

17: Continuous Function's

Continuous & uniformly continuous function's.

(a) $\text{dom}(f)$ is called domain of f

$\text{dom}(f) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ where f is a
Real valued function.

Definition 17.1

Let f be a real-valued function
whose domain is a subset of \mathbb{R} .

$$\text{dom}(f) \subseteq \mathbb{R}.$$

The function f is continuous at x_0 in $\text{dom}(f)$
if, for every seq (x_n) in $\text{dom}(f)$
converging to x_0 , we have $\lim_n f(x_n) = f(x_0)$

Our definition says that the values of $f(x)$ are close to $f(x_0)$ when the values x are close to x_0 .

Theorem 17.2:

Let f be a real-valued function whose domain is a subset of \mathbb{R} . Then f is continuous at x_0 in $\text{dom}(f) \iff$

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0 \text{ such that } x \in \text{dom}(f) \text{ and } |x - x_0| < \delta \implies |f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$$

- (1)

Proof:

Consider a seqⁿ $(x_n) \in \text{dom}(f)$ s.t.
 $\lim x_n = x_0$.

We need to prove $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(x_0)$.

Let $\varepsilon > 0$. By (1) $\exists \delta > 0$ such that

$$x \in \text{dom}(f) \text{ and } |x - x_0| < \delta$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$$

Since $\lim x_n = x_0$, $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $\forall n > N$

$$|x_n - x_0| < \delta$$

for $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\Rightarrow \forall n > N \quad |f(x_n) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(x_0)$$

Now assume f is continuous at x_0 , but ① fails.

Then $\exists \varepsilon > 0$, such that

" $x \in \text{dom}(f)$ and $|x - x_0| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$ "
fails for each $\delta > 0$.

$$\Rightarrow "x \in \text{dom}(f) \text{ and } |x - x_0| < \frac{1}{n} \Rightarrow |f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$$

fails for $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

So $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \exists x_n \in \text{dom}(f)$ such that
 $|x_n - x_0| < \frac{1}{n}$ and yet $|f(x_0) - f(x_n)| \geq \varepsilon$.

\Rightarrow we have $\lim x_n = x_0$, but we cannot have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(x_0)$$

\Rightarrow This shows f is not continuous at x_0
Contradiction

Example:

$f(x) = 2x^2 + 1 \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$. Prove f is
continuous on \mathbb{R} by

(a) Using the definition.

Sol: Suppose $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a seqⁿ with
 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \lim f(x_n) &= \lim 2x_n^2 + 1 \\ &= 2(\lim x_n)^2 + 1 \\ &= 2x_0^2 + 1 \\ &= f(x_0) \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow f$ is continuous at each $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$

⑥ Using the ε - δ theorem.

Sol

Let $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$, let $\varepsilon > 0$. we want to show $|f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$ provided $|x - x_0|$ is significantly small.

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(x_0)| &= |2x^2 + 1 - (2x_0^2 + 1)| \\ &= 2|x^2 - x_0^2| \\ &= 2|(x - x_0)(x + x_0)| \\ &= 2|x - x_0||x + x_0| \end{aligned}$$

if $|x - x_0| < 1$



then $x_0 - 1 < x < x_0 + 1$

$$\Rightarrow |x| < |x_0| + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |x + x_0| \leq |x| + |x_0| < 2|x_0| + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x) - f(x_0)| = 2|x - x_0| \cdot |x + x_0|$$

$$< 2|x - x_0| (2|x_0| + 1)$$

provided $|x - x_0| < 1$

to make $2|x - x_0| (2|x_0| + 1) < \varepsilon$

$$\Rightarrow |x - x_0| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2(2|x_0| + 1)}$$

$$\& \quad |x - x_0| < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{take } \delta = \min \left\{ 1, \frac{\varepsilon}{2(2|x_0| + 1)} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{we show } |x - x_0| < \delta$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$$

Hence $f(x)$ is continuous.

Ex 2.1

$$f(x) = x^2 \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \quad \text{for } x \neq 0$$

$$\text{and } f(0) = 0.$$

Prove f is continuous at $x = 0$

Soln let $\varepsilon > 0$, clearly

$$|f(x) - f(0)| = |f(x)|$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x)| = \left| x^2 \sin\left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right) \right| \leq x^2 < \varepsilon \quad \forall x$$

$$|x| < \sqrt{\varepsilon}$$

$$|x - 0| < \sqrt{\varepsilon}$$

take $\delta = \sqrt{\varepsilon}$

$$\Rightarrow \text{for } |f(x) - f(0)| < \varepsilon$$

we have $|x - 0| < \sqrt{\varepsilon}$

Hence $f(x)$ is continuous at $x=0$

Ex3

let $f(x) = \frac{1}{x} \sin\left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right)$ for $x \neq 0$

and $f(0) = 0$. Show f is discontinuous

i.e not continuous at $x=0$

Soln $f(x) = \frac{1}{x} \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$ let $\varepsilon > 0$

$$|f(x) - f(x_0)| = |f(x)|$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x)| = \left| \frac{1}{x} \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \right| \leq \left| \frac{1}{x} \right| < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\varepsilon} < |x|$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\varepsilon} < |x - 0|$$

we cannot find such δ such that

$$|x - 0| < \delta$$

Hence $f(x)$ is discontinuous.

