

Some Background Material from Analysis¹

1 Elementary point set topology

We denote by $\mathbb{R}$ the field of real numbers and $\mathbb{C}$ the field of complex numbers.

- If $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ the *distance between a and b* is defined to be

$$d(x, y) := |x - y|.$$

If for $z \in \mathbb{C}$ we interpret $|z|$ as the absolute value of z ,² then the same formula above holds for the distance between two complex numbers z and w .

- A *neighborhood* of a point p is a set $N_r(p)$ consisting of all points q such that $d(p, q) < r$. The number r is called the *radius* of $N_r(p)$.
- A point p is a *limit point* of the set E (a subset of either $\mathbb{R}$ or $\mathbb{C}$) if *every* neighborhood of p contains a point $q \neq p$ such that $q \in E$. (Note that p is not necessarily in the set E .)
- The set E is said to be *closed* if every limit point of E is a point of E . Thus, for example, the interval $[a, b] := \{x : a \leq x \leq b\}$ is a closed set in $\mathbb{R}$. We call $[a, b]$ a *closed interval*.
- A point $p \in E$ is an *interior* point of E if there is a neighborhood N of p such that $N \subset E$. For example, the point $\frac{1}{2}$ is an interior point of $[0, 1]$ where as 0 and 1 are *not* interior points of $[0, 1]$.
- A set $E \subset X$ ($X = \mathbb{R}$ or $X = \mathbb{C}$) is *open* if every point of E is an interior point of E . For example, the interval $(a, b) := \{x : a < x < b\} \subset \mathbb{R}$, $a < b$, is an open set in $\mathbb{R}$.
- The *complement* of $E \subset X$ (here X is either $\mathbb{R}$ or $\mathbb{C}$) is the set of points $p \in X$ such that $p \notin E$.
- A set E is *bounded* if there is a real number M and a point q such that $d(p, q) < M$ for all $p \in E$.
- A set $E \subset X$ ($X = \mathbb{R}$ or $X = \mathbb{C}$) is *compact* if it is both closed and bounded.³

¹For full details see *Principles of Analysis* by Walter Rudin.

²Recall that if $z = x + iy$, $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, then $|z| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$.

³In most analysis courses this is a theorem called the Heine-Borel theorem since a compact set is defined as follows: An *open cover* of a set $E \subset X$ is a collection $\{G_\alpha\}$ of open subsets of X such that $E \subset \bigcup_\alpha G_\alpha$. A set K is said to be *compact* if every open cover of K contains a *finite* sub cover. We will sometimes use this property of compact sets.

2 Continuity

As earlier, by X and Y we mean either $\mathbb{R}$ or $\mathbb{C}$. Suppose f is a function whose domain E is a subset of X and whose range is a subset of Y .

- We say f is *continuous* at the point $p \in E$ if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that

$$d_Y(f(x), f(p)) < \varepsilon$$

for all points $x \in E$ for which $d_X(x, p) < \delta$. Here d_X denotes the distance function in X and similarly for d_Y . Given the definition of a limit, this is equivalent to

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f(x) = f(p).$$

- Suppose $f : X \rightarrow Y$. We say that f is *uniformly continuous* on X if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that

$$d_Y(f(p), f(q)) < \varepsilon$$

for all p and q in X for which $d_X(p, q) < \delta$.

Uniform continuity is a property of a function on a set whereas continuity can be defined at a single point. The choice of δ in the above definition of uniform continuity can be taken to hold for all points in the set X .

