

Pointwise Convergence of Sequence of Functions

Let  $\{f_n\}$  be the sequence of real or complex valued functions having a common domain on the real line  $\mathbb{R}$  or the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . For each  $x$  in the domain we can form another sequence  $\{f_n(x)\}$  whose terms are the corresponding function values.

Let  $S$  denote the set  $x$  for which the second sequence  $\{f_n(x)\}$  converges.

The function  $f$  defined by the equation

$$f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) \quad \text{if } x \in S$$

is called the limit function of the sequence  $\{f_n\}$  and we say that  $\{f_n\}$  converges pointwise to  $f$  on the set  $S$ .

Examples of Sequence of Real Valued Functions:Properties of Sequence of Functions:

1. Continuity    2. Integrability    3. Differentiability pointwise  
Convergence does not preserve all the above property.

Continuity

Example: 1

A sequence of continuous function with  
(a discontinuous limit function)

we shall s.t. If  $f_n$  is continuous at  $c$  then  $f$  is not necessarily continuous at  $c$ .

$$\text{Let } f_n(x) = \frac{x^{2n}}{1+x^{2n}} \quad \text{if } x \in \mathbb{R}, n=1,2,\dots$$

The graphs of a few terms are shown in the following figure.

For  $-1 < x < 1$  we have

$$S_n - S = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k - S.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= f(x) + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k - s - f(x) \\
 &= f(x) - s + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k \\
 &= f(x) - s + \sum_{k=0}^n a_k - \sum_{k=0}^n a_k x^k - \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} a_k x^k
 \end{aligned}$$

Now let  $x \in (0, 1)$

$$\text{Then } \frac{1-x^{n+1}}{1-x} = 1+x+x^2+\dots+x^{n+1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1-x^{n+1}) &= (1+x+x^2+\dots+x^{n+1})(1-x) \\
 &= x(1-x)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$|1-x^{n+1}| \leq |1-x| |n+1| = (1-x) |n+1|$$

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $0 < x < 1$ ,

$$|S_n - s| \leq |f(x) - s| + \sum_{k=0}^n |a_k| |1-x^{k+1}| + \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} |a_k| |1-x^k|$$

$$< \epsilon/3 + (1-x) \sum_{k=0}^n k |a_k| + \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} |a_k| x^k$$

$$|S_n - s| < \epsilon/3 + (1-x) n \sigma_n + \frac{\epsilon}{3n} \frac{x^{n+1}}{1-x}$$

$$\sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} |a_k| x^k < \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon}{3n} x^k$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon}{3n} (x^{n+1} + x^{n+2} + \dots)$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon}{3n} x^{n+1} (1+x+\dots) \text{ Also if } x < 1, x^{n+1} < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |S_n - s| < \epsilon/3 + (1-x) n \sigma_n + \epsilon/3n \left(\frac{1}{1-x}\right)$$

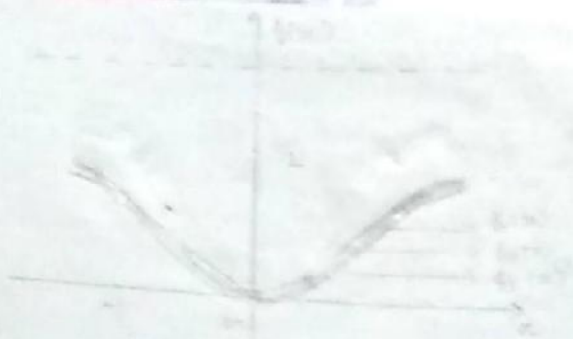
Taking  $x = x_n = 1 - 1/n$

$$|S_n - s| < \epsilon/3 + 1/n \sigma_n + \epsilon/3n \cdot n$$

$$< \epsilon/3 + \epsilon/3 + \epsilon/3$$

$$< \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow |S_n - s| < \epsilon$$



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

Case (i)

Let  $|x| < 1$  then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^{2n}}{1+x^{2n}} = 0$$

$|x| < 1$  if  $x = 1/2$  then  $(1/2)^{2n} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

Case (ii)

