

I don't know if we covered the ρ metric ($\rho(f, g) = \sup(|f(x) - g(x)| : x \in X)$), where X is the domain of f and g), but I'm using it because it's nice and I like it.

Problem 1:

Consider the sequence of functions $f_n : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by $f_n(x) = x + 1/n$. It is rather clear that this sequence of functions converges uniformly (to x).

However, the sequence of functions $\langle f_n^2 \rangle$ fails to converge uniformly:

For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $f_n^2(x) = x^2 + 2x/n + 1/n^2$. It is rather clear that $\langle f_n^2 \rangle$ converges pointwise to x^2 . So if $\langle f_n^2 \rangle$ converges uniformly to something, it must converge uniformly to x^2 . However, $\langle f_n^2 \rangle$ does not converge uniformly to x^2 :

Let $\epsilon > 0$, and pick $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Consider $|f_n^2(x) - x^2| = |2x/n + 1/n^2|$. Pick $x = n\epsilon$. Then $|2x/n + 1/n^2| = 2\epsilon + 1/n^2 \geq \epsilon$.

So for all $\epsilon > 0$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there is an $x \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $|f_n^2(x) - x^2| \geq \epsilon$; f_n^2 does not converge uniformly to x^2 .

So $\langle f_n \rangle$ converges uniformly on \mathbb{R} , but $\langle f_n^2 \rangle$ doesn't. This satisfies the problem.

Problem 2:

Longish note: After finishing this problem, I noticed that this follows immediately from a fragment of the proof of Arzela-Ascoli. I prefer this proof, as it is smoother, but it is important to note that such a thing is possible. Moreover, I used a general metric in this one, because it seems like if we had an appropriate extension of Arzela-Ascoli, then this proof could be extended to other types of metric spaces...Does such a theorem exist?

Proof starts here: Let $\langle f_n \rangle$ be an equicontinuous sequence of functions on a compact set, K , with $\langle f_n \rangle$ converging pointwise to some function, say f .

By the Arzela-Ascoli theorem, we know that $\langle f_n \rangle$ has some subsequence that uniformly converges to some function. We know that this function must be f : if a subsequence of functions converges uniformly to f , it converges pointwise to f . If a sequence of functions converges pointwise to a function, f , then all of its subsequences converge to f . So if a sequence of functions converges pointwise to f , then any subsequence of functions that converges uniformly to a function must converge uniformly to f .

Now, consider such a converging subsequence, $\langle f_{n_j} \rangle$.

Let $\epsilon > 0$. There is a $J \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $j \geq J$, $\rho(f_{n_j}, f) < \epsilon/4$.

In addition, by equicontinuity, there is a $\delta_1 > 0$ such that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $x, y \in K$, $d(x, y) < \delta_1$ implies that $d(f_n(x), f_n(y)) < \epsilon/4$.

Moreover, we know that converging sequences of continuous functions converge to continuous functions. We also know that continuous functions on a compact domain are uniformly continuous. Thus, f is uniformly continuous; there is a $\delta_2 > 0$ such that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $x, y \in K$, $d(x, y) < \delta_2$ implies that $d(f(x), f(y)) < \epsilon/4$.

Define $\delta = \min(\delta_1, \delta_2)$, so that we have both of the lines for δ .

We know that compact sets are totally bounded. (If this is not clear, consider a career in pastry making.)

So, let F be a finite collection of points of K such that for all $x \in K$, $d(x, y) < \delta$ for some $y \in F$.

Now, for each $y \in F$, there is an $N_y \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n \geq N_y$, $d(f_n(y), f(y)) < \epsilon/4$.

Define $N = \max(N_y, n_J)$.

Now, for all $n \geq N$, and for all $x \in K$, we have, for some $y \in F$ (we pick y with $d(x, y) < \delta$):

$$\begin{aligned} d(f_n(x), f(x)) &\leq d(f_n(x), f_n(y)) + d(f_n(y), f_{n_j}(y)) + d(f_{n_j}(y), f(y)) + d(f(y), f(x)) \\ &\leq \epsilon \text{ (That's good enough.)} \end{aligned}$$

So for all $\epsilon > 0$ there is an $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n \geq N$, for all $x \in K$, $d(f_n(x), f(x)) < \epsilon$. That is, f_n converges uniformly to f .

To summarize, if $\langle f_n \rangle$ is an equicontinuous sequence of functions on a compact set, K , with $\langle f_n \rangle$ converging pointwise, then $\langle f_n \rangle$ converges uniformly.

Problem 3:

Let $\langle f_n \rangle$ be a uniformly bounded sequence of functions that are Riemann-integrable on $[a, b]$. Set

$$F_n(x) = \int_a^x f_n(t) dt$$

Moreover, let L be the absolute value of a lower bound for the f_n s and let U be the absolute value of an upper bound for the f_n s. (I say absolute values here because I don't want to bother with them later.)

Now, the set of F_n s are equicontinuous:

Let $\epsilon > 0$. Define $\delta = \epsilon / \max(U, L)$. Then for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $x, y \in [a, b]$ with $|x - y| < \delta$ (WLOG, $x \leq y$), we have:

$$\begin{aligned} |F_n(x) - F_n(y)| &= \left| \int_a^x f_n(t) dt - \int_a^y f_n(t) dt \right| \\ &= \left| \int_x^y f_n(t) dt \right| \quad \text{I exploit the absolute value here too.} \\ &\leq |(x - y) \max(U, L)| \quad \text{This is some sort of obvious property of integrals we should know.} \\ &< \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

So for all $\epsilon > 0$ there is a $\delta > 0$ such that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $x, y \in [a, b]$, $|x - y| < \delta$ implies that $|F_n(x) - F_n(y)| < \epsilon$. That is, the set of F_n s are equicontinuous.

