

University of Mila

Institute of Nature and life Sciences

Common Core Departement of NLS

Mathematics Statistics Informatics

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Chapter 1

Real functions of real variable Part I

Introduction

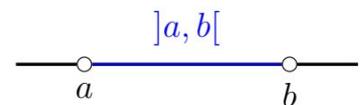
This chapter introduces the fundamental concepts of real functions of a real variable: definitions, domain, monotonicity, boundedness, limits, continuity, integrals and primitives.

1.1 Recalls and definitions:

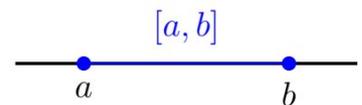
1.1.1 Intervals of \mathbb{R}

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $a < b$, we call

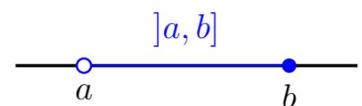
- **The open interval :** $]a, b[= \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a < x < b\}$



- **The closed interval :** $[a, b] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a \leq x \leq b\}$



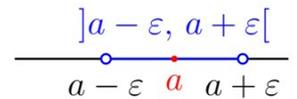
- **The semi-open interval :** $]a, b] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a < x \leq b\}$



$$[a, b[= \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a \leq x < b\}$$

A horizontal number line with two points labeled a and b . Above the line, the interval $[a, b[$ is written. The segment of the line between a and b is highlighted in blue. The endpoint a is marked with a solid blue dot, and the endpoint b is marked with an open circle.

- The open interval of center a the set : $]a-\varepsilon, a+\varepsilon[$ with $\varepsilon > 0$



Notations

- $\mathbb{R}^* =] - \infty, 0[\cup] 0, +\infty[$
- $\mathbb{R}_+ = \{x \in \mathbb{R} / x \geq 0\} =] 0, +\infty[$
- $\mathbb{R}_- = \{x \in \mathbb{R} / x \leq 0\} =] - \infty, 0[$

Definition 1.1.1: A real function of a real variable is a map f of a part D of \mathbb{R} , we note

$$f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R},$$

$$x \mapsto f(x)$$

1.1.2 Domain of definition

Definition 1.1.2: The domain of definition of a function f denoted D_f is defined by

$$D_f = \{x \in \mathbb{R}, f(x) \text{ is defined}\}.$$

1.1.2.1 Practical determination of the domain of definition

Let f, g be two functions

1st cas: function of type $\frac{f}{g}$ is defined for all $g \neq 0$

2nd cas: function of type \sqrt{x} is defined for all $x \geq 0$

3rd cas: function of type $\frac{f}{\sqrt{g}}$ is defined for all $g > 0$

Example 1.1.1 ① $f(x) = \frac{x^2+2x+5}{x^2-1}$.

$$\begin{aligned} D_f &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 - 1 \neq 0\} \\ &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}, (x-1)(x+1) \neq 0\} \\ &= \mathbb{R} - \{-1, 1\}. \end{aligned}$$

② $g(x) = \frac{3x+5}{\sqrt{2x-1}}$.

$$\begin{aligned} D_g &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}, 2x - 1 > 0\} \\ &= \left\{x \in \mathbb{R}, x > \frac{1}{2}\right\} \\ &= \left] \frac{1}{2}, +\infty \right[. \end{aligned}$$

1.1.3 General information on functions:

Let $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function and we suppose that $\forall x \in D, -x \in D$ we say that :

① f is **even**: if $f(-x) = f(x)$ for all $x \in D$.

The curve c_f of f is symmetric with respect to the axis (oy).

② f is **odd**: if $f(-x) = -f(x)$ for all $x \in D$.

The curve c_f of f is symmetric with respect to the origin (0,0).

③ f is **periodic**: if there exists $T > 0$ such that $\forall x \in D, x+T \in D$ and $f(x+T) = f(x)$.

The smallest value of T is called the period of f .

④ f is a **major** function $\iff \exists M \in \mathbb{R}, \forall x \in D, f(x) \leq M$

⑤ f is a **aminor** function $\iff \exists m \in \mathbb{R}, \forall x \in D, f(x) \geq m$.

⑥ f is a **bounded** function $\iff \exists M, m \in \mathbb{R}, \forall x \in D, m \leq f(x) \leq M$.

⑦ f is **increasing** function (resp strictly increasing) if $\forall x, y \in D, x < y \implies f(x) \leq f(y)$, (resp $f(x) < f(y)$).