An example here is useful. Consider the function $f : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = 1/x$. Let $x_0 \in (0, 1)$ be a fixed point. We claim that f is continuous at x_0 . It's pretty clear intuitively that $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{x_0}$, but let's give an explicit $\varepsilon - \delta$ proof: Given an $\varepsilon > 0$ we wish to find a $\delta > 0$ such that if $|x - x_0| < \delta$, then it follows that $|\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x_0}| < \varepsilon$. We do a little computation:

$$|\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x_0}| = \frac{|x - x_0|}{xx_0} < \frac{\delta}{xx_0}$$

We want the last quantity to be less than ε . Since $x_0 - \delta < x$, we have $\frac{1}{x} < \frac{1}{x_0 - \delta}$. Thus we want

$$\frac{\delta}{x_0(x_0 - \delta)} < \varepsilon$$

Solving this inequality for δ gives that we can choose any δ satisfying

$$\delta < \frac{x_0^2}{1 + \varepsilon x_0}$$

it follows by reversing the above computation that

$$|\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x_0}| < \varepsilon.$$

Note that as x_0 becomes smaller, the choice of δ becomes smaller. It is not possible to find one $\delta > 0$ that works for all x_0 . Thus $f(x) = 1/x$ is not uniformly continuous on $(0, 1)$.

- A fundamental result in analysis says that if E is a compact subset of X and f is continuous for each point $p \in E$, then f is uniformly continuous on E . Note that in the above example the set E was not compact.
- Suppose f is a continuous function on the compact set $E \subset X$ (and hence by the previous item, uniformly continuous on E). Let

$$m = \inf_{x \in E} f(x), \quad M = \sup_{x \in E} f(x)$$

then there exist points $p_1, p_2 \in E$ such that $f(p_1) = m$ and $f(p_2) = M$. Recall that $\inf$ is the infimum which is the greatest lower bound and $\sup$ is the supremum which is the least upper bound.

3 Uniform Convergence

Many times in analysis we have a sequence of functions $\{f_n\}$ and we define a new function by $f := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n$; and we then ask questions about the properties of f . For example, suppose each f_n is a continuous function, then is f necessarily continuous? To make this question precise we must first answer in what sense does f_n converge to f .

The first notion of convergence is *pointwise convergence*; that is suppose f_n are defined on some set E , then we say f_n converges pointwise on E to f if for each $x \in E$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x)$. Since we are evaluating $f_n(x)$ at a point x , this is convergence of a sequence of *numbers* (we assume f_n are either real- or complex-valued). The following examples show that pointwise convergence of a sequence of functions does not imply the limiting function necessarily inherits the properties of the sequence functions:

1.

$$f_n(x) := x^n, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

For $|x| < 1$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = 0$. Since $f_n(1) = 1$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(1) = 1$. Thus the limiting function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 1 \\ 1, & x = 1 \end{cases}$$

which is clearly a discontinuous function of x .

2. Let

$$f_m(x) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\cos m! \pi x)^{2n}.$$

When $m!x$ is an integer, $\cos(m!\pi x) = \pm 1$ so that $f_m(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\pm 1)^{2n} = 1$. For other values of x , the cosine of absolute value less than 1; and hence, $f_m(x) = 0$ for those values of x . Now let

$$f(x) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} f_m(x)$$

If x is a rational number; say $x = p/q$ where p and q are integers, then for sufficiently large m (namely, $m \geq q$) $m!x$ is an integer and hence $f(x) = 1$. If x is irrational, then $m!x$ is never an integer and we obtain for every m $f_m(x) = 0$. Thus we've shown that

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \text{ irrational} \\ 1, & x \text{ rational} \end{cases}$$

Thus the limiting function f is neither continuous nor Riemann-integrable.

3. Let

$$f_n(x) := \frac{\sin nx}{\sqrt{n}}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Since the absolute value of the sine function is bounded by 1,

$$f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = 0, x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Thus $f'(x) = 0$. However

$$f'_n(x) = \sqrt{n} \cos(nx)$$

so that $\{f'_n\}$ does *not* converge to f' .

