

3b.1 Claim: w_f is well-defined

This amounts to showing that the sup and limit exist in

$$w_f(x) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \sup_{y, z \in B_\delta(x)} |f(y) - f(z)|$$

Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ be arbitrary and δ fixed.

Since f is bounded, there is some M such that

$$\forall y \in \mathbb{R}, |f(y)| < M, \text{ and so}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y, z \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow |f(y) - f(z)| &= |f(y) + (-f(z))| \leq |f(y)| + |-f(z)| \\ &= |f(y)| + |f(z)| < 2M, \end{aligned}$$

which holds for $y, z \in B_\delta(x) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ as well.

And so $\{|f(y) - f(z)| \text{ s.t. } y, z \in B_\delta(x)\}$ is bounded above and thus has a least upper bound, and thus the following supremum exists.

$$S(\delta, x) = \sup_{y, z \in B_\delta(x)} |f(y) - f(z)|$$

To see that the $\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} S(\delta, x)$ exists, note that

$$\delta_1 \leq \delta_2 \Rightarrow B_{\delta_1}(x) \subseteq B_{\delta_2}(x)$$

and so for a fixed x , $S(\delta, x)$ is a monotonically

decreasing function of δ that is bounded below by 0, which converges by the monotone convergence theorem. \square

Claim: f is continuous at x iff $\omega_f(x) = 0$.

(\Leftarrow) Suppose $\omega_f(x) = 0$ and let $\varepsilon > 0$ be arbitrary; we will produce a δ to use in the definition of continuity.

Since $\omega_f(x) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} S(\delta, x) = 0$, we can choose δ such that

$$\delta < \delta \Rightarrow |S(\delta, x)| < \varepsilon, \quad \text{which means}$$

$$\delta < \delta \Rightarrow \sup_{y, z \in B_\delta(x)} |f(y) - f(z)| < \varepsilon$$

So fix $z = x$ and let y vary, yielding

$$\delta < \delta \Rightarrow \sup_{y \in B_\delta(x)} |f(y) - f(x)| < \varepsilon$$

But now for an arbitrary $t \in B_\delta(x)$, we have $|x - t| < \delta$ and

$$|f(x) - f(t)| \leq \sup_{y \in B_\delta(x)} |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon,$$

which exactly says $|x - t| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(t)| < \varepsilon$. \square

(\Rightarrow) Suppose f is continuous at x and let $\varepsilon > 0$ be arbitrary; we will show $\omega_f(x) < \varepsilon$.

Since f is continuous, choose δ such that

$$|x - y| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| < \varepsilon/2.$$

We then have

$$y, z \in B_\delta(x) \Rightarrow |x - y| < \delta \quad \text{and} \quad |x - z| < \delta,$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad |f(x) - f(z)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(y) - f(z)| \leq |f(y) - f(x)| + |f(x) - f(z)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = \varepsilon,$$

and so

$$y, z \in B_\delta(x) \Rightarrow |f(y) - f(z)| < \varepsilon \quad \Rightarrow \sup_{y, z \in B_\delta(x)} |f(y) - f(z)| \leq \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow S(\delta, x) \leq \varepsilon,$$

and since $S(d, x)$ is monotonically decreasing in d ,

$$\omega_f(x) = \lim_{d \rightarrow 0^+} S(d, x) \leq S(\delta, x) \leq \varepsilon$$

as desired. 

3b.2

We will show that

$$A_\varepsilon^c = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid \omega_f(x) < \varepsilon\}$$

is open by showing every point is an interior point.

Fix $\varepsilon > 0$ and let $x \in A_\varepsilon^c$ be arbitrary. We want to produce a δ such that

$$B_\delta(x) \subseteq A_\varepsilon^c \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad |y-x| < \delta \Rightarrow \omega_f(y) < \varepsilon.$$

Write $\omega_f(x) = \lim_{d \rightarrow 0^+} S(d, x)$; since $\omega_f(x) < \varepsilon$ and this limit

exists, we can choose δ such that

$$d < \delta \Rightarrow |S(d, x) - 0| < \varepsilon \Rightarrow |S(d, x)| < \varepsilon.$$

Now suppose $y \in B_\delta(x)$, so $|y-x| < \delta$. Then there exists some

δ' such that $B_{\delta'}(y) \subset B_\delta(x)$, and we claim that

$$S(\delta', y) \leq S(\delta, x)$$

Note that if this is true, then

$$\omega_f(y) = \lim_{d \rightarrow 0} S(d, y) \leq S(\delta', y) \leq S(\delta, x) < \varepsilon.$$

S is monotonically decreasing in d

To see why this is true, we just note that

$$a, b \in B_{\delta'}(y) \subset B_{\delta}(x) \Rightarrow a, b \in B_{\delta}(x)$$


$$\Rightarrow \sup_{a, b \in B_{\delta'}(y)} |f(y) - f(z)| \leq \sup_{y, z \in B_{\delta}(x)} |f(y) - f(z)|,$$

Since the supremum can only increase over a larger set.