⑧ f is **decreasing** function (resp strictly decreasing) if $\forall x, y \in D, x < y \implies f(x) \geq f(y)$, (resp $f(x) > f(y)$).

⑨ f is **monotonous** function if it is increasing or decreasing on D .

1.2 Limit of a function

1.2.1 Neighborhood of a Point x_0

Definition 1.2.1: We call neighborhood of a point x_0 any open interval of the form $]x_0 - \epsilon, x_0 + \epsilon[$, $\epsilon > 0$

$$V_\epsilon(x) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}, x_0 - \epsilon < x < x_0 + \epsilon\}.$$

1.2.2 Function defined in a vicinity of a point

Definition 1.2.2: We say that a function $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined in the neighborhood of a point $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ if $\exists \epsilon > 0$, $]x_0 - \epsilon, x_0 + \epsilon[\subseteq D$

1.2.3 Limits of a function at a point

Definition 1.2.3: We say that a function f defined in the vicinity of a point x_0 admits a limit $l \in \mathbb{R}$ as x tends x_0 if

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \sigma > 0, \forall x \neq x_0, |x - x_0| < \sigma \Rightarrow |f(x) - l| < \epsilon.$$

We write $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = l$.

Proposition 1.2.1 *If f admits a limit at the point x_0 then this limit is unique and we have*

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = \lim_{x \xrightarrow{>} x_0} f(x) = \lim_{x \xrightarrow{<} x_0} f(x) = l$$

1.2.4 Right-hand limit and left-hand limit

Definition 1.2.4:

1. We say that f has a right-hand limit ℓ at the point x_0 , if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \sigma > 0, \forall x \quad x_0 < x < x_0 + \sigma \Rightarrow |f(x) - \ell| < \varepsilon.$$

and we write $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \xrightarrow{>} x_0} f(x) = \ell$.

2. We say that f has a left-hand limit ℓ at the point x_0 , if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \sigma > 0, \forall x \quad x_0 - \sigma < x < x_0 \Rightarrow |f(x) - \ell| < \varepsilon.$$

and we write $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \xrightarrow{<} x_0} f(x) = \ell$.

Remark 1.2.1 If $\lim_{x \xrightarrow{>} x_0} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \xrightarrow{<} x_0} f(x)$ then f does not admit a limit at point x_0 .

1.2.5 Operations on limits

Operations on Limits

Let f and $g : D \subseteq \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be two functions, satisfying $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = \ell_1$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} g(x) = \ell_2$.

1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} [f(x) + g(x)] = \ell_1 + \ell_2$.

2. $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} [f(x) - g(x)] = \ell_1 - \ell_2$.

3. $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} [f(x) \cdot g(x)] = \ell_1 \cdot \ell_2$.

4. $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\ell_1}{\ell_2}$, if $\ell_2 \neq 0$.

5. $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} [k \cdot f(x)] = \ell_1 k$, $k \in \mathbb{R}$.

6. $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} |f(x)| = |\ell_1|$.

7. If $f(x) < g(x) \implies \ell_1 < \ell_2$.

1.2.6 Indeterminate forms

There are four algebraic indeterminate forms (IF)

$$\frac{0}{0}, \frac{\infty}{\infty}, 0 \cdot \infty, \infty - \infty.$$

and three exponential forms

$$0^0, \infty^0, 1^\infty$$

Example 1.2.1 Calculate the following limits

❶ $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} -2x^3 + 4x - 1 = +\infty - \infty$ (IF)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} -2x^3 + 4x - 1 = -2x^3 \left(1 - \frac{2}{x^2} + \frac{1}{2x^3}\right) = -\infty$$

❷ $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1} = \frac{0}{0}$ (IF)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x-1)(x+1)}{x-1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x + 1) = 2$$

❸ $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x^x = 0^0$ (IF)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x^x = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} e^{\ln(x^x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} e^{x \cdot \ln(x)} = e^0 = 1$$

1.2.7 Some standard limits

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1,$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - 1}{x} = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - 1}{x} = 1,$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{x} = +\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln(x+1)}{x} = 1,$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x} = 0 \text{ et } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x \ln x = 0$$

1.3 Continuous functions

Definition 1.3.1:

- Let f be a function defined on a subset $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and let $x_0 \in D$, we say that f is continuous at x_0 if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = f(x_0).$$

- We say that f is continuous on D if it is continuous at every point of D .

Checking Continuity at a Point

A function f is continuous at $x = x_0$ if the following three conditions hold:

1. $f(x_0)$ is defined (that is, x_0 belongs to the domain of f).
2. $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x)$ exists (that is, the left-hand limit equals the right-hand limit).
3. $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = f(x_0)$.

