

LIMITS CONTINUITY & DIFFERENTIABILITY

Limits

Let $y = f(x)$ be a given function defined in the neighbourhood of $x = a$, but not necessarily at the point $x = a$. The limiting behaviour of the function in the neighbourhood of $x = a$ when $|x - a|$ is small, is called the limit of the function when x approaches 'a' and we write this as $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$.

Let $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \ell$. It would simply mean that when we approach the point $x = a$ from the values which are just greater than or just smaller than $x = a$, $f(x)$ would have a tendency to move closer to the value ' ℓ '. This is same as saying, "difference between $f(x)$ and ℓ can be made as small as we like by suitably choosing x in the neighbourhood of $x = a$ ". Mathematically, we write this as, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \ell$, which is equivalent to saying that $|f(x) - \ell| < \varepsilon \exists x$ such that $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ and ε depends on δ where ε and δ are sufficiently small positive numbers.

It should be clear that the limit of $f(x)$ at $x = a$ would exist if and only if, $f(x)$ is well defined in the neighbourhood of $x = a$ (not necessarily at $x = a$) and has a unique behaviour in the neighbourhood of $x = a$.

Remarks : Normally students have the perception that limit should be a finite number. But it is not really so. It is quite possible that $f(x)$ had infinite limit as $x \rightarrow a$. If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty$, it would simply mean that functions has tendency to assume very large positive values in the neighbourhood of $x = a$, as for example $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 1/(x) = \infty$.

Left and Right Limit

Let $y = f(x)$ be a given function, and $x = a$ is the point under consideration. Left tendency of $f(x)$ at $x = a$ is called it's left limit and right tendency is called it's right limit.

Left tendency (left limit) is denoted by $f(a-0)$ or $f(a-)$ and right tendency (right limit) is denoted by $f(a+0)$ or $f(a+)$ and are written as

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} f(a+0) \text{ N } \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a+h) \\ f(a-0) \text{ N } \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a-h) \end{array} \right\} \text{ where 'h' is a small positive number.}$$

Thus for the existence of the limit of $f(x)$ at $x = a$, it is necessary and sufficient that $f(a-0) = f(a+0)$, if these are finite or $f(a-0)$ and $f(a+0)$ both should be either $+\infty$ or $-\infty$.

Remark : For the existence of the limit at $x = a$, $f(x)$ need not be defined at $x = a$. However if $f(a)$ exists, limit need not exist or even if it exists then it need not be equal to $f(a)$.

Illustration 1. For what values of m does the $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ exist when $f(x) = \begin{cases} mx + 3, & \text{when } x \geq 2 \\ \frac{x}{m}, & \text{when } x < 2 \end{cases}$

Solution: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} (mx + 3) = 2m + 3$; $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} \frac{x}{m} = \frac{2}{m}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) \text{ exists when } \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x)$$

$$\emptyset 2m > 3 \text{ N } \frac{2}{m} \emptyset 2m^2 > 3m > 2 \text{ N } 0 \emptyset m \text{ N } > \frac{1}{2}, 2.$$

Algebra of limits

The following are some of the Basic Theorems on limits which are widely used to calculate the limit of the given functions.

Let $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \ell_1$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = \ell_2$ where ℓ_1 and ℓ_2 are finite, then

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (c_1 f(x) \pm c_2 g(x)) = c_1 \ell_1 \pm c_2 \ell_2$, where c_1 and c_2 are given constants.

$$\bullet \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \cdot g(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = \ell_1 \cdot \ell_2$$

$$\text{N } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)} = \frac{\ell_1}{\ell_2}, \ell_2 \neq 0.$$

$\text{N } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(g(x)) = f(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)) = f(\ell_2)$, if and only if $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = \ell_2$.

In particular, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \ln(g(x)) = \ln(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)) = \ln \ell_2$ if $\ell_2 > 0$

Illustration 2. Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (2x^3 > 3x^2 > x > 1)$.

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (2x^3 > 3x^2 > x > 1) = 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} x^3 > 3 \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} x^2 > \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} x > \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (1)$

$$= 2(\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} x)^3 > 3(\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} x)^2 > 3 > 1 \text{ N } 2 \times 3^3 > 3 \times 3^2 > 3 > 1 \text{ N } 23.$$

Some Important Results on Limits

$\text{N } \text{ If } p(x) \text{ is a polynomial, } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} p(x) = p(a).$

$$\text{N } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 < x)^{\frac{1}{x}} = e$$

$$\text{N } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x > 1}{x} = 1$$

$$\text{N } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 < x)^n > 1}{x} = n$$

$$\text{N } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln(1 < x)}{x} = 1$$

$$\text{N } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin^{-1} x}{x} = 1 \text{ N } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan^{-1} x}{x} = 1$$

$$\bullet \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan x}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \cos x = 1$$

(where 'x' is in radians)

$$\bullet \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^x = e$$

$$\bullet \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x - 1}{x} = \ln(a), a \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

$$\bullet \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{x^m - a^m}{x^n - a^n} = \frac{m}{n} a^{m-n}$$

$$\bullet \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log_a(1+x)}{x} = \log_a e, a > 0, \neq 1$$

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0$ then the following results will be holding true :

$$\text{N } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\sin f(x)}{f(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\tan f(x)}{f(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \cos f(x) = 1$$

$$\text{N } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\sin^{-1} f(x)}{f(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\tan^{-1} f(x)}{f(x)} = 1$$

$$\text{N } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{b^{f(x)} > 1}{f(x)} = \ln b (b > 0, \neq 1)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (1 + f(x))^{\frac{1}{f(x)}} = e$$

Frequently Used Series Expansions

Following are some of the frequently used series expansions :

$$\sin x \approx x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots$$

$$\cos x \approx 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots$$

$$\tan x = x + \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{2x^5}{15} + \dots$$

$$e^x \approx 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$$

$$a^x \approx 1 + x \ln a + \frac{(\ln a)^2 x^2}{2!} + \dots, a \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

$$(1+x)^n \approx 1 + nx + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3!}x^3 + \dots, n \in \mathbb{R}, |x| < 1, n \text{ is any real number}$$

$$\ln(1+x) = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \dots, -1 < x \leq 1.$$

Illustration 3. Examine $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{1+\cos x}}{x}$.

Solution : $\sqrt{1+\cos x} \approx \begin{cases} \sqrt{2} \sin \frac{x}{2}, & x > 0 \\ \sqrt{2} \sin \frac{x}{2}, & x < 0 \end{cases}$, Therefore $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sqrt{1+\cos x}}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sqrt{2} \sin \frac{x}{2}}{x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$,
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{\sqrt{1+\cos x}}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{\sqrt{2} \sin \frac{x}{2}}{x} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$; Since, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sqrt{1+\cos x}}{x} \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{\sqrt{1+\cos x}}{x}$,
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{1+\cos x}}{x}$ does not exist.

Illustration 4. Evaluate the following limits, if these exist.

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} |x|^{\sin x}$,

(ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\sin x)^x$

Solution : (i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} |x|^{\sin x} =$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} e^{\ln(|x|) \sin x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} e^{\sin x \ln |x|} = e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln |x|}{\csc x}} = e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1/x}{-\cot x \csc x}} = e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\sin^2 x}{x \cos x}} = e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} -\left(\frac{\sin x}{x}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{x}{\cos x}} = e^0 = 1.$$

(ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\sin x)^x$

Clearly in this case $(\sin x)^x$ is not defined towards the left of $x = 0$.
Hence the given limit will not exist.

Illustration :5. Let $f(x) \approx a_0 x^n < a_1 x^{n+1} < \dots < a_{n-1} x < a_n, a_0 > 0$.

Solution : Then $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^n \left(a^0 + \frac{a_1}{x} + \frac{a_2}{x^2} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{x^n} \right)$

$$N \left(\lim_{x \in \mathbb{C}} x \right)^n (a_0 < 0 < 0 \dots < 0) N \mathbb{C} . \text{ And } \lim_{x \in \mathbb{C}} f(x) N \left(\lim_{x \in \mathbb{C}} x \right)^n \left[\lim_{x \in \mathbb{C}} \left(a^0 < \frac{a_1}{x} < \frac{a_2}{x^2} < \dots < \frac{a_n}{x^n} \right) \right]$$

$$N (>\mathbb{C})^n (a_0 < 0 < \dots < 0) N \begin{cases} \mathbb{C} & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ -\mathbb{C} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Illustration 6. Examine $\lim_{x \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{e^{x^2} > 1}{e^{x^2} < 1}$.

