

49. (Homework 5 - Chifan) If f is uniformly continuous and integrable on \mathbb{R} , then $\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} f(x) =$

0. True or False?

It suffices to show the result on \mathbb{R}^+ .

Note that f being integrable means $\lim_{a,b \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f(x) dx = 0$.

Assume $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) \neq 0$. Then there is a sequence $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ such that $f(x_n) > \epsilon$ for some $\epsilon > 0$ and so that $|x_n - x_{n-1}| > 1$.

Since f is uniformly continuous, there is a $\delta > 0$ such that if

$|x - x_n| < \delta$, then $|f(x) - f(x_n)| < \epsilon/2$. So on the interval

$(x_n - \delta, x_n + \delta)$, we have that $|f(x)| > \epsilon/2$ (as the value of f will be at most $\epsilon/2$ away from $f(x_n) > \epsilon$). Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{x_n - \delta}^{x_n + \delta} f(x) dx \right| &> \frac{\epsilon}{2} \int \chi_{(x_n - \delta, x_n + \delta)}(x) dx \\ &= \frac{\epsilon}{2} \cdot 2\delta \\ &= \epsilon\delta \end{aligned}$$

But $x_n \rightarrow \infty$, so $\lim_{a,b \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f(x) dx \neq 0$ ∇ .