

19- Uniform Continuity

let f be a real-valued function whose domain is a subset of \mathbb{R} .

The theorem 17.2 tells that f is continuous on a set $S \subseteq \text{dom}(f)$



$\forall x_0 \in S$, and $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, $\exists \delta > 0$
such that $x \in \text{dom}(f)$ and

$$|x - x_0| < \delta \implies |f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$$

The choice of $\delta > 0$ depends on $\varepsilon > 0$,

on point $x_0 \in S$

$$\implies \text{i.e. } \delta(x_0, \varepsilon)$$

Ex 1

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}, \quad x \in (0, \infty)$$

$$\text{let } x_0 > 0, \quad \varepsilon > 0$$

$$f(x) - f(x_0) = \frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{1}{x_0^2}$$

$$= \frac{x_0^2 - x^2}{x^2 x_0^2}$$

$$= \frac{(x_0 - x)(x_0 + x)}{x^2 x_0^2}$$

$$\text{if } |x - x_0| < \frac{x_0}{2}$$

$$\frac{x_0}{2} < |x| < x_0 + \frac{x_0}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x_0}{2} < |x| < \frac{3x_0}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 > \frac{x_0^2}{4} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{x^2} < \frac{1}{\left(\frac{x_0}{2}\right)^2}$$

$$2 \quad |x + x_0| \leq |x| + |x_0|$$

$$\leq \frac{3x_0}{2} + x_0$$

$$|x + x_0| \leq \frac{5}{2} x_0$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x) - f(x_0)| = \frac{|x - x_0| |x + x_0|}{x^2 x_0^2}$$

$$\leq \frac{|x - x_0| \frac{5x_0}{2}}{\frac{x_0^2}{5} \cdot x_0^2}$$

$$\leq \frac{5|x - x_0|}{x_0^3} < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow |x - x_0| < \varepsilon \cdot \frac{x_0^3}{5}$$

\Rightarrow for $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, $\forall x_0 > 0$, we have

$\delta = \min \left\{ \varepsilon \cdot \frac{x_0^3}{5}, \frac{x_0}{2} \right\}$ such that

$$|x - x_0| < \varepsilon \frac{x_0^3}{5} \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$$

Hence $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ is continuous.

$$\delta(x_0, \varepsilon) = \min \left\{ \frac{x_0}{2}, \frac{\varepsilon x_0^2}{3} \right\}$$

\Rightarrow even if ε is fixed, δ gets small when x_0 gets small.

\Rightarrow δ depends on both ε , x_0 .

Def 19.1

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

$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0$ such that $x, y \in S$
and $|x - y| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$

It makes no sense to speak of a function being uniformly continuous at each point.

Ex 2

$f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ is uniformly continuous

on any set of the form $[a, \infty)$ where $a > 0$. Here a is fixed.

Solⁿ

let $\varepsilon > 0$ we need to $\exists \delta > 0$ s.t

$$\forall x, y \in [a, \infty) \quad |x - y| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$$

$$f(x) - f(y) = \frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{1}{y^2}$$

$$= \frac{y^2 - x^2}{x^2 y^2}$$

$$= \frac{(y - x)(y + x)}{x^2 y^2}$$

$$\frac{y + x}{x^2 y^2} = \frac{1}{y x^2} + \frac{1}{x y^2}$$

$$x \geq a; y \geq a \Rightarrow \frac{1}{x} \leq \frac{1}{a}, \frac{1}{y} \leq \frac{1}{a}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 \geq a^2; y^2 \geq a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{x^2} \leq \frac{1}{a^2}; \frac{1}{y^2} \leq \frac{1}{a^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{x^2y} \leq \frac{1}{a^3} \quad \frac{1}{y^2x} \leq \frac{1}{a^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{x^2y} + \frac{1}{y^2x} \leq \frac{2}{a^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| = \frac{|y-x| \cdot (y+x)}{x^2y^2} \\ \leq |y-x| \cdot \frac{2}{a^3} < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow |y-x| < \frac{a^3 \varepsilon}{2}$$

$$\text{take } \delta = \frac{a^3 \varepsilon}{2}$$

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta = \frac{a^3 \varepsilon}{2}, \text{ such that } \forall x, y > a$$

$$|x-y| < \frac{a^3 \varepsilon}{2} \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2} \text{ is uniform continuous on } [a, \infty)$$

Exam 3 $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ is not uniformly

continuous on the set $(0, \infty)$ or even
on $(0, 1)$

Ex 4:

$f(x) = x^2$ is uniformly convergent
on $[-7, 7]$?

