

Summary of Real Analysis — Batch B (2007–08)

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• Basic LUB Property

1. Sets bounded above and below, LUB Property of \mathbb{R} .
2. Archimedean property of \mathbb{N} . Two versions.
3. Density of rational numbers in \mathbb{R} . Density of irrational numbers in \mathbb{R} .
4. The non-existence of solutions of $X^2 = 2$ in \mathbb{Q} .
5. Existence and uniqueness of non-negative n -th roots of non-negative real numbers.
6. Nested interval theorem.

• Sequences and their convergence

1. Definition of sequences and their convergence. Importance of looking at the convergence definition geometrically.
2. Uniqueness of the limit.
3. If $x_n \rightarrow x$ and $x_n \geq 0$, then $x \geq 0$.
4. Sandwich Lemma. Let (x_n) , (y_n) and (z_n) be sequences such that (i) $x_n \rightarrow \alpha$ and $y_n \rightarrow \alpha$ and (ii) $x_n \leq z_n \leq y_n$. Then $z_n \rightarrow \alpha$.
5. Some examples of convergent sequences.
6. Bounded sequences; every convergent sequence is bounded.
7. We showed: The sequence $((-1)^n) = (-1, 1, -1, 1, \dots)$ is bounded but not convergent.
8. Let (x_n) be such that $x_n \rightarrow x$. Assume that $x \neq 0$. Then there exists N such that for all $n \geq N$, we have $|x_n| \geq |x|/2$.
We proved this in two ways. One geometric which looked at cases when x is positive and negative. The second one used triangle inequality.
9. Algebra of convergent sequences: Let $x_n \rightarrow x$, $y_n \rightarrow y$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. Then
 - (a) $x_n + y_n \rightarrow x + y$.
 - (b) $\alpha x_n \rightarrow \alpha x$.
 - (c) $x_n \cdot y_n \rightarrow xy$.

- (d) $\frac{1}{x_n} \rightarrow \frac{1}{x}$ provided that $x \neq 0$. By Item 8, the terms $1/x_n$ make sense for all sufficiently large n .
10. Let (a_n) be bounded and (x_n) converge to 0. Then $a_n x_n \rightarrow 0$.
11. Let (x_n) be increasing. Then it is convergent iff it is bounded above.
12. Let (x_n) be decreasing. Then it is convergent iff it is bounded below.
13. Some Important Limits.
- (a) Let $0 \leq r < 1$ and $x_n := r^n$. Then $x_n \rightarrow 0$.
- (b) Let $x_n \rightarrow \ell$. Fix $N \in \mathbb{N}$. Define $y_n := x_n$ if $n > N$. Let y_k be any real number for $1 \leq k \leq N$. Then $y_n \rightarrow \ell$.
- (c) $x_n \rightarrow 0$ iff $|x_n| \rightarrow 0$.
- (d) Let $-1 < t < 1$. Then $t^n \rightarrow 0$.
- (e) Let $|r| < 1$. Then $nr^n \rightarrow 0$.
- (f) $n^{1/n} \rightarrow 1$.
- (g) Fix $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Then $\frac{a^n}{n!} \rightarrow 0$.
- (h) Let $a > 0$. Then $a^{1/n} \rightarrow 1$. Hint: if $a > 1$ then $1 \leq a^{1/n} \leq n^{1/n}$ for $n \geq a$.
14. Definition of divergence to ∞ (or to $-\infty$). We showed that $(n!)^{1/n}$ diverges to ∞ .
15. Let $x_n \rightarrow 0$. Let (s_n) be the sequence of arithmetic means (or averages) defined by $s_n := \frac{x_1 + \dots + x_n}{n}$. Then $s_n \rightarrow 0$.
16. Let $x_n \rightarrow x$. Then the sequence (s_n) of arithmetic means converges to x .
17. Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Consider $x_1 = a$, $x_2 = \frac{1+a}{2}$, and by induction $x_n := \frac{1+x_{n-1}}{2}$. Then $x_n \rightarrow 1$.
18. Definition of a subsequence. (Do you recall it?) Most important observation: $n_k \geq k$ for all k .
19. If $x_n \rightarrow x$, and if (x_{n_k}) is a subsequence, then $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.
20. We looked at the sequence $a^{1/n}$ again.
21. Given any sequence (x_n) there exists a monotone subsequence.
22. Bolzano-Weierstrass Theorem: If (x_n) is a bounded sequence, it has a convergent subsequence.
23. Definition of a Cauchy sequence of real numbers. Any Cauchy sequence is bounded.
24. Let (x_n) be Cauchy. Let a subsequence (x_{n_k}) converge to x . Then $x_n \rightarrow x$.
25. A real sequence (x_n) is Cauchy iff it is convergent.
26. Given any real number x there exist sequences (s_n) of rational numbers and (t_n) of irrational numbers such that $s_n \rightarrow x$ and $t_n \rightarrow x$.