Solution : This is of the form $\frac{\mathbb{C}}{\mathbb{C}} . \lim_{x \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{e^{x^2} > 1}{e^{x^2} < 1} N \lim_{x \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{1 > e^{-x^2}}{1 < e^{-x^2}} N \lim_{x \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{1 > \left(\frac{1}{e}\right)^{x^2}}{1 < \left(\frac{1}{e}\right)^{x^2}} N \frac{1 > 0}{1 < 0} N 1 .$

Illustration 7. Evaluate $\lim_{n \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{1^3 < 2^3 < \dots < n^3}{(n^2 < 1)^2}$

Solution : $\lim_{n \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{1^3 < 2^3 < \dots < n^3}{(n^2 < 1)^2} N \lim_{n \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{n^2 (n < 1)^2}{4(n^2 < 1)^2} N \lim_{n \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{n^4 \left(1 < \frac{2}{n} < \frac{1}{n^2} \right)}{4n^4 \left(1 < \frac{2}{n^2} < \frac{1}{n^4} \right)} N \frac{1}{4} .$

Illustration 8. Evaluate $\lim_{n \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{[x] < [2x] < [3x] < \dots < [nx]}{n^2}$ where $[.]$ denotes the greatest integer function.

Solution : We know that $x > 1 M [x] \frac{1}{2} x \quad \mathbb{C} \quad x < 2x < \dots < nx > n M \sum_{r=1}^n [rx] \frac{1}{2} x < 2x < \dots < nx$

$$\mathbb{C} \quad \frac{x \cdot n(n < 1)}{2} > n M \sum_{r=1}^n [rx] \frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{x \cdot n(n < 1)}{2} \quad \mathbb{C} \quad \frac{x}{2} \left(1 < \frac{1}{n} \right) > \frac{1}{n} M \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{r=1}^n [rx] \frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{x}{2} \left(1 < \frac{1}{n} \right) .$$

$$\text{Now, } \lim_{n \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{x}{2} \left(1 < \frac{1}{n} \right) N \frac{x}{2} \text{ and } \lim_{n \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{x}{2} \left(1 < \frac{1}{n} \right) > \frac{1}{n} N \frac{x}{2}$$

$$\text{Using Sandwich theorem we find that } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{[x] + [2x] + [3x] + \dots + [nx]}{n^2} = \frac{x}{2}$$

Alternative solution :

We know that $[rx] = rx - \{x_r\}$ for $r = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$

$$\text{and } 0 \frac{1}{2} \{x_r\} < 1 \text{ for each } r. \text{ Also } \sum_{r=1}^n [rx] N \sum_{r=1}^n ((rx) > \{x_r\}) N x \sum_{r=1}^n r > \sum_{r=1}^n \{x_r\} N x \frac{n(n < 1)}{2} > k$$

$$\text{where } k < n \text{ (since each } \{x_r\} < 1 \text{). Hence } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{r=1}^n [rx] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{r=1}^n \left[\frac{x}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right) - \frac{k}{n^2} \right] = \frac{x}{2} .$$

Illustration 9. Evaluate the following limits, if these exist. Here $\{x\}$ denotes the fractional part and $[.]$ the greatest integer part.

$$(i) \lim_{x \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{|x|^\alpha}{e^x}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+,$$

$$(ii) \lim_{x \in \mathbb{C}} |x|^{\lfloor \cos x \rfloor}$$

$$(iii) \lim_{x \in \mathbb{C}} \frac{[x] > 3}{(x > 3)}$$

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{|x|^\alpha}{e^x} \neq 0$ as $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} |x|^\alpha \neq 0$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} e^x \neq 1$.

(ii) Since $[\cos x] = 0$ in the neighborhood of $x = 0$, except at $x = 0$,

we are dealing with a form $(\text{finite})^0$. Thus $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} |x|^{[\cos x]} \neq 1$

(iii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{[x] > 3}{x > 3}$. Towards the right of $x = 3$, $[x] = 3$

$\emptyset [x] - 3 = 0$, in the right neighbourhood of $x = 3$

$\emptyset \lim_{x \rightarrow 3+0} \frac{[x] > 3}{x > 3} \neq 0$. Towards the left of $x = 3$, $[x] = 2$

$\emptyset [x] - 3 = -1$, in the left neighbourhood of $x = 3$

$\emptyset \lim_{x \rightarrow 3+0} \frac{[x] > 3}{x > 3} \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 3+0} \frac{>1}{x > 3} \neq \emptyset$. Thus $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{[x] > 3}{x > 3}$ does not exist.

Exercise 1

- (i) Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cos x < \sin x}{x^2}$, (ii) Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\sqrt{x > 2} < \sqrt{x} > \sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{x^2 > 4}}$
- (iii) Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x > 1}{x < 1} \right)^{x < 2}$ (iv) Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2 < x)^{40} (4 < x)^5}{(2 > x)^{45}}$
- (v) If $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{((a > n)nx > \tan x) \sin nx}{x^2} \neq 0$, where n is non zero real number, then find value of 'a'.
- (vi) Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\sin \{x\}}{\{x\}}$, where $\{x\}$ is the fractional part of x .
- (vii) Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow [a]} \frac{e^{\{x\}} - \{x\} - 1}{\{x\}^2}$ where $\{x\}$ denotes the fractional part of x and $[a]$ denotes the integral part of a .

Continuity

A function $f(x)$ is said to be continuous at $x = a$ if $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = f(a)$ i.e. L.H.L. = R.H.L. =

$f(a)$ = value of the function at a i.e. $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$.

If $f(x)$ is not continuous at $x = a$, we say that $f(x)$ is discontinuous at $x = a$.

$f(x)$ will be discontinuous at $x = a$ in any of the following cases:

$\neq \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x)$ exist but are not equal.

$\neq \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x)$ exist and are equal but not equal to $f(a)$.

$\neq f(a)$ is not defined.

\neq At least one of the limits does not exist.

Properties of Continuous Functions

Let $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ be functions, both continuous at $x = a$. Then

- $\forall c, f(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$ where c is any constant.
 $\forall f(x) \in g(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$.
 $\forall f(x) \cdot g(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$.
 $\forall f(x)/g(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$, provided $g(a) \neq 0$.

Continuity in an Interval

$f(x)$ is said to be continuous in an open interval (a, b) if it is continuous at every point in this interval.

$f(x)$ is said to be continuous in the closed interval $[a, b]$ if

$\forall f(x)$ is continuous in (a, b)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = f(a)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow b^-} f(x) = f(b)$$

Function $f(x)$

Constant C

x^n, n is an integer $\neq 0$.

$|x - a|$

x^{-n}, n is a positive integer.

$\dots x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} x + a_n$

$p(x)/q(x)$, $p(x)$ and $q(x)$ are polynomials in x

$\sin x$

$\cos x$

$\tan x$

$\cot x$

$\sec x$

$\operatorname{cosec} x$

e^x

$\ln x$

Interval in which $f(x)$ is continuous.

\mathbb{R}

\mathbb{R}

\mathbb{R}

$\mathbb{R} - \{0\}$

\mathbb{R}

$\mathbb{R} - \{x : q(x) = 0\}$

\mathbb{R}

\mathbb{R}

$\mathbb{R} - \left\{ \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{2} : n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots \right\}$

$\mathbb{R} - \{n\pi : n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots\}$

$\mathbb{R} - \left\{ \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{2} : n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots \right\}$

$\mathbb{R} - \{n\pi : n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots\}$

\mathbb{R}

$(0, \infty)$

Illustration 10. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} \left[\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + x\right) \right]^{\frac{1}{k}}, & x < 0 \\ k, & x = 0 \\ \frac{1}{k}, & x > 0 \end{cases}$

For what value of k is $f(x)$ continuous at $x = 0$?

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + x\right) \right]^{\frac{1}{k}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1 + \tan x}{1 - \tan x} \right)^{\frac{1}{k}}$

$$\left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ (1 + \tan x)^{1/\tan x} \right\}^{\tan x/x} \right] \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ (1 - \tan x)^{-1/\tan x} \right\}^{\tan x/x} \right] = e \times e = e^2$$

Since $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = f(0) = k = e^2$.

Hence $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$ when $k = e^2$.

Illustration 11. Discuss the continuity of $f(x) = \begin{cases} |x| < 1, & x \in (-2, 2) \\ 2x < 3, & -2 \leq x \leq 0 \\ x^2 < 3, & 0 < x < 3 \\ x^3 > 15, & x \geq 3. \end{cases}$

Solution : We rewrite $f(x)$ as $f(x) = \begin{cases} |x| < 1, & x \in (-2, 2) \\ 2x < 3, & -2 \leq x \leq 0 \\ x^2 < 3, & 0 < x < 3 \\ x^3 > 15, & x \geq 3. \end{cases}$

As we can see, $f(x)$ is defined as a polynomial function in each of the intervals $(-2, 2)$, $(-2, 0]$, $(0, 3)$ and $(3, \infty)$. Therefore it is continuous in each of these four intervals. At the point $x = -2$,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} (|x| < 1) = 1, \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} (2x < 3) = -1,$$

Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} f(x)$ does not exist. Thus $f(x)$ is discontinuous at $x = -2$.

