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uniform convergence on union interval

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Theorem. If $a < b < c$ and the sequence f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots of real functions converges uniformly both on the interval $[a, b]$ and on the interval $[b, c]$, then the function sequence converges uniformly also on the <http://planetmath.org/Unionunion> interval $[a, c]$.

Proof. We have the limit functions $f_{ab} := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n$ on $[a, b]$ and $f_{bc} := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n$. It follows that

$$f_{ab}(b) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(b) = f_{bc}(b).$$

Define the new function

$$f(x) := \begin{cases} f_{ab}(x) & \forall x \in [a, b], \\ f_{bc}(x) & \forall x \in [b, c]. \end{cases}$$

Choose an arbitrary positive number ε . The supposed uniform convergences on the intervals $[a, b]$ and $[b, c]$ imply the existence of the numbers $n_1(\varepsilon)$ and $n_2(\varepsilon)$ such that

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon \quad \forall x \in [a, b], \quad \text{when } n > n_1(\varepsilon)$$

and

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon \quad \forall x \in [b, c], \quad \text{when } n > n_2(\varepsilon).$$

If one takes $n > \max\{n_1(\varepsilon), n_2(\varepsilon)\}$, then one has simultaneously on both intervals $[a, b]$ and $[b, c]$, i.e. on the whole greater interval $[a, c]$, the condition

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon.$$