta$ .

Hence  $n > N$  implies  $|f(x_n) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$ .

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(x_0).$$

Assume  $f$  is continuous but  $(*)$  fails. So

for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  for  $|x_n - x_0| < \frac{1}{n}$ .

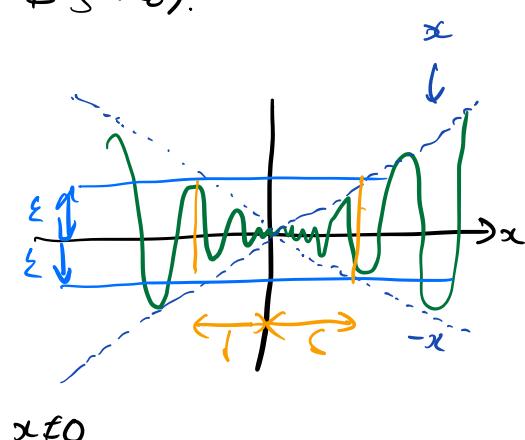
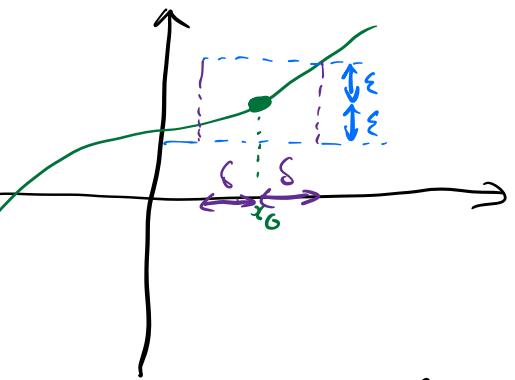
$\exists x_n \in \text{dom}(f)$  s.t.  $|f(x_n) - f(x_0)| \geq \varepsilon$ .

$$\lim x_n = x_0 \quad \lim f(x_n) \neq f(x_0).$$

Example

$$f_1(x) = \begin{cases} x \sin \frac{1}{x} & x \neq 0 \\ 0 & x = 0. \end{cases}$$

Is  $f_1$  continuous at 0?



$$|f_1(x) - f_1(0)| = |x \sin \frac{1}{x}| < |x|.$$

$$|f_1(x) - f_1(0)| = 0 \quad x=0.$$

Pick  $\delta = \epsilon$  in our definition (\*) then the function will be continuous at  $x=0$ .

Theorem Let  $f$  be a real-valued function with  $\text{dom}(f) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . If  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$  in  $\text{dom}(f)$ , then  $|f|$  and  $kf$  are too.

Proof Suppose  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0$  then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(x_0)$ .

By sequence convergence theorems,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} kf(x_n) = kf(x_0)$   
 $\Rightarrow kf$  is continuous at  $x_0$ .

For  $|f|$ :  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |f(x_n)| = |f(x_0)|$   $|f|$  is continuous at  $x_0$ .

Theorem Let  $f$  and  $g$  be real-valued functions that are continuous at  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then

$f+g$  is continuous at  $x_0$

$fg$  is continuous at  $x_0$ .

$\frac{f}{g}$  is continuous at  $x_0$  if  $g(x_0) \neq 0$ .

Proof First two follow from sequence convergence theorems. For the third, examine  $(x_n)$  in

$\text{dom}(f) \cap \{x \in \text{dom}(g) \mid g(x) \neq 0\}$ , s.t.  $x_n \rightarrow x_0$ .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{f}{g}\right)(x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x_n)}{g(x_n)} = \frac{f(x_0)}{g(x_0)}$$

Theorem If  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$  and  $g$  is continuous at  $f(x_0)$ , then  $g \circ f$  is continuous at  $x_0$ .

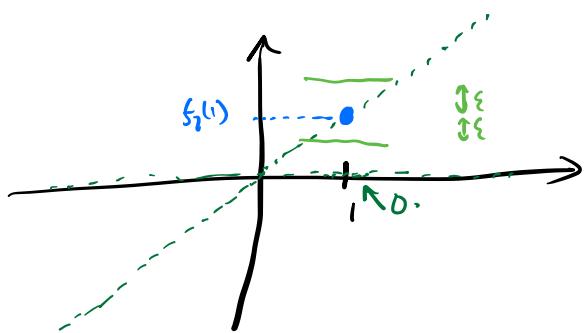
Example  $\max(f, g) = \frac{1}{2}(f+g) + \frac{1}{2}|f-g|$

$$= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(f+g) + \frac{1}{2}(f-g) & f \geq g \\ \frac{1}{2}(f+g) + \frac{1}{2}(g-f) & f \leq g \end{cases}$$

$$= \begin{cases} f & f \geq g \\ g & f \leq g \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow \max(f, g)$  is continuous at  $x_0$  if  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous there.

$$f_2(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \notin \mathbb{Q} \\ x & x \in \mathbb{Q} \end{cases}$$



$$f_2(1) = 1$$

$$x_n = 1 + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{n} \notin \mathbb{Q}$$

$$f_2(x_n) = 0 \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_2(x_n) = 0 \neq f_2(1).$$

real-valued

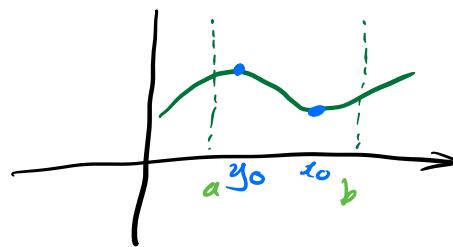
Theorem Let  $f$  be a continuous function on a closed interval  $[a, b]$ . Then  $f$  is a bounded function. Moreover,  $f$  assumes its maximum and minimum values on  $[a, b]$ .  $\exists x_0, y_0 \in [a, b]$  s.t  $f(x_0) \leq f(x) \leq f(y_0) \quad \forall x \in [a, b]$ .

Compared to open intervals.

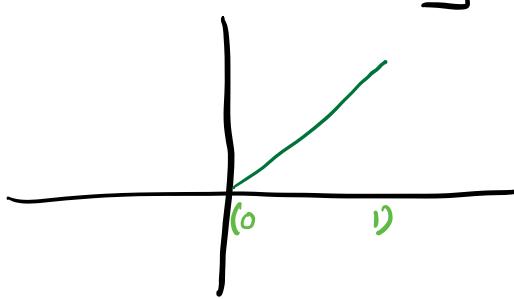
$(0, 1)$ .

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$$

continuous but not bounded



(0,1)  $f(x)=x$  maximum value is not attained.



Theorem Suppose that  $f$  is not bounded. Then for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\exists x_n$  s.t

$|f(x_n)| > n$ . By the Bolzano-

Weierstrass theorem,  $\exists$  a subsequence  $(x_{n_k})$  that converges to  $x_0$ .  $x_0$  must be within the closed interval.

Since  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$ ,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f(x_{n_k}) = f(x_0)$ .

but  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} |f(x_{n_k})| = \infty$  ~~\*~~  $\Rightarrow f$  is bounded.