At the point $x = 0$. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (x^2 < 3) = 0$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (2x < 3) = 0$, $f(0) = 0$. Therefore $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$.

At the point $x = 3$. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} (x^3 > 15) = 27$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} (x^2 < 3) = 9$. Therefore, $f(x)$ is discontinuous at $x = 3$.

Considering that $\mathbb{R} = (-2, 2) \cup \{-2\} \cup (-2, 0) \cup \{0\} \cup (0, 3) \cup \{3\} \cup (3, \infty)$, we conclude that $f(x)$ is continuous at all points in \mathbb{R} except at $x = -2$.

Illustration 12. Let $f(x)$ be a continuous function and $g(x)$ be a discontinuous function. Prove that $f(x) + g(x)$ is a discontinuous function.

Solution : Suppose that $h(x) = f(x) + g(x)$ is continuous. Then, in view of the fact that $f(x)$ is continuous, $g(x) = h(x) - f(x)$, a difference of continuous functions, is continuous. But this is a contradiction since $g(x)$ is given as a discontinuous function. Hence $h(x) = f(x) + g(x)$ is discontinuous.

Continuity of Composite Functions

If the function $u = f(x)$ is continuous at the point $x = a$, and the function $y = g(u)$ is continuous at the point $u = f(a)$, then the composite function $y = (g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$ is continuous at the point $x = a$.

Illustration 13: Find the points of discontinuity of $y = \frac{1}{u^2 - u + 2}$ where $u = \frac{1}{x - 1}$.

Solution : The function $u = f(x) = \frac{1}{x - 1}$ is discontinuous at the point $x = 1$.

$$\text{The function } y = g(u) = \frac{1}{u^2 - u + 2} = \frac{1}{(u - 2)(u + 1)}$$

is discontinuous at $u = -2$ and $u = 1$. When $u = -2$

$$\frac{1}{x - 1} = -2 \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{-2}; \text{ When } u = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{x - 1} = 1 \Rightarrow x = 2;$$

Hence the composite function $y = g(f(x))$ is discontinuous at $x = 1/2$, $x = 1$ and $x = 2$.

three points

Removable discontinuity

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ exists but is not equal to $f(a)$, then $f(x)$ has removable discontinuity at $x = a$ and it can be removed by redefining $f(x)$ for $x = a$.

Illustration 14. Redefine the function $f(x) = [x] + [-x]$ in such a way that it becomes continuous for $x \in (0, 2)$.

Solution : Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = -1$ but $f(1) = 0$. Hence, $f(x)$ has a removable discontinuity at $x = 1$.

To remove this we define $f(x)$ as follows

$$f(x) = [x] + [-x], \quad x \in (0, 1) \cup (1, 2)$$

$$= -1, \quad x = 1$$

Now, $f(x)$ is continuous for $x \in (0, 2)$.

Non-Removable Discontinuity

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ does not exist, then we can not remove this discontinuity so that this becomes a non-removable or essential discontinuity

e.g. $f(x) = [x + 3]$ has essential discontinuity at any $x \in \mathbb{I}$.

Exercise 2

(i). If $f(x) = \begin{cases} -x, & x < 0 \\ x, & x > 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \end{cases}$ then test the continuity of $f(x)$ at $x = 0$.

(ii). Test the continuity of $f(x)$ where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 + x + 1, & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ x^2 + 2, & 1 < x \leq 2 \end{cases}$$

(iii). If $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^3 + x^2 - 16x + 20}{(x-2)^2}, & x \neq 2 \\ k, & x = 2 \end{cases}$ and if $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 2$, find the value of k .

(iv). A function $f(x)$ is defined as follows

$$f(x) = \frac{\sin x}{x}, \text{ when } x \neq 0$$

$$= 2, \text{ when } x = 0$$

is, $f(x)$ continuous at $x = 0$? If not, redefine it so that it become continuous at $x = 0$.

(v). Determine the values of a, b, c for which the function $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$, where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin(a+1)x + \sin x}{x} & ; x < 0 \\ c & ; x = 0 \\ \frac{(x+bx^2)^{1/2} - x^{1/2}}{bx^{3/2}} & ; x > 0 \end{cases}$$

(vi). If $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1+x, & 0 \leq x \leq 2 \\ 3-x, & 2 < x \leq 3 \end{cases}$ determine the points of discontinuity of the function $g(x) = f(f(x))$.

Differentiability

Let $y=f(x)$ be continuous in (a, b) . Then the derivative or differential coefficient of $f(x)$ w.r.t. x at $x \in (a, b)$, denoted by dy/dx or $f'(x)$, is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x} \quad \dots (1)$$

Provided the limit exists and is finite and the function is said to be differentiable.

To find the derivative of $f(x)$ from the first principle

If we obtain the derivative of $y = f(x)$ using the formula $\frac{dy}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$, we say that we are finding the derivative of $f(x)$ with respect to x from the definition or from the first principle. For example, $y = \cos 2x$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Here } f(x) = \cos 2x \text{ and } \frac{dy}{dx} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos 2(x+h) - \cos 2x}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sin \frac{2(x+h) - 2x}{2} \sin \frac{2x + 2(x+h)}{2}}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 2 \sin(2x+h) \left(\frac{\sin h}{h} \right) = 2 \sin 2x \end{aligned}$$

Right Hand Derivative

Right hand derivative of $f(x)$ at $x = a$ is denoted by, $Rf'(a)$ or $f'(a^+)$ and is defined as

$$Rf'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}, h > 0.$$

Left Hand Derivative

Left hand derivative of $f(x)$ at $x = a$ is denoted by $Lf'(a)$ or $f'(a^-)$ and is defined as

$$Lf'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(a-h) - f(a)}{-h}, h > 0.$$

Clearly, $f(x)$ is differentiable at $x = a$ if and only if $Rf'(a) = Lf'(a)$.

Illustration 15. Show that the function defined by $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x}, & x \neq 0 \\ 0 & x = 0 \end{cases}$ is differentiable for every value of x but the derivative is not continuous at $x = 0$.

Solution : For $x \neq 0$, $f'(x) = 2x \sin \frac{1}{x} - x^2 \left(\frac{1}{x^2} \right) \cos \frac{1}{x} = 2x \sin \frac{1}{x} - \cos \frac{1}{x}$

$$\text{For } x = 0, f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h) - f(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h^2 \sin \frac{1}{h} - 0}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} h \sin \frac{1}{h} = 0; \text{ Thus, } f'(x) = \begin{cases} 2x \sin \frac{1}{x} - \cos \frac{1}{x}, & x \neq 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

$f'(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$ if

- (i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f'(x)$ exists.
- (ii) The value of the limit is $f'(0)$.

Now $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f'(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(2x \sin \frac{1}{x} - \cos \frac{1}{x} \right)$; which does not exist since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \cos \frac{1}{x}$ does not exist. Hence, $f'(x)$ is not continuous at $x = 0$.

Illustration 16. Discuss the continuity and differentiability of the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{|x|(3e^{1/|x|} + 4)}{2 - e^{1/|x|}} & x \neq 0 \\ 0 & x = 0 \end{cases} \text{ at } x = 0.$$

Solution: The given function may be written as $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{-x(3e^{-1/x} + 4)}{2 - e^{-1/x}}, & x < 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \\ \frac{x(3e^{1/x} + 4)}{2 - e^{1/x}}, & x > 0 \end{cases}$

For continuity, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) \stackrel{N}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{x(3e^{1/x} + 4)}{2 - e^{1/x}} \stackrel{>}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{x(3 + 4e^{1/x})}{2e^{1/x} - 1} = 0$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) \stackrel{N}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{x(3e^{1/x} + 4)}{2 - e^{1/x}} \stackrel{<}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{x(3 + 4e^{1/x})}{2e^{1/x} - 1} \stackrel{>}{=} 0$

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = f(0) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$.

For differentiability, $f'(0) \stackrel{N}{=} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(h) - f(0)}{h} \stackrel{>}{=} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h(3e^{1/h} + 4)}{h(2 - e^{1/h})}$
 $= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-(3 + 4e^{1/h})}{2e^{1/h} - 1} = 3$ and $f'_-(0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h(3e^{1/h} + 4)}{h(2 - e^{1/h})} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{(3 + 4e^{-1/h})}{2e^{-1/h} - 1} = -3$

Since $f'_-(0) \neq f'_+(0)$, $f(x)$ is not differentiable at $x = 0$.