Soln let $\varepsilon > 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) - f(y) &= x^2 - y^2 \\ &= (x - y)(x + y) \end{aligned}$$

$$-7 \leq x \leq 7$$

$$-7 \leq y \leq 7$$

$$\Rightarrow -14 \leq x + y \leq 14 \Rightarrow |x + y| \leq 14$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| &= |x - y| |x + y| \\ &\leq 14 |x - y| < \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

take $\delta = \frac{\varepsilon}{14}$

$\forall \varepsilon > 0$, $\exists \delta = \frac{\varepsilon}{14}$ such that $\forall x, y \in [-7, 7]$

$$|x - y| < \frac{\varepsilon}{14} \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$$

Hence $f(x) = x^2$ is uniformly continuous on $[-7, 7]$

19.2 Theorem:

if f is continuous on a closed interval $[a, b]$; then f is uniformly continuous on $[a, b]$.

Proof:

Assume f is not uniformly continuous on $[a, b]$.

$\Rightarrow \exists \varepsilon > 0$ s.t. for each $\delta > 0$,
 $|x - y| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$
 fails

$$\Rightarrow \forall \delta > 0, \quad x, y \in [a, b]$$

$$|x - y| < \delta \quad \text{but} \quad |f(x) - f(y)| \geq \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad x_n, y_n \in [a, b], \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \text{such that}$$

$$|x_n - y_n| < \frac{1}{n} \quad \text{and yet}$$

$$|f(x_n) - f(y_n)| \geq \varepsilon.$$

By Bolzano Weierstrass Theorem

(Every Bounded seqⁿ has a convergent subseqⁿ)

There a subseqⁿ (x_{n_k}) of (x_n) converges.

$$x_0 = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_{n_k}$$

$$x_0 \in [a, b].$$

$$x_0 = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} y_{n_k}$$

Since f is continuous at x_0

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

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_{n_k} - y_{n_k}) = 0$$

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

$\Rightarrow f$ is uniformly continuous on $[a, b]$

one of the important applications of uniform continuity concerns the integrability of continuous functions on closed intervals.

Proof: A real valued function
continuous, non-negative f
on $[0, 1]$

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \text{and } i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$$

let

$$M_{i,n} = \sup \left\{ f(x) : x \in \left[\frac{i}{n}, \frac{i+1}{n} \right] \right\}$$

$$m_{i,n} = \inf \left\{ f(x) : x \in \left[\frac{i}{n}, \frac{i+1}{n} \right] \right\}$$

$$U_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} M_{i,n}$$

$$L_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} m_{i,n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (U_n - L_n) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \int_0^1 f(x) dx &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_n \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_n \end{aligned}$$

$$0 \leq U_n - L_n$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 \leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (M_{i,n} - m_{i,n}) \quad \forall n.$$

Let $\varepsilon > 0$, by theorem 19.2, f is uniformly continuous on $[0,1]$.

$$\Rightarrow \exists \delta > 0, \text{ s.t. } x, y \in [0,1]$$

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

19.4 Theorem:

if f is uniformly continuous on a set S and (s_n) is a Cauchy seqⁿ in S , then $(f(s_n))$ is a Cauchy seqⁿ.

Proof:

Let $(s_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a Cauchy seqⁿ in S . let $\varepsilon > 0$

* since f is uniformly continuous in S
 $\exists \delta > 0$ such that

$$\forall x, y \in S \quad |x - y| < \delta \implies |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon$$

* (s_n) is a Cauchy seqⁿ \implies for $\varepsilon > 0$

$\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $\forall n, m > N$ we have

$$|s_n - s_m| < \delta$$

\implies from f uniform continuity

$$|f(x_n) - f(x_m)| < \varepsilon$$

$$\forall n, m > N,$$

$\Rightarrow (f(s_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a Cauchy seqⁿ.

Ex: 6

Show $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ is not uniformly continuous in $(0, 1)$

Solⁿ

$$\text{let } s_n = \frac{1}{n} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$\Rightarrow (\frac{1}{n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ Cauchy seqⁿ in $(0, 1)$

$f(s_n) = n^2$ should be Cauchy seqⁿ if f is uniformly continuous.

But $\Rightarrow (f(s_n) = n^2)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is not a Cauchy seqⁿ.

$\Rightarrow f$ is not uniformly continuous on $(0, 1)$

Ex 7: $f(x) = x \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$ for $x \in (0, \frac{\pi}{4}]$

$\tilde{f}(x) = \begin{cases} x \sin \frac{1}{x} \\ 0 \end{cases}$ is an
extension of $f(x)$

Theorem 19.5:

A real-valued function f on (a, b)
is uniformly continuous on (a, b)
 \iff it can be extended to a
continuous \tilde{f} on $[a, b]$.

Proof:

define

$(S_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a converging seqⁿ in (a, b)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = a$$

then define $\tilde{f}(a) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(S_n)$

Ex: 9

$$h(x) = \frac{\sin x}{x} \quad \text{for } x \neq 0$$

The function $h = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin x}{x} & \text{for } x \neq 0 \\ 1 & \text{for } x = 0 \end{cases}$