

# Topic #10: Interchange of Limits

## Examples:

(a) Recall:  $g_n(x) = x^n \rightarrow g(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1 & x = 1 \end{cases}$  on  $[0, 1]$  (pointwise)

(continuous on  $[0, 1]$ ) (discontinuous at  $x = 1$ )

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} g_n(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_n(1) = 1$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_n(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} g(x) \equiv 0 \quad (x \neq 1)$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} g_n(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_n(x)$$

Can't change limits for "pointwise convergence"

("Pointwise limit" of sequence of continuous functions may NOT be continuous!)

(b) The same example:

$$g'_n(x) = n x^{n-1}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

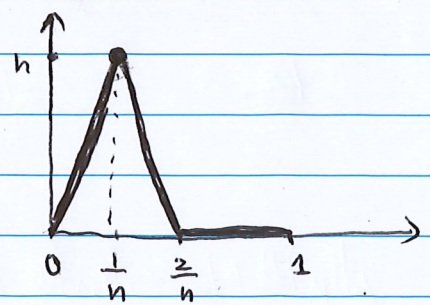
$$g'(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ \text{does NOT exist} & x = 1 \end{cases}$$

"pointwise limit" of sequence of differentiable functions may NOT be continuous!

$$(c) f_n(x) = \begin{cases} n^2 x, & 0 \leq x < \frac{1}{n} \\ -n^2(x - \frac{2}{n}), & \frac{1}{n} \leq x < \frac{2}{n} \\ 0, & \frac{2}{n} \leq x \leq 1 \end{cases}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1; \quad n \geq 2.$$

Note:

- $f_n$  continuous on  $[0, 1]$
- $f_n(x) \rightarrow f(x) \equiv 0, \quad \forall x \in [0, 1]$



(if  $x=0$ , then  $f_n(0)=0$ )

if  $0 < x \leq 1$ , then for  $n$  large enough, s.t.  $\frac{2}{n} \leq x$ , then  $f_n(x) = 0$ .



$\therefore f_n$  continuous on  $[0, 1]$

$\therefore f_n$  Riemann integrable with  $\int_0^1 f_n = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{n} \cdot n = 1$

$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f_n = 1 \neq 0 = \int_0^1 f$

namely,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f_n \neq \int_0^1 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n$

limit of integrals  $\neq$  integral of "pointwise limit"

(d)  $h_n(x) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} 2nx e^{-nx^2}$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq 1$ .

$$\text{then } \int_0^1 h_n = \int_0^1 2nx e^{-nx^2} dx = \int_0^1 (-e^{-nx^2})' dx \\ = -e^{-nx^2} \Big|_0^1 = 1 - e^{-n}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 h_n = 1$$

And,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h_n(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2nx e^{-nx^2} = 0$ ,  $\forall x \in [0, 1]$ . (Exercise!)

Thus,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 h_n \neq \int_0^1 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h_n$$

**Question:** Under what conditions, the limit of a convergent sequence of continuous [resp., differentiable, integrable] functions can be still continuous [resp., differentiable, integrable]?

**1st issue:** Interchange of Limit and Continuity

**Thm** If  $f_n \rightarrow f$  on  $A$  where  $(f_n)$  is a sequence of continuous fns on  $A$ , then the limit function  $f$  is continuous on  $A$ .

**Pf:** Let  $c \in A$ , then  $\forall x \in A$ ,  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$|f(x) - f(c)| \leq |f(x) - f_n(x)| + |f_n(x) - f_n(c)| + |f_n(c) - f(c)|$$

$$\leq \sup_{x \in A} |f(x) - f_n(x)| + |f_n(x) - f_n(c)|$$

$$= 2\|f_n - f\|_A + |f_n(c) - f(c)| \quad (*)$$

**( $\epsilon$ / $\delta$ ) strategy**



Let  $\epsilon > 0$ .

$\therefore f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $A$

$\therefore \exists H = H(\frac{\epsilon}{3}) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall n \geq H, \|f_n - f\|_A < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$ .

in particular,  $\|f_H - f\|_A < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$

$\therefore f_H$  is continuous on  $A$

$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f_H(x) = f_H(c)$ ,

i.e.  $\exists \delta = \delta(\frac{\epsilon}{3}, c, f_H)$  s.t. if  $|x - c| < \delta$ , then  $|f_H(x) - f_H(c)| < \frac{\epsilon}{3}$ .

Therefore, by (\*), if  $|x - c| < \delta$ , then

$$|f(x) - f(c)| \leq 2\|f_H - f\|_A + |f_H(x) - f_H(c)|$$

$$< \frac{2}{3}\epsilon + \frac{1}{3}\epsilon = \epsilon.$$

Thus,  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ .

$\therefore c \in A$  is arbitrary

$\therefore f$  is continuous on  $A$ . #

RK: "Uniform convergence" is a sufficient condition, but may not be necessary. (Exercise 2) #

2nd issue: Interchange of Limit and Derivative

- Thm. Let
- $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be a bounded interval;
  - $f_n: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  sequence of functions;
  - $\exists x_0 \in I$  s.t.  $f_n(x_0)$  converges as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ;
  - $f'_n$  exist on  $I, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ ;
  - $f'_n \rightrightarrows g$  on  $I$  for a function  $g: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ;

Four cases:  $[a, b], (a, b), [a, b), (a, b]$   
 $-\infty < a < b < \infty$

then

$\exists$  differentiable  $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $f' = g$  on  $I$  s.t.

$$f_n \rightrightarrows f \text{ on } I$$



(long proof; by two steps)

Pf. step 1. Find  $f$  via Cauchy Criterion for uniform convergence.

Claim:  $\exists f$  continuous on  $I$  s.t.  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $I$ .

In fact, let  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in I$ .

Mean Value Thm gives:

$$(f_m - f_n)(x) - (f_m - f_n)(x_0) = (f_m - f_n)'(\gamma) (x - x_0)$$

for some  $\gamma$  between  $x$  and  $x_0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } |f_m(x) - f_n(x)| &\leq |f_m(x_0) - f_n(x_0)| + |f_m'(\gamma) - f_n'(\gamma)| \cdot |x - x_0| \\ &\leq |f_m(x_0) - f_n(x_0)| + \|f_m' - f_n'\|_I (b-a) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $x \in I$  is arbitrary,

$$\|f_m - f_n\|_I = \sup_{x \in I} |f_m(x) - f_n(x)|$$

( $\because a < b$  are the endpoints of interval  $I$ )

[Key]

(\*)

$$\leq |f_m(x_0) - f_n(x_0)| + \|f_m' - f_n'\|_I (b-a)$$

Let  $\epsilon > 0$ .

①  $\because (f_n(x_0))$  is convergent in  $\mathbb{R}$

$\therefore$  Cauchy Criterion for convergence of sequence of numbers

tells:  $\exists H_1 = H_1(\frac{\epsilon}{2}) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall m, n \geq H_1$ ,

$$|f_m(x_0) - f_n(x_0)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

②  $\because (f_n')$  is uniformly convergent on  $I$

$\therefore$  Cauchy Criterion for uniform convergence of sequence of functions tells:

$\exists H_2 = H_2(\frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)}) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall m, n \geq H_2$ ,

$$\|f_m' - f_n'\|_I < \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)}$$

Define  $H = \max\{H_1, H_2\} \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

then  $\forall m, n \geq H$ , applying ① & ② to (\*),

$$\|f_m - f_n\|_I \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)} \cdot (b-a) = \epsilon.$$

By Cauchy Criterion again,  $(f_n)$  is uniformly convergent on  $I$ .

$\therefore \exists f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $I$ .

By Thm for Interchange of limit and continuity, since  $f_n$ 's are continuous on  $I$

the limit  $f_n$ .  $f$  is continuous on  $I$ . #



Step 2. Show  $f$  is differentiable with  $f' = g$ .

Claim:  $f$  is differentiable on  $I$  with  $f' = g$  on  $I$ .

Let  $c \in I$ , then  $\forall x \in I$  with  $x \neq c$ ,  $\forall m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$(f_m - f_n)(x) - (f_m - f_n)(c) \stackrel{\text{Mean-Value Thm}}{=} (f_m - f_n)'(z)(x - c)$$

for some  $z$  between  $x$  and  $c$ .

$$\therefore \left| \frac{f_m(x) - f_m(c)}{x - c} - \frac{f_n(x) - f_n(c)}{x - c} \right| = |f_m'(z) - f_n'(z)|$$

$$\leq \|f_m' - f_n'\|_I$$

then  $\forall \epsilon > 0$ ,  $\forall m, n \geq H_1$ ,

$$\left| \frac{f_m(x) - f_m(c)}{x - c} - \frac{f_n(x) - f_n(c)}{x - c} \right| < \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)}$$

Letting  $m \rightarrow \infty$  and  $f_m \rightarrow f$  on  $I$ , we have: for  $x \neq c$ ,

$$\left| \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} - \frac{f_n(x) - f_n(c)}{x - c} \right| < \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)}, \forall n \geq H_1.$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n'(c) = g(c)$$