Exercise 3

(i) Function $f(x)$ is defined as $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x-1}{2x^2-7x+5}, & x \neq 1 \\ -\frac{1}{3}, & x = 1 \end{cases}$

Is $f(x)$ differentiable at $x = 1$ if yes find $f'(1)$.

(ii) Check the differentiability of the following functions at $x = 0$

(a). $\cos(|x|) + |x|$,

(b). $\sin(|x|) - |x|$.

(iii) If $y = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{1+x^2} + \sqrt{1-x^2}}{\sqrt{1+x^2} - \sqrt{1-x^2}} \right)$, then find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

(iv) If $y = \frac{\ln x}{x}$, then prove that $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{2 \ln x - 3}{x^3}$.

(v) If $y = \sqrt{(a-x)(x-b)} - (a-b) \tan^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{a-x}{x-b}}$, then find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

List of Derivatives of Important Functions

- $\frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = nx^{n-1}$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(x) = 1$
- $\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = -\frac{1}{x^2}$
- $\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{1}{x^n}\right) = -\frac{n}{x^{n+1}}, x > 0$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\sin x) = \cos x$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\cos x) = -\sin x$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\tan x) = \sec^2 x$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\cot x) = -\operatorname{cosec}^2 x$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\sec x) = \sec x \tan x$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\operatorname{cosec} x) = -\operatorname{cosec} x \cot x$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(e^x) = e^x$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\ln|x|) = \frac{1}{x}$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\sin^{-1} x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\cos^{-1} x) = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\tan^{-1} x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\cot^{-1} x) = \frac{-1}{1+x^2}$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\sec^{-1} x) = \frac{1}{|x|\sqrt{x^2-1}}$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\operatorname{cosec}^{-1} x) = \frac{-1}{|x|\sqrt{x^2-1}}$

General Theorems on Differentiation

- $\frac{d}{dx}(c) = 0$
- $\frac{d}{dx}[af(x) + bg(x)] = af'(x) + bg'(x)$
- $\frac{d}{dx}[f(x) \cdot g(x)] = f'(x) \cdot g(x) + f(x) \cdot g'(x)$
- $\frac{d}{dx}\left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right] = \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2}$
- $\frac{d}{dx}[(f(x))^{g(x)}] = (f(x))^{g(x)} \left[\frac{g(x)}{f(x)} f'(x) + g'(x) \ln f(x) \right]$

Chain Rule

If $y = f(u)$ and $u = g(x)$, then $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} = f'(g(x))g'(x)$.

e.g. Let $y = [f(x)]^n$. We put $u = f(x)$, so that $y = u^n$.

Therefore, using chain rule, we get $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} = nu^{n-1} f'(x) = n[f(x)]^{n-1} f'(x)$.

Differentiation of parametrically defined functions

- If x and y are function of parameter t , first find dx/dt and dy/dt separately.
- Then $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}}$.

e.g., $x = a(\theta + \sin \theta)$, $y = a(1 - \cos \theta)$ where θ is a parameter.

$$\frac{dx}{d\theta} = a(1 + \cos \theta), \quad \frac{dy}{d\theta} = a(0 + \sin \theta) = a \sin \theta, \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{d\theta}}{\frac{dx}{d\theta}} = \frac{a \sin \theta}{a(1 + \cos \theta)} = \frac{2 \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cos \frac{\theta}{2}}{2 \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2}} = \tan \frac{\theta}{2}.$$

Higher Order Derivatives

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right), \quad \frac{d^3y}{dx^3} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right)$$

$$\frac{d^n y}{dx^n} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{d^{n-1} y}{dx^{n-1}} \right); \quad \frac{d^n y}{dx^n} \text{ is called the } n^{\text{th}} \text{ order derivative of } y \text{ with respect to } x.$$

Illustration 17. If $y = (\sin^{-1}x)^2 + k \sin^{-1}x$, show that $(1-x^2) \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - x \frac{dy}{dx} = 2$.

Solution : Hence $y = (\sin^{-1}x)^2 + k \sin^{-1}x$.

$$\text{Differentiating both sides with respect to } x, \text{ we have } \frac{dy}{dx} = 2 \frac{\sin^{-1}x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} + \frac{k}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow (1-x^2) \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 = 4y + k^2. \quad \text{Differentiating this with respect to } x, \text{ we get}$$

$$(1-x^2) 2 \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 2x \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 = 4 \frac{dy}{dx} \Rightarrow (1-x^2) \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - x \frac{dy}{dx} = 2$$

Illustration 18. If $y = e^{\sin^2 x}$, find $\frac{d^2x}{dy^2}$, in terms of x .

Solution: Here $y = e^{\sin^2 x}$.

$$\text{Differentiating with respect to } x, \text{ we get } \frac{dy}{dx} = \sin 2x \cdot e^{\sin^2 x}, \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{dy} = \operatorname{cosec} 2x \cdot e^{-\sin^2 x}$$

$$\text{Differentiating with respect to } y, \text{ we get } \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dy} (\operatorname{cosec} 2x \cdot e^{-\sin^2 x}) = \frac{d}{dx} (\operatorname{cosec} 2x \cdot e^{-\sin^2 x}) \frac{dx}{dy}$$

$$= (-2 \operatorname{cosec} 2x \cot 2x e^{-\sin^2 x} - e^{-\sin^2 x}) \operatorname{cosec} 2x \cdot e^{-\sin^2 x}$$

$$= -(2 \operatorname{cosec}^2 2x \cot 2x + \operatorname{cosec} 2x) \cdot e^{-2 \sin^2 x}$$

Exercise 4

(i). If $y = \sqrt{\sin x^2}$, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

(ii). For $y = \sin^3 \sqrt{ax^2 + bx + c}$, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

(iii). If $x \cos y = \sin(x+y)$, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

(iv). If $x = a \cos^2 \theta$, $y = a \sin^2 \theta$, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

L' Hospital's Rule

We have dealt with problems which had indeterminate form either $0/0$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$

The other indeterminate forms are $\infty - \infty$, $0 \cdot \infty$, 0^0 , ∞^0 , 1^∞ .

We state below a rule, called L' Hospital's Rule, meant for problems on limit of the form $0/0$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$. Let $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ be functions differentiable in the neighbourhood of the point a , except may be at the point a itself. If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0 = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$ or, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$ then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$ provided that the limit on the right either exists as a finite number or is $\pm \infty$.

Illustration 19. Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1 - x + \ln x}{1 + \cos \pi x}$.

Solution: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1 - x + \ln x}{1 + \cos \pi x}$ (of the form $0/0$) = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{-1 + \frac{1}{x}}{-\pi \sin \pi x}$ (still of the form $0/0$).

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x - 1}{\pi x \sin \pi x} \text{ (algebraic simplification).}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1}{\pi \sin \pi x + \pi^2 x \cos \pi x} \text{ (L'Hospital's rule again).} = -\frac{1}{\pi^2}.$$

Illustration 20. Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow y} \frac{x^y - y^x}{x^x - y^y}$.

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow y} \frac{x^y - y^x}{x^x - y^y}$; $[0/0] = \lim_{x \rightarrow y} \frac{yx^{y-1} - y^x \log y}{x^x \log x} = \frac{1 - \log y}{\log y}$.

ANSWER TO EXERCISES

Exercise 1:

- (i) 0 (ii) $1/2$ (iii) e^{-2} (iv) -1 (v) $n + \frac{1}{n}$

Exercise 2:

- (i) Continuous at $x = 0$ (ii) $f(x)$ is continuous in $[0, 2]$
 (iii) $k = 7$ (iv) 1
 (v) $a = \frac{-3}{2}, b \in \mathbb{R}, c = \frac{1}{2}$ (vi) 1, 2

Exercise 3:

- (i) $f'(1) = -\frac{2}{9}$ (ii). (a) not differentiable (b). differentiable
 (iii) $\frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^4}}$ (v) $\sqrt{\frac{a-x}{x-b}}$

Exercise 4:

- (i) $\frac{x \cos x^2}{\sqrt{\sin x^2}}$ (ii) $\frac{3 \sin^2 \sqrt{ax^2 + bx + c} \cdot \cos \sqrt{ax^2 + bx + c}}{2\sqrt{ax^2 + bx + c}} (2ax + b)$
 (iii) $\frac{\cos y - \cos(x+y)}{x \sin y + \cos(x+y)}$ (iv) -1

SOLVED SUBJECTIVE PROBLEMS

Problem -1. Let $f(x) = \frac{|x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 6|}{x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 6}$. Find the set of points 'a' where $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ does not exist.

