TA's solution to 2060B homework 3^*

Since

$$0 \le \left| x^2 \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \right| \le x^2$$

for $x \in (0, 1]$, we have $\lim_{x\to 0} f(x) = 0$ by squeeze theorem. Also, by the continuity of g at the point 0, we have $\lim_{x\to 0} g(x) = g(0) = 0$.

On the other hand, $\lim_{x\to 0} f(x)/g(x)$ does not exist, because for $x_n := \frac{1}{2n\pi}$, $y_n := \frac{1}{2n\pi+0.5\pi}$, we have $x_n, y_n \in (0, 1]$, $x_n, y_n \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$, and

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} f(x_n)/g(x_n) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \sin(2n\pi) = 0, \text{ while}$$
$$\lim_{n \to \infty} f(y_n)/g(y_n) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \sin(2n\pi + 0.5\pi) = 1.$$

p.196 Q9. (2.5 marks)

[†]By differentiating the sine function repeatedly we get

$$\frac{d^{2k}}{dx^{2k}}\sin x = (-1)^k \sin x, \ \frac{d^{2k+1}}{dx^{2k+1}}\sin x = (-1)^k \cos x, k \ge 0.$$

By Taylor's Expansion Theorem,

$$\sin x = \sin x_0 + (\cos x_0)(x - x_0) + \dots + \frac{f_n(x_0)}{n!}(x - x_0)^n + \frac{f_{n+1}(c_n)}{(n+1)!}(x - x_0)^{n+1},$$

where each f_k is one of $\pm \sin or \pm \cos$, and c_n is some mean value between x and x_0 . Using $|\sin c_n|, |\cos c_n| \leq 1$, the remainder is bounded by

$$\frac{|x - x_0|^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$$

which tends to 0 as $n \to \infty$.[‡]

*It is strange that a number of you have done p. 196 Q4 instead of Q9. I try to give some marks in this situation. Starting from next time let us agree that the course website is the single source of truth w.r.t. homework question no.

[†]This solution is adapted from the work of MATH2060A, Solution to Assignment 3, p.1. (https://www.math.cuhk.edu.hk/course_builder/1819/math2060a/2060%20Solution%203%202019.pdf)

[‡]A simple way to get this is by ratio test (textbook 3.2.11 Theorem).

p.196 Q10. (5 marks)

A well-written solution can be found in MATH2060A, Solution to Assignment 3, p.2. We make some observation:

It seems that unavoidably we have to show lim_{x→0} P(1/x)/e^{1/x²} = 0 for any real-coefficient polynomial P(z). Observe that a change of variable y = 1/x may make the problem easier (but be careful about the ± signs: y → -∞ if x → 0⁻). By using absolute value (we go to use squeeze theorem at the last step) and triangle inequality, it suffices to deal with

$$\lim_{y \to +\infty} \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{N} a_i y^i}{e^{y^2}},$$

where $a_i \ge 0$ and $a_N > 0$. By considering another application of squeeze theorem, we can replace e^{y^2} by e^y too, as $1/e^{y^2} \le 1/e^y$ for y > 1. We can now use L'Hospital's rule easily.

• Most people use L'Hospital's rule casually, but when we are in this course, in view of the "if-then" logic flow[§], the following presentation is not without criticism:

$$\lim_{y \to +\infty} \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{N} a_i y^i}{e^y} = \lim_{y \to +\infty} \frac{a_1 + 2a_2 y + \dots + Na_N y^{N-1}}{e^y}$$
$$= \dots = \lim_{y \to +\infty} \frac{N! a_N}{e^y} = 0.$$

• Note that the c in the remainder term in Taylor theorem, $\frac{f^{(n+1)}(c)}{(n+1)!}(x-x_0)^{n+1}$, not only depends on x and x_0 but also depends on n (so by careful when we try to let $n \to \infty$).

[§]i.e. statement like: if $\lim \frac{f'}{g'} = L$, then $\lim \frac{f}{g} = L$.