4. Let

$$f_n(x) = n^2 x(1 - x^2)^n, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, n = 1, 2, \dots$$

For $0 < x < 1$, $\log f_n(x) = n [\log(1 - x^2) + 2 \log x] + \log x$. Since the quantity in square brackets is negative for $0 < x < 1$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \log f_n(x) = -\infty$; and hence, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = 0$. Since $f_n(0) = f_n(1) = 0$, we get $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = 0$ for all $0 \leq x \leq 1$. Now

$$\int_0^1 x(1 - x^2)^n dx = \frac{1}{2n + 2}$$

so that

$$\int_0^1 f_n(x) dx = \frac{n^2}{2n + 2}$$

Thus

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f_n(x) dx = \infty$$

but

$$\int_0^1 f(x) dx = 0.$$

Thus we have for this example

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f_n(x) dx \neq \int_0^1 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) dx.$$

We now introduce a stronger notion of convergence of a sequence of functions, *uniform convergence*, that will guarantee nice limiting properties.

Definition. We say that a sequence of functions $\{f_n\}$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$ converges *uniformly* on E to a function f if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there is an integer N such that $n \geq N$ implies

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \varepsilon$$

for all $x \in E$.

The difference between pointwise convergence and uniform convergence is that in pointwise convergence the N can depend both upon ε and x whereas for uniform convergence the N can depend only upon ε ; that is, we can find one integer N that holds for *all* $x \in E$.

Definition. We say that the series $\sum_n f_n(x)$ converges uniformly on E if the sequence of partial sums $\{S_n\}$ defined by

$$S_n(x) := \sum_{j=1}^n f_j(x)$$

converges uniformly on E .

The Cauchy criterion for uniform convergence is as follows:

Theorem. The sequence of functions $\{f_n\}$, defined on E , converges uniformly on E if and only if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists an integer N such that $m \geq N$, $n \geq N$, $x \in E$ implies

$$|f_m(x) - f_n(x)| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Proof. Suppose $\{f_n\}$ converges uniformly to f on E . Then there is an integer N such that for all $n \geq N$ and all $x \in E$,

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

Then for all $m, n \geq N$ and all $x \in E$

$$|f_m(x) - f_n(x)| \leq |f_m(x) - f(x)| + |f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = \varepsilon.$$

(We used the triangle inequality $|x - y| \leq |x - z| + |z - y|$.) This proves one-half of the theorem.

Now suppose $\{f_n\}$ satisfies the above Cauchy criterion. By the Cauchy criterion for convergence of a sequence of numbers, we have the existence (pointwise) of a limiting function

f . We must show the convergence to f is uniform. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given and choose N such that for all $x \in E$ and all $m, n \geq N$ we have

$$|f_m(x) - f_n(x)| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Since $f_m(x) \rightarrow f(x)$ pointwise, we take the limit $m \rightarrow \infty$ in the above inequality to obtain

$$|f(x) - f_n(x)| \leq \varepsilon$$

which holds for all $x \in E$ and all $n \geq N$. □

It is sometimes useful to introduce the sup-norm: Suppose f is defined on a set E , the

$$\|f\| = \sup_{x \in E} |f(x)|$$

Theorem. The sequence $\{f_n\}$ converges uniformly on E if and only if $\|f_n - f\| \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof. Suppose $\|f_n - f\| \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, then for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists an integer N such that for all $n \geq N$ we have

$$\sup_{x \in E} |f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Since for all $x \in E$

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \sup_{x \in E} |f_n(x) - f(x)|$$

by definition of sup (the least upper bound), the sequence $\{f_n\}$ converges uniformly to f on E .

Now suppose $\{f_n\}$ converges uniformly to f on E . Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given. Then there exists an integer N such that for all $x \in E$ and all $n \geq N$

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} < \varepsilon$$

The least upper bound of this inequality satisfies

$$\sup_{x \in E} |f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \varepsilon$$

for all $n \geq N$. □

Theorem.(Weierstrass M -test). Suppose $\{f_n\}$ is a sequence of functions defined on E , and suppose there exist nonnegative real numbers M_n such that

$$|f_n(x)| \leq M_n, \quad x \in E, n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Then $\sum_n f_n$ converges uniformly on E if $\sum_n M_n$ converges.

