

Real Analysis Qual, Spring 2024

Problem 1. (Classic Technique) Show that the function

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^x}, \quad x > 1$$

has a continuous derivative $f'(x)$ given by

$$f'(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} -\frac{\ln n}{n^x}, \quad x > 1.$$

These summations do not make sense for the value $n = 0$. The second summation does not make sense for the value $n = 1$. We assume these modifications.

Proof. Write $g(n, x) = \frac{1}{n^x}$, except at $n = 1$, where we enforce $g(1, x) = 0$. Set

$$h(x) := \int g(n, x) \, dn = \int_{\mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\}} g(n, x) \, dn = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^x}.$$

Note that $f(x) = h(x) + 1$. First, h is a Lebesgue integrable function on $(1, \infty)$, for by Tonelli's

$$\int_1^{\infty} h(x) \, dx = \int_1^{\infty} \int_{\mathbb{N}} g(n, x) \, dn \, dx = \int_{\mathbb{N}} \int_1^{\infty} g(n, x) \, dx \, dn = \int_{\mathbb{N}} \int_1^{\infty} n^{-x} \, dx \, dn,$$

and

$$\int_{\mathbb{N}} \int_1^{\infty} n^{-x} \, dx \, dn = \int_{\mathbb{N}} -\frac{\ln(n)}{n^x} \Big|_1^{\infty} = \int_{\mathbb{N}} \frac{1}{n \ln(n)} \, dn = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \ln(n)} < \infty.$$

Second, $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} g(n, x) = -\ln(n)/n^x$. So, $|\frac{\partial}{\partial x} g(n, x)| = \ln(n)n^{-x}$. Since $x > 1$ we have $1 - x < 0$. Moreover, $n \geq 2$. So the inequality

$$\ln(n)n^{-x} \leq n^{1-x} \leq 2^{1-x}$$

holds. Also,

$$\int_1^{\infty} 2^{1-x} \, dx = 2 \int_1^{\infty} 2^{-x} \, dx = 2 \left(\frac{2^{-x}}{\ln(2)} \Big|_1^{\infty} \right) = \frac{1}{\ln(2)}.$$

Therefore, 2^{1-x} is Lebesgue integrable over $(1, \infty)$, and hence for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $|\frac{\partial}{\partial x} g(n, x)|$ is bounded by a Lebesgue integrable function. Therefore, the criteria for differentiation under the integral sign are obtained. So,

$$h'(x) = \int \frac{\partial}{\partial x} g(n, x) \, dn = \int_{n \geq 2} -\frac{\ln n}{n^x} \, dn = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} -\frac{\ln(n)}{n^x}.$$

Since $f(x) = h(x) + 1$, then $f'(x) = h'(x) = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} -\frac{\ln(n)}{n^x}$, as needed.

Finally, take a sequence of points (x_k) converging to x_0 in $(1, \infty)$. Since $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(n, x)$ is continuous in x , then $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(n, x_k) \rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(n, x_0)$. So, indexing $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(n, x_k)$ in k , we have a sequence of functions converging pointwise to $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(n, x_0)$. Since $x_k \rightarrow x_0 > 1$, then $\inf x_k > 1$. Indeed, if $\inf x_k = 1$, since none of the $x_k = 1$, then we must have $\lim x_k = 1$. Therefore, $\inf x_k > 1$. So, take a such that $1 < a < \inf x_k$. Therefore, $\ln(n)/n^a > \ln(n)/n^{x_k}$ for every k . Choose ϵ so that $a - 1 > 2\epsilon$. Eventually, n^ϵ dominates $\ln(n)$. Therefore, for N large enough

$$\sum_{n=N}^{\infty} \frac{\ln(n)}{n^a} \leq \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} \frac{n^\epsilon}{n^a} = \sum_{n=N}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{a-\epsilon}}.$$

Since $a - \epsilon > 1 + \epsilon$, then by the p -test we conclude this series is finite, so $\ln(n)/n^a$ is integrable. Hence,

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(n, x_k) \right| = \frac{\ln(n)}{n^{x_k}} \leq \frac{\ln(n)}{n^a}$$

so $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(n, x_k)$ has an integrable dominant for all k . Therefore, by DCT, we obtain

$$f'(x_0) = \int_{n \geq 2} g(n, x_0) \, dn = \lim \int_{n \geq 2} g(n, x_k) \, dn = \lim f'(x_k).$$

Therefore, $f'(x)$ is continuous. □

Problem 2. (Classic) Let $f : [1, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous, bounded function. Prove that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^\infty f(t) n t^{-n-1} \, dt = f(1).$$