$\therefore$  for the same  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists N = N(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

$$|f_n'(c) - g(c)| < \epsilon, \forall n \geq N.$$

Now, take  $K = \max\{H_1, N\} \in \mathbb{N}$ . For  $x \neq c$ ,

$$\left| \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} - g(c) \right|$$

**(Key)**  $\rightarrow$

$$\leq \left| \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} - \frac{f_K(x) - f_K(c)}{x - c} \right| + \left| \frac{f_K(x) - f_K(c)}{x - c} - f_K'(c) \right| + |f_K'(c) - g(c)|$$

$$< \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)} + \left| \frac{f_K(x) - f_K(c)}{x - c} - f_K'(c) \right| + \epsilon$$

Note: for the same  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists \delta = \delta(\epsilon, K, c) > 0$  s.t.

$$\text{if } 0 < |x - c| < \delta, \text{ then } \left| \frac{f_K(x) - f_K(c)}{x - c} - f_K'(c) \right| < \epsilon.$$

We then proved:  $\forall \epsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists \delta > 0$  s.t. if  $0 < |x - c| < \delta$ , then

$$\left| \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} - g(c) \right| < \left(2 + \frac{1}{2(b-a)}\right) \epsilon$$

$\therefore \epsilon > 0$  is arbitrary, then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c}$  exists and  $= g(c)$



i.e.  $f$  is differentiable at  $c$  with  $f'(c) = g(c)$

$\therefore c \in I$  is arbitrary

$\therefore f$  is differentiable on  $I$  with  $f' = g$  on  $I$ . #

3rd issue: Interchange of Limit and Integral

Thm If  $f_n \rightarrow f$  on  $[a, b]$  with  $f_n \in R[a, b]$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , then  $f \in R[a, b]$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f_n = \int_a^b f$

Pf claim #1:  $(\int_a^b f_n)$  is convergent in  $\mathbb{R}$   
so,  $\exists A \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f_n = A$

(Use Cauchy Criterion)

In fact,  $\therefore f_n \rightarrow f$  on  $[a, b]$

$\therefore$  By Cauchy criterion for uniform convergence

$\forall \epsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists H(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t. if  $m > n \geq H(\epsilon)$ , then

$$\|f_m - f_n\|_{[a, b]} < \epsilon$$

$$\text{i.e. } -\epsilon < f_m(x) - f_n(x) < \epsilon, \forall x \in [a, b]$$

implying

$$-\epsilon(b-a) \leq \int_a^b f_m - \int_a^b f_n \leq \epsilon(b-a)$$

i.e.

$$\left| \int_a^b f_m - \int_a^b f_n \right| \leq \epsilon(b-a)$$

then, by Cauchy Criterion for convergence of sequence,

$(\int_a^b f_n)$  is convergent in  $\mathbb{R}$

claim #2:  $f \in R[a, b]$  with  $\int_a^b f = A (= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f_n)$  by claim #1

strategy:  $|S(f; \dot{p}) - A| \leq |S(f; \dot{p}) - S(f_n; \dot{p})|$  ---- (small w.r.t.  $\dot{p}$ )  
 $+ |S(f_n; \dot{p}) - \int_a^b f_n|$  ---- (given  $n$ , small if  $\|\dot{p}\|$  small)  
 $+ |\int_a^b f_n - A|$  ---- (small if  $n$  large)

( $\epsilon/3$ )-strategy



Proof of claim #2: Let  $\epsilon > 0$ .

Observe from the proof of claim #1: If  $n \geq H(\epsilon)$ , then

$$(*) : \|f_n - f\|_{[a,b]} \leq \epsilon$$

$$(**) : \left| \int_a^b f_n - A \right| \leq \epsilon(b-a).$$

choose  $r \geq H(\epsilon)$  (e.g.  $r = H(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$ ),

$\forall \dot{P} = \{[x_{i-1}, x_i], t_i\}_{i=1}^n$ , consider

$$|S(f; \dot{P}) - A| \leq |S(f; \dot{P}) - S(f_r; \dot{P})| \quad \text{--- ①}$$

$$+ |S(f_r; \dot{P}) - \int_a^b f_r| \quad \text{--- ②}$$

$$+ \left| \int_a^b f_r - A \right| \quad \text{--- ③}$$

For ①:  $|S(f; \dot{P}) - S(f_r; \dot{P})|$

$$= \left| \sum_{i=1}^n [f(t_i) - f_r(t_i)] (x_i - x_{i-1}) \right|$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^n |f_r(t_i) - f(t_i)| (x_i - x_{i-1})$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^n \|f_r - f\| (x_i - x_{i-1})$$

$$= \|f_r - f\| \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) = \|f_r - f\| (b-a) \stackrel{(*)}{\leq} \epsilon(b-a)$$

For ③:  $\left| \int_a^b f_r - A \right| \leq \epsilon(b-a)$  by (\*\*).

