

Midterm Review

Example 1 (Definition of Limit of Function)

Show by the definition of limit of function,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \sqrt[5]{x^3 + 5} = 2$$

For any $\varepsilon > 0$, we need to find $\delta > 0$ such that $|x - 3| < \delta \rightarrow \left| \sqrt[5]{x^3 + 5} - 2 \right| < \varepsilon$

$$\left| \sqrt[5]{x^3 + 5} - 2 \right| = \left| \sqrt[5]{x^3 + 5} - \sqrt[5]{32} \right|$$

$$\leq \left| \sqrt[5]{x^3 + 5 - 32} \right| \quad (\text{Note } \left| \sqrt[5]{a} - \sqrt[5]{b} \right| \leq \left| \sqrt[5]{a - b} \right|)$$

$$= \left| \sqrt[5]{x^3 - 27} \right| = \left| \sqrt[5]{(x - 3)(x^2 + 3x + 9)} \right|$$

$$< \left| \sqrt[5]{|x - 3|(4^2 + 3(4) + 9)} \right| = \left| \sqrt[5]{37|x - 3|} \right| \quad (\text{Require } |x - 3| < 1)$$

$$< \varepsilon \quad (\text{Require } \sqrt[5]{37|x - 3|} < \varepsilon \rightarrow |x - 3| < \frac{\varepsilon^5}{37})$$

Solution:

For any $\varepsilon > 0$, pick $\delta = \min \left\{ 1, \frac{\varepsilon^5}{37} \right\}$, then for $|x - 3| < \delta$, from the previous argument, $\left| \sqrt[5]{x^3 + 5} - 2 \right| < \varepsilon$

Example 2

For $a > 0$, show by definition of limit of function that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a(x + a)}{x - a} = -a$$

IDEA: For any $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\left| \frac{a(x + a)}{x - a} - (-a) \right| = \left| \frac{a(x + a) + a(x - a)}{x - a} \right| = \left| \frac{2ax}{x - a} \right|$$

$$< \frac{|2ax|}{\frac{a}{2}} \quad (\text{Require } |x - 0| < \frac{a}{2})$$

$$= 4|x| < \varepsilon \quad (\text{Require } |x - 0| < \frac{\varepsilon}{4})$$

Solution:

For any $\varepsilon > 0$, pick $\delta = \left\{ \frac{a}{2}, \frac{\varepsilon}{4} \right\}$, then for $|x - 0| < \delta$, we have $\left| \frac{a(x + a)}{x - a} - (-a) \right| < \varepsilon$

Example 3 (2007 Final)

Given a Cauchy sequence $\{x_n\}, \{y_n\} \in (0, \infty)$, show that $\left\{\frac{x_n}{1+y_n}\right\}$ is Cauchy using the definition of Cauchy (The use of Cauchy Theorem is not allowed)

IDEA:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{x_n}{1+y_n} - \frac{x_m}{1+y_m} \right| &= \left| \frac{x_n(1+y_m) - x_m(1+y_n)}{(1+y_n)(1+y_m)} \right| \\ &< |x_n(1+y_m) - x_m(1+y_n)| \quad \text{since } y_n > 0 \\ &= |x_n - x_m + x_n y_m - x_m y_n| \\ &\leq |x_n - x_m| + |x_n y_m - x_m y_n| \\ &\leq |x_n - x_m| + |x_n y_m - x_m y_m + x_m y_m - x_m y_n| \\ &\leq |x_n - x_m| + |y_m| |x_n - x_m| + |x_m| |y_m - y_n| \\ &< |x_n - x_m| + N |x_n - x_m| + M |y_m - y_n| \\ &= (1+N) |x_n - x_m| + M |y_m - y_n| \quad (|x_n| < M \text{ and } |y_n| < N) \\ &< \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = \varepsilon \quad \left(\text{Require } |x_n - x_m| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2(1+N)}, |y_m - y_n| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2M} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Solution:

For any $\varepsilon > 0$, since x_n, y_n are Cauchy and therefore bounded, so $|x_n| < M$ and $|y_n| < N$. There exists K_1 and K_2 such that

$$\text{For } m, n > K_1, |x_n - x_m| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2(1+N)}$$

$$\text{For } m, n > K_2, |y_m - y_n| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2M}$$

Pick $K = \max\{K_1, K_2\}$, then for $m, n > K$, we get

$$\left| \frac{x_n}{1+y_n} - \frac{x_m}{1+y_m} \right| < \varepsilon$$

Example 4

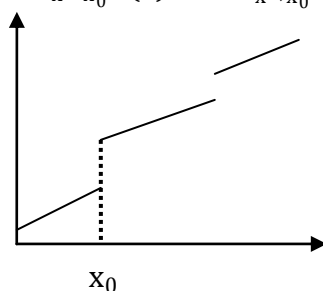
Let $f(x)$ be a monotone function on $[a, b]$ and suppose $f[a, b]$ is an interval. Show that $f(x)$ is continuous on $[a, b]$

Solution:

We prove by contradiction.