Proof. Say that $|f(t)| \leq M$. Then,

$$\int_1^\infty |f(t) n t^{-n-1}| \, dt \leq M n \int_1^\infty t^{-n-1} \, dt \leq M n \int_1^\infty 1/t^2 \, dt = M n.$$

Therefore, $f(t) n t^{-n-1}$ is a Lebesgue integrable function. Hence, we may make the substitution $1/x = t$, given that $1/x$ is a $(0, 1) \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ diffeomorphism. Note that $dx = -t^{-2} dt$, since $x = 1/t$. Hence, we $t^{-2} dt$ with dx . So,

$$\int_1^\infty f(t) n t^{-n-1} \, dt = \int_0^1 f(1/x) n x^{n-1} \, dx.$$

Now, $f(1/x) = g(x)$ is a bounded continuous function on $(0, 1]$ such that $g(1) = f(1)$. Therefore, we prove that

$$\lim \int_0^1 g(x) n x^{n-1} \, dx = g(1).$$

Take the interval $(0, a]$ with $a < 1$. Suppose $g(x)$ is bounded by M . Then, for $x \in (0, a]$, we have $n x^{n-1} \leq n a^{n-1}$. Given that $1/a > 1$, then $n/a^{n-1} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Therefore, $n a^{n-1} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. So, on $(0, a]$, $n x^{n-1} \rightarrow 0$ uniformly. Hence, taking N so that $n \geq N$ implies $n x^{n-1} < \epsilon$, we obtain

$$\int_0^a g(x) n x^{n-1} \, dx \leq \int_0^a M \epsilon \, dx \leq M \epsilon.$$

Taking $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ shows that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^a g(x)nx^{n-1} dx = 0$.

Now, on $[a, 1]$, define $M_a = \sup_{x \in [a, 1]} g(x)$ and $N_a = \inf_{x \in [a, 1]} g(x)$. Both M_a, N_a exist since g is bounded. Moreover, since $[a, 1]$ is compact and g is continuous, there are points $m_a, n_a \in [a, 1]$ such that $g(m_a) = M_a$ and $g(n_a) = N_a$. Since $a < 1$, in combination with the above we obtain

$$N_a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} N_a(1 - a^n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^1 N_a nx^{n-1} dx + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^a g(x)nx^{n-1} dx \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 g(x)nx^{n-1} dx.$$

Likewise,

$$M_a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M_a(1 - a^n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^1 M_a nx^{n-1} dx + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^a g(x)nx^{n-1} dx \geq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 g(x)nx^{n-1} dx.$$

Therefore, for all a ,

$$g(n_a) = N_a \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 g(x)nx^{n-1} dx \leq M_a = g(m_a).$$

As $a \rightarrow 1$, we have $n_a, m_a \rightarrow 1$, and by continuity $g(n_a), g(m_a) \rightarrow 1$. Therefore,

$$g(1) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 g(x)nx^{n-1} dx.$$

Finally, $g(1) = f(1/1) = f(1)$, so

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^\infty f(t)nt^{-n-1} dt = f(1),$$

as required. □

Problem 3. Let ϕ be a continuously differentiable function on \mathbb{R} such that $\phi(x) > 0$ if $|x| < 1$ and $\phi(x) = 0$ if $|x| \geq 1$, and $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \phi(x) dx = 1$. Put $K_n(x) = n\phi(nx)$. Then, (no proof required) $\int_{\mathbb{R}} K(x) dx = 1$ and $K_n(x) = 0$ if $|x| \geq 1/n$. Recall that

$$f * K_n(x) = K_n * f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} K_n(x - y)f(y) dy.$$

Prove the following:

- (i) **(Classic)** If $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$, then $f * K_n \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ and has a continuous derivative for each n .
- (ii) If $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$, $f * K_n$ converges to f in L^1 as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof. We first prove (i). So, take $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$. Then,

$$\int |f * K_n(x)| dx \leq \iint |K_n(x - y)f(y)| dy dx.$$

By Tonelli's

$$\begin{aligned}
\iint |K_n(x-y)f(y)| \, dy \, dx &= \iint |K_n(x-y)f(y)| \, dx \, dy \\
&= \int |f(y)| \int |K_n(x-y)| \, dx \, dy \\
&= \int |f(y)| \int |K_n(x)| \, dx \, dy \\
&= \left(\int |f(y)| \, dy \right) \left(\int |K_n(x)| \, dx \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\|f * K_n\|_1 \leq \|f\|_1 \cdot \|K_n\|_1 < \infty$. So, $f * K_n \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$.