Solution: We write, $f(x) = \left(\frac{|x-1|}{x-1} \right) \left(\frac{|x-2|}{x-2} \right) \left(\frac{|x-3|}{x-3} \right) = \begin{cases} -1, & x < 1 \\ 1, & 1 < x < 2 \\ -1, & 2 < x < 3 \\ 1, & x > 3 \end{cases}$

Therefore the limits exists at all points except at $x = 1, 2, 3$. For example, at $x = 1$.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = -1 \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = 1, \text{ Since } \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x)$$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$ does not exist. Similarly $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ does not exist when $a = 2, 3$.

Problem -2. Find the values of a and b so that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(1 + a \cos x) - b \sin x}{\sin^3 x}$ may be equal to 1.

Solution: We write, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(1 + a \cos x) - b \sin x}{\sin^3 x} = \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(1 + a \cos x) - b \sin x}{x^3} \right] \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x}{\sin x} \right]^3 =$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(1 + a \cos x) - b \sin x}{x^3} \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right), \text{ or}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 + a \cos x - ax \sin x - b \cos x}{3x^2} \quad (\text{Using L' Hospital Rule})$$

The denominator being 0 for $x = 0$, the expression will lead to a finite limit if and only if the numerator is also zero for $x = 0$. This happens when $1 + a - b = 0$ (1)

$$\text{Assuming that (1) is satisfied, we have } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 + (a - b) \cos x - ax \sin x}{3x^2} \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(b - 2a) \sin x - ax \cos x}{6x} \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(b - 3a) \cos x + ax \sin x}{6} = \frac{b - 3a}{6}.$$

$$\text{As Given } \frac{b - 3a}{6} = 1 \Rightarrow b - 3a = 6. \quad \dots (2)$$

$$\text{from (1) and (2), we get, } a = -\frac{5}{2}, b = -\frac{3}{2}.$$

Alternative Solution :

$$\text{We write } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(1 + a \cos x) - b \sin x}{x^3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x \left[1 + a \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^4}{24} - \dots \right) \right] - b \left(x - \frac{x^3}{6} + \dots \right)}{x^3}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(1 + a - b) + x^3 \left(\frac{b}{6} - \frac{a}{2} \right) + \text{terms of order } x^4}{x^3} = 1 \text{ (given)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 + a - b = 0 \text{ and } \frac{b}{6} - \frac{a}{2} = 1 \Rightarrow a = -\frac{5}{2}, b = -\frac{3}{2}$$

Problem-3. Find the following limits

$$(i) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + \sin x)^{\frac{1}{x^2}}$$

$$(ii) \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\cos \alpha)^x - (\sin \alpha)^x - \cos 2\alpha}{(x - 4)}, \alpha \in (0, \pi/2)$$

Solution : (i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + \sin x)^{\frac{1}{x^2}}$ (1^∞ form) $= e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x^2}} = e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x} \left(\frac{\sin x}{x} \right)}$

$$= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{when } x \rightarrow 0 \text{ from left,} \\ \infty, & \text{when } x \rightarrow 0 \text{ from right} \end{cases}$$

Thus the given limit does not exist.

$$(ii) \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\cos \alpha)^x - (\sin \alpha)^x - \cos 2\alpha}{(x - 4)}, \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\cos \alpha)^x - (\sin \alpha)^x - (\cos^2 \alpha - \sin^2 \alpha)(\cos^2 \alpha + \sin^2 \alpha)}{(x - 4)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\cos \alpha)^x - (\sin \alpha)^x - \cos^4 \alpha + \sin^4 \alpha}{(x - 4)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\cos \alpha)^4 - ((\cos \alpha)^{x-4} - 1) - \sin^4 \alpha ((\sin \alpha)^{x-4} - 1)}{(x - 4)}$$

$$= \cos^4 \alpha \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\cos \alpha)^{x-4} - 1}{x - 4} - \sin^4 \alpha \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\sin \alpha)^{x-4} - 1}{x - 4}$$

$$= \cos^4 \alpha \ln(\cos \alpha) - \sin^4 \alpha \ln(\sin \alpha).$$

Problem-4. Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan^{-1} x - \sin^{-1} x}{\sin^3 x}$

Solution: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan^{-1} x - \sin^{-1} x}{\sin^3 x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan^{-1} x - \sin^{-1} x}{x^3 \left(\frac{\sin^3 x}{x^3} \right)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan^{-1} x - \sin^{-1} x}{x^3} =$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan^{-1} x - \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \right)}{x^3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x - \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}}{1 + \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}} \right)}{x^3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x\sqrt{1-x^2} - x}{x^2 + \sqrt{1-x^2}} \right)}{x^3} =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{x\sqrt{1-x^2} - x}{x^2 + \sqrt{1-x^2}} \right) \left(x\sqrt{1-x^2} - x \right)}{x^3 \left(\frac{x\sqrt{1-x^2} - x}{x^2 + \sqrt{1-x^2}} \right) \left(x^2 + \sqrt{1-x^2} \right)} =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2} - 1}{x^2 (x^2 + \sqrt{1-x^2})} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - x^2 - 1}{x^2 (x^2 + \sqrt{1-x^2}) (\sqrt{1-x^2} + 1)} = -\frac{1}{2}.$$

Problem-5. If $f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{[x^2] + [(2x)^2] + \dots + [(nx)^2]}{n^3}$, then prove that $f(x)$ is always continuous.

(Here $[.]$ denotes the greatest integer function)

Solution : We have $[x^2] + [(2x)^2] + \dots + [(nx)^2] = x^2 + (2x)^2 + \dots + (nx)^2 = \{x^2\} + \{(2x)^2\} + \dots + \{(nx)^2\}$

$$= \frac{x^2(n(n+1)(2n+1))}{6} - (\{x^2\} + \{(2x)^2\} + \dots + \{(nx)^2\}).$$

$$\text{Now } f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x^2 \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6n^3} - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\{x^2\} + \{(2x)^2\} + \dots + \{(nx)^2\})}{n^3}$$

$$= \frac{x^2}{3} - 0 = \frac{x^2}{3} \text{ as } 0 \leq \{x^2\} + \{(2x)^2\} + \dots + \{(nx)^2\} < n, \text{ and } \frac{x^2}{3} \text{ is continuous every where.}$$

Problem-6. Evaluate a, b, c and d, if $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{x^4 + ax^3 + 3x^2 + bx + 2} - \sqrt{x^4 + 2x^3 - cx^2 + 3x - d}) = 4$

Solution: Given that $4 = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{x^4 + ax^3 + 3x^2 + bx + 2} - \sqrt{x^4 + 2x^3 - cx^2 + 3x - d})$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(a-2)x^3 + (3+c)x^2 + (b-3)x + 2 + d}{\sqrt{x^4 + ax^3 + 3x^2 + bx + 2} + \sqrt{x^4 + 2x^3 - cx^2 + 3x - d}}$$

Since the limit is finite, the degree of the numerator must be at the most 2 $\Rightarrow a-2 = 0$ i.e., $a = 2$.

$$\text{Hence } 4 = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(3+c) + \frac{b-3}{x} + \frac{2+d}{x^2}}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{a}{x} + \frac{3}{x^2} + \frac{b}{x^3} + \frac{2}{x^4}} + \sqrt{1 + \frac{2}{x} - \frac{c}{x^2} + \frac{3}{x^3} - \frac{d}{x^4}}} = \frac{3+c}{2}$$

Therefore $c = 5$. Hence $a = 2$, $c = 5$ and b, d are any real numbers.

Problem-7. Let $f(x+y) = f(x) + f(y)$ for all x and y . If the function $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$, show that $f(x)$ is continuous for all x .

Solution: We are given that $f(x+y) = f(x) + f(y)$; for all x and y .

Since $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$, we have $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = f(0)$.

To show that $f(x)$ is continuous at any point a , we shall prove that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$

or, $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a+h) = f(a)$.

Indeed, $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a+h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [f(a) + f(h)] = f(a) + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(h) = f(a) + f(0) = f(a+0) = f(a)$.

Problem-8. Given the function $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-1}$, find the points of discontinuity of the composite function $y = f[f(f(x))]$.

Solution : We know that $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-1}$ is discontinuous at $x = 1$.

For, $x \neq 1$, $f\{f(x)\} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x-1} - 1} = \frac{x-1}{2-x}$ is discontinuous at $x = 2$.