Proof. If $\sum_n M_n$ converges then for arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\left| \sum_{j=n}^m f_j \right| \leq \sum_{j=n}^m M_j \leq \varepsilon$$

provided m, n are large enough. By the Cauchy criterion we obtain uniform convergence of the series. $\square$

Examples of the use of the Weierstrass M -test:

1. Let

$$f(x) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin nx}{n^2}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

For any closed interval $[a, b] \subset \mathbb{R}$

$$\left| \frac{\sin nx}{n^2} \right| \leq \frac{1}{n^2}$$

and since the series $\sum_n 1/n^2$ is convergent, the above series converges uniformly on every closed interval of $\mathbb{R}$.

2. Suppose f is defined by the power series

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad |z| < R,$$

where R is the radius of convergence (which may be infinite). Let $0 < r < R$. Then the series converges uniformly in the disk $|z| \leq r$. To see this note that

$$\left| \sum_n a_n z^n \right| \leq \sum_n |a_n| r^n$$

The series on the right-hand side (a series of real numbers) converges since r is less than the radius of convergence. (It is a fact that if the power series converges it converges absolutely.)

3. If $s = \sigma + it$, $\sigma > 1$, then the Riemann zeta-function $\zeta(s)$ is defined by setting

$$\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}. \quad (\star)$$

If $\sigma \geq \sigma_0 > 1$, the the series on the right in $(\star)$ converges uniformly and absolutely in the half-plane $\sigma \geq 1 + \sigma_0$ for all $\sigma_0 > 0$. This follows from the following estimates and

the Weierstrass M -test:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{\sigma+it}} \right| &\leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|n^{\sigma+it}|} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{\sigma}} \\ &\leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{\sigma_0}} < 1 + \int_1^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x^{\sigma_0}} \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{\sigma_0 - 1} < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem. Suppose $\{f_n\}$ converges uniformly on E . Let x be a limit point of E , and suppose that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow x} f_n(t) = A_n, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Then $\{A_n\}$ converges, and

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow x} f(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{t \rightarrow x} f_n(t).$$

Proof. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given. By the uniform convergence of $\{f_n\}$, there exists N such that $n \geq N, m \geq N, t \in E$ imply

$$|f_n(t) - f_m(t)| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Let $t \rightarrow x$ in the above to obtain

$$|A_n - A_m| \leq \varepsilon$$

for $m, n \geq N$. Thus $\{A_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence and therefore converges to a number, say A . Now

$$|f(t) - A| \leq |f(t) - f_n(t)| + |f_n(t) - A_n| + |A_n - A| \quad (\star)$$

by use of the triangle inequality. We first choose n such that

$$|f(t) - f_n(t)| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$$

for all $t \in E$ (this is possible by the uniform convergence), and such that

$$|A_n - A| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

Then, for this n , we choose a neighborhood V of x such that $t \in V$ implies

$$|f_n(t) - A_n| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

Substituting these three inequalities into the inequality $(\star)$ implies

$$|f(t) - A| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

□

An immediate corollary of this theorem is

Corollary. If $\{f_n\}$ is a sequence of continuous functions on E , and if $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly on E , then f is continuous on E .

The following theorem shows we can interchange the limit with integration under the hypothesis of uniform convergence.

Theorem. Suppose f_n are Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$ for $n = 1, 2, \dots$, and suppose $f_n \rightarrow f$ uniformly on $[a, b]$, then f is Riemann-integrable on $[a, b]$ and

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f_n(x) dx. \quad (1)$$

Proof. We first show that the limiting function f is Riemann integrable.

Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given. Choose $\eta > 0$ such that

$$\eta(b-a) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

By the uniform convergence, there exists an integer n such that

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \eta, \quad a \leq x \leq b.$$

For this fixed n , we choose a partition P of $[a, b]$ such that

$$U(P, f_n) - L(P, f_n) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$$

where U and L are the upper and lower Riemann sums, respectively. Now $f(x) \leq f_n(x) + \eta$ for all $a \leq x \leq b$. Thus

$$U(P, f) \leq U(P, f_n) + (b-a)\eta \leq U(P, f_n) + \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

Similarly, the inequality $f(x) \geq f_n(x) - \eta$ implies

$$L(P, f) \geq L(P, f_n) - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

Thus

$$U(P, f) - L(P, f) \leq \left\{ U(P, f_n) + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} \right\} - \left\{ L(P, f_n) - \frac{\varepsilon}{3} \right\} = \{U(P, f_n) - L(P, f_n)\} + \frac{2\varepsilon}{3} \leq \varepsilon$$

This proves that f is Riemann integrable.

We now prove (1). Choose N such that $n \geq N$ implies

$$|f_n(x) - f(x)| \leq \varepsilon, \quad a \leq x \leq b.$$

Then for $n \geq N$

$$\left| \int_a^b f(x) dx - \int_a^b f_n(x) dx \right| = \left| \int_a^b (f(x) - f_n(x)) dx \right| \leq \int_a^b |f(x) - f_n(x)| dx \leq \varepsilon(b-a)$$

Since ε is arbitrary, (1) follows. □

As a corollary of this theorem we have

Corollary. If f_n are Riemann-integrable on $[a, b]$ and if the series

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n(x), \quad a \leq x \leq b,$$

converges uniformly on $[a, b]$, then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_a^b f_n(x) dx.$$

Example. Suppose we define

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin nx}{n^2}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq \pi.$$

We showed earlier that the above series converges uniformly on $[0, \pi]$. By use of the above corollary we can compute

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) dx &= \int_0^{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin nx}{n^2} dx \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_0^{\pi} \frac{1}{n^2} \sin(nx) dx = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \int_0^{\pi} \sin(nx) dx \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \frac{1 - \cos n\pi}{n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \frac{1 + (-1)^{n+1}}{n} \\ &= 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^3} \\ &= 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^3} + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n)^3} - 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n)^3} \\ &= 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} \\ &= \frac{7}{4} \zeta(3) \end{aligned}$$

where $\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1/n^s$, $\Re(s) > 1$, is the Riemann zeta-function.

For differentiation some additional hypotheses beyond uniform convergence are required. The following theorem can be found in Rudin.

Theorem. Suppose $\{f_n\}$ is a sequence of functions, differentiable on $[a, b]$ and such that $\{f_n(x_0)\}$ converges for some point x_0 on $[a, b]$. If $\{f'_n\}$ converges uniformly on $[a, b]$, then $\{f_n\}$ converges uniformly on $[a, b]$, to a function f , and

$$f'(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f'_n(x), \quad a \leq x \leq b.$$

Remarks: Note that the above analysis on interchange of limits does *not* apply to

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin nx}{n}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq \pi,$$

since the obvious bound

$$\left| \frac{\sin nx}{n} \right| \leq \frac{1}{n}$$

does not lead to a useful bound to which we can apply the Weierstrass M -test. This series will be studied in the lectures and we will show that the convergence is not uniform on $[0, \pi]$. To get some preview of the difference between the two series, let's define the partial sums

$$S_1(n, x) := \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\sin(j\pi x)}{j} \quad \text{and} \quad S_2(n, x) := \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\sin(j\pi x)}{j^2}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

In Figures 1 and 2 we plot the partial sums for $n = 10, 20, 50, 100$. As these pictures indicate, the nature of convergence is quite different for these two series.

To see better the behavior near zero, we plot the partial sums for $n = 500$ in the interval $0 \leq x \leq 1/10$ in Figures 3 and 4.