Now, since ϕ is continuously differentiable, then K_n is continuously differentiable, for $K'_n(x) = n^2\phi'(nx)$. The derivative of ϕ is continuous, and hence $K'_n(x)$ is a continuous function. Moreover, on $[-2, 2]$, for any point x , there is some open ball $B_\epsilon(x)$ such that $B_\epsilon(x) \cap [-1, 1] = \emptyset$. Hence, $K_n|_{B_\epsilon(x)}$ is the 0 function, so $K'_n|_{B_\epsilon(x)}$ is the 0 function. Therefore, K'_n is supported on $[-2, 2]$, a compact interval. By continuity, we then obtain that K'_n is bounded, say by M . For each y fixed, $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} K_n(x-y) = K'_n(x-y)$, and thus has the same bound M . Therefore, $|\frac{\partial}{\partial x} K_n(x-y)f(y)| \leq M|f(y)|$, an integrable function. On the other hand, for each x , $|f * K_n(x)| \leq \|K_n\|_\infty \|f\|_1$. Since K_n is a compactly supported continuous function, $|f * K_n(x)|$ is therefore finite for all x . So, $K_n(x-y)f(y)$ is integrable for all x . Therefore, the criteria for differentiation under the integral sign are obtained. So,

$$f * K'_n(x) = \int \frac{\partial}{\partial x} K_n(x-y)f(y) \, dy.$$

Since $K_n(x-y)f(y)$ are all dominated by an integrable function, then for (x_k) converging to x_0 , thinking of $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} K_n(x_k-y)f(y)$ as a sequence of functions in k , we obtain by DCT

$$\lim f * K'_n(x_k) = \lim \int \frac{\partial}{\partial x} K_n(x_k-y)f(y) \, dy = \int \frac{\partial}{\partial x} K_n(x_0-y)f(y) \, dy = f * K'_n(x_0).$$

Hence, the derivative is continuous, proving (ii).

We prove (ii). So,

$$\int |K_n * f(x) - f(x)| \, dx = \int \left| \int K_n(y)f(x-y) \, dy - f(x) \right| \, dx.$$

Since $\int K_n(y) \, dy = 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \int \left| \int K_n(y)f(x-y) \, dy - \int K_n(y)f(x) \, dy \right| \, dx \\
&= \int \left| \int K_n(y)(f(x-y) - f(x)) \, dy \right| \, dx \\
&\leq \iint |K_n(y)| \cdot |f(x-y) - f(x)| \, dy \, dx.
\end{aligned}$$

Since for $|y| > 1/n$ we have $K_n(y) = 0$, then

$$\iint |K_n(y)| \cdot |f(x-y) - f(x)| \, dy \, dx = \int \int_{-1/n}^{1/n} |K_n(y)| |f(x-y) - f(x)| \, dy \, dx.$$

We apply Tonelli's

$$\begin{aligned} \int \int_{-1/n}^{1/n} |K_n(y)| |f(x-y) - f(x)| \, dy \, dx &= \int_{-1/n}^{1/n} \int |K_n(y)| |f(x-y) - f(x)| \, dx \, dy \\ &= \int_{-1/n}^{1/n} |K_n(y)| \int |f(x-y) - f(x)| \, dx \, dy. \end{aligned}$$

We have $y \rightarrow x$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Since translation is continuous, we choose N such that for all $n \geq N$, we have $|f(x-y) - f(x)| < \epsilon$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-1/n}^{1/n} |K_n(y)| \int |f(x-y) - f(x)| \, dx \, dy &< \int_{-1/n}^{1/n} |K_n(y)| \epsilon \, dy \\ &= \epsilon \int |K_n(y)| \, dy \\ &= \epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $K_n * f \rightarrow f$ in L^1 . □

Is there a way to prove the next problem without problem 3?

Problem 4. Let $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$. Define a linear transform T_f on $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ by $T_f(g) = f * g$. Show that

- (i) $\sup_{\|g\|_1 \leq 1} \|T_f(g)\|_1 = \|f\|_1$, and
- (ii) $T_f = 0$ if and only if $f = 0$ in $L^1(\mathbb{R})$.