For $x \neq 1$, and $2, f[f(f(x))] = \frac{1}{\frac{x-1}{2-x} - 1} = \frac{2-x}{2x-3}$ which is discontinuous at $x = \frac{3}{2}$

Hence the points of discontinuity are $x = 1, \frac{3}{2}$ and $x = 2$.

Problem-9. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} (1 + |\tan x|)^{a/|\tan x|}, & -\frac{\pi}{4} < x < 0 \\ b, & x = 0 \\ e^{\cot 2x/\cot 3x}, & 0 < x < \frac{\pi}{4} \end{cases}$.

Determine a and b such that f is continuous at $x = 0$.

Solution : f(x) is continuous at $x = 0$ when

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = f(0) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x). \quad \dots (1)$$

$$\text{Now, } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (1 + |\tan x|)^{a/|\tan x|} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (1 - \tan x)^{\frac{-a}{|\tan x|}} = e^a$$

$$\text{and } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} e^{\cot 2x/\cot 3x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} e^{(3/2)\left(\frac{2x}{\tan 2x}\right)\left(\frac{\tan 3x}{3x}\right)} = e^{3/2}$$

$$\text{Thus (1) becomes } e^a = b = e^{3/2} \Rightarrow a = 3/2, b = e^{3/2}$$

Problem -10 Find the points of discontinuity (if any) of the function $f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log(2 + x^2) - x^{2n} \sin x}{1 + x^{2n}}$.

Solution : Using the result $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x^{2n} = \begin{cases} 1 & x = \pm 1 \\ 0 & -1 < x < 1 \\ \infty & |x| > 1 \end{cases}$. We can rewrite f(x) as follows :

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{\log(2 + x^2)}{x^{2n}} - \sin x}{\frac{1}{x^{2n}} + 1}, & |x| > 1 \\ \frac{\log(2 + x^2)}{2}, & -1 < x < 1 \\ \frac{\log(2 + x^2) - \sin x}{2}, & x = \pm 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow f(x) = \begin{cases} -\sin x, & x < -1 \\ \frac{\log 3 + \sin 1}{2}, & x = -1 \\ \frac{\log(2 + x^2)}{2}, & -1 < x < 1 \\ \frac{\log 3 - \sin 1}{2}, & x = 1 \\ -\sin x, & x > 1 \end{cases}$$

At $x = \pm 1$, LHL \neq RHL $\Rightarrow f(x)$ is discontinuous at $x = \pm 1$.

Problem-11. A function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies the equation $f(x+y) = f(x)f(y)$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}, f(x) \neq 0$.

Suppose that the function is differentiable at $x = 0$ and $f'(0) = 2$.

Prove that $f'(x) = 2f(x)$.

Solution : We are given that

$$f(x+y) = f(x)f(y) \quad \dots (1)$$

$$\text{and } f'(0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h) - f(0)}{h} = 2. \quad \dots (2)$$

$$\text{Now } f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x+0)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x)f(h) - f(x)f(0)}{h}, \quad \text{by (1)}$$

$$= f(x) \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h) - f(0)}{h} = 2f(x) \quad \text{by (2)}$$

Problem-12 Find the set of points where $f(x) = x^2|x|$ is thrice differentiable.

Solution : $f(x) = \begin{cases} -x^3, & x < 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \\ x^3, & x > 0 \end{cases}$. This gives $f'(x) = \begin{cases} -3x^2, & x < 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \\ 3x^2, & x > 0 \end{cases}$

So that $f'(x)$ exists for all real x . $f''(x) = \begin{cases} -6x, & x < 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \\ 6x, & x > 0 \end{cases}$

$\Rightarrow f''(x)$ exists for all real x . $f'''(x) = \begin{cases} -6, & x < 0 \\ 6, & x > 0 \end{cases}$. However, $f'''(0)$ does not exist, since

$f'''(0) = -6$ and $f'''_+(0) = 6$, which are not equal.

Thus $f'''(x)$ exists for all real x except for $x = 0$.

Hence, the set of points where $f(x)$ is thrice differentiable, is $\mathbb{R} - \{0\}$.

Problem -13. Differentiate $\tan^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{1+x} - \sqrt{1-x}}{\sqrt{1+x} + \sqrt{1-x}}$ with respect to $\cot^{-1} \frac{2x}{1-x^2}$

Solution: Let $y = \tan^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{1+x} - \sqrt{1-x}}{\sqrt{1+x} + \sqrt{1-x}}$ (1)

and, $u = \cot^{-1} \frac{2x}{1-x^2}$ (2)

We have to find $\frac{dy}{dx}$. In (1) put $x = \cos \theta$. We have, $y = \tan^{-1} \frac{\cos \frac{\theta}{2} - \sin \frac{\theta}{2}}{\cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \sin \frac{\theta}{2}}$

$= \tan^{-1} \frac{1 - \tan \frac{\theta}{2}}{1 + \tan \frac{\theta}{2}} = \tan^{-1} \left\{ \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\theta}{2} \right) \right\} = \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \cos^{-1} x$.

This gives, $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1-x^2}}$. In (2), put $x = \tan \phi$, then $u = \cot^{-1} \frac{2 \tan \phi}{1 - \tan^2 \phi} = \cot^{-1} \{ \tan 2\phi \}$

$= \cot^{-1} \left\{ \cot \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - 2\phi \right) \right\} = \frac{\pi}{2} - 2\phi = \frac{\pi}{2} - 2 \tan^{-1} x$.

This given $\frac{du}{dx} = -\frac{2}{1+x^2}$. Hence, $\frac{dy}{du} = \frac{dy}{dx} \frac{dx}{du} = -\frac{1+x^2}{4\sqrt{1-x^2}}$.

Problem-14. Let $f(x) = \cos x$ and $g(x) = \begin{cases} \min.f(t); & 0 \leq t \leq x \\ \sin x - 1, & x > \pi \end{cases}$

Discuss the continuity of $g(x)$.

Solution : Since $\cos x$ is a decreasing function in $[0, \pi]$, the minimum of $f(x)$ in $[0, x]$ will be at x , for any $x \in [0, \pi]$. So that $\min. f(t) (0 \leq t \leq x) = f(x) \forall x \in [0, \pi]$.

Hence $g(x)$ can be rewritten as $g(x) = \begin{cases} \cos x, & 0 \leq x \leq \pi \\ \sin x - 1, & x > \pi \end{cases}$

$$\text{LHL} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} g(\pi - h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \cos(\pi - h) = -\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \cos h = -1.$$

$$\text{RHL} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} g(\pi + h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (\sin(\pi + h) - 1) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (-\sin h - 1) = -1. \quad \Rightarrow \text{LHL} = \text{RHL}$$

so that $g(x)$ is continuous for all x in $[0, \infty)$.

Problem-15. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} -4, & -4 \leq x < 0 \\ x^2 - 4, & 0 \leq x \leq 4 \end{cases}$

Discuss the continuity and differentiability of $g(x) = f(|x|) + |f(x)|$.

Solution : $-4 \leq x \leq 4 \Rightarrow 0 \leq |x| \leq 4 \Rightarrow |f(x)| = \begin{cases} |-4| & -4 \leq x < 0 \\ |x^2 - 4| & 0 \leq x \leq 4 \end{cases}$

$$\text{i.e. } |f(x)| = \begin{cases} 4 & -4 \leq x < 0 \\ 4 - x^2 & 0 \leq x < 2 \\ x^2 - 4 & 2 \leq x \leq 4 \end{cases} \quad \text{and } f(|x|) = x^2 - 4, \quad -4 \leq x \leq 4$$

$$\Rightarrow g(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & -4 \leq x < 0 \\ 0 & 0 \leq x < 2 \\ 2x^2 - 8 & 2 \leq x \leq 4 \end{cases}$$

At $x = 0$, $g(x)$ is continuous as well as differentiable.

At $x = 2$, $g(x)$ is continuous but not differentiable.

SOLVED OBJECTIVE PROBLEMS

Problem1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{x-5}{|x-5|}$ equals to
 (a) 2 (b) 0 (c) -2 (d) none of these

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5^+} \frac{x-5}{|x-5|} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 5^+} 1 = 1$,
 because for values to the right of 5, $x-5 > 0$, so $|x-5| = (x-5)$.
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5^-} \frac{x-5}{|x-5|} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 5^-} -1 = -1$,
 because for values to the left of 5, $x-5 < 0$, so $|x-5| = -(x-5)$.
 $\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{x-5}{|x-5|}$ doesn't exist. Hence (D) is the correct answer.

