

Math 600 Lecture 23

Definition: Let $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, where $I \subset \mathbb{R}$, and let $(a, b) \subset I$. We say that f is increasing on (a, b) iff

$$x_1, x_2 \in (a, b) \text{ and } x_1 < x_2 \Rightarrow f(x_1) \leq f(x_2)$$

and decreasing on (a, b) iff

$$x_1, x_2 \in (a, b) \text{ and } x_1 < x_2 \Rightarrow f(x_1) \geq f(x_2).$$

Strictly increasing and strictly decreasing have the obvious meanings. We say that f is monotonic on (a, b) iff it is increasing or decreasing on (a, b) .

Theorem: Let $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, where $I \subset \mathbb{R}$, and suppose $(a, b) \subset I$. If f is increasing on (a, b) , then, for all $c \in (a, b)$,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x) \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x)$$

exist, and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x) = \sup \{f(x) \mid a < x < c\} \leq \inf \{f(x) \mid c < x < b\} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x).$$

Analogous results hold for decreasing functions.

Proof: Note that $S = \{f(x) \mid a < x < c\}$ is nonempty and bounded above by $f(t)$ for any $t \in (c, b)$.

Thus

$$L = \sup S$$

exists in \mathbb{R} . Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given. Then there exists $s \in (a, c)$ such that

$$L - \varepsilon < f(s) \leq L$$

(otherwise, $L - \varepsilon < L$ is an upper bound for S , a contradiction). Define $\delta = c - s$.

Then

$$x \in (a, c) \text{ and } |x - c| < \delta \Rightarrow s < x < c$$

$$\Rightarrow f(s) \leq f(x) \leq L \quad (\text{since } f \text{ is increasing})$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x) - L| \leq |f(s) - L| < \varepsilon.$$

$$\text{Thus } L = \lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x).$$

The proof that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x) = \inf \{f(x) \mid c < x < b\}$$

is similar, and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x) \leq \lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x)$$

follows immediately from

$$f(x) \leq f(t) \quad \forall x \in (a, c) \quad \forall t \in (c, b). //$$

Corollary: Let $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be monotonic on $(a, b) \subset I$. Then the only discontinuities of f in (a, b) are jump discontinuities.

Theorem: Let $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be monotonic on $(a, b) \subset I$. Then the set of discontinuities of f in (a, b) is countable.

Proof: Wlog assume that f is increasing. Let E be the set of discontinuities of f in (a, b) and, for each $x \in E$, choose $r_x \in \mathbb{Q}$ satisfying

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow x^-} f(t) < r_x < \lim_{t \rightarrow x^+} f(t).$$

Then define $\varphi: E \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ by $\varphi(x) = r_x \quad \forall x \in E$. Clearly φ is injective and hence E is equivalent to a subset of \mathbb{Q} . Thus E is countable. //

Note: We previously defined

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x), \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x).$$

The usual rules apply:

- these limits, if they exist, are unique.
- if $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} g(x)$ exist (in \mathbb{R}), then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (f(x) \pm g(x)) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) \pm \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x),$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)g(x) = \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) \right) \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x) \right),$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x)} \quad (\text{if } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x) \neq 0).$$

These rules remain true if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \pm \infty \quad \text{or} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x) = \pm \infty,$$

provided we avoid the indeterminate forms

$$\infty - \infty, 0 \cdot \infty, \frac{\infty}{\infty}.$$

(The proof is straightforward but tedious.)

Introduction to differentiation

Definition: Let $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, where $I \subset \mathbb{R}$, and suppose t lies in the interior of I .

We say that f is differentiable at t iff

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow t} \frac{f(x) - f(t)}{x - t}$$

exists, in which case this limit is called the derivative of f at t and denoted $f'(t)$. That is,

$$f'(t) = \lim_{x \rightarrow t} \frac{f(x) - f(t)}{x - t},$$

if this limit exists.

If f is differentiable at every $t \in I$, we say that f is differentiable on I .

If $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we can define the (one-sided) derivatives at the endpoints as

$$f'(a) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a},$$

$$f'(b) = \lim_{x \rightarrow b^-} \frac{f(x) - f(b)}{x - b}.$$

We don't have a special notation for the one-sided derivatives (and we don't use them much).

Differentiation is linear:

Suppose $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are both differentiable at t , and let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned}(\alpha f + \beta g)'(t) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow t} \frac{(\alpha f + \beta g)(x) - (\alpha f + \beta g)(t)}{x - t} \\&= \lim_{x \rightarrow t} \frac{\alpha f(x) + \beta g(x) - \alpha f(t) - \beta g(t)}{x - t} \\&= \lim_{x \rightarrow t} \left(\alpha \frac{f(x) - f(t)}{x - t} + \beta \frac{g(x) - g(t)}{x - t} \right) \\&= \alpha \lim_{x \rightarrow t} \frac{f(x) - f(t)}{x - t} + \beta \lim_{x \rightarrow t} \frac{g(x) - g(t)}{x - t} \\&= \alpha f'(t) + \beta g'(t).\end{aligned}$$

Differentiation defines a linear map

If we define vector spaces

$$C[a, b] = \{f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is continuous}\}$$

$$C^1[a, b] = \{f \in C[a, b] \mid f \text{ is differentiable on } [a, b] \text{ and } f' \in C[a, b]\},$$

then

$$D: C^1[a, b] \rightarrow C[a, b],$$

$$Df = f'$$

is a linear map.