Let  $|x| = 1$  then  $f_n(x) = 1/2$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = 1/2$$

Case (iii)

Let  $|x| > 1$  then  $\frac{1}{x^{2n}} \rightarrow 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^{2n}}{1+x^{2n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^{2n}}{x^{2n} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x^{2n}}\right)} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{x^{2n}}} = \frac{1}{1+0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = 1 \text{ when } |x| > 1$$

The sequence  $\{f_n\}$  converges pointwise to the point function  $f$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |x| < 1, \text{ i.e. } -1 < x < 1 \\ 1/2 & \text{if } |x| = 1, \text{ i.e. } x = \pm 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } |x| > 1, \text{ i.e. } x > 1 \text{ or } x < -1 \end{cases}$$

$$f(1-) = 0, \quad f(1) = 1/2, \quad f(1+) = 1$$

$f$  is discontinuous at  $x = 1$

Similarly  $f$  is discontinuous at  $x = -1$

Thus each  $f_n$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$  but

$f$  is discontinuous at  $x = 1$  and  $x = -1$ .

Note: Suppose  $f$  is continuous then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \left\{ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) \right\} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f_n(x) \right\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(c)$$

$$= f(c)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \left\{ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) \right\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f_n(x) \right\}$$

### Integrability

Example: 2

A sequence of functions for which

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f_n(x) dx \neq \int_0^1 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) dx$$

T.S.T

Let  $f_n(x) = n^2 x (1-x)^n$  if  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $n=1, 2, \dots$

I.B.  $0 \leq x \leq 1$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2 x (1-x)^n = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f_n(x) dx = \int_0^1 0 dx$$

$$\int_0^1 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) dx = 0 \rightarrow \text{①}$$

Consider,

$$\int_0^1 f_n(x) dx = \int_0^1 n^2 x (1-x)^n dx$$

$$= \int_0^1 n^2 (1-t)t^n (dt) \quad \text{put } 1-x=t$$

$$= n^2 \int_0^1 (t^n - t^{n+1}) dt \quad \text{when } x=0, t=1$$

$$= n^2 \left[ \frac{t^{n+1}}{n+1} - \frac{t^{n+2}}{n+2} \right]_0^1 \quad \text{when } x=1, t=0$$

$$= n^2 \left[ \frac{1}{n+1} - \frac{1}{n+2} \right]$$

$$\int_0^1 b_n(x) dx = n^2 \left[ \frac{n+2 - n-1}{(n+1)(n+2)} \right]$$

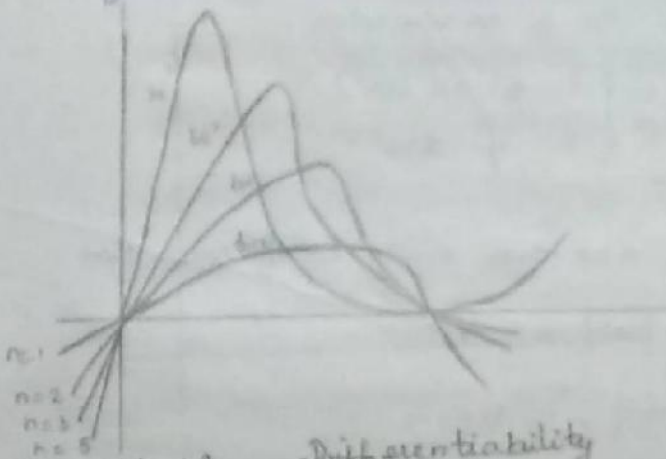
$$= n^2 \left[ \frac{1}{(n+1)(n+2)} \right]$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 b_n(x) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{n^2 (1 + \frac{1}{n})(1 + \frac{2}{n})}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 b_n(x) dx = 1 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

from (1) and (2)

$$\int_0^1 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n(x) dx \neq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 b_n(x) dx$$