Problem2. If $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin[x]}{[x]} & \text{for } [x] \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{for } [x] = 0 \end{cases}$, where $[x]$ denotes the greatest integer less than or equal to x , then $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ equals to
 (a) 1 (b) 0 (c) -1 (d) none of these

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{\sin[x]}{[x]} = \frac{\sin(-1)}{(-1)} = \sin 1$
 and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = 0$ as it is given that $f(x) = 0$ for $[x] = 0$, or $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ doesn't exist.
 Hence (d) is the correct answer.

Problem3. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right)}{2 \cos x - 1}$ is equal to
 (a) $\frac{1}{2}$ (b) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ (c) $\sqrt{3}$ (d) $\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right)}{2 \cos x - 1}$ (form 0/0) By L, Hospital's rule

$$\frac{-\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right)}{-2 \sin x} = \frac{-\cos 0}{-2 \sin \frac{\pi}{3}} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}.$$

Alternative solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right)}{2 \cos x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{2 \sin \frac{\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right)}{2} \cos \frac{\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right)}{2}}{2 \left(\cos x - \cos \frac{\pi}{3} \right)}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right) \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right)}{2 \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right) \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3} + x\right)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right)}{2 \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3} + x\right)} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

Hence (B) is the correct answer.

Problem 4. The number of points at which the function $f(x) = \frac{1}{\log|x|}$ is discontinuous is

- (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4

Solution : The function $\log|x|$ is not defined at $x = 0$, so, $x = 0$ is a point of discontinuity

Also, for $f(x)$ to be defined, $\log|x| \neq 0$ that is $x \neq \pm 1$.

Hence, 1 and -1 are also points of discontinuity.

Clearly $f(x)$ is continuous for $x \in \mathbb{R} - \{0, 1, -1\}$.

Thus, there are three points of discontinuity.

Hence (C) is the correct answer.

Problem5. The set of all points where the function $f(x) = x|x|$ is differentiable is

- (a) $(-\infty, \infty)$ (b) $(-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$ (c) $(0, \infty)$ (d) $[0, \infty)$

Solution : $f(x) = x|x| = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x^2 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$, $f'(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & \text{if } x > 0 \\ -2x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$

$f(x)$ is differentiable for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ except possibly at $x = 0$.

But $f'(0^+) = f'(0^-) = 0$.

Hence f is differentiable every where.

Hence (A) is the correct answer.

Problem6. Let $f(x) = [\tan^2 x]$, where $[.]$ denotes the greatest integer function, Then

- (A) $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ doesn't exist (b) $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$
(c) $f(x)$ is not differentiable at $x = 0$ (d) $f'(0) = 1$

Solution : $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [\tan^2(0 + h)] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [\tan^2(0 - h)] = [\tan^2 0] = 0$

$\Rightarrow f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$.

Since $f(x) = 0$ in the neighbourhood of 0, $f'(0) = 0$

Hence (b) is the correct answer.

Problem 7: If $f(x) = |x-25|$ and $g(x) = f(f(x))$ then for $x > 50$, $g'(x)$ is equal to

- (a) 0 (b) 1 (c) 25 (d) none of these

Solution : $g(x) = f(f(x)) = f(|x-25|) = ||x-25|-25|$

and for $x > 50$, $g(x) = |x - 25 - 25| = |x - 50| = x - 50 \Rightarrow g'(x) = 1$.

Hence (b) is the correct answer.

Problem 8. In order that the function $f(x) = (x+1)^{\cot x}$ is continuous at $x = 0$, $f(0)$ must be defined as

- (a) 0 (b) e (c) $1/e$ (d) none of these

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (x+1)^{\cot x}$ (1^∞ form)

or $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} [(1+x)^{1/x}]^{x/\tan x} = e^1 \Rightarrow f(0) = e$. Hence (b) is the correct answer.

Problem 9 If $f(x) = x(\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{x+1})$, then

- (a) $R f'(0)$ exists but $L f'(0)$ does not exist
- (b) $L f'(0)$ exists but $R f'(0)$ does not exist
- (c) $f(x)$ is differentiable at $x = 0$.
- (d) none of these

Solution : Since domain of $f(x)$ is $[0, \infty)$, $L f'(0^-)$ does not exist.
Hence (a) is the correct answer.

Problem 10. If $f(x) = \frac{\sin(2\pi[\pi^2 x])}{5 + [x]^2}$ ($[.]$ denotes the greatest integer function), then $f(x)$ is

- (a) discontinuous at some x .
- (b) continuous at all x , but the derivative $f'(x)$ doesn't exist for some x .
- (c) $f'(x)$ exists for all x , but $f''(x)$ doesn't exist some x .
- (d) $f''(x)$ exist for all x .

Solution : Since $[\pi^2 x]$ is an integer whatever be the value of x and so $2\pi[\pi^2 x]$ is an integral multiple of π .

Thus, $\sin(2\pi[\pi^2 x]) = 0$ and $5 + [x]^2 \neq 0$ for all x .

Hence $f(x) = 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Thus, $f(x)$ is a constant function and so it is continuous and differentiable any number of times for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Hence (d) is the correct answer.

Problem : 11 The function $f(x) = \frac{\log(1+ax) - \log(1-bx)}{x}$ is not defined at $x = 0$. The value which should be assigned to f at $x = 0$, so that it is continuous at $x = 0$ is

- (a) $a - b$
- (b) $a + b$
- (c) $\log a + \log b$
- (d) none of these

Solution : $f(x) = a \left[\frac{\log(1+ax)}{ax} \right] + b \left[\frac{\log(1-bx)}{-bx} \right]$

so that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = a.1 + b.1 = a + b = f(0)$.

$$\left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(1+x)}{x} = 1 \right]$$

Hence (b) is the correct answer.

Alternative Solution :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a - abx + b + abx}{(1+ax)(1-bx)} = a + b \text{ (by L'Hospital's Rule)} \Rightarrow f(0) = a+b, \text{ if } f \text{ is continuous.}$$

Problem 12. The number of points at which the function $f(x) = \frac{1}{x - [x]}$ ($[.]$ denotes, the greatest integer function) is not continuous is

- (a) 1
- (b) 2
- (c) 3
- (d) none of these

Solution : $x - [x] = 0$ when x is an integer,
so that, $f(x)$ is discontinuous for all $x \in \mathbb{I}$. i.e. $f(x)$ is discontinuous at infinite number of points. Hence (d) is the correct answer.

Problem 13. If $f(x) = [x \sin \pi x]$, (where $[.]$ denotes the greatest integer function) then $f(x)$ is

- (a) continuous in $(-1, 1)$ (b) differentiable at $x = -1$
(c) differentiable at $x = 1$ (d) none of these

Solution : By the definition of $[x]$, it is obvious that $f(x) = [x \sin \pi x] = 0$ when $-1 \leq x \leq 1$ and $f(x) = [x \sin \pi x] = -1$ when $1 < x < 1 + h$, (h small).

Thus $f(x)$ is constant and equal to 0 in $[-1, 1]$ and hence $f(x)$ is continuous and differentiable in $(-1, 1)$.

At $x = 1$, clearly $f(x)$ is discontinuous since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = -1$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = 0$.

Hence (a) is the correct answer.

Problem 14. For $m, n \in \mathbb{I}$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x^n}{(\sin x)^m}$ is equal to

- (a) 1, if $n < m$ (b) 0, if $n > m$ (c) n/m (d) none of these

Solution : Writing the given expression in the form $\left(\frac{\sin x^n}{x^n}\right) \left(\frac{x^n}{x^m}\right) \left(\frac{x}{\sin x}\right)^m$ and noting that the

$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta} = 1$, we see that the required limit equals to 1 if $n = m$, and 0 if $n > m$.

Hence (b) is correct answer.

Problem 15. The function f defined by $f(x) = \frac{\sin x^2}{x}$ for $x \neq 0$
 $= 0$ for $x = 0$ is

- (a) continuous and derivable at $x = 0$
(b) neither continuous nor derivable at $x = 0$
(c) continuous but not derivable at $x = 0$
(d) none of these

Solution : The function is continuous at $x = 0$, because

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x^2}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sin x^2}{x^2} \right) \cdot x = 0 = f(0).$$

$$\text{Also, } Rf'(0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{\sin h^2}{h} - 0}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin h^2}{h^2} = 1$$

$$\text{and } Lf'(0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0-h) - f(0)}{-h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{\sin h^2}{h} - 0}{-h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin h^2}{h^2} = 1$$

so that, $f(x)$ is derivable at $x = 0$. Hence (a) is the correct answer.