Let  $M = \sup \{f(x) | x \in [a, b]\}$ .  $M$  is finite.

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\exists y_n \in [a, b]$  such that  $M - \frac{1}{n} < f(y_n) < M$ .

Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(y_n) = M$ .

By the Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem,  $\exists$  a convergent subsequence  $y_{n_k}$  converging to a limit  $y_0$  in  $[a, b]$ .

Since  $f$  is continuous at  $y_0$ , then  $f(y_0) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f(y_{n_k})$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f(y_{n_k}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(y_n) = M.$$

$$f(y_0) = M.$$

For  $f$  achieves its minimum apply the same procedure to  $-f$ .

Intermediate value theorem

Let  $f$  be a continuous real-valued function on an interval  $I$ . Then whenever  $a, b \in I$ ,  $a < b$  and  $c \in I$  such that  $a < c < b$  or  $f(b) < f(c) < f(a)$ , then  $\exists$  at

$\exists^{(a,b)} - \cup$   
least one  $x \in (a,b)$  s.t.  $f(x) = y$ .

Proof Let  $S = \{x \in [a,b] \mid f(x) < y\}$

$a \in S$  so  $S$  is non-empty, so

$\sup S = x_0$  where  $x_0 \in [a,b]$ .

For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $x_0 - \frac{1}{n}$  is not an upper bound for  $S$ , so  $\exists s_n \in S$

s.t.  $x_0 - \frac{1}{n} < s_n \leq x_0$ . Hence  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = x_0$ , and

since  $f(s_n) < y \quad \forall n$ ,

$$f(x_0) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(s_n) \leq y.$$

Let  $t_n = \min \{b, x_0 + \frac{1}{n}\}$

Since  $x_0 \leq t_n \leq x_0 + \frac{1}{n}$ , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = x_0.$$

$t_n \in [a,b]$  but  $t_n \notin S$  so  $f(t_n) \geq y$ .

$$f(x_0) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n \geq y$$

★ + ▲ shows that

$$f(x_0) = y.$$

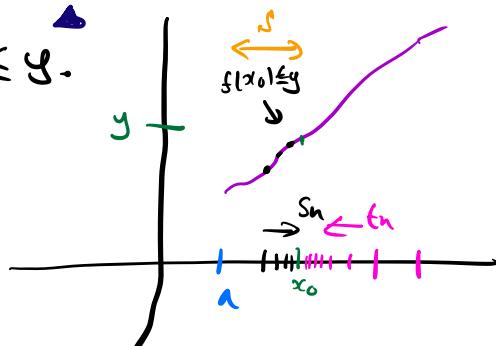
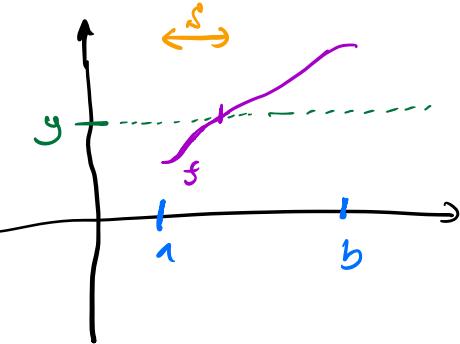
### Corollary

If  $f$  is a continuous real-valued function on an interval  $I$ , then  $f(I)$  is also an interval or a single point.

Proof  $y_0, y_1 \in f(I) \Rightarrow y_0 < y < y_1, y \in f(I)$ .

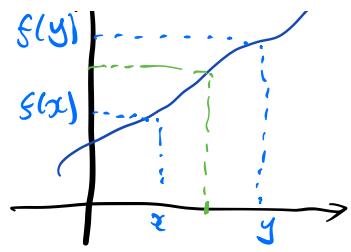
### Definition

Consider a function  $f(x)$  on an interval  $I$ . Then  $f(x)$  is strictly increasing if for all  $x, y \in I$  where  $x < y$ , then



$$f(x) < f(y).$$

In cases like this, an inverse function can be unambiguously defined, so that  $f^{-1} \circ f(x) = x$ .  $y = f(x)$   
 $f^{-1}(y) = x$ .



Theorem Let  $f$  be a continuous strictly increasing function on an interval  $I$ . Then  $f(I)$  is an interval  $J$  by the above corollary, and  $f^{-1}$  represents a function on  $J$ .  $f^{-1}$  is continuous and strictly increasing.

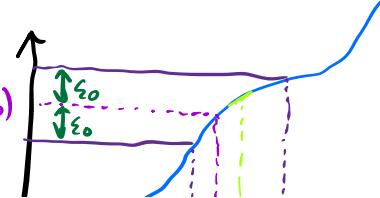
Proof Suppose  $a, b \in J$  s.t.  $a < b$ . Then  $\exists c, d \in I$  s.t.  $f(c) = a$  and  $f(d) = b$ . Since  $a \neq b$ ,  $c \neq d$ . We must have  $c < d$  because if  $c > d$  then  $f(c) > f(d)$ . Hence defining  $c = f^{-1}(a)$  and  $d = f^{-1}(b)$  we see  $f^{-1}(a) < f^{-1}(b)$ .  $\Rightarrow f^{-1}$  is strictly increasing.

(See next theorem for continuity property)

Theorem Let  $g$  be a strictly increasing function on an interval  $J$  such that  $g(J)$  is an interval  $I$ . Then  $g$  is continuous on  $J$ .

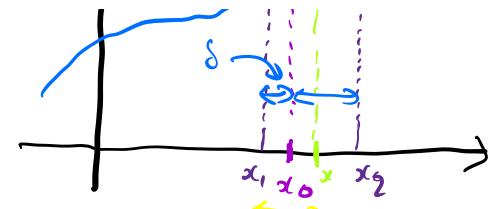
Proof Consider  $x_0 \in J$ . Restrict to  $x_0$  not an endpoint. Hence  $g(x_0)$  is not an endpoint, and  $\exists \varepsilon_0$  s.t.  $(g(x_0) - \varepsilon_0, g(x_0) + \varepsilon_0) \subseteq I$ .

Consider  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Assume  $\varepsilon < \varepsilon_0$  since in the continuity definition  $\therefore \text{a small } \varepsilon$



we can restrict to some  $\epsilon$ .

$$\exists x_1, x_2 \in J \text{ s.t. } g(x_1) = g(x_0) - \epsilon \\ g(x_2) = g(x_0) + \epsilon.$$



Then  $x_1 < x_0 < x_2$  since it is strictly increasing.

Similarly for  $x \in (x_1, x_2)$

$$g(x_1) < g(x) < g(x_2).$$

Then  $|g(x_0) - g(x)| < \epsilon$ . Put  $\delta = \min \{x_2 - x_0, x_0 - x_1\}$

Then  $|x - x_0| < \delta$  implies that  $|g(x) - g(x_0)| < \epsilon$ .

[can be thought of as a partial converse to the intermediate value theorem. A strictly increasing function with intermediate value property is continuous.]