Theorem 17.3:

Let f be a real-valued function with $\text{dom}(f) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. If f is continuous at $x_0 \in \text{dom}(f)$, then $|f|$ and kf , $k \in \mathbb{R}$ are continuous at x_0 .

Proof:

Let $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \text{dom}(f)$

with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0$

Since f is continuous at x_0 ,

we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(x_0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} k f(x_n) &= k \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) \\ &= k f(x_0) \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow kf(x)$ is continuous.

Proof $|f|$

we need to prove

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |f(x_n)| = |f(x_0)|$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| |f(x_n)| - |f(x_0)| \right| \\ & \leq |f(x_n) - f(x_0)| \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow let $\varepsilon > 0$. since $\lim f(x_n) = f(x_0)$

$$\exists N \text{ s.t. } n > N \Rightarrow |f(x_n) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| |f(x_n)| - |f(x_0)| \right| \leq |f(x_n) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| |f(x_n)| - |f(x_0)| \right| < \varepsilon$$

$N < n$

$$\Rightarrow \lim |f(x_n)| = |f(x_0)|$$

$$(1) \quad (f+g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$$

$$(2) \quad fg(x) = f(x)g(x)$$

$$(3) \quad f/g(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$$

$$(4) \quad g \circ f(x) = g(f(x))$$

$$(5) \quad \max(f, g)(x) = \max\{f(x), g(x)\}$$

$$(6) \quad \min(f, g)(x) = \min\{f(x), g(x)\}$$

domain of $f+g, fg, \max(f, g), \min(f, g)$

$$\text{is } \text{dom}(f) \cap \text{dom}(g)$$

domain of $f/g(x)$ is

$$\text{dom}(f) \cap \{x \in \text{dom}(g) : g(x) \neq 0\}$$

domain of $g \circ f(x)$

$$\text{is } \{x \in \text{dom}(f) : f(x) \in \text{dom}(g)\}$$

These new function's are continuous
if f, g are continuous

Theorem 17.4.1

Let f and g are real-valued function that
are continuous at x_0 in \mathbb{R} . Then

- ① $f+g$ is continuous at x_0
- ② fg is continuous at x_0
- ③ $\frac{f}{g}$ is continuous at x_0 if $g(x_0) \neq 0$

Proof:

$$x_0 \in \text{dom}(f) \cap \text{dom}(g)$$

$$(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \text{dom}(f) \cap \text{dom}(g) \text{ with}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0, \text{ we have}$$

$$\lim f(x_n) = f(x_0), \lim g(x_n) = g(x_0)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (f+g)(x_n) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(x_n) \\
 &= f(x_0) + g(x_0) \\
 &= (f+g)(x_0)
 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow f+g$ is continuous

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (fg)(x_n) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) g(x_n) \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(x_n) \\
 &= f(x_0) g(x_0) \\
 &= (fg)(x_0)
 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow (fg)$ is continuous

Similarly for $\frac{f}{g}$

$x_0, (x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \text{dom } f \cap \{x \in \text{dom}(g) : g(x) \neq 0\}$

s.t. $\lim x_n = x_0$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{f}{g} \right)(x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x_n)}{g(x_n)} = \frac{f(x_0)}{g(x_0)} = \left(\frac{f}{g} \right)(x_0)$$

Theorem 17.5:

f is continuous at x_0 , g is continuous at $f(x_0)$ then the $g \circ f$ is continuous at x_0

Proof:

$x_0 \in \text{dom}(f)$ and $f(x_0) \in \text{dom}(g)$

$(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \{x \in \text{dom}(f) : f(x) \in \text{dom}(g)\}$

s.t. $\lim x_n = x_0$

we know $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(x_0)$ &

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(f(x_n)) = g(f(x_0))$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim g \circ f(x_n) &= \lim g(f(x_n)) \\ &= g \circ f(x_0) \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow g \circ f$ is continuous at x_0

Exs if f, g are continuous at $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$

Prove $\max(f, g)$ is continuous
at $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$

Soln

$$\max(f, g) = \frac{1}{2}(f+g) + \frac{1}{2}|f-g|$$