

38 Uniformly Cauchy

Definition 38.1

If $f_n : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ for $n \geq 1$, then the sequence $\{f_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ is **uniformly Cauchy** if for any $\epsilon > 0$, there is N_ϵ so $m, n \geq N_\epsilon \implies |f_m(x) - f_n(x)| < \epsilon$, for all x in D .

Theorem 38.2 (Thm 9.29)

Let $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ for $n \geq 1$. Then $\{f_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ converges uniformly to a function $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ if and only if $\{f_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ is uniformly Cauchy.

Proof. (\implies) Assume $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly on D . Then for any $\epsilon > 0$, there is N_ϵ such that if $n \geq N_\epsilon$, then $|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$, for all x in D .

Then let $m, n \geq N_\epsilon$. Then $|f_m(x) - f_n(x)| \leq |f_m(x) - f(x)| + |f(x) - f_n(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon$, for all x in D .

Then $\{f_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ is uniformly Cauchy.

(\impliedby) Longer proof. We will not prove it here. □

Example 38.3

Let $f_n(x) = \frac{1}{n^{1/2}} \sin(nx)$ for $-1 < x < 1$, and $n \geq 1$.

Then

$$|f_n(x)| = \left| \frac{1}{n^{1/2}} \sin(nx) \right| \leq \frac{1}{n^{1/2}} \rightarrow 0$$

Let $f(x) = 0$ for $-1 < x < 1$, then $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly to f on $(-1, 1)$.

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| = |f_n(x)| \leq \frac{1}{n^{1/2}} \rightarrow 0$$

Note:

$$f'_n(x) = \frac{1}{n^{1/2}} n \cos(nx) = n^{1/2} \cos nx$$

$$|f'_n(x)| = |n^{1/2} \cos nx|$$

for $n \geq 1$, is unbounded for any x in $(-1, 1)$.

Theorem 38.4 (Thm 9.34)

Let I be an open interval, let $f_n : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuously differentiable on I . Suppose:

1. $\{f_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ converges pointwise to f on I .
2. $\{f'_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ is uniformly Cauchy on I .

Then $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuously differentiable, and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f'_n(x) = f'(x)$ for x in I .

Example 38.5 (Example in Section 9.6)

Let f_0 be a tent function on $[0, 1]$: $f_0(0) = 0$, $f_0(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{2}$, $f_0(1) = 0$
 f_0 linear between $0, \frac{1}{2}$ and between $\frac{1}{2}, 1$. $f'(x) = 1$, $0 < x < \frac{1}{2}$, $f'(x) = -1$, $\frac{1}{2} < x < 1$.

Let f_1 have 2 tents on $[0, 1]$.

For $n \geq 1$, let f_n on $[0, 1]$ have 2^n identical tents, one on each subinterval $[\frac{k}{2^n}, \frac{k+1}{2^n}]$.

$\max f_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}$. $\min f_n(x) = 0$. Note f_n is continuous on $[0, 1]$, for $n \geq 1$.

$s_n = \sum_{k=1}^n f_k$ is a continuous function.

Then $\{s_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ converges uniformly to a function f . Then f is continuous on $[0, 1]$. (Note $s_{n+1} - s_n = f_{n+1}$, and $\max f_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2^{n+2}}$)

Example 38.6 (Exercise 9.4.2)

Let $f_n(x) = nxe^{-nx^2}$, $n \geq 1$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$. Show $f_n \rightarrow f$ pointwise but $\int_0^1 f_n \not\rightarrow \int_0^1 f$.

1st part: Use l'Hopital's rule:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} nxe^{-nx^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{nx}{e^{nx^2}} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{tx}{e^{tx^2}} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{x^2 e^{tx^2}} = 0$$

Let $f(x) = 0$. Then $f_n \rightarrow f$ pointwise on $[0, 1]$ since $f_n(0) = 0$.