

The famous trigonometric functions cosine and sine are uniformly continuous on \mathbb{R}

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Examples The famous trigonometric functions

$$x \mapsto \cos x, \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$$

$$x \mapsto \sin x, \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$$

are continuous on \mathbb{R} . (In fact they are uniformly continuous.)

Prove it professor!

I will first prove the following inequalities:

$\forall u, v \in \mathbb{R}$

$$|\cos u - \cos v| \leq |u - v|$$

$$|\sin u - \sin v| \leq |u - v|$$

Assuming these red inequalities are green, let us prove the uniform continuity:

$$\forall a \in \mathbb{R} \quad \forall \epsilon > 0 \quad \exists \delta(\epsilon) > 0 \text{ s.t. } \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad |x-a| < \delta(\epsilon) \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(a)| < \epsilon$$

Just set $\delta(\epsilon) = \epsilon$ for every $\epsilon > 0$.
Then \Rightarrow can be easily proved based on the inequalities

Prove $\forall u, v \in \mathbb{R} \quad |\cos u - \cos v| \leq |u - v|$

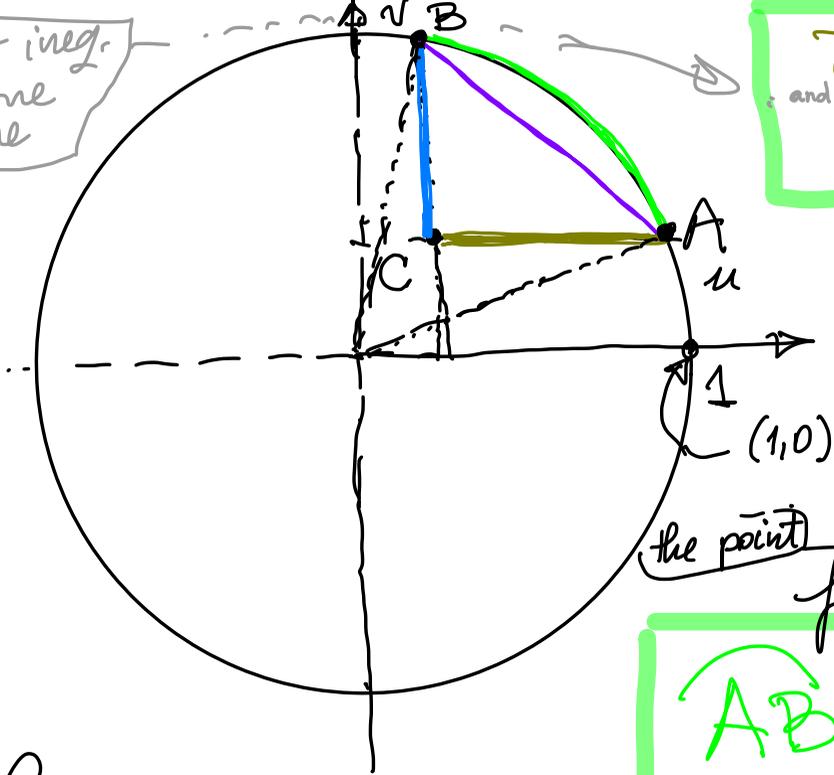
step 1 By Pythagorean Thm, for $A = (x_1, y_1), B = (x_2, y_2)$

$$|x_1 - x_2| \leq \text{dis}(A, B) = \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2}$$

Step 2 Assume that the points A and B are on the unit circle. Then $\overline{AB} \leq \widehat{AB}$

where \widehat{AB} is the length of unit circle arc from A to B

two ineq. in one line



and $\overline{CA} \leq \overline{AB} \leq \widehat{AB}$
 $\overline{CB} \leq \overline{AB} \leq \widehat{AB}$

$A = (\cos u, \sin u)$ (G1)

$B = (\cos v, \sin v)$

Recall that u and v are the arc lengths from $(1,0)$ to A and B resp. circular

$\widehat{AB} \leq |u - v|$ (G2)

Thus

and

$\overline{CA} \leq |u - v|$

$\overline{CB} \leq |u - v|$

← by G1 and G2

← by G1 and G2

But $\overline{CA} = |\cos u - \cos v|$
 $\overline{CB} = |\sin u - \sin v|$

Thus $|\cos u - \cos v| \leq |u - v|$
 $|\sin u - \sin v| \leq |u - v|$

Conclusion: \cos and \sin are uniformly continuous on \mathbb{R} .

Example $x \mapsto \ln x$, $x \in \mathbb{R}_+$.
 \ln is continuous on \mathbb{R}_+ , but not
uniformly continuous.
