

Some highlights on the domain of convergence of a sequence of functions

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Aim of this note

The aim of this note is to find the domain of convergence of the sequence of functions $f_n(x) = \sin nx$ defined on \mathbb{R} . We will show that this sequence of functions converges only on the set:

$$I = \pi\mathbb{Z} = \{k\pi, k \in \mathbb{Z}\} \quad (1)$$

The limit function is the function which vanishes over I .

Since $f_n(x) = \sin nx$ vanishes over I , then the serie of functions $\sum_{n \geq 0} f_n(x)$ converges only on the subset I . The limit is again the the function which vanishes over I .

1 Details

Since, f_n vanishes over I , for each n , then the sequence of functions $f_n(x) = \sin nx$ converges over I given by (1).

Assume now that there exists $x \notin I$ and prove that $f_n(x)$ does not converges as $n \rightarrow +\infty$. We will assume the there exists a limit l such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sin nx = l.$$

The limit l should be in $[-1, 1]$ since $-1 \leq \sin nx \leq 1$. This implies that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (\sin(n+1)x - \sin(n-1)x) = 0. \quad (2)$$

Which is equivalent to

$$2 \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \cos nx \sin x = 0. \quad (3)$$

Since $\sin x \neq 0$ over I , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \cos nx = 0. \quad (4)$$

This implies that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \cos(n+1)x = 0. \quad (5)$$

This gives, using (4)

$$- \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sin nx \sin x = 0. \quad (6)$$

Which gives, $\sin \sin x \neq 0$ over I

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sin nx = 0. \quad (7)$$

Gathering this limit with (4) gives

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sin^2 nx + \cos^2 nx = 0. \quad (8)$$

Which is a contradiction since $\sin^2 nx + \cos^2 nx = 1$.

Consider now the serie of $\sum_{n \geq 0} f_n(x)$. In order that this serie converges, $f_n(x)$ should converge to 0. This is satisfied only when $x \in I$.

Remark 1.1 *It is proved in [1] that $f_n(x)$ does not converge to 0 when $x \notin I$. However, the proof presented here justifies that $f_n(x)$ does not converge to any limit when $x \notin I$. The techniques used in this note is similar to those of [1] in the sense that the techniques here use the known properties of the functions \sin and \cos .*

References

- [1] K. ALLAB, *Elément d'Analyse: Fonction d'une Variable Réelle*. OPU, 1990