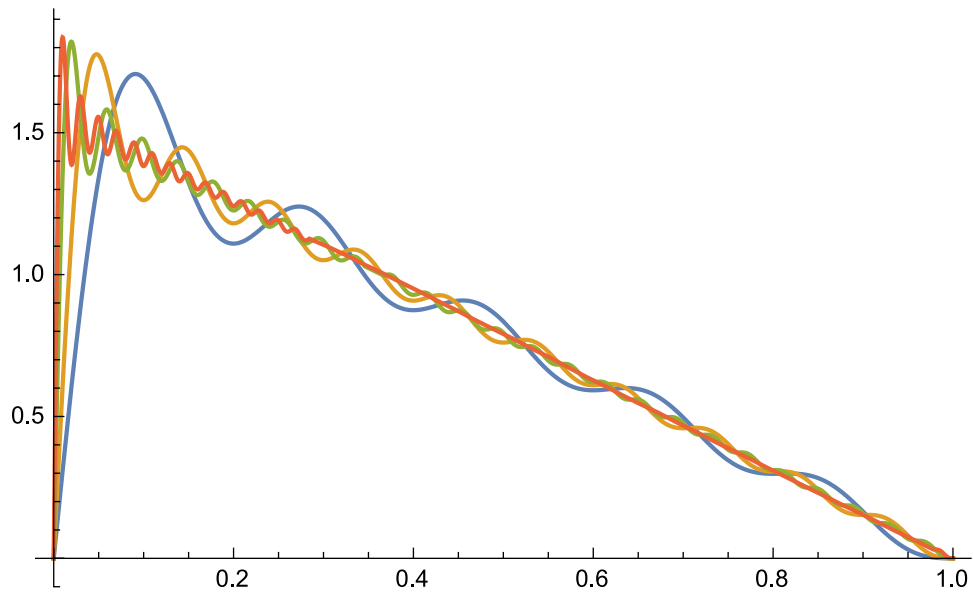


Figure 1: The partial sums $\sum_{j=1}^n \sin(j\pi x)/j$ for $0 \leq x \leq 1$ and $n = 10, 20, 50, 100$.

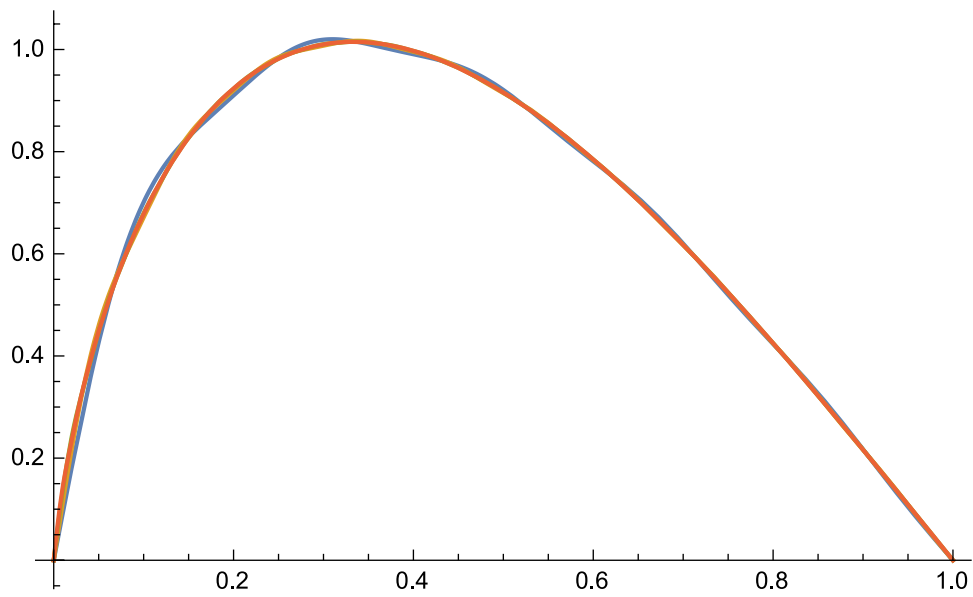


Figure 2: The partial sums $\sum_{j=1}^n \sin(j\pi x)/j^2$ for $0 \leq x \leq 1$ and $n = 10, 20, 50, 100$.