Problem 16. If $f(x) = \begin{cases} x \sin \frac{1}{x} & \text{for } x \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{for } x = 0 \end{cases}$. Then

- (a) $f'(0^+)$ and $f'(0^-)$ do not exist (b) $f'(0^+)$ exists but $f'(0^-)$ does not exist
(c) $f'(0^+) = f'(0^-)$ (d) none of these

Solution : As for the derivative $f'(0)$ we have,

$f(0^+) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h \sin \frac{1}{h} - 0}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sin \frac{1}{h}$ which doesn't exist. Similarly, the limit $f'(0^-)$ doesn't exist. Hence (a) is the correct answer.

Problem 17 The function $f(x) = |x^3|$ is
 (a) differentiable everywhere (b) continuous but not differentiable at $x = 0$
 (c) not a continuous function (d) none of these

Solution: The range of the function x^3 is $(-\infty, \infty)$, and the range of $f(x)$ is $[0, \infty)$, f is clearly differentiable except possibly at the point $x = 0$.
 Now, clearly by definition $Rf'(0) = Lf'(0) = 0$
 so that, f is differentiable at $x = 0$ and hence every where.
 Hence (a) is the correct answer.

Alternative Solution : Here $f(x) = \begin{cases} -x^3, & x < 0 \\ x^3, & x > 0, \end{cases}$ so that $f'(x) = \begin{cases} -3x^2, & x < 0 \\ 3x^2, & x > 0, \end{cases}$
 \Rightarrow the function is differentiable everywhere including $x = 0$.

Problem 18. $\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1+x^2}{2x}\right)$ is

- (a) Continuous but not differentiable at $x = 1$ (b) Differentiable at $x = 1$
 (c) Neither continuous nor differentiable at $x = 1$ (d) continuous every where

Solution : $\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1+x^2}{2x}\right)$ is defined only for $x = -1$ and $x = 1$. Hence (c) is the correct answer.

Problem 19. The number of points where $f(x) = [\sin x + \cos x]$ (where $[.]$ denotes the greatest integer function), $x \in (0, 2\pi)$ is not continuous is
 (a) 3 (b) 4 (c) 5 (d) 6

Solution : $f(x)$ will be discontinuous at those points, where $\sin x + \cos x$ is an integer, which is the case for $x \in \left\{\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{4}, \pi, \frac{5\pi}{4}, \frac{3\pi}{2}\right\}$. Thus $f(x)$ is discontinuous exactly for five values of x . Hence (c) is correct answer.

Problem 20 If $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + ax + bx^2)^{2/x} = e^3$, then

- (a) $a = 3, b = 0$ (b) $a = \frac{3}{2}, b \neq 1$ (c) $a = 3/2, b = 4$ (d) $a = 2, b = 3$.

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + ax + bx^2)^{2/x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + ax + bx^2)^{\frac{1}{ax+bx^2} \cdot \frac{2(ax+bx^2)}{x}}$
 $= e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2(ax+bx^2)}{x}} = e^3 \Rightarrow a = \frac{3}{2}, b \text{ any real number}$

Hence (c) is the correct answer.

SUBJECTIVE ASSIGNMENTS

LEVEL - I

1. Determine the following limits :

$$(i) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\alpha + x) - \sin(\alpha - x)}{\cos(\alpha + x) - \cos(\alpha - x)}$$

$$(ii) \lim_{\alpha \rightarrow \pi/4} \frac{\sin \alpha - \cos \alpha}{\alpha - \frac{\pi}{4}}$$

$$(iii) \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (1 - x) \tan \frac{\pi x}{2}$$

$$(iv) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x(e^{1/x} - 1)$$

$$(v) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n}}{1 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots + \frac{1}{3^n}}$$

$$(vi) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1 + \tan x}{1 + \sin x} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sin x}}$$

$$(vii) \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{(1 - \sin x)^2}{\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x \right)^2}$$

$$(viii) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(m+2)x - \cos mx}{\cos(m+4)x - \cos(m+2)x}$$

$$(ix) \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} \frac{x - [x]}{x - 3}$$

$$(x) \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{|x^3 - x|}{x - x^3}$$

$$(xi) \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4} + \log x\right) \right]^{\frac{1}{\log x}}$$

$$(xii) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 \cdot n^2 + 2(n-1)^2 + 3(n-2)^2 + \dots + n \cdot 1^2}{1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3}$$

$$(xiii) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{1 \cdot 4} + \frac{1}{4 \cdot 7} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3n-2)(3n+1)} \right)$$

$$(xiv) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{3^x + 4^x}{2} \right)^{2/x}$$

$$(xv) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1^x + 2^x + 3^x + \dots + n^x}{n} \right)^{a/x}$$

2. Find the set of points where the following functions are discontinuous

$$(i) f(x) = \tan 2x \quad (ii) f(x) = \{3x\} \quad (iii) f(x) = \frac{x}{\sin x} \quad (iv) f(x) = \tan[\pi^2]x - \tan[-\pi^2]x$$

$$(v) f(x) = \frac{1}{1 - e^{\frac{x-1}{x-2}}} \quad (vi) f(x) = \frac{3 \sin^2 x + \cos^2 x + 1}{2 \cos^2 x - 1}$$

where $[.]$ denotes the greatest integer function and $\{.\}$ denotes the fractional part.

3. Discuss the continuity of the following functions.

$$(i) f(x) = \frac{|x^2 - 1|}{x + 1}$$

$$(ii) f(x) = \frac{|x|}{x}(x^2 - 1)$$

$$(iii) f(x) = [[x]] - [x - 1]$$

$$(iv) f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{1 + \sqrt{x}} - 1}$$

4. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin ax^2}{x^2}, & x \neq 0 \\ \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4a}, & x = 0 \end{cases}$. For what value of a is $f(x)$ continuous at $x = 0$?

5. (i) Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - 4}{x + 2} & , x < -3 \\ \ln a & , x = -3 \\ a + bx & , x > -3 \end{cases}$. For what value of a and b is f(x) continuous on the real line ?

(ii). Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} ax + 1 & , x < 1 \\ 3 & , x = 1 \\ bx^2 + 1 & , x > 1 \end{cases}$. For what values of a and b is f(x) continuous at x = 1.

6. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} |x^2 + 5x + 6| & , x \neq -2, -3 \\ 1 & , x = -2, -3 \end{cases}$. Find $f'(-2)$ if it exists.

7. Find the constants a and b such that

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x^2 + 1}{x + 1} - ax - b \right) = 0$

(ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sqrt{x^2 - x + 1} - ax - b \right) = 0$

8. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} e^{x^2 + x} & , x < 0 \\ ax + b & , x \geq 0 \end{cases}$. Find a and b so that f(x) is continuous and has a derivative at x = 0.

9. If $x = e^t \sin t$, $y = e^t \cos t$, show that $\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{2 \left(x \frac{dy}{dx} - y \right)}{(x + y)^2} = \frac{-2(x^2 + y^2)}{(x + y)^3}$.

10. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} x e^{-\left(\frac{1}{|x|} + \frac{1}{x} \right)} & , x \neq 0 \\ 0 & , x = 0 \end{cases}$. Discuss the continuity and differentiability at x = 0

Answers

1. (i) $-\cot \alpha$ (ii) $\sqrt{2}$ (iii) $\frac{2}{\pi}$ (iv) 1 (v) $\frac{4}{3}$
 (vi) 1 (vii) 0 (viii) $\frac{m+1}{m+3}$ (ix) $-\infty$
 (x) limit does not exist (xi) e^2 (xii) $\frac{1}{3}$ (xiii) $\frac{1}{3}$ (xiv) 12
 (xv) $(n!)^{a/n}$
2. (i) $\left\{ (2n+1)\frac{\pi}{4} : n \text{ any integer} \right\}$ (ii) $x = \frac{1}{3}$, is an integer (iii) $x = n\pi, n \in \mathbb{I}$ (iv) $\frac{(2n+1)\pi}{18}, \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{20}, n \in \mathbb{I}$
 (v) Discontinuous at $x = 1, 2$ (vi) Discontinuous at $x = n\pi \pm \frac{\pi}{4}, n \in \mathbb{I}$
3. (i) Continuous in $\mathbb{R} - \{-1\}$ (ii) Continuous in $\mathbb{R} - \{0\}$
 (iii) Continuous in \mathbb{R} (iv) Continuous in $(0, \infty)$
4. $a = -\frac{1}{4}, 1$ 5. (i) $a = e^{-5}, b = \frac{1}{3}(5 + e^{-5})$ (ii) $a = b = 2$
6. Does not exist -1/2 7. (i) $a = 1, b = -1$ (ii) $a = 1, b =$
8. $a = 1, b = 1$
10. Continuous but not differentiable at $x = 0$

LEVEL - II

1. A function $f(x)$ is defined as $f(x) = \begin{cases} \cos^2 x