Proof. First, by Tonelli

$$\|T_f(g)\|_1 \leq \iint |f(x-y)g(y)| \, dy \, dx = \iint |f(x-y)g(y)| \, dx \, dy = \iint |f(x-y)| \, dx |g(y)| \, dy.$$

If $\|g\|_1 \leq 1$, then by translation invariance,

$$\iint |f(x-y)| \, dx |g(y)| \, dy = \left(\int |f(x)| \, dx \right) \left(\int |g(y)| \, dy \right) = \|f\|_1 \|g\|_1 \leq \|f\|_1.$$

Hence, $\sup_{\|g\|_1 \leq 1} \|T_f(g)\|_1 \leq \|f\|_1$. Recall from problem 3 that $K_n * f \rightarrow f$ in L^1 norm. By continuity of the norm, we obtain $\|K_n * f\|_1 \rightarrow \|f\|_1$. Then,

$$\|T_f(K_n)\|_1 = \int |K_n * f| \, dx = \|K_n * f\|_1 \rightarrow \|f\|_1.$$

Since $\|K_n\|_1 = 1$, then we conclude that $\|f\|_1 \leq \sup_{\|g\|_1 \leq 1} \|T_f(g)\|_1$, giving equality.

Now, suppose that $f = 0$. Then,

$$T_f(g) = \int f(x-y)g \, dy = \int 0g \, dy = 0.$$

On the other hand, once again recall that $K_n * f \rightarrow f$ in L^1 . Hence,

$$0 = \|T_f(K_n)\|_1 = \|K_n * f\|_1 \rightarrow \|f\|_1.$$

Therefore, $\|f\|_1 = 0$, forcing $f = 0$. □

Problem 5. Let f be a continuous complex valued function on $[0, 1]$. Show that

$$f([0, 1]) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : m(f^{-1}(B_\epsilon(\lambda))) > 0 \text{ if } \epsilon > 0\},$$

where $B_\epsilon(\lambda)$ is the open disc of radius ϵ centered at λ .

Proof. First suppose that $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ is such that $\lambda \in f([0, 1])$. For $\epsilon > 0$, since f is continuous, then $f^{-1}(B_\epsilon(\lambda))$ is open. Hence, for some δ , we have a δ ball $B_\delta \subseteq f^{-1}(B_\epsilon(\lambda))$. Since $m(B_\delta) > 0$, then $m(f^{-1}(B_\epsilon(\lambda))) > 0$. Therefore,

$$\lambda \in \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : m(f^{-1}(B_\epsilon(\lambda))) > 0 \text{ if } \epsilon > 0\},$$

proving one direction.

Now, suppose that λ is such that for every ball $B_\epsilon(\lambda)$, the set $f^{-1}(B_\epsilon(\lambda))$ has positive measure. Choose a sequence (x_n) so that $x_n \in f^{-1}(B_{1/n}(\lambda))$. This is possible, given that each such set has positive measure, and therefore is nonempty. Since $[0, 1]$ is compact, then there is a subsequence (x_{n_k}) which converges in $[0, 1]$ to some point x_0 . Given that $f^{-1}(B_{1/n}(\lambda)) \supseteq f^{-1}(B_{1/(n+1)}(\lambda))$, then we conclude that

$$x_0 \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} f^{-1}(B_{1/n}(\lambda)) = f^{-1}\left(\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} B_{1/n}(\lambda)\right).$$

Since $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} B_{1/n}(\lambda) = \{\lambda\}$, then $x_0 \in f^{-1}(\{\lambda\})$, and hence $f(x_0) = \lambda$. Therefore, $\lambda \in f([0, 1])$. □

Problem 6.

- (1) **(Classic)** Prove the following Riemann-Lebesgue identities for any $f \in L^1([-\pi, \pi])$:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) \, dt = 0, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \sin(nt) \, dt = 0.$$

- (2) Deduce the following: for any measurable set $E \subseteq [-\pi, \pi]$, and any sequence s_n of real numbers,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_E \cos^2(nt + s_n) \, dt = m(E)/2.$$

Proof. First, take f to be the characteristic function of an interval $I = (a, b) \subseteq [-\pi, \pi]$. Note that

$$\int_{-\pi/n}^{\pi/n} \cos(nt) dt = \frac{1}{n} \sin(nt) \Big|_{-\pi/n}^{\pi/n} = 0,$$

and

$$\int_{-\pi/n}^{\pi/n} \sin(nt) dt = -\frac{1}{n} \cos(nt) \Big|_{-\pi/n}^{\pi/n} = 0.$$

From now on, we restrict to the case of $\cos(nt)$, for the arguments are identical. By translation, we conclude that each full period of $\cos(nt)$ completed in (a, b) contributes 0 to the integral $\int_a^b \cos(nt) dt$. There are at most $\lfloor (b-a)\frac{n}{2\pi} \rfloor$ full periods of $\cos(nt)$ completed over (a, b) . A partial period may be terminated by either the endpoints a, b , subtracting 2 from $\lfloor (b-a)\frac{n}{2\pi} \rfloor$. Hence,

$$(b-a)\frac{n}{2\pi} - 3 \leq \# \text{ of total periods} \leq \lfloor (b-a)\frac{n}{2\pi} \rfloor \leq (b-a)\frac{n}{2\pi}.$$