### Example: 3 Differentiability

A Sequence of differentiable functions  $\{f_n\}$  with limit for which  $\{f_n\}$  diverges

$$\text{Let } f_n(x) = \frac{\sin nx}{\sqrt{n}} \text{ of } x \in \mathbb{R}, n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\text{Consider } \frac{d}{dx} f_n(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\sin nx}{\sqrt{n}} \right)$$

$$= \frac{n \cos nx}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$= \sqrt{n} \cos nx$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d}{dx} f_n(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n} \cos nx = \infty$$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n'(x)$  does not exist for any  $x$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) \right) \neq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{d}{dx} f_n(x) \right)$$

## Definition of uniform convergence

Pointwise Convergence:

Let  $\{f_n\}$  be a sequence of functions which converges pointwise on a set  $S$  to a limit function  $f$  and for each  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists an  $N$  (depending on both  $x$  and  $\epsilon$ ) such that  $n > N$  implies  $|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon$  for every  $x \in S$ .

Example:

$$\text{Let } f_n(x) = x^n, \quad x \in [0, 1] \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

$\{f_n\}$  converges to  $f$  where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in [0, 1) \\ 1 & \text{if } x = 1 \end{cases}$$

definition,

for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists an  $N$  such that

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon \quad \forall n > N$$

$$\epsilon = \frac{1}{2} \quad |x^n - f(x)| < \frac{1}{2} \quad \forall n > N$$

(i) The above inequality is true when  $N=1$  and for  $x=0, 1$

if  $x = \frac{3}{4}$  and  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{2}$  the inequality is not true when  $N=1$  and

$N=2$

but it is true when  $N=3$

$$(ii) \quad \left| \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^3 - 0 \right| < \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{when } N=2$$

$\therefore$  The choice of  $N$  depends on both  $x$  and  $\epsilon$

## Uniform Convergence

A sequence of functions  $\{f_n\}$  is said to converge uniformly to  $f$  on a set  $S$  if, for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists an  $N$  (depending only on  $\epsilon$ ) such that  $n > N$  implies

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon, \quad \text{for every } x \in S \quad \text{denote this symbolically}$$

by  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $S$ .

Note:

when each term of the sequence  $\{f_n\}$  is real valued the geometrical interpretation of uniform convergence is as follows

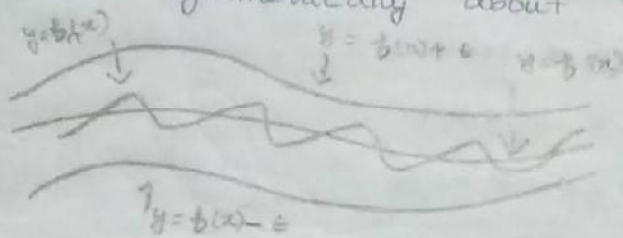
$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow -\epsilon < f_n(x) - f(x) < \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) - \epsilon < f_n(x) < f(x) + \epsilon \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

If (1) is to hold for all  $n > N$  and for all  $x \in S$ ,

"The entire graph of  $f_n$  that is the set  $\{(x, y) : y = f_n(x); x \in S\}$  lies within a 'band' of height  $2\epsilon$  situated symmetrically about the graph of  $f$ "



Note: uniform convergence implies pointwise convergence, but the converse is not true.

### Uniformly Bounded

A sequence  $\{f_n\}$  is said to be uniformly bounded on  $S$ , if there exists a constant  $M > 0$  such that

$$|f_n(x)| \leq M \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } S \text{ and}$$

$$\text{Eg: If } f_n(x) = \sin nx, \quad x \in [0, \pi]$$

$$|f_n(x)| < 1$$

$\therefore \{f_n\}$  is uniformly bounded by 1.

Result:

If each function  $f_n$  is bounded and if  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $S$ , then  $\{f_n\}$  is uniformly bounded on  $S$

Proof:

given, (i) Each  $f_n$  is bounded

(ii)  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $S$

T.p.T  $\{f_n\}$  is uniformly bounded on  $S$

Since  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $S$ .