1.3.1 Operations on Continuous Functions

Let f and g be two continuous functions in x_0 at let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, then

$(f + g)$, $(f - g)$, $(f \cdot g)$, (λf) , $(\frac{f}{g}, (g(x_0) \neq 0))$, $(|f|)$ are continuous functions in x_0 .

1.3.2 Extension by Continuity

Let f be a function defined and continuous on a set $I \setminus \{x_0\}$, if $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = \ell$ (ℓ exists and finite) then $f(x)$ can be extended by continuity at point x_0 to the function g defined by

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} f(x), & \text{if } x \neq x_0, \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x), & \text{if } x = x_0. \end{cases}$$

Example 1.3.1 The function $f(x) = \frac{x^2-1}{x^3+1}$ is continuous on $\mathbb{R} - \{-1\}$ and we have $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} f(x) = -\frac{2}{3}$ therefore $f(x)$ can be extended by continuity at the point -1 to the function

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2-1}{x^3+1}, & \text{if } x \neq -1, \\ -\frac{2}{3}, & \text{if } x = -1. \end{cases}$$

1.4 Differentiable functions

Definition 1.4.1: Let $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

1. We say that the function f is differentiable at the point x_0 if the limit

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0}$$

exists and is finite.

if $h = x - x_0$, we obtain

$$f'(x_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h}$$

2. We say that the function f is differentiable on the right at x_0 if the limit

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^+} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0}.$$

exists and is finite, and we denote it by $f'_+(x_0)$

3. We say that the function f is differentiable on the left at x_0 if the limit

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0^-} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0}.$$

exists and is finite, and we denote it by $f'_-(x_0)$

Remark 1.4.1 f is differentiable at the point $x_0 \iff \begin{cases} f'_+(x_0) \text{ exists and finite.} \\ f'_-(x_0) \text{ exists and finite.} \\ f'_+(x_0) = f'_-(x_0) \end{cases}$

Example 1.4.1 $f(x) = |x - 1|$, $x_0 = 1$

f is differentiable at the point $x_0 = 1 \iff \begin{cases} f'_+(1) \text{ exists and finite.} \\ f'_-(1) \text{ exists and finite.} \\ f'_+(1) = f'_-(1) \end{cases}$

We have

$$\begin{aligned}f'_+(1) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{f(x) - f(1)}{x - 1}. \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{x - 1}{x - 1}. \\ &= 1\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}f'_-(1) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{f(x) - f(1)}{x - 1}. \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{-(x - 1)}{x - 1}. \\ &= -1\end{aligned}$$

we have $f'_+(1)$ and $f'_-(1)$ exist but $f'_+(1) \neq f'_-(1)$, then the function f is not differentiable at the point $x_0 = 1$.

1.4.1 Operations on differentiable functions

Let $f, g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be two differentiable functions in x^0 and let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, then

1. $(\lambda f)'(x_0) = \lambda f'(x_0)$
2. $(f \pm g)'(x_0) = f'(x_0) \pm g'(x_0)$
3. $(f \cdot g)'(x_0) = f'(x_0)g(x_0) + f(x_0)g'(x_0)$
4. If $g(x_0) \neq 0$ then

$$\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)'(x_0) = \frac{f'(x_0)g(x_0) - f(x_0)g'(x_0)}{g^2(x_0)}$$

5. **Derivative of a composite functions:** Let $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g : J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $f(I) \subset J$, if f is differentiable at x_0 and g is differentiable at $f'(x_0)$ then $g \circ f$ is differentiable at x_0 and we have

$$(g \circ f)'(x_0) = f'(x_0)g'(f(x_0))$$

1.4.2 Common derivatives

Function $f(x)$	Derivative $f'(x)$	Interval of Differentiability
c	0	\mathbb{R}
x^n ($n \in \mathbb{N}^*$)	nx^{n-1}	\mathbb{R}
$\frac{1}{x}$	$-\frac{1}{x^2}$	$\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$
\sqrt{x}	$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$	$]0, \infty[$
e^x	e^x	\mathbb{R}
a^x	$a^x \ln(a)$	\mathbb{R}
$\ln(x)$	$\frac{1}{x}$	$]0, \infty[$
$\sin x$	$\cos x$	\mathbb{R}
$\cos x$	$-\sin x$	\mathbb{R}
$\tan x$	$\frac{1}{\cos^2(x)} = 1 + \tan^2(x)$	$]\frac{\pi}{2} + k\pi, \frac{\pi}{2} + (k+1)\pi[, k \in \mathbb{Z}$