• Continuity

1. Sequential definition of continuity.
2. Examples of continuous functions such as $f(x) = x^2$, $f(x) = 1/x$.
3. The characteristic function of \mathbb{Q} defined by $f(x) = 1$ if $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ and 0 if $x \notin \mathbb{Q}$ is not continuous at any point of \mathbb{R} .

4. Algebra of continuous functions: Let $f, g: (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous at $c \in (a, b)$. Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. Then
- $f + g$ is continuous at c .
 - αf is continuous at c . (In view of these two properties, the set of functions from $(a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ continuous at c is a real vector space.)
 - The product fg is continuous at c .
 - If we further assume $f(c) \neq 0$, then $1/f$ is continuous at c .
 - $|f|$ is continuous at c .
 - Let $h(x) := \max\{f(x), g(x)\}$. Then h is continuous at c . Similarly, the function $k(x) := \min\{f(x), g(x)\}$ is continuous at c . *Hint:* Observe that for any two real numbers $\max\{a, b\} = [(a+b)+|a-b|]/2$ and $\min\{a, b\} = [(a+b)-|a-b|]/2$.
 - Let $f: (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous at c . Assume that $f(c) \in (\alpha, \beta)$ and that $g: (\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous at $f(c)$. Then the composition $g \circ f$ is continuous at c .
5. Sequential definition of continuity is equivalent to the ε - δ definition of continuity.
6. Some examples to work with ε - δ definition: $f(x) = x^n$, $g(x) = 1/x$ for $x > 0$ and $h(x) = 1/x$ for $x \geq 1$.
7. Let $f(x) := x$ if $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $f(x) = 0$ if $x \notin \mathbb{Q}$. Then f is continuous only at $x = 0$.
8. Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous. Assume that $f(r) = 0$ for $r \in \mathbb{Q}$. Then $f = 0$.
9. Let $f, g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous. If $f(x) = g(x)$ for $x \in \mathbb{Q}$, then $f = g$.
10. Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous which is also an additive homomorphism, that is, $f(x + y) = f(x) + f(y)$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. Then $f(x) = \lambda x$ where $\lambda = f(1)$.
11. Consider $f: (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = 1/q$ if $x = p/q$ in reduced form and $f(x) = 0$ if $x \notin \mathbb{Q}$. Then f is continuous only at the irrationals.
12. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} x \sin(1/x) & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$. Show that f is continuous at 0.
13. Let $f: (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous at c with $f(c) \neq 0$. Then there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $f(x) > |f(c)|/2$ for all $x \in (c - \delta, c + \delta)$.
14. Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x) = x - [x]$, where $[x]$ stands for the greatest integer less than or equal to x . At what points f is continuous? *Hint:* Draw a picture.
15. Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x) = \min\{x - [x], 1 + [x] - x\}$, that is, the minimum of the distances of x from $[x]$ and $[x] + 1$. At what points f is continuous? *Hint:* Draw a picture.
16. If $A \subset \mathbb{R}$ is a nonempty subset, define $f(x) := \inf\{|x - a| : a \in A\}$. Then f is continuous.

• **Two important Results:**

- Intermediate Value Theorem.** Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function such that $f(a) < 0 < f(b)$. Then there exists $c \in (a, b)$ such that $f(c) = 0$.

We gave two proofs of this result. One used the nested interval theorem and the other LUB property.

Let $g: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function. Let λ be a real number between $g(a)$ and $g(b)$. Then there exists $c \in (a, b)$ such that $g(c) = \lambda$.

2. **Weierstrass Theorem.** Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function. Then f is bounded. In fact, there exists $x_1, x_2 \in [a, b]$ such that $f(x_1) \leq f(x) \leq f(x_2)$ for all $x \in [a, b]$. (In other words, a continuous function f on a closed and bounded interval is bounded and attains its maximum and minimum.)