For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N > 0$  such that

$$n \geq N \text{ implies } |f_n(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon \quad \forall x \in S$$

Now,  $|f_n(x)| - |f(x)| \leq |f_n(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon$

$$\Rightarrow |f_n(x)| - |f(x)| < \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow |f_n(x)| < |f(x)| + \epsilon \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Let  $\epsilon = 1$ , then

$$|f_n(x)| < |f(x)| + 1 \quad \forall n \geq N \text{ and } \forall x \in S$$

Since each  $f_n$  is bounded.

$f$  is bounded

$$\Rightarrow |f(x)| \leq M \quad \forall x \in S$$

Sub in (1) we have

$$|f_n(x)| < M + 1 \quad \forall n > N \text{ and } \forall x \in S$$

Since each function  $f_n$  is bounded.

$f_1, f_2, \dots, f_{N-2}, f_{N-1}$  are all bounded functions on  $S$

Then there exists constants  $M_1, M_2, \dots, M_{N-1}, M_N \in \mathbb{R}$

$$|f_l(x)| \leq M_l \quad , l = 1, 2, \dots, N-1, N$$

Let  $k = \max \{M_1, M_2, \dots, M_{N-1}, M_N\}$

Then  $|f_n(x)| \leq k \quad \forall x \in S$  and  $\forall n$

Thus  $\{f_n\}$  is uniformly bounded on  $S$ .

Uniform convergence and continuity:

Theorem: 9.2 Uniform limit theorem:

Assume that  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $S$ . If each  $f_n$  is continuous at a point  $c$  of  $S$ , then the limit function  $f$  is also continuous at  $c$ .



Proof:

Given

(i)  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $S$

(ii) Each  $f_n$  is continuous at a point  $c$  of  $S$ .

T.P.T The limit function  $f$  is also continuous at  $c$ .

If  $c$  is an isolated point of  $S$  then  $f$  is automatically continuous at  $c$ .

So assume that  $c$  is an accumulation point of  $S$ .

Then we have to p.T  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

(i) T.P.T  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = f(c)$

Since  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $S$ ,

for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists an  $n$  (depending only on  $\epsilon$ ) such that,

$$n \geq n \text{ implies } |f_n(x) - f(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{3} \quad \forall x \in S \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Since each  $f_n$  is continuous at  $c$ ,  $f_n$  is continuous at  $c$ .

$\therefore$  for any given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a neighbourhood  $B(c)$

such that,

$$x \in B(c) \cap S \Rightarrow |f_n(x) - f_n(c)| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$$

For  $x \in B(c) \cap S$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } |f(x) - f(c)| &= |f(x) - f_n(x) + f_n(x) - f_n(c) + f_n(c) - f(c)| \\ &\leq |f_n(x) - f(x)| + |f_n(x) - f_n(c)| \\ &\quad + |f_n(c) - f(c)| \\ &< \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} = \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x) - f(c)| < \epsilon$$

$\therefore$  limit function  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

Note: 1

If  $c$  is an accumulation point of  $S$ , the conclusion

of the above theorem implies that,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f_n(x)$$

Note: 2

Uniform convergence of  $\{f_n\}$  is sufficient but not necessary to transfer continuity from the individual terms to the limit function.

Theorem: The Cauchy condition for uniform convergence

Let  $\{f_n\}$  be a sequence of functions defined on a set  $S$ . There exists a function  $f$  such that  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $S$  if and only if the following condition is satisfied

For every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists an  $N$  such that  $m > N$  and  $n > N$  implies

$$|f_m(x) - f_n(x)| < \epsilon \text{ for every } x \in S.$$

Proof:

Given  $\{f_n\}$  is a sequence of functions defined on a set  $S$

Necessary part:

Assume that there exists a function  $f$  such that

$f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $S$

T.P.T Cauchy condition is satisfied

Since  $f_n \rightarrow f$  uniformly on

Given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N$  such that

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad \forall n > N \text{ or } x \in S$$

Taking  $m > N$ , we have

$$|f_m(x) - f(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \quad \forall x \in S$$

For  $m > N, n > N$

$$\begin{aligned} |f_m(x) - f_n(x)| &= |f_m(x) - f(x) + f(x) - f_n(x)| \\ &< |f_m(x) - f(x)| + |f(x) - f_n(x)| \end{aligned}$$