We first assume $f(x)$ is increasing one (The decreasing case is similar)

Suppose there is x_0 such that $f(x)$ is not continuous at $x = x_0$, there is a "jump" at $x = x_0$ which $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} f(x) < \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^+} f(x)$. (As Shown)



Then the resulting image is $[f(a), \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} f(x)) \cup (\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^+} f(x), ?) \cup \dots$ and is no longer to be interval, contradicted to the image is interval.

Example 5

Let $f, g: [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$ be continuous and $f(g(x)) = g(f(x))$ for $x \in [0,1]$. Prove that there exists $x_0 \in [0,1]$ such that $f(x_0) = g(x_0)$.

Solution:

Suppose $f(x) \neq g(x) \rightarrow f(x) - g(x) \neq 0$, since $f - g$ is continuous, then either $f(x) - g(x) > 0$ or $f(x) - g(x) < 0$

Consider the case $f(x) - g(x) > 0$, since $f(x) - g(x)$ is continuous on $[0,1]$, by extreme value theorem, there is a minimum x_0 such that

$$f(x) - g(x) \geq f(x_0) - g(x_0) = d > 0$$

Then consider another given condition

$$f(g(x)) = g(f(x))$$

Using $f(x) - g(x) \geq d$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} g(g(x)) + d &< f(g(x)) = g(f(x)) < f(f(x)) - d \\ &\rightarrow f(f(x)) > g(g(x)) + 2d \end{aligned}$$

Next, $f(f(f(x))) > g(g(f(x))) + 2d = f(g(g(x)) + 2d > g(g(g(x))) + 3d$.

Then by induction, we obtain $f^{(n)}(x) > g^{(n)}(x) + nd \rightarrow f^{(n)}(x) > nd$

Since n can be arbitrarily chosen, pick $n > \frac{1}{d}$, we get $f^{(n)}(x) > 1$, contradicted to

$f: [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$.

Example 6

Let $f: [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous. If $f(x)$ is differentiable on $(0,1)$ and $f(0) = 0$, but $f(x) \neq 0$ for all x , then prove that there exists $x_0 \in (0,1)$ such that

$$\frac{f'(1-x_0)}{f(1-x_0)} = \frac{2f'(x_0)}{f(x_0)}$$

IDEA: We first rearrange the term

$$\frac{f'(1-x_0)}{f(1-x_0)} = \frac{2f'(x_0)}{f(x_0)} \rightarrow f(x_0)f'(1-x_0) = 2f'(x_0)f(1-x_0)$$

$$\rightarrow 2f'(x_0)f(1-x_0) - f(x_0)f'(1-x_0) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow 2f(x_0)f'(x_0)f(1-x_0) - f(x_0)^2f'(1-x_0) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} f(x)^2 f(1-x) \Big|_{x=x_0} = 0$$

Solution:

Consider $g(x) = f(x)^2 f(1-x)$, apply mean value theorem on $[0,1]$, we have

$$\frac{g(1) - g(0)}{1 - 0} = g'(x_0) \quad \text{for some } x_0 \in (0,1)$$

$$\rightarrow g'(x_0) = 0$$

Expand $g'(x_0)$ and rearrange the terms, we get

$$\rightarrow \frac{f'(1-x_0)}{f(1-x_0)} = \frac{2f'(x_0)}{f(x_0)}$$

Example 7 (Spring 2007 Exam 2)

Let $f: [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous and let it differentiable on $(0,1)$. Also $f(0) = 0$ and $f(1) = 1$. Let a, b are positive real numbers.

a) Prove that there is x_0 such that $f(x_0) = \frac{a}{a+b}$

b) Prove that there exist distinct $x_1, x_2 \in (0,1)$ such that

$$\frac{a}{f'(x_1)} + \frac{b}{f'(x_2)} = a + b$$

c) Prove that if $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n > 0$ and $c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_n = 1$. Then there exists distinct $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n \in (0,1)$ such that

$$\frac{c_1}{f'(t_1)} + \frac{c_2}{f'(t_2)} + \dots + \frac{c_n}{f'(t_n)} = 1$$

Solution:

a) Note that $0 < \frac{a}{a+b} < 1$, $f(0) = 0$ and $f(1) = 1$, then by intermediate value

theorem, there is x_0 such that $f(x_0) = \frac{a}{a+b}$

b) (IDEA: Even though, the conclusion suggests us to use mean value theorem, but since the x_1, x_2 are different, hence we need to apply mean value theorem for several times.

