

## 6.3 Uniform Convergence and Differentiation

### Theorem 6.3.1 (Differentiable Limit Theorem)

Let  $f_n \rightarrow f$  pointwise on  $[a, b]$  and assume each  $f_n$  is differentiable. If  $(f'_n)$  converges uniformly on  $[a, b]$  to a function  $g$ , then  $f$  is differentiable and  $f' = g$ .

Proof:

Fix  $c \in [a, b]$  and let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . We wish to show that  $f'(c) = g(c)$ . That is,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} = g(c)$ . To do this, we need a  $\delta$  so that

$|x - c| < \delta$  implies  $\left| \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} - g(c) \right| < \varepsilon$ . Summon some terms and

apply the triangle inequality to get

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} - \frac{f_n(x) - f_n(c)}{x - c} + \frac{f_n(x) - f_n(c)}{x - c} - f'_n(c) + f'_n(c) - g(c) \right| \\ & \leq \left| \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} - \frac{f_n(x) - f_n(c)}{x - c} \right| + \left| \frac{f_n(x) - f_n(c)}{x - c} - f'_n(c) \right| + |f'_n(c) - g(c)| \quad \forall x \in [a, b] \end{aligned}$$

We want to get each of these terms smaller than  $\varepsilon/3$ . First, because  $f'_n(c) \rightarrow g(c)$ , then  $\exists N_1$  s.t.  $n \geq N_1 \Rightarrow |f'_n(c) - g(c)| < \varepsilon/3$ . By uniform convergence and Thm 6.2.5,  $\exists N_2$  s.t.  $|f'_n(c) - f'_m(c)| < \varepsilon/3 \quad \forall m, n \geq N_2$ . Choose  $N = \max\{N_1, N_2\}$ . From the definition of the derivative,  $\exists \delta$  s.t.  $|x - c| < \delta \Rightarrow \left| \frac{f_N(x) - f_N(c)}{x - c} - f'_N(c) \right| < \varepsilon/3$ . This is the desired  $\delta$ , but

we still have the first term left. Fix  $x$  so  $|x - c| < \delta$ , let  $m \geq N$ , and the MVT says for  $[c, x]$  wlog that  $\exists \alpha \in (c, x)$  s.t.

$$f'_m(\alpha) - f'_N(\alpha) = \frac{(f_m(x) - f_N(x)) - (f_m(c) - f_N(c))}{x - c}. \text{ Since } |f'_m(\alpha) - f'_N(\alpha)| < \varepsilon/3,$$

it follows  $\left| \frac{f_m(x) - f_m(c)}{x - c} - \frac{f_N(x) - f_N(c)}{x - c} \right| < \varepsilon/3$ , and by OLT, taking  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty}$  yields

$$\left| \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} - \frac{f_N(x) - f_N(c)}{x - c} \right| < \varepsilon/3. \text{ Put them together and voila } \square$$

- Thm 6.3.1 hypothesis is unnecessarily strong, don't need to assume  $f_n(x) \rightarrow f(x)$  because assumption that  $(f'_n)$  converges uniformly is enough to prove that  $(f_n) \rightarrow f$  uniformly

### Theorem 6.3.2

Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of differentiable functions on  $[a, b]$  and assume  $(f'_n)$  converges uniformly on  $[a, b]$ . If  $\exists x_0 \in [a, b]$  where  $f_n(x_0)$  is convergent, then  $(f_n)$  converges uniformly on  $[a, b]$ .

Proof: Exercise 6.3.7

- Combine 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 to get a stronger version

### Theorem 6.3.3

Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of differentiable functions defined on  $[a, b]$  and assume  $(f'_n)$  converges uniformly to  $g$  on  $[a, b]$ . If  $\exists x_0 \in [a, b]$  for which  $f_n(x_0)$  is convergent, then  $(f_n)$  converges uniformly. Moreover,  $f = \lim f_n$  is differentiable and  $f' = g$ .

### 6.3 Exercises

1) Consider  $g_n(x) = \frac{x^n}{n}$

a) Show  $(g_n)$  converges uniformly on  $[0, 1]$  and find  $g = \lim g_n$ . Show  $g$  is differentiable and compute  $g'(x) \forall x \in [0, 1]$ .

$\lim g_n = 0$ . Choose  $N > 1/\varepsilon$ , and then  $\forall n \geq N$ ,  $\frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$ , and  $\frac{x^n}{n} \leq \frac{1}{n} < \varepsilon$ , so  $|x^n/n| < \varepsilon$ . Since  $g$  is constant, it is differentiable, and so  $g'(x) = 0 \forall x \in [0, 1]$

\*  $\rightarrow$  needed help disproving uniform convergence

b) Now show  $(g'_n)$  converges on  $[0, 1]$ . Is the convergence uniform? Set  $h = \lim g'_n$  and compare  $h$  and  $g'$ . Are they the same?