So $w_f(y) < \varepsilon$ as desired. 

Finally, note that if $D_f = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is discontinuous at } x\}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } D_f = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid w_f(x) \neq 0\} &= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid w_f(x) \geq \frac{1}{n}\} \\ &= \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{\frac{1}{n}} \end{aligned}$$

is a countable union of closed sets and thus F_{σ} . 

④ Claim: f is increasing, i.e. $x \leq y \Rightarrow f(x) \leq f(y)$

Fix $x \in \mathbb{R}$, and define

$$A_x := \{ t \in X \mid x > t \}, \quad A_x^c := \{ t \in X \mid x \leq t \}.$$

(Note that $t \in A_x$ or $t \in A_x^c \Rightarrow t = x_n$ for some n , and $X = A_x \sqcup A_x^c$.)

Then noting that

$$\begin{aligned} x_n \in A_x &\Rightarrow f_n(x) \equiv 1 \\ &\text{and} \\ x_n \in A_x^c &\Rightarrow f_n(x) \equiv 0, \end{aligned}$$

We can write

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} f_n(x) = \sum_{\{n \mid x_n \in A_x\}} \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot 1 + \sum_{\{n \mid x_n \in A_x^c\}} \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot 0 \\ &= \sum_{\{n \mid x_n \in A_x\}} \frac{1}{n^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Now if $y \geq x$, then $y \geq t$ for every $t \in A_x$, so $A_y \supseteq A_x$.

But then

$$f(x) = \sum_{\{n \mid x_n \in A_x\}} \frac{1}{n^2} \leq \sum_{\{n \mid x_n \in A_y\}} \frac{1}{n^2} = f(y),$$

where the inequality holds because

$$\begin{aligned} A_x \subseteq A_y &\Rightarrow \{n \mid x_n \in A_x\} \subseteq \{n \mid x_n \in A_y\} \\ &\Rightarrow |\{n \mid x_n \in A_x\}| \leq |\{n \mid x_n \in A_y\}|, \end{aligned}$$

so the latter sum has at least as many terms and everything is positive. So $f(x) \leq f(y)$.

Claim: f is continuous on $\mathbb{R} \setminus X$ since

$$\sum f_n \xrightarrow{u} f \text{ and each } f_n \text{ is continuous there.}$$

Since $|f_n(x)| \leq 1$ by definition, and

$$|f_n(x)/n^2| \leq 1/n^2 := M_n \text{ where } \sum M_n < \infty,$$

$$\sum f_n \xrightarrow{u} f \text{ by the M test.}$$

Note that for a fixed n , $D_{f_n} = \{x_n\}$. This is

because if we take a sequence $\{y_i\} \rightarrow x_n$ with each $y_i > x_n$, then $f(y_i) = 1$ for every i , and

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} f(y_i) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} 1 = 1 \neq f(\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} y_i) = f(x_n) = 0$$

So f_n is not continuous at $x = x_n$. Otherwise, either

$x > x_n$ or $x < x_n$, in which case we can let ε be arbitrary and choose $\delta < |x - x_n|$ to get

$$y \in B_\delta(x) \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y > x_n \Rightarrow |f(y) - f(x)| = |0 - 0| < \varepsilon \\ y < x_n \Rightarrow |f(y) - f(x)| = |1 - 1| < \varepsilon. \end{cases}$$

Letting $F_N = \sum_{n=1}^N f_n$, we find that

$$F_N = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{discontinuous at: } \{x_1\} \cup \{x_2\} \cup \dots \cup \{x_N\}}}{f_1} + \underset{\substack{\uparrow}}{f_2} + \dots + \underset{\substack{\uparrow}}{f_N} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{So } F_N \text{ is continuous on} \\ \mathbb{R} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^N \{x_N\}. \end{array} \right.$$

and since $\mathbb{R} \setminus X \subseteq \mathbb{R} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^N \{x_N\}$, F_N is continuous there too.

But then $f = \text{uniform limit } (F_N)$ is continuous on $\mathbb{R} \setminus X$. \blacksquare