Rearrange the conclusion first,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{f'(x_1)} + \frac{b}{f'(x_2)} &= a + b \rightarrow \frac{\frac{a}{a+b}}{f'(x_1)} + \frac{\frac{b}{a+b}}{f'(x_2)} = 1 \\ \rightarrow \frac{\frac{a}{a+b}}{f'(x_1)} + \frac{1 - \frac{a}{a+b}}{f'(x_2)} &= 1 \rightarrow \frac{f(x_0) - 0}{f'(x_1)} + \frac{f(1) - f(x_0)}{f'(x_2)} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Solution of b)

Apply Mean Value Theorem on $f(x)$ on interval $[0, x_0]$ and $[x_0, 1]$ respectively

$$\frac{f(x_0) - f(0)}{x_0 - 0} = f'(x_1) \rightarrow \frac{\frac{a}{a+b}}{f'(x_1)} = x_0$$

$$\frac{f(1) - f(x_0)}{1 - x_0} = f'(x_2) \rightarrow \frac{1 - \frac{a}{a+b}}{f'(x_2)} = 1 - x_0 \rightarrow \frac{\frac{b}{a+b}}{f'(x_2)} = 1 - x_0$$

Add these 2 equations up and rearrange the terms, we get

$$\frac{\frac{a}{a+b}}{f'(x_1)} + \frac{\frac{b}{a+b}}{f'(x_2)} = 1 \rightarrow \frac{a}{f'(x_1)} + \frac{b}{f'(x_2)} = a + b$$

c) Note that $\frac{c_1}{f'(t_1)} + \frac{c_2}{f'(t_2)} + \dots + \frac{c_n}{f'(t_n)} = 1$

$$\rightarrow \frac{c_1}{f'(t_1)} + \frac{c_2}{f'(t_2)} + \dots + \frac{c_n}{f'(t_n)} = c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_n$$

The method is same as b) and note that

$$c_k = (c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_k) - (c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_{k-1})$$

Solution of c)

First, by intermediate value theorem, there is x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1} such that

$$f(x_k) = \frac{c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_k}{c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_n} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n-1$$

Then apply mean value theorem, on $[0, x_1], [x_1, x_2], \dots, [x_{n-1}, 1]$, we get

$$\frac{f(x_k) - f(x_{k-1})}{x_k - x_{k-1}} = f'(t_k) \rightarrow \frac{\left(\frac{c_k}{c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_n}\right)}{f'(t_k)} = x_k - x_{k-1} \rightarrow \frac{c_k}{f'(t_k)} = x_k - x_{k-1}$$

For $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ and $x_0 = 0, x_n = 1$

Add these n equations, we get

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{c_k}{f'(t_k)} = \sum_{k=1}^n x_k - x_{k-1} = x_n - x_0 = 1$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{c_1}{f'(t_1)} + \frac{c_2}{f'(t_2)} + \dots + \frac{c_n}{f'(t_n)} = 1$$

Try to do the following exercise if you have time

☺Exercise 1

Prove by definition of limit that

a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} |3x^2 - 2| = 10$

b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \sqrt[4]{7 + x^2} = 2$

c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{c^2}{x^2 - c} = \frac{c}{c-1}$ (where c is constant and $c > 1$)

☺Exercise 2

Define $a_1 = 1$ and $a_{n+1} = 2a_n + \cos a_n$,

Prove that the sequence $\frac{a_1}{2}, \frac{a_2}{2^2} \dots \frac{a_n}{2^n} \dots$ is Cauchy Sequence .

(Hint: Let $b_n = \frac{a_n}{2^n}$ and rewrite the equation above)

☺Exercise 3

Suppose $\{x_n\}$ and $\{y_n\}$ is Cauchy and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (x_n - y_n) = 0$. Show that

$z_n = \min\{x_n, y_n\}$ is also Cauchy. (Hint: $\min\{a, b\} = \frac{1}{2}(a + b) - |a - b|$)

☺Exercise 4

Show that if $\{x_n\}$ is Cauchy, then $\{\tan^{-1} x_n\}$ is also Cauchy by checking the definition of Cauchy (The use of Cauchy Theorem is not allowed)

☺Exercise 5

Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be continuous on $[a, b]$ and three-times differentiable on (a, b) , suppose $f(a) = f(b) = f'(a) = f'(b) = 0$, prove that there exists $c \in (a, b)$ such that $f'''(c) = 0$.

(Hint: There is enough information for you to apply mean value theorem to get the conclusion. Of course, if you wish, you may also use Taylor Theorem.)

☺Exercise 6

Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be n -times differentiable with $|f^{(k)}(c)| \leq M$ for some $c \in (a, b)$, for $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n-1$ and $|f^{(n)}(x)| \leq M$ for all x . Show that $|f(x)| \leq Me^{b-a}$

(Hint: $e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$)

☺Exercise 7

Let $f: [0, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be continuous and let it be differentiable on (a, b) , suppose $f(x) \neq 0$ and $f(0) = f(b)$. Show that there exists $x_0 \in (a, b)$ such that

$$f'(x_0)f(b - x_0) + 2f'(x_0)f'(b - x_0) = 0$$

(Hint: Divide both side by $(f(b - x_0))^3$)