Function $f(x)$	Derivative $f'(x)$
$[f(x)]^n$	$n [f(x)]^{n-1} f'(x)$
$\sqrt{f(x)}$	$\frac{f'(x)}{2\sqrt{f(x)}}$
$\frac{1}{f(x)}$	$-\frac{f'(x)}{[f(x)]^2}$
$\ln(f(x))$	$\frac{f'(x)}{f(x)}$
$e^{f(x)}$	$e^{f(x)} f'(x)$
$a^{f(x)}$	$a^{f(x)} \ln(a) f'(x)$
$\sin(f(x))$	$\cos(f(x)) f'(x)$
$\cos(f(x))$	$-\sin(f(x)) f'(x)$
$\tan(f(x))$	$\frac{f'(x)}{\cos^2(f(x))}$

1.4.3 Application of the derivative

1.4.3.1 Study of monotonicity

Theorem 1.4.1 *Let f be a differentiable function on $I \subset \mathbb{R}$, then*

1. f is constant on $I \iff f'(x) = 0, \forall x \in I$
2. f is increasing on $I \iff f'(x) \geq 0, \forall x \in I$
3. f is strictly increasing on $I \iff f'(x) > 0, \forall x \in I$
4. f is decreasing on $I \iff f'(x) \leq 0, \forall x \in I$
5. f is strictly decreasing on $I \iff f'(x) < 0, \forall x \in I$

1.4.3.2 Calculate the limits

Theorem 1.4.2 (Hopital's rule) *Let f, g be two defined and differentiable functions in a neighborhood v of x_0 such that $g(x) \neq 0, g'(x) \neq 0$ on v , if*

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} g(x) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} g(x) = \pm\infty$$

Then,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$$

Remark 1.4.2 *Hopital's rule applies to indeterminate forms $\left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ or } \frac{\infty}{\infty}\right)$.*

Example 1.4.2 1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x^2}{e^x} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$ (IF), according to the Hopital's rule

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x^2}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{2x}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{2}{e^x} = 0.$$

2. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2-1}{x-1} = \frac{0}{0}$ (IF), according to the Hopital's rule

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2-1}{x-1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{2x}{1} = 2.$$

1.4.3.3 Extremum of functions

Definition 1.4.2: Let $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and let $x_0 \in I$

❶ We say that f admits a local maximum at x_0 if

$$\exists J \subset I \text{ of center } x_0, \forall x \in J f(x) \leq f(x_0)$$

❷ We say that f admits a local minimum at x_0 if

$$\exists J \subset I \text{ of center } x_0, \forall x \in J f(x) \geq f(x_0)$$

❸ We say that f admits a local extremum at x_0 if f admits at x_0 a local maximum or minimum.

Critical point

Definition 1.4.3: A critical point of a function f is a point c in its domain for which $f'(c) = 0$ or $f'(c)$ does not exist.

Corollary 1.4.1 *If $f'(c)$ exists and $f'(c) \neq 0$, then $f(c)$ is not a local extremum of the function f .*

Theorem 1.4.3 *Let $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$, let $c \in I$ and let $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function. Suppose that f is differentiable, that $f'(c) = 0$ and f is twice differentiable at c*

❶ *If $f''(c) > 0$, then c is a local minimum of f .*

❷ *If $f''(c) < 0$, then c is a local maximum of f .*

Example 1.4.3 *Find the extremum of the following functions*

❶ $f(x) = x^2 - 1$

The critical points

We have

$$f'(x) = 2x$$

So

$$f'(x) = 0 \iff 2x = 0 \iff x = 0 \text{ is a critical point of } f$$

The nature of critical points

$f''(x) = 2 \neq 0$ therefore f admits a minimum at the point $x_0 = 0$ because $f''(0) > 0$

$$\textcircled{2} f(x) = x^2 e^{-x}$$

The critical points

We have

$$f'(x) = x e^{-x} (2 - x)$$

So

$$f'(x) = 0 \iff x e^{-x} (2 - x) = 0 \iff x = 0 \text{ or } x = 2$$

The nature of critical points

We have

$$f''(x) = e^{-x} (1 - x)(2 - x) - x e^{-x}$$

for $x = 0$, $f''(0) = 2 > 0$ so $x = 0$ is a minimum.

for $x = 2$, $f''(2) = -2e^{-2} < 0$ so $x = 2$ is a maximum.