$g'_n(x) = x^{n-1}$ .  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g'_n = h = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x=1 \\ 0 & \text{if } 0 \leq x < 1 \end{cases}$   $g'(x) = 0$  and they are not the same.  $g'_n(x)$  does not converge uniformly. Consider the sequence  $x_n = 2^{-1/n-1}$ . Then  $|g'_n(x_n) - h(x_n)| \geq 1/2$

3) Consider  $f_n(x) = \frac{x}{1+n x^2}$

a) Find points on  $\mathbb{R}$  where each  $f_n(x)$  attains max and min value. Prove  $(f_n)$  converges uniformly on  $\mathbb{R}$ . What is the limit function?

$$f'_n(x) = \frac{1-nx^2}{(1+nx^2)^2} = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}, \quad f_n\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}}.$$

So  $|f_n(x)| \leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}} \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Choose  $N > 1/4\varepsilon^2$ , and it follows that  $|f_n(x)| \leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n}} < \varepsilon \forall n \geq N$ . Thus  $f_n(x)$  converges uniformly to 0.



b) Let  $f = \lim f_n$ . Compute  $f'_n(x)$  and find all values of  $x$  for which  $f'(x) = \lim f'_n(x)$ .

$$f = \lim f_n = 0, \quad f'_n(x) = \frac{1 - nx^2}{(1 + nx^2)^2}, \quad \lim f'_n(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x=0 \\ 0 & x \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f'(x) = \lim f'_n(x) \text{ when } x \neq 0.$$

4) Let  $h_n(x) = \frac{\sin(nx)}{\sqrt{n}}$ . Show  $h_n \rightarrow 0$  uniformly on  $\mathbb{R}$  but  $(h'_n)$  diverges  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Choose  $N > 1/\varepsilon^2$ . Then  $\forall n \geq N$   $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} < \varepsilon$ , and  $\left| \frac{\sin(nx)}{\sqrt{n}} \right| \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} < \varepsilon$ , so  $h_n$  converges uniformly to 0.

$h'_n = \sqrt{n} \cos(nx)$ , which is unbounded as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

b) Provide an example or explain why it's impossible <sup>domain of all is  $\mathbb{R}$</sup>

(a)  $(f_n)$  of nowhere differentiable functions with  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly and  $f$  everywhere differentiable.

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{Q} \\ 1 & \text{if } x \notin \mathbb{Q} \end{cases} \quad f_n(x) = \frac{g(x)}{n} \quad f_n \rightarrow f \text{ uniformly, and}$$

since  $f=0$  it is everywhere differentiable.

b)  $(f_n)$  of differentiable functions s.t.  $(f'_n)$  converges uniformly but  $(f_n)$  does not converge  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$f_n(x) = \frac{\sin(x)}{n} + n \text{ does not converge}$$

$$f'_n(x) = \frac{\cos(x)}{n} \text{ does.}$$

c)  $(f_n)$  differentiable.  $(f_n), (f'_n)$  converge uniformly but  $f = \lim f_n$  is not differentiable at any point.

Impossible, violates differentiable limit theorem

7) Use the MVT to prove Thm 6.3.2. Observe that the triangle inequality implies for any  $x \in [a, b]$  and  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$|f_n(x) - f_m(x)| \leq |(f_n(x) - f_m(x)) - (f_n(x_0) - f_m(x_0))| + |f_n(x_0) - f_m(x_0)|$$

Proof:

Suppose  $(f_n)$  is a sequence of differentiable functions on  $[a, b]$ , and that  $(f'_n)$  converges uniformly on  $[a, b]$ . If  $\exists x_0 \in [a, b]$  where  $f_n(x_0)$  is convergent, then  $(f_n)$  converges uniformly on  $[a, b]$ .

We want to show  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall m, n \geq N$ ,  $|f_n(x) - f_m(x)| < \varepsilon$ , which would make  $(f_n)$  uniformly convergent by Cauchy Criterion.

Observe  $|f_n(x) - f_m(x)| \leq |(f_n(x) - f_m(x)) - (f_n(x_0) - f_m(x_0))| + |f_n(x_0) - f_m(x_0)|$ .

Because  $f_n(x_0)$  is convergent,  $\exists N_1$  s.t.  $\forall n, m \geq N_1$ ,  $|f_n(x_0) - f_m(x_0)| < \varepsilon/2$ .

Now by the MVT we know  $\exists c \in (x_0, x)$  wlog s.t.  $f'_n(c) = (f_n(x) - f_n(x_0))/(x - x_0)$  and  $f'_m(c) = (f_m(x) - f_m(x_0))/(x - x_0)$ . Because  $f'_n$  converges uniformly,

$\exists N_2$  s.t.  $\forall m, n \geq N_2$ ,  $|f'_n(c) - f'_m(c)| < \varepsilon/(2(x - x_0))$ . This expands to

$$\left| \frac{f_n(x) - f_n(x_0)}{x - x_0} - \frac{f_m(x) - f_m(x_0)}{x - x_0} \right| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2(x - x_0)} \Rightarrow |(f_n(x) - f_m(x)) - (f_n(x_0) - f_m(x_0))| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

Choose  $N = \max\{N_1, N_2\}$ , and we have  $\forall n, m \geq N$ ,  $|f_n(x) - f_m(x)| < \varepsilon$ .  $\square$