In addition, the F_n s are defined on $[a, b]$, which is a compact space. By Arzela-Ascoli, there is a subsequence $\langle F_{n_j} \rangle$ that converges uniformly on $[a, b]$.

Problem 4:

Let $\langle f_n \rangle$ be a sequence of increasing functions on \mathbb{R} with $0 \leq f_n(x) \leq 1$.

Some subsequence, $\langle f_{n_k} \rangle$, converges at all rational points, to some function f on the rationals.

Now, define $f(x) = \sup\{f(r) : r \leq x\}$.

Then $f_{n_k}(x) \rightarrow f(x)$ at all points of continuity, x .

Now, there are countably many points of discontinuity of f ; f is a limit of increasing functions, it must also be increasing, and thus f has countably many points of discontinuity.

Thus, there is a subsequence of $\langle f_{n_k} \rangle$ that converges to f at every point of discontinuity of f ;

So, this subsequence converges pointwise to f at every point of \mathbb{R} , satisfying the problem.

Problem 5:

Let α be increasing on $[a, b]$, g continuous, and $g(x) = G'(x)$ for all $x \in [a, b]$.

Then note that both $\int_a^b \alpha(x)g(x)dx$ and $\int_a^b Gd\alpha$ exist; the first because it's a product of Riemann-Integrable functions, and the second because G is differentiable, thus continuous, thus $G \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$.

Let $\epsilon > 0$. There is a $\delta > 0$ such that if the mesh of a partition, P of $[a, b]$, is less than δ , then for any set of tags of that partition, T ,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{i=1}^n g(t_i)\alpha(x_i)\Delta x_i - \sum_{i=1}^n g(t_i)\alpha(t_i)\Delta x_i \right| &< \epsilon/3 \\ \left| \sum_{i=1}^n g(t_i)\alpha(t_i)\Delta x_i - \int_a^b \alpha(x)g(x)dx \right| &< \epsilon/3 \\ \left| \sum_{i=1}^n G(t_i)\Delta \alpha_i - \int_a^b G(x)d\alpha \right| &< \epsilon/3 \\ \left| \sum_{i=1}^n g(t_i)\alpha(x_i)\Delta x_i - \int_a^b \alpha(x)g(x)dx \right| &< 2\epsilon/3 \end{aligned}$$

The first is because α is increasing; it has only countably many discontinuities, all of which are jump discontinuities. So, the difference of each $\alpha(x_i)$ and $\alpha(t_i)$ can be shrunk by making the difference of x_i and t_i small...which yields the result. The second and third are because either it is the definition of the integral or it is a theorem we should know about integrals. (It depends on the approach, and I'm not sure which one we're taking.) The last is a combination of the first two.

Now, pick a set of tags, $t_i \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]$ such that $G(x_i) - G(x_{i-1}) = g(t_i)\Delta x_i$. We can do this, because of the mean value theorem.

Note that we have the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i=1}^n g(t_i)\alpha(x_i)\Delta x_i + \sum_{i=1}^n G(x_{i-1})\Delta\alpha_i &= \sum_{i=1}^n (G(x_i) - G(x_{i-1}))\alpha(x_i) + G(x_{i-1})\Delta\alpha_i \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n (G(x_i) - G(x_{i-1}))\alpha(x_i) + G(x_{i-1})(\alpha(x_i) - \alpha(x_{i-1})) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n G(x_i)\alpha(x_i) - G(x_{i-1})\alpha(x_i) \\
&\quad + G(x_{i-1})\alpha(x_i) - G(x_{i-1})\alpha(x_{i-1})) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n G(x_i)\alpha(x_i) - G(x_{i-1})\alpha(x_{i-1}) \\
&= G(b)\alpha(b) - G(a)\alpha(a) \text{ (That's a telescoping sum.)}
\end{aligned}$$

Next,

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left| G(b)\alpha(b) - G(a)\alpha(a) - \int_a^b G(x)d\alpha - \int_a^b \alpha(x)g(x)dx \right| \\
&= \left| \sum_{i=1}^n g(t_i)\alpha(x_i)\Delta x_i + \sum_{i=1}^n G(t_i)\Delta\alpha_i - \int_a^b G(x)d\alpha - \int_a^b \alpha(x)g(x)dx \right| \\
&< \epsilon
\end{aligned}$$

So for all $\epsilon > 0$, $\left| G(b)\alpha(b) - G(a)\alpha(a) - \int_a^b G(x)d\alpha - \int_a^b \alpha(x)g(x)dx \right| < \epsilon$.

That is, $G(b)\alpha(b) - G(a)\alpha(a) = \int_a^b G(x)d\alpha + \int_a^b \alpha(x)g(x)dx$, which is the result.

Problem 6:

Let α be an increasing function on $[a, b]$, and for $u \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$, define

$$\|u\|_2 = \left(\int_a^b |u|^2 d\alpha \right)^{1/2}.$$

First, we show that $\int_a^b |fg| \leq \int_a^b |f| \int_a^b |g|$.

Let $f, g, h \in \mathcal{R}(\alpha)$.

Then we have the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b |f - h|^2 d\alpha &= \int_a^b |f - g + g - h|^2 d\alpha \\ &= \int_a^b |f - g + g - h| |f - g + g - h| d\alpha \\ &\leq \int_a^b |f - g|^2 + 2|f - g| |g - h| + |g - h|^2 d\alpha \\ &= \left(\int_a^b |f - g| d\alpha + \int_a^b |g - h| d\alpha \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Taking square roots of both sides yields the triangle inequality for this norm strange function I have never seen before.