We proved the boundedness of f in three ways: (i) Sequences and Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem (ii) LUB Property and (iii) Nested interval theorem.

• **Applications of the two important results.**

1. Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow [a, b]$ be continuous. Then there exists $x \in [a, b]$ such that $f(x) = x$.
2. Prove that $x = \cos x$ for some $x \in (0, \pi/2)$.
3. Prove that $xe^x = 1$ for some $x \in (0, 1)$.
4. Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous taking values in \mathbb{Q} . Then f is a constant.
5. Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a nonconstant continuous function. Show that $f([a, b])$ is uncountable.
6. Let $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous. Assume that the image of f lies in $[1, 2] \cup (5, 10)$ and that $f(1/2) \in [0, 1]$. What can you conclude about the image of f ?
7. Existence of n -th roots: Let $\alpha \geq 0$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ be given. Then there exists $x \geq 0$ such that $x^n = \alpha$.
8. Let $f: [0, 2\pi] \rightarrow [0, 2\pi]$ be continuous such that $f(0) = f(2\pi)$. Show that there exists $x \in [0, 2\pi]$ such that $f(x) = f(x + \pi)$.
9. Let $p(X)$ be an odd degree polynomial with real coefficients. Then p has a real root.
10. Let p be a real polynomial function of odd degree. Show that $p: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is onto.
11. Show that $x^4 + 5x^3 - 7$ has two real roots.
12. Let $p(X) := a_0 + a_1X + \cdots + a_nX^n$. If $a_0a_n < 0$, show that p has at least two real roots.
13. Let J be an interval and $f: J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous and 1-1. Then f is strictly monotone.
14. Let I be an interval and $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be strictly monotone. If $f(I)$ is an interval, show that f is continuous.
15. Use the last item to conclude that the function $x \mapsto x^{1/n}$ from $[0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is continuous.
16. Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous. Show that $f([a, b]) = [c, d]$. Can you “identify” c, d ?
17. Does there exist a continuous function $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ which is onto?
18. Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous such that $f(x) > 0$ for all $x \in [a, b]$. Show that there exists δ such that $f(x) > \delta$ for all $x \in [a, b]$.
19. Does there exist a continuous function $f: [a, b] \rightarrow (0, 1)$ which is onto?

20. Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous. Assume that $f(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $|x| \rightarrow \infty$. (Do you understand this?) Show that there exists $c \in \mathbb{R}$ such that either $f(x) \leq f(c)$ or $f(x) \geq f(c)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Give an example of a function in which only one of these happens.

21. Are there continuous functions $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$f(x) \notin \mathbb{Q} \text{ for } x \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ and } f(x) \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ for } x \notin \mathbb{Q}?$$

22. Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function such that (i) $f(\mathbb{R}) \subset (-2, -1) \cup [1, 5)$ and (ii) $f(0) = e$. Can you give 'realistic bounds' for f ?

• **Sequences in \mathbb{R}^n**

1. Review of Euclidean metric on \mathbb{R}^n .
2. Let $x_k := (x_{k1}, \dots, x_{kn}) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be a sequence in \mathbb{R}^n . Then x_k converges to $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ iff $x_{kj} \rightarrow x_j$ for $1 \leq j \leq n$,
3. The limit of a convergent sequence is unique.
4. Any convergent sequence is bounded.
5. A sequence (x_k) in \mathbb{R}^n is convergent iff it is a Cauchy sequence.
6. Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem for bounded sequences in \mathbb{R}^n .
7. Examples: $(n^{1/n}, (-1)^n) \in \mathbb{R}^2$, $(a^{1/n}, \sin(1/n)) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ for some $a > 0$ etc.
8. Let $x_k \rightarrow x$ and $y_k \rightarrow y$ in \mathbb{R}^n . Then
 - (a) $x_k + y_k \rightarrow x + y$ in \mathbb{R}^n .
 - (b) $x_k \cdot y_k \rightarrow x \cdot y$. (Here $u \cdot v$ stands for the standard dot product of vectors u and v in \mathbb{R}^n .)

