

Theorem Let (f_n) be a sequence of continuous functions that converges uniformly on D to f . Then f is continuous on D .

Proof Let $\varepsilon > 0$, $x_0 \in D$. We'll prove f is continuous at x_0 by proving $\exists \delta > 0$ such that $|f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$ when $x \in D$ and $0 < |x - x_0| < \delta$. Since $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly, $\exists N$ such that $|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon/3$ for any x when $n > N$. Since f_{N+1} is continuous at x_0 , $\exists \delta > 0$ such that $|f_{N+1}(x) - f_{N+1}(x_0)| < \varepsilon/3$ when $x \in D$, $0 < |x - x_0| < \delta$. We claim this is our desired δ . Let $x \in D$ such that $0 < |x - x_0| < \delta$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(x_0)| &= |f(x) - f_{N+1}(x) + f_{N+1}(x) - f_{N+1}(x_0) + f_{N+1}(x_0) - f(x_0)| \\ &\leq |f(x) - f_{N+1}(x)| + |f_{N+1}(x) - f_{N+1}(x_0)| + |f_{N+1}(x_0) - f(x_0)| \\ &< \varepsilon/3 + \varepsilon/3 + \varepsilon/3 = \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Remark This theorem is saying we can interchange order of limits when convergence is uniform:

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) \\ &\stackrel{(*)}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f_n(x) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x_0) \\ &= f(x_0)\end{aligned}$$

The step (*) only works when we have uniform convergence.

Question If $f_n \rightarrow f$ pointwise on $[a, b]$,
can we say $\int_a^b f_n(x) dx \rightarrow \int_a^b f(x) dx$?

In general, no, as Problem 1 on worksheet
will show

Theorem If (f_n) is a sequence of continuous
functions on $[a, b]$ that converges uniformly
to f on $[a, b]$, then

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

Proved in worksheet.