

The convergence of L^p norm to L^∞ norm for n-dimensional arrays and continuous functions defined in $[0,1]$

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1 For n-dimensional array

Theorem

In \mathbb{R}^n , we note: $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \|x\|_p = (|x_1|^p + |x_2|^p + \dots + |x_n|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}$ and $\|x\|_\infty = \max(|x_1|, |x_2|, \dots, |x_n|)$. Thus,
 $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \|x\|_p \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow +\infty} \|x\|_\infty$.

Proof

The result is evident for $x = 0$. Now we suppose $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ a non-zero array. Then :

$$\forall p > 1, \|x\|_p = \|x\|_\infty \left(\left(\frac{x_1}{\|x\|_\infty} \right)^p + \left(\frac{x_2}{\|x\|_\infty} \right)^p + \dots + \left(\frac{x_n}{\|x\|_\infty} \right)^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \quad (1)$$

It is clear that there is a k in $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$ such that $|x_k| = \|x\|_\infty$ (x_k is seen as the “dominant” one among x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n). So we have:

$$1 \leq \left(\left(\frac{x_1}{\|x\|_\infty} \right)^p + \left(\frac{x_2}{\|x\|_\infty} \right)^p + \dots + \left(\frac{x_n}{\|x\|_\infty} \right)^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq n^{\frac{1}{p}} \quad (2)$$

As $p \rightarrow \infty$, by using the squeeze theorem in the inequality, we obtain:

$$\left(\left(\frac{x_1}{\|x\|_\infty} \right)^p + \left(\frac{x_2}{\|x\|_\infty} \right)^p + \dots + \left(\frac{x_n}{\|x\|_\infty} \right)^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow +\infty} 1 \quad (3)$$

Using (1) and (3), we finally get:

$$\|x\|_p \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow +\infty} \|x\|_\infty \quad (4)$$

2 For continuous functions defined in $[0,1]$

Theorem

In $E = C^0([0, 1], \mathbb{R})$, we note: $\forall f \in E, \|f\|_p = \left(\int_0^1 |f(t)|^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$ and $\|f\|_\infty = \sup_{t \in [0,1]} |f(t)|$. Thus,
 $\forall f \in E, \lim_{p \rightarrow +\infty} \|f\|_p = \|f\|_\infty$.

Proof

The result is evident for $f = 0$. Now we assume that f is a function that is not constantly zero. We have:

$$\forall p > 1, \|f\|_p = \|f\|_\infty \left(\int_0^1 \left(\frac{|f(t)|}{\|f\|_\infty} \right)^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \quad (5)$$

Suppose $\epsilon > 0$. A continuous function on a closed and bounded interval attains its bounds, so there exists $t_0 \in [0, 1]$ such that $f(t_0) = \|f\|_\infty$.

Firstly we study the general case, which means $t_0 \in (0, 1)$. As $|f|$ is continue at t_0 , there thus exists $\eta > 0$ small enough such that $|t - t_0| < \eta \Rightarrow \left| |f(t)| - |f(t_0)| \right| < \epsilon$.

So we have:

$$|t - t_0| < \eta \Rightarrow |f(t)| > |f(t_0)| - \epsilon \quad (6)$$

Then:

$$\left(\int_{t_0-\eta}^{t_0+\eta} (|f(t_0)| - \epsilon)^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq \left(\int_0^1 (|f(t)|)^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \quad (7)$$

Here, $\left(\int_{t_0-\eta}^{t_0+\eta} (|f(t_0)| - \epsilon)^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} = (2\eta)^{\frac{1}{p}} [(|f(t_0)| - \epsilon)^p]^{\frac{1}{p}} = (2\eta)^{\frac{1}{p}} (|f(t_0)| - \epsilon)$. By dividing two sides by $|f(t_0)|$, we have:

$$(2\eta)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(1 - \frac{\epsilon}{\|f\|_\infty} \right) \leq \left(\int_0^1 \left(\frac{|f(t)|}{\|f\|_\infty} \right)^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq 1 \quad (8)$$

When $t_0 = 0$ or $t_0 = 1$, things are being slightly different. We try to reach the same inequality (8). For $t_0 = 0$, we still set $\eta > 0$ small enough (at least less than $\frac{1}{2}$) so we have $\left(\int_{t_0}^{t_0+\eta} 2[(|f(t_0)| - \epsilon)^p] dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq \left(\int_0^1 (|f(t)|)^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$. Here, $\left(\int_{t_0}^{t_0+\eta} 2[(|f(t_0)| - \epsilon)^p] dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} = (2\eta)^{\frac{1}{p}} [(|f(t_0)| - \epsilon)^p]^{\frac{1}{p}} = (2\eta)^{\frac{1}{p}} (|f(t_0)| - \epsilon)$ and we get the inequality (8) again. The proof is similar for $t_0 = 1$. Therefore, the inequality (8) holds for all possible values of t_0 .

It is clear that $(2\eta)^{\frac{1}{p}} \rightarrow 1$ when $p \rightarrow \infty$, so there exists $P \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $p \geq P \Rightarrow \left| (2\eta)^{\frac{1}{p}} - 1 \right| < \epsilon$. Substituting this into the inequality (8), we have:

$$\forall p \geq P, (1 - \epsilon) \left(1 - \frac{\epsilon}{\|f\|_\infty} \right) \leq \left(\int_0^1 \left(\frac{|f(t)|}{\|f\|_\infty} \right)^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq 1 \quad (9)$$

This shows that:

$$\forall p \geq P, 1 - \epsilon \left(1 + \frac{1}{\|f\|_\infty} \right) \leq \left(\int_0^1 \left(\frac{|f(t)|}{\|f\|_\infty} \right)^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq 1 \quad (10)$$

Finally, we get:

$$\left(\int_0^1 \left(\frac{|f(t)|}{\|f\|_\infty} \right)^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow +\infty} 1 \quad (11)$$

We conclude that:

$$\|f\|_p \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow +\infty} \|f\|_\infty \quad (12)$$