• **Continuity**

1. Definition of open sets in \mathbb{R}^n .
2. Equivalent conditions of continuity of a function $f: X \rightarrow Y$ at a point, where X, Y are metric spaces.
3. Examples of continuous functions:
 - (a) The projections $x \mapsto x_i$ are continuous.
 - (b) Algebra of real valued continuous functions.
 - (c) Any polynomial function from \mathbb{R}^n to \mathbb{R} is continuous.
4. The set $U := \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : xy > 0\}$ is open in \mathbb{R}^2 .
5. Let $F: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be continuous. If $F(x) := (f_1(x), \dots, f_n(x))$, then F is continuous iff each f_i is continuous.
6. **Theorem.** Let $K \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ be closed and bounded. Let $f: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be continuous. Then f is bounded. If $n = 1$, then there exist points $x_1, x_2 \in K$ such that $f_1(x) \leq f(x) \leq f_2(x)$ for all $x \in K$.

• **Uniform Continuity**

1. Any linear map $f: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is continuous. A key step was: There exists $C > 0$ such that $\|f(x)\| \leq C \|x\|$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. We concluded that f is in fact uniformly continuous.
2. Lipschitz maps between metric spaces.
 - (a) Any Lipschitz map is uniformly continuous.
 - (b) Any linear map $f: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is Lipschitz.
 - (c) Let $J \subset \mathbb{R}$ be an interval. Let $f: J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be differentiable with bounded derivative, that is, there exists $M > 0$ such that $|f'(x)| \leq M$ for all $x \in J$. Then f is Lipschitz.
 - The sine function $\sin: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is Lipschitz.
 - The inverse of $\tan \tan^{-1}: (-\pi/2, \pi/2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is Lipschitz.
3. Examples of uniformly continuous functions:
 - (a) The identity function on any metric space is uniformly continuous.
 - (b) Let $a > 0$. The function $f: (a, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = 1/x$ is uniformly continuous on (a, ∞) . In fact, it is Lipschitz.
 - (c) The function $f: (0, 1) \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ given by $f(x) = 1/x$ is not uniformly continuous on $(0, 1)$.
 - (d) The function $f: (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by $f(x) = x^2$ is Lipschitz and uniformly continuous on (a, b) .
 - (e) But, the function $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by $g(x) = x^2$ is not uniformly continuous on \mathbb{R} .
 - (f) Let $p(x) := \sum_{k=0}^n a_k x^k$ be a polynomial with real coefficients. Let $J \subset \mathbb{R}$ be any bounded interval. Consider p as a function on J . Then p is Lipschitz and hence uniformly continuous on J . *Hint:* p' is bounded on the closure of J .
 - (g) Let $\emptyset \neq A \subset X$ be a metric space. Let $f(x) := d_A(x) \equiv d(x, A) := \inf\{d(x, a) : a \in A\}$. Then d_A is uniformly continuous on X .
4. The first serious application of the notion of uniform continuity in an elementary course in real analysis was in the proof of the Riemann integrability of a continuous function defined on a closed and bounded interval.
5. Let X and Y be metric spaces. Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be uniformly continuous. Then f carries Cauchy sequences to Cauchy sequences.
6. The function in Item 3e carries Cauchy sequences to Cauchy sequences, but is not uniformly continuous.
7. **Theorem.** Let $K \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ be a closed and bounded set. Let $f: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be continuous. Then f is uniformly continuous.
8. When we analyzed the proof of the theorem in Item 7, we found that the codomain could be any metric space. But the domain should be a metric space in which Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem must hold true.
9. We say that a metric space X is compact if every sequence (x_n) in X has a subsequence (x_{n_k}) which converges to an $x \in X$.
 - (a) Any closed and bounded subset of \mathbb{R}^n is a metric space.
 - (b) The metric spaces \mathbb{R}^n are not compact. *Hint:* Consider the sequence (x_k) where $x_k = (k, \dots, k)$.

- (c) \mathbb{R} with discrete metric is closed and bounded. But it is not compact.
10. Our understanding of the proof of the theorem in Item 7 allowed us to arrive at the following more general result:
Let X be a compact metric space and Y be any metric space. Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be continuous. Then f is uniformly continuous.
11. We defined extensions of functions. The function $f: (0, 1) \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ given by $f(x) = 1/x$ does not have an extension to $[0, 1)$.
12. **Theorem.** Let X and Y be metric spaces. Let D be a dense subset of X . Assume that Y is a complete metric space. Let $f: D \rightarrow Y$ be uniformly continuous. Then f extends uniquely to a (uniformly) continuous function g on X .

Items 1–11 of Uniform Continuity were done on a marathon session on September 28, 2007.