### Uniform continuity

Recall what it means for a real-valued function  $f$  to be continuous on a set  $S \subseteq \text{dom}(f)$ .

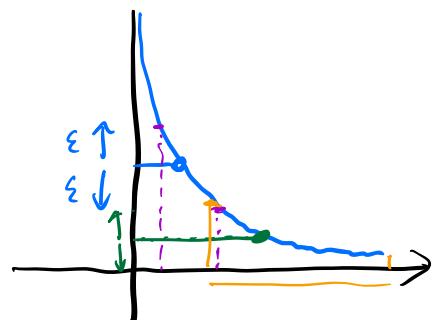
$\forall x_0 \in S, \forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0 \text{ s.t. } x \in \text{dom}(f) \text{ & } |x - x_0| < \delta$   
implies that  $|f(x) - f(x_0)| < \epsilon$ .

The choice of  $\delta$  depends on the value of  $\epsilon$  and  $x_0$ .

Example  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  on  $(0, \infty)$ .

Consider showing this function is continuous at a point  $x_0 > 0$ .

$$f(x) - f(x_0) = \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x_0} = \frac{x_0}{xx_0} - \frac{x}{xx_0}$$



$$= \frac{x_0 - x}{x(x_0)}$$

Pick  $\epsilon > 0$ . Suppose  $|x - x_0| < \frac{x_0}{2}$ , then  $\frac{x_0}{2} < x < \frac{3x_0}{2}$ .

$$|f(x) - f(x_0)| = \frac{|x - x_0|}{x_0 x} < \frac{|x_0 - x|}{x_0 \left(\frac{x_0}{2}\right)} = \frac{2|x_0 - x|}{x_0^2}$$

Now suppose  $\delta = \min \left\{ \frac{x_0}{2}, \frac{\epsilon x_0^2}{2} \right\}$ . Then if  $|x_0 - x| < \delta$ ,

$$|f(x) - f(x_0)| < \frac{2}{x_0^2} \cdot \epsilon \frac{x_0^2}{2} = \epsilon.$$

Hence  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$ . The value of  $f$  must become smaller as  $x_0$  gets smaller. This is because  $\frac{1}{x}$  becomes steeper as  $x_0$  gets smaller.

Definition Let  $f$  be a real-valued function defined on  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $f$  is **uniformly continuous** on  $S$  if

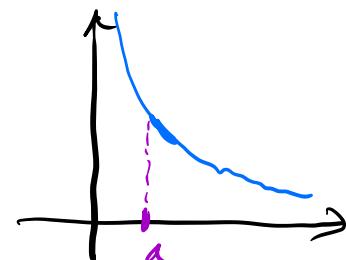
$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0 \text{ s.t } \forall x, y \in S \text{ and } |x - y| < \delta \text{ then } |f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon.$$

Return to example

$f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  is uniformly continuous on the interval  $[a, \infty)$  for  $a > 0$ .

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  and consider any  $x, y \geq a$ . Pick  $\delta = \min \left\{ \frac{a}{2}, \frac{\epsilon a^2}{2} \right\}$

Then if  $|x - y| < \delta$ , then



$|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$  by previous result

$|f(x) - f(y)| < \epsilon$  by  $\lim_{x \rightarrow y}$

Alternatively

$$|f(x) - f(y)| = \frac{|x-y|}{xy} \leq \frac{|x-y|}{a^2}$$

Hence if  $\delta = a^2 \epsilon$ , then  $|x-y| < \delta$  implies

$$|f(x) - f(y)| < \frac{a^2 \epsilon}{a^2} = \epsilon.$$

Further example

$f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  is not uniformly continuous on  $(0, \infty)$ . To show this,  $\forall \delta > 0 \exists x, y \in (0, \infty)$  s.t.  $|x-y| < \delta$  and yet  $|f(x) - f(y)| \geq 1$ .

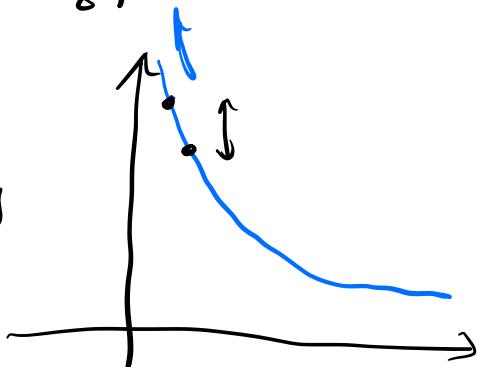
If  $\delta > 1$  choose  $x=1, y=\frac{1}{2}$   $\left| \frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}} \right| = 1$ .

If  $\delta \leq 1$  choose  $x=8, y=\frac{\delta}{2}$

$$\left| \frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{\frac{\delta}{2}} \right| = \left| \frac{1}{8} - \frac{2}{\delta} \right| = \frac{1}{8} \geq 1.$$

Theorem If  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  then  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $[a, b]$ .

Proof Assume  $f$  is not uniformly continuous on  $[a, b]$ . Then  $\exists \epsilon > 0$  s.t.  $\forall \delta > 0$ ,  $\exists x, y \in (a, b)$  s.t.  $|x-y| < \delta$  but  $|f(x) - f(y)| \geq \epsilon$ .



Then define  $x_n, y_n \in [a, b]$  s.t.  $|x_n - y_n| < \frac{1}{n}$  but  $|f(x_n) - f(y_n)| \geq \varepsilon$ .

By Bolzano-Weierstraf theorem  $\exists$  a subsequence  $(x_{n_k})$  of  $(x_n)$  which converges. But if  $x_0 = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_{n_k}$ , then  $x_0 \in [a, b]$ . In addition  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} y_{n_k} = x_0$ .

But since  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$ , then

$$f(x_0) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f(x_{n_k}) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f(y_{n_k})$$

So  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} [f(x_{n_k}) - f(y_{n_k})] = 0$ .

contradiction since  $|f(x_{n_k}) - f(y_{n_k})| \geq \varepsilon \quad \forall k$ .

Hence  $f$  is uniformly continuous on  $[a, b]$ .

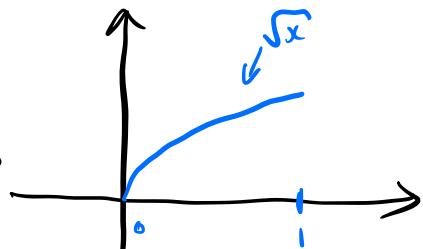
Implies that many functions are uniformly continuous.

e.g. any polynomial on a closed interval.

$\sqrt{x}$  on  $[0, 1]$ .

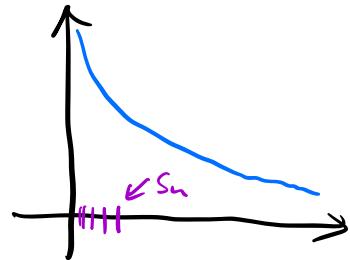
Theorem If  $f$  is uniformly continuous on a set  $S$  and  $(s_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $S$ , then  $(f(s_n))$  is a Cauchy sequence.