Multiplying the number of periods completed on (a, b) by $\frac{2\pi}{n}$ gives the total length of the subinterval on (a, b) which contributes 0 to the integral of $\cos(nt)$. Hence, if this subinterval is J_n , then

$$(b-a) - \frac{6\pi}{n} \leq m(J_n) \leq b-a.$$

Taking $n \rightarrow \infty$ we see that $m(J_n) \rightarrow b-a$. If $I = (a, b)$, then

$$-m(I \setminus J_n) = \int_{I \setminus J_n} -1 dt \leq \int_{I \setminus J_n} \cos(nt) dt \leq \int_{I \setminus J_n} 1 dt = m(I \setminus J_n).$$

Since $m(I \setminus J_n) = m(I) - m(J_n) \rightarrow 0$, then $\int_{I \setminus J_n} \cos(nt) dt \rightarrow_{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$. Therefore,

$$\int_I \cos(nt) dt = \int_{I \setminus J_n} \cos(nt) dt + \int_{J_n} \cos(nt) dt = \int_{I \setminus J_n} \cos(nt) dt \rightarrow 0.$$

So, if $f(t)$ is the indicator function for an interval, then $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) dt$.

Now, let $f(t) = \mathbb{1}_E$ be a simple function for $E \subseteq [-\pi, \pi]$. By one of the Littlewood principles, since $m(E) < \infty$, there is a finite collection of intervals $(I_k)_{k=1}^n$ such that $m(E \triangle \bigcup_{k=1}^n I_k) < \epsilon$. Set $A = \bigcup_{k=1}^n I_k$. Given that $E \triangle A = (E \setminus A) \cup (A \setminus E)$, we conclude that $m(E \setminus A) < \epsilon$. We may restrict the intervals I_k to be disjoint. Hence,

$$-\epsilon + \int_A \cos(nt) dt \leq \int \mathbb{1}_E \cos(nt) dt \leq \epsilon + \int_A \cos(nt) dt.$$

Moreover, $\int_A \cos(nt) dt = \sum_{k=1}^n \int_{I_k} \cos(nt) dt \rightarrow 0$, by disjointness. Therefore, for all ϵ

$$\lim \left| \int \mathbb{1}_E \cos(nt) dt \right| < \epsilon.$$

So, the limit is 0. By linearity, we therefore obtain $\lim \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \phi(t) \cos(nt) dt = 0$ for arbitrary simple functions.

Finally, let f be an arbitrary $L^1([-\pi, \pi])$ function. Since simple functions are dense in L^1 , take ϕ within ϵ of f . Then, for all n ,

$$\left| \int f \cos(nt) dt - \int \phi \cos(nt) dt \right| = \left| \int (f - \phi) \cos(nt) dt \right| \leq \int |f - \phi| dt < \epsilon.$$

On the other hand, taking $n \rightarrow \infty$, we have $\int \phi \cos(nt) dt \rightarrow 0$. Therefore, by continuity of $|\cdot|$,

$$\left| \lim \int f \cos(nt) dt \right| < \epsilon.$$

This holds for arbitrary ϵ , so $\lim \int f \cos(nt) dt = 0$.

Now, to prove (2), we observe that

$$\cos^2(nt + s_n) = \frac{1 + \cos(2nt + 2s_n)}{2}.$$

Therefore,

$$\int_E \cos^2(nt + s_n) dt = \int_E \frac{1 + \cos(2nt + 2s_n)}{2} dt = m(E)/2 + \frac{1}{2} \int_E \cos(2nt + 2s_n) dt.$$

Observe now that

$$\cos(2nt + 2s_n) = \cos(2nt) \cos(2s_n) - \sin(2nt) \sin(2s_n).$$

Moreover,

$$- \int_E \cos(2nt) dt \leq \cos(2s_n) \int_E \cos(2nt) dt \leq \int_E \cos(2nt) dt.$$

Hence, as $n \rightarrow \infty$, the central term goes to 0 by (1). An identical argument holds for $\sin(2nt) \sin(2s_n)$. Therefore,

$$\int_E \cos^2(nt + s_n) dt = m(E)/2 + \frac{1}{2} \int_E \cos(2nt + 2s_n) dt \rightarrow m(E)/2,$$

completing the proof. □