For ②:  $\because f_r \in \mathcal{R}[a,b]$

$$\therefore \exists \delta_{r,\epsilon} > 0 \text{ s.t. } \forall \dot{P} \text{ with } \|\dot{P}\| < \delta_{r,\epsilon}, \\ \left| S(f_r; \dot{P}) - \int_a^b f_r \right| < \epsilon$$

Combining them, for any  $\dot{P}$  with  $\|\dot{P}\| < \delta_{r,\epsilon}$ ,

$$|S(f; \dot{P}) - A| \leq ① + ② + ③$$

$$\leq \epsilon(b-a) + \epsilon + \epsilon(b-a)$$

$$= [1 + 2(b-a)]\epsilon.$$

$\because \epsilon > 0$  is arbitrary

$\therefore f \in \mathcal{R}[a,b]$  w.  $\int_a^b f = A$ . ##



Replace "uniform convergence" by <sup>pointwise convergence</sup> "uniform boundedness" + "limit function  $\in \mathcal{R}[a, b]$ ".

**Thm (Bounded Convergence Theorem)**

- Let  $f_n \rightarrow f$  on  $[a, b]$  with
- $f_n \in \mathcal{R}[a, b], n \in \mathbb{N}$
  - $f \in \mathcal{R}[a, b]$
  - $\exists B > 0$  s.t.  $\|f_n\|_{[a, b]} \leq B, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f_n = \int_a^b f (= \int_a^b \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n)$ . #

i.e.  $|f_n(x)| \leq B, \forall x \in [a, b], \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

Pf: Omitted.

**Thm (Dini's Theorem)**

- Let  $f_n \rightarrow f$  on  $[a, b]$  with
- $(f_n)$  a monotone sequence of continuous functions
  - $f$  continuous on  $[a, b]$

then  $f_n \rightrightarrows f$  on  $[a, b]$

**Pf:** Assume:  $(f_n)$  is decreasing

Let  $g_n = f_n - f, n = 1, 2, \dots$

- then
- $g_1(x) \geq g_2(x) \geq \dots \geq g_n(x) \geq g_{n+1}(x) \geq \dots \geq 0$
  - $g_n(x) \rightarrow 0, \forall x \in [a, b]$
  - $g_n$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$

Let  $\epsilon > 0$ .

Note:  $\forall t \in [a, b]$ , one can choose  $n_{\epsilon, t} \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $0 \leq g_{n_{\epsilon, t}}(t) < \epsilon/2$ ,

$\therefore g_{n_{\epsilon, t}}$  is continuous at  $t$

$\therefore \exists \delta_{\epsilon}(t) > 0$  s.t.  $0 \leq g_{n_{\epsilon, t}}(x) < \epsilon, \forall x \in (t - \delta_{\epsilon}(t), t + \delta_{\epsilon}(t)) \cap [a, b]$ .

Observe (chaps):  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $(t_i)_{i=1}^N$  s.t.

$[a, b] \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^N I_i, I_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (t_i - \delta_{\epsilon}(t_i), t_i + \delta_{\epsilon}(t_i)) \cap [a, b]$

**finite cover**



(9)

then  $0 \leq g_{n_{\epsilon, t_i}}(x) < \epsilon$ ,  $\forall x \in I_i$ ,  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ .

Define  $M_\epsilon = \max \{n_{\epsilon, t_1}, n_{\epsilon, t_2}, \dots, n_{\epsilon, t_N}\} \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

One can check: Let  $m \geq M_\epsilon$ , then

$\forall x \in [a, b]$ ,  $\exists i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$  s.t.  $x \in I_i$  and hence

$$0 \leq g_m(x) \leq \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{(monotone: decreasing)}}}{g_{n_{\epsilon, t_i}}}(x) < \epsilon$$

$$\text{i.e. } \|g_m\|_{[a, b]} = \sup_{a \leq x \leq b} |g_m(x)| < \epsilon,$$

We proved:  $\forall \epsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists M_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall m \geq M_\epsilon$ ,

$$\|g_m\|_{[a, b]} < \epsilon.$$

i.e.  $g_m \rightarrow 0$  on  $[a, b]$

i.e.  $f_n \rightarrow f$  on  $[a, b]$ . #