Proof Pick  $\varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta \text{ s.t. } x, y \in S \quad |x - y| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$



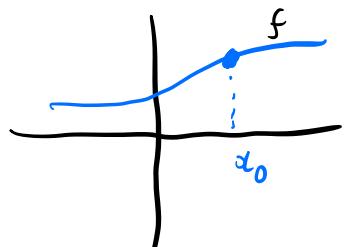
Since  $(s_n)$  is Cauchy,  $\exists N$  s.t  $n > N \Rightarrow |s_n - s_m| < \epsilon$ .  
 $\Rightarrow |f(s_n) - f(s_m)| < \epsilon$ .

This result requires uniform continuity.



## Limits of functions

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$$



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x)$$

Let  $S$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , and let  $a$  be a real number or a symbol  $\pm\infty$  that is the limit of some sequence in  $S$ , and let  $L$  be a real number or symbol  $\pm\infty$ .

We write  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^S} f(x) = L$  if

- $f$  is a function defined on  $S$
- for every sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $S$  with limit  $a$ , we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = L$ .

The limit exists if and only if  $f$  is continuous at  $a$  on  $S$ .

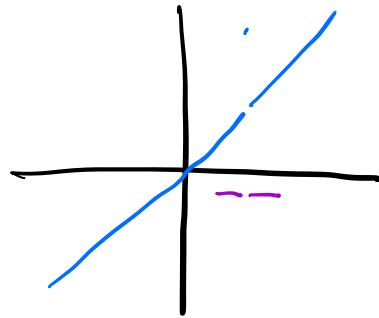
Some standard definitions

a) For  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , write  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$  if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^S} f(x) = L$

for some  $S = J \setminus \{a\}$  where  $J$  is an open interval containing  $a$ .

e.g.  $f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \neq 1 \\ 2 & \text{if } x = 1 \end{cases}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = 1.$$



b) Positive and negative limits

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L \quad \text{if} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow a^S} f(x) = L \quad \text{for some open interval } S = (a, b)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L \quad \text{if} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow a^S} f(x) = L \quad \text{for some open interval } S = (c, a)$$

c) Infinite function limit

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L \quad \text{if} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty^S} f(x) = L \quad \text{where } S = (c, \infty)$$

### Theorem

Let  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  be functions for which

$$L_1 = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^S} f_1(x) \quad \text{and} \quad L_2 = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^S} f_2(x).$$

i)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^S} (f_1 + f_2)(x)$  exists and equals  $L_1 + L_2$

ii)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^S} (f_1 \cdot f_2)(x)$  exists and equals  $L_1 \cdot L_2$

iii)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^S} \left(\frac{f_1}{f_2}\right)(x)$  exists and equals  $L_1/L_2$

... and a few more

provided that  $L_2 \neq 0$  and  $f_2(x) + c \neq 0$ .

Proof (i) Consider  $x_n$  is  $S'$  with limit  $a$ .

$$\text{Then } L_1 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_1(x_n)$$

$$L_2 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_2(x_n)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (f_1 + f_2)(x_n) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_1(x_n) + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_2(x_n) \\ &= L_1 + L_2. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem Let  $f$  be a function defined on  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  and  $a$  be a real number that is the limit of some sequence in  $S$ , and let  $L$  be a real number. Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L \text{ if and only if}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0 \text{ s.t } x \in S \text{ and } \\ |x - a| < \delta \text{ then } |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon. \end{aligned} \quad (*)$$

Proof Consider a sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $S$  s.t  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = a$ . To show  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = L$ .

Consider  $\varepsilon > 0$ .  $\exists \delta > 0$  s.t  $x \in S$  and  $|x - a| < \delta$  then  $|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$ .

$$\exists N \text{ s.t. } n > N \Rightarrow |x_n - a| < \delta \\ \Rightarrow |f(x_n) - L| < \varepsilon.$$

Hence  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = L$ .

Now assume  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$  but that (\*) fails. Then  $\exists \varepsilon > 0$  s.t.  $\forall \delta > 0$ ,  $x \in S$  and  $|x - a| < \delta$  then that does not imply  $|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$ .

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\exists x_n \in S$  where  $|x_n - a| < \frac{1}{n}$   
while  $|f(x_n) - L| \geq \varepsilon$

But then  $x_n \rightarrow a$  but  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = L$  fails.

\* hence property \* is true.

Let  $f$  be a function defined on  $I \setminus \{a\}$   
for an open interval  $I$  containing  $a$ .

Let  $L \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$  if and only  
if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0 \text{ s.t. } 0 < |x - a| < \delta \\ \text{then } |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon.$$

Theorem Let  $f$  be a function defined on  $I \setminus \{a\}$ . Then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$  exists if and only if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x)$  exist and are equal, in which case all three limits are equal.

### Proof

If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$  then

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0 \text{ s.t. } 0 < |x - a| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon.$$

Immediately follows that

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0 \text{ s.t. } a < x < a + \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon.$$

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0 \text{ s.t. } a - \delta < x < a \Rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon.$$

Then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L$ .

Suppose  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x)$ .

Choose  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then

- $\exists \delta_1 > 0$  s.t.  $a < x < a + \delta_1 \Rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$ .

- $\exists \delta_2 > 0$  s.t.  $a - \delta_2 < x < a \Rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$ .

Pick  $\delta = \min \{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$  then



$$0 < |x-a| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \epsilon,$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L.$$

### Power Series

Suppose  $(a_n)$  is a sequence of real numbers. Then the series

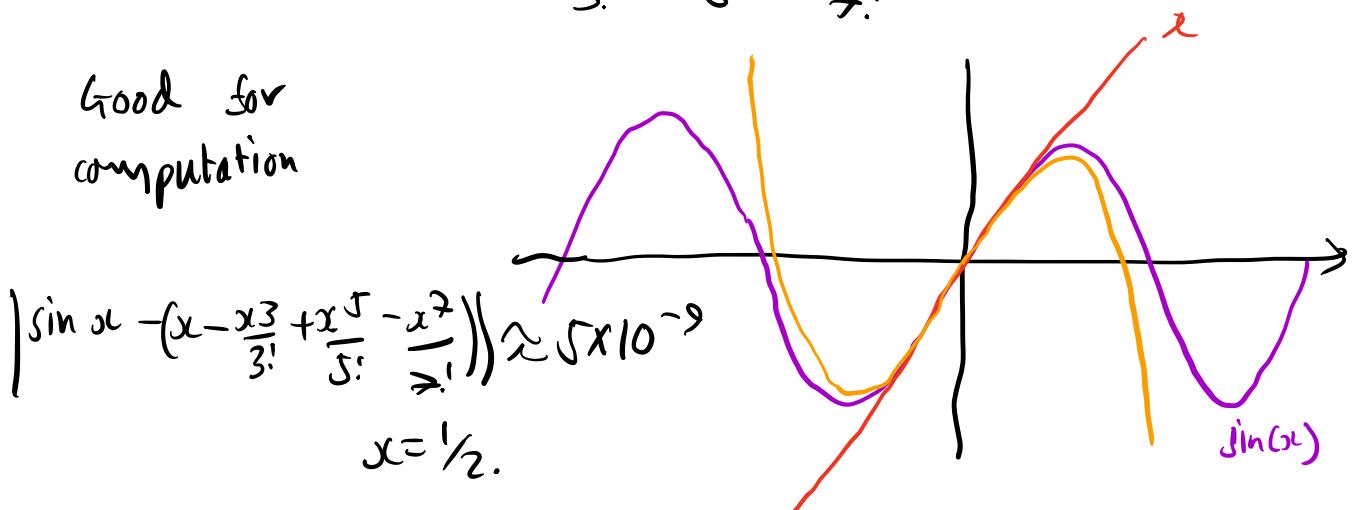
$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$$