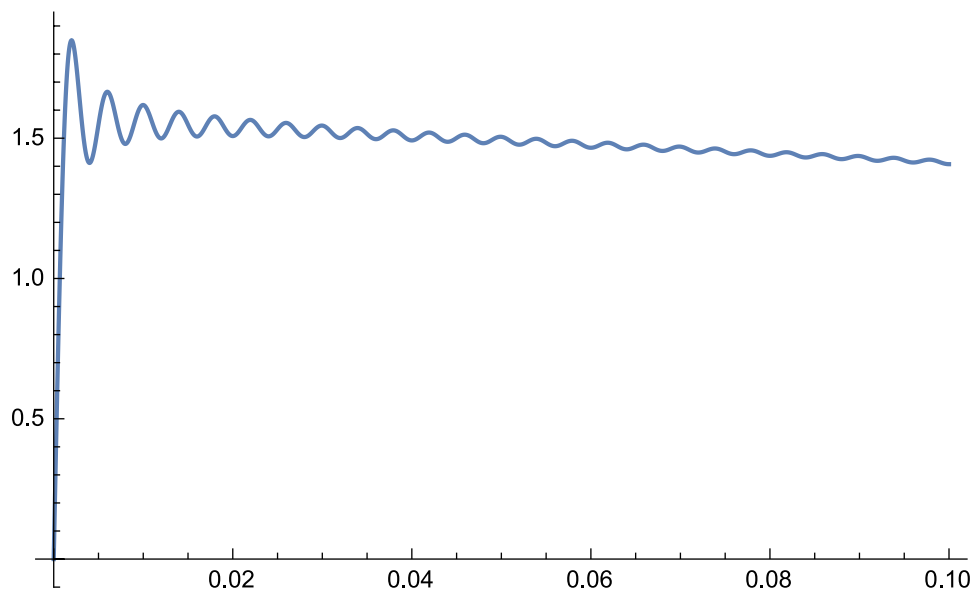


Figure 3: The partial sum $\sum_{j=1}^{500} \sin(j\pi x)/j$ for $0 \leq x \leq 1/10$.

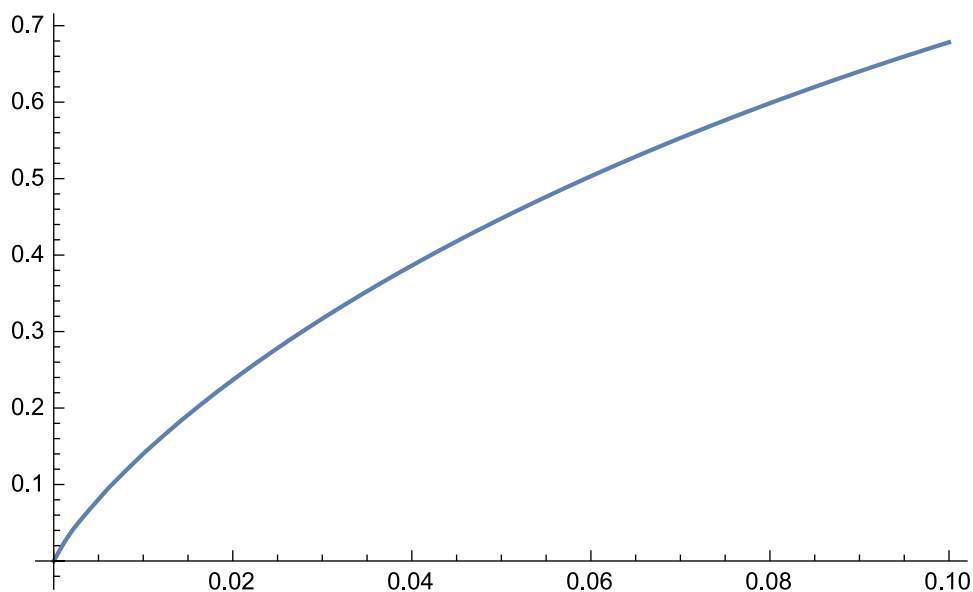


Figure 4: The partial sum $\sum_{j=1}^{500} \sin(j\pi x)/j^2$ for $0 \leq x \leq 1/10$.