Use convention  
that  $0^0 = 1$ .

is called a power series. Main aim: to approximate other functions. e.g.

$$\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots$$

Good for computation



Good for computing  $\pi$ .

$$\text{e.g. } \tan^{-1} x = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots$$

$$\tan^{-1} 1 = \frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{11} + \dots$$

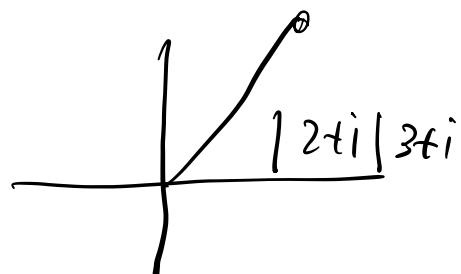
James  
Gregory  
(1638-1675).

$$\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2} = 1 - \frac{(\frac{1}{2})^3}{3} + \frac{(\frac{1}{2})^5}{5} - \frac{(\frac{1}{2})^7}{7} + \dots$$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{128}$

$$\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{3} = 1 - \frac{(\frac{1}{3})^3}{3} + \frac{(\frac{1}{3})^5}{5} - \frac{(\frac{1}{3})^7}{7} + \dots$$

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2} + \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{3}$$



$$\operatorname{Arg} 2+i = \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\operatorname{Arg} 3+i = \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{3}$$

$$(2+i)(3+i) = 6 - 1 + 5i = 5+5i$$

$$\operatorname{Arg} 5+5i = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

Machin formula.

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = 4 \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{5} - \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{239}.$$

1706 John Machin 100 digits

1844 Zacharias Dase 200 digits

1871 William Chalker ~~207~~ digits

1876 William Shanks  
528 onward  
incorrect

Seven hundred Seven  
Shanks did state  
Digits of  $\pi$   
he would calculate  
And none can deny  
It was a good try  
But he erred at 528!

- Three cases:
- a) the power series converges  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$
  - b) the power series converges at  $x=0$  only
  - c) the power series converges for all  $x$  in a bounded interval (open/closed)

Theorem For the power series  $\sum a_n x^n$ , let  
 $\beta = \limsup |a_n|^{1/n}$  and  $R = \frac{1}{\beta}$ .

Then the power series converges for  $|x| < R$  and diverges for  $|x| > R$ .  $R$  is called the radius of convergence.

(Define  $R=0$  if  $\beta=\infty$  and  $R=\infty$  if  $\beta=0$ )

convergence.

Proof Use the root test. For a given  $x$ ,  
define

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_x &= \limsup |a_n x^n|^{1/n} \\ &= \limsup |a_n|^{1/n} |x|. \\ &= |x| \limsup |a_n|^{1/n} = \beta|x|.\end{aligned}$$

If  $0 < \beta < \infty$  then  $\alpha_x = \beta|x| = \frac{|x|}{R}$ . Then

if  $|x| < R$  then  $\alpha_x < 1$ , so the series converges.

If  $|x| > R$  then  $\alpha_x > 1$ , so the series  
diverges.

$R = \infty$ ,  $\beta = 0$   $\alpha_x = 0$  Series converges.

Examples  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$   $R = 1$  doesn't converge for  $x = \pm 1$ .

$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} x^n$   $R = 1$  converges if  $x = -1$ .

$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} x^n$   $R = 1$  converges at  $x = \pm 1$ .

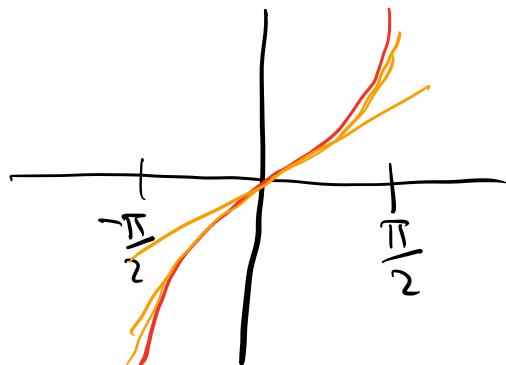
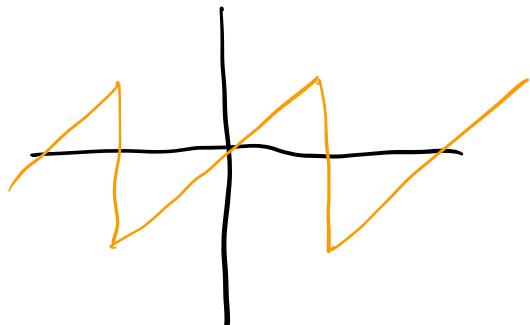
Could write in a more general setting.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x - x_0)^n.$$

What can be said in general about this series?  
 Any partial sum will be continuous and possible  
 to differentiate.

Just because each partial sum is continuous  
 does not guarantee that  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}$  will be continuous.  
 $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$ .

$(f_n)$

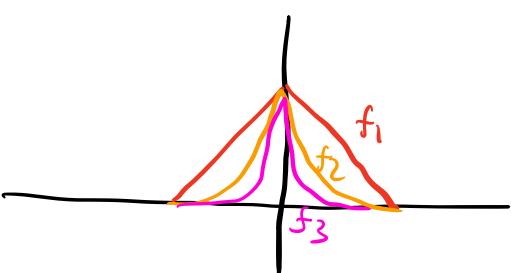
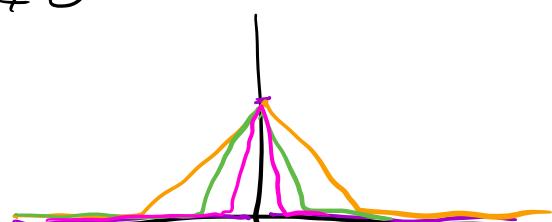


$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x=0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f_n(x) = \min(1 - n|x|, 0)$$

$$f_n(x) = (1 - |x|)^n$$

Motivates a stronger  
 definition of convergence,  
 which we call **uniform  
 convergence**. It will turn out that power series



satisfy this stronger definition.

Definition Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of real-valued functions defined on  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then the sequence **converges pointwise** to  $f$  defined on  $S$  if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x) \quad \forall x \in S$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n = f \quad f_n \xrightarrow{\text{pointwise}} f$$

$$\forall x \in S \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists N \text{ s.t. } |f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon \quad \forall n > N.$$

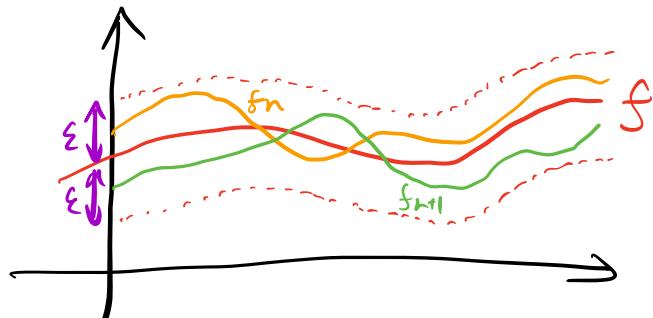
Definition Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of real-valued functions defined on  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $f_n$  **converges uniformly** on  $S$  to a function  $f$  if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists N \text{ s.t. } |f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon \quad \forall x \in S \quad \forall n > N.$$

In this case, write

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n = f \text{ uniformly.}$$

For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , the  $f_n$  have to eventually lie within a strip of width  $\varepsilon$  around  $f$ .



$$\text{Return } f_n = (1 - |x|)^n$$

Then  $|f_n(x) - f(x)|$  should eventually be smaller than  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{2}$ .

$$x = 1 - 2^{-\frac{1}{N+1}}$$

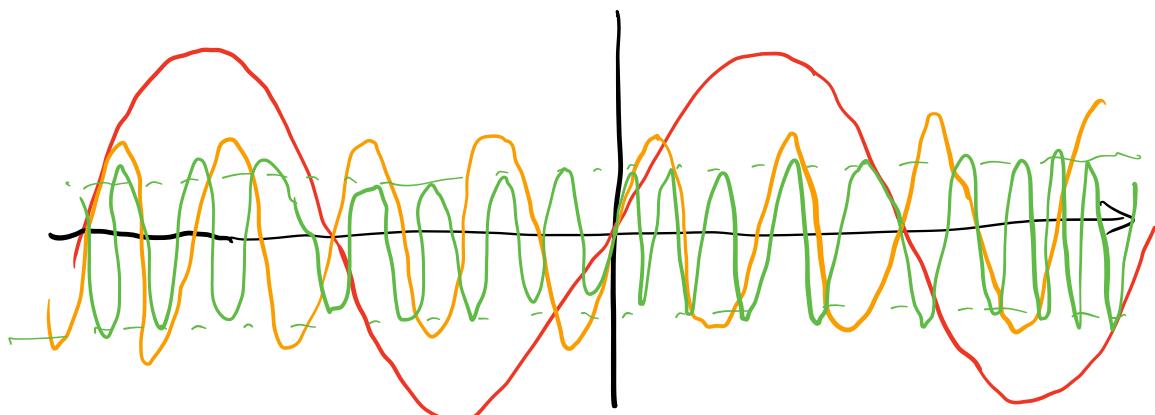
$$1 - x = 2^{-\frac{1}{N+1}}$$

$$(1-x)^{N+1} = 2^{-1} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$f_{N+1}(1 - 2^{-\frac{1}{N+1}}) = \frac{1}{2} \quad |f_{N+1}(x) - f(x)| = \frac{1}{2}$$

Can tolerate rapid oscillations in the  $f_n$  and still have uniform convergence.

$$f_n(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sin n^2 x$$



$$|f_n(x) - 0| \leq \frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{N} = \epsilon. \quad \text{uniformly convergent}$$

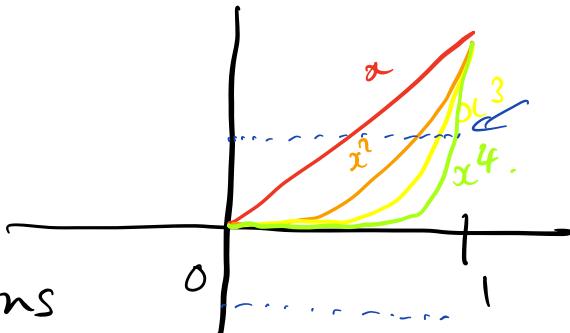


$$f_n(x) = x^n$$

pointwise  
convergent.

Does not converge uniformly on  $[0, 1]$ .

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = 0 \text{ pointwise.}$$



Theorem The uniform limit of continuous functions

is continuous. Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of functions on a set  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  and suppose  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $S$  and  $\text{dom}(f) = S$ . If each  $f_n$  is continuous at  $x_0$  in  $S$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$ .

Proof Let  $\epsilon > 0$ .  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $n > N \Rightarrow$

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{3} \quad \forall x \in S$$

$$\text{Hence } |f_{N+1}(x) - f(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{3} \quad \forall x \in S.$$

$f_{N+1}$  is continuous at  $x_0$ , so  $\exists \delta > 0$  s.t.

$$x \in S \text{ and } |x - x_0| < \delta \Rightarrow |f_{N+1}(x) - f_{N+1}(x_0)| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$$

Then  $x \in S$  and  $|x - x_0| < \delta$  implies

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(x_0)| &\leq |f(x) - f_{N+1}(x)| + |f_{N+1}(x) - f_{N+1}(x_0)| \\ &\quad + |f_{N+1}(x_0) - f(x_0)| \end{aligned}$$

$$\left| f_{n+1}(x) - f_n(x) \right| < \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} = \epsilon.$$

Definition A sequence  $(f_n)$  of functions defined on  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is **uniformly Cauchy** if

$$\forall \epsilon > 0 \quad \exists N \text{ s.t. } |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| < \epsilon$$

$$\forall x \in S \quad \forall m, n > N.$$

Theorem Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of functions that are uniformly Cauchy on  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $\exists f$  on  $S$  such that  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $S$ .

Proof Choose  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then for a fixed  $x_0 \in S$ ,

$$|f_n(x_0) - f_m(x_0)| < \epsilon \quad \forall m, n > N.$$

Hence  $f_n(x_0)$  is a Cauchy sequence, so it must converge to a limit  $f(x_0)$ .

Since this applies to any  $x_0 \in S$ ,  $f_n \rightarrow f$  pointwise.

To show convergence is uniform, choose  $\epsilon > 0$ .

Then  $\exists N$  s.t  $|f_n(x) - f_m(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad \forall x \in S'$   
 and  $\forall m, n > N$ .

Consider a specific  $m > N$ . Then  $\forall x \in S$   
 and  $\forall n > N$ .

$$f_n(x) \in \left( f_m(x) - \frac{\epsilon}{2}, f_m(x) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \right).$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x) \in \left[ f_m(x) - \frac{\epsilon}{2}, f_m(x) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \right].$$

$$|f(x) - f_m(x)| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} < \epsilon$$

$\forall x \in S$  and  $m > N$ .

Useful for series of functions, such as power series. We know each intermediate is well-defined, so we can use to reach a well-defined limit.

Theorem Consider a series of functions  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g_k$   
 defined on  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Suppose that each  $g_k$  is  
 continuous on  $S$  and that the series  
 converges uniformly on  $S$ . Then  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g_k$  represents  
 a continuous function on  $S$ .

Proof Consider sequence  $s_n = \sum_{k=0}^n g_k(x)$ .  $s_n$  is

(continuous since continuous functions add.)

Already showed that if  $f_n$  is continuous and  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly, then  $f$  is continuous.

### Analogy of the Cauchy criterion

For a series,  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k$ , the Cauchy criterion is

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N \text{ s.t. } n \geq m > N \Rightarrow \left| \sum_{k=m}^n a_k \right| < \varepsilon.$$

For series of functions  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g_k(x)$

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists N \text{ s.t. } \left| \sum_{k=m}^n g_k(x) \right| < \varepsilon \quad \forall n \geq m > N \quad \forall x \in S.$$

### Weierstraß M-test

Suppose  $(M_k)$  is a sequence of non-negative real numbers where  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} M_k < \infty$ . If

$|g_k(x)| \leq M_k \quad \forall x \in S \text{ and } \forall k$ , then  $\sum g_k$  converges uniformly on  $S$

Proof Since  $\sum M_k$  converges, it satisfies the Cauchy criterion:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists N \text{ s.t. } n \geq m > N \Rightarrow \left| \sum_{k=m}^n M_k \right| < \varepsilon.$$

Hence

$$\left| \sum_{k=m}^n g_k(x) \right| \leq \sum_{k=m}^n |g_k(x)| \leq \sum_{k=m}^n M_k < \varepsilon$$

$\Rightarrow g_k$  converges uniformly on  $S$

Example USC for power series

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^{-n} x^n &= x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^{-n-1} x^n \\ &= \frac{x}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n x^n \\ &= \frac{x}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - \frac{x}{2}} = \frac{x}{2-x}. \end{aligned}$$

First two terms.  
 $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^{-n} x^n$   
 First term

At  $x = \pm 2$  series

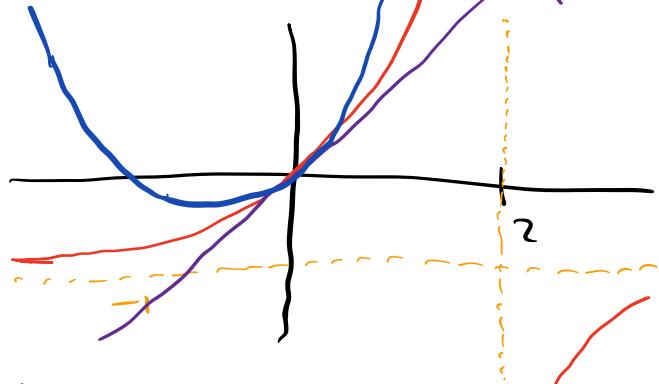
doesn't converge.

Consider an interval

$(-a, a)$  for  $a < 2$ .

Then  $|2^{-n} x^n| \leq \left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^n$  ← convergent geometric series

$M_n$



Hence by the Weierstrass M-test, the series

$\dots + a_{-2}x^{-2} + a_{-1}x^{-1} + a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots$  The limit

converges uniformly on  $[-a, a]$ . In fact the function must be continuous. Hence continuous on  $(-2, 2)$ .

Theorem Let  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$  be a power series with radius of convergence  $R > 0$ . If  $0 < R_1 < R$ , then the power series converges uniformly on  $[-R_1, R_1]$  to continuous function.

Proof Radius of convergence defined as

$$\beta = \frac{1}{R} = \limsup |a_n|^{1/n}$$

So  $\sum a_n x^n$  and  $\sum |a_n| x^n$  have the same radius of convergence.

$\sum |a_n| R_1^n$  converges by the root test.

$|a_n x^n| \leq |a_n| R_1^n$  so the series converges uniformly by the Weierstrass M-test.

Corollary The series converges uniformly to a continuous function for the open interval  $(-R, R)$ .

Preview Suppose  $f(x) = \sum a_n x^n$  for some

radius of convergence  $R$ . Does  $f'(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n a_n x^{n-1}$ ?

First show that the two series have the same radius of convergence.

$$\sum_n n a_n x^n = x \sum_n n a_n x^{n-1}$$

so the two power series must converge for the same values of  $x$ . For  $0 < R < \infty$

$$R = \frac{1}{\beta} \quad \beta = \limsup |a_n|^{1/n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup |a_n|^{1/n} &= \limsup |a_n|^{1/n} \cdot \underbrace{\lim \ln|a_n|^{1/n}}_1 \\ &= \limsup |a_n|^{1/n} \end{aligned}$$

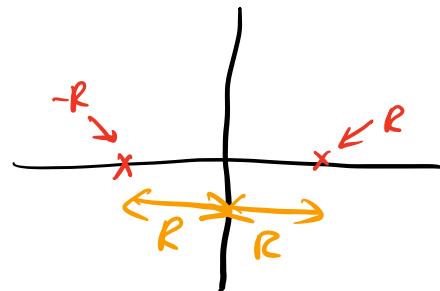
Hence  $\sum n a_n x^{n-1}$  has the same radius of convergence as  $\sum a_n x^n$ . Later we will show that  $f$  is differentiable on  $(-R, R)$  and  $f'(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n x^{n-1}$ .

Abel's Theorem Let  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$  be a power series with a finite positive radius of convergence  $R$ . If the series converges

$$1 \dots 0 \quad 1 \dots r \quad \dots \quad 1 \dots n$$

at  $x=R$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $x=R$ .

Similarly if the series converges at  $x=-R$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $x=-R$ .



Proof Consider  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$  with radius of convergence 1. Let series converge at 1.

$$\text{write } s_n = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k \quad f_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k x^k \quad S_n = f_n(1).$$

$$S = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k = f(1) \quad \lim s_n = S. \\ S_k - S_{k-1} = a_k.$$

For  $0 < x < 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f_n(x) &= S_0 + \sum_{k=1}^n (\underbrace{s_k - s_{k-1}}_{a_k}) x^k \\ &= S_0 + \sum_{k=1}^n s_k x^k - x \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} s_k x^k \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} s_k (1-x)x^k + s_n x^n \end{aligned}$$

Take limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Note that  $x^n \rightarrow 0$ .

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s_n (1-x)x^n \quad f(1) = S.$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

$$f(1) = S = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (1-x)x^n$$

$$f(1) - f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (S - S_n)(1-x)x^n$$

Choose  $\epsilon > 0$ . Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = S$ ,  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$

s.t.  $n > N \Rightarrow |S - S_n| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ .

Define  $g_N(x) = \sum_{n=0}^N |S - S_n|(1-x)x^n$ .

$$\begin{aligned} |f(1) - f(x)| &\leq g_N(x) + \sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} |S - S_n|(1-x)x^n \\ &\leq g_N(x) + \sum_{n=N+1}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon}{2} (1-x)x^n \\ &< g_N(x) + \frac{\epsilon}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

$g_N$  is continuous and  $g_N(1) = 0$ . Hence

$\exists \delta > 0$ , s.t.

$$1 - \delta < x < 1 \Rightarrow g_N(x) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}.$$

$$|g_N(1) - g_N(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$|f(1) - f(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon.$$

If  $f(x)$  has radius of convergence  $R$ , define

$g(x) = f(Rx)$ .  $g$  has radius of convergence 1,

... can apply the above result

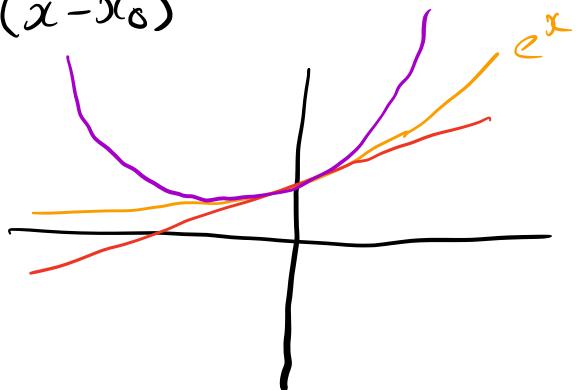
If we can apply the above process.

To examine at  $-R$ , define  $h(x) = f(-x)$ .

### Limitations of power series

Going to get to Taylor's theorem

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(k)}(x_0)}{k!} (x-x_0)^k$$



$$\frac{1}{k!} e^x = e^x.$$

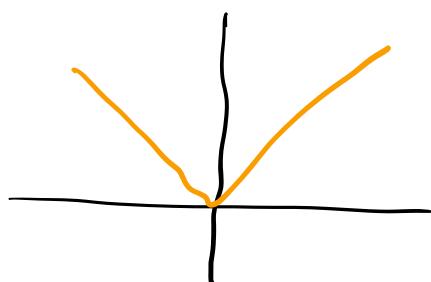
$$\left. \frac{d^n}{dx^n} e^x \right|_{x=0} = 1.$$

$$e^x = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!} \quad R = \infty$$

Going to run into problems where you can't construct derivatives. e.g.  $f(x) = |x|$

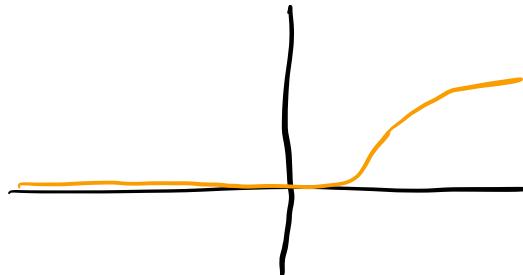
Even worse examples.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 0 \\ e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}} & x > 0. \end{cases}$$



$$f^{(n)}(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 0 \\ p(\frac{1}{x}) e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}} & x > 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{for some polynomial } p.$$

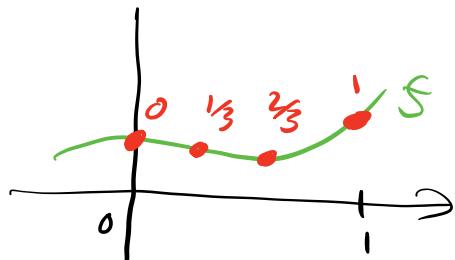
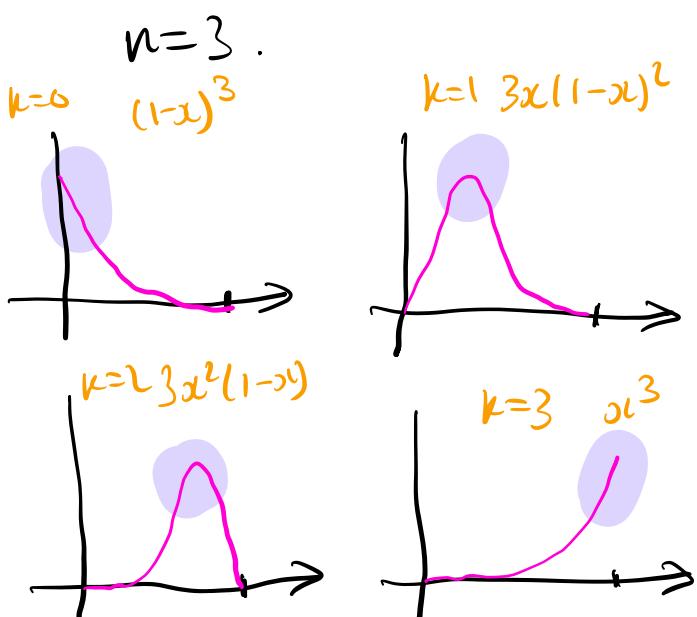
This function is infinitely differentiable.  $f^{(n)}(0) = 0$  for all  $n$ .



However, any continuous function on  $[0, 1]$  can be approximated by polynomials. (They just might not be power series.)

Can be done in terms of Bernstein polynomials. For  $f$  continuous on  $[0, 1]$

$$B_n f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n f\left(\frac{k}{n}\right) \binom{n}{k} x^k (1-x)^{n-k}$$



Lemma For every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k (1-x)^{n-k} = 1.$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n$$

Proof Binomial theorem shows the LHS is

equal to  $(x+(1-x))^n = 1^n = 1.$

Lemma  $\sum_{k=0}^n (nx-k)^2 \binom{n}{k} x^k (1-x)^{n-k} = nx(1-x) \leq \frac{n}{4}$

$$k \binom{n}{k} = \frac{k n!}{(n-k)! k!} = \frac{n(n-1)!}{(n-k)!(k-1)!} = n \binom{n-1}{k-1}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^n k \binom{n}{k} x^k (1-x)^{n-k} &= n \sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n-1}{k-1} x^k (1-x)^{n-k} \\ &= nx \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{j} x^j (1-x)^{n-1-j} \\ &= nx (x + (1-x))^{n-1} \\ &= nx. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly  $\sum_{k=0}^n k(k-1) \binom{n}{k} x^k (1-x)^{n-k} = n(n-1)x^2$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^n k^2 \binom{n}{k} x^k (1-x)^{n-k} &= n(n-1)x^2 + nx \\ &= n^2 x^2 + nx(1-x) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $(nx-k)^2 = n^2 x^2 - 2nxk + k^2$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^n (nx-k)^2 \binom{n}{k} x^k (1-x)^{n-k} &= \cancel{n^2 x^2} - \cancel{2nx^2} + \cancel{n^2 x^2} \\ &\quad + nx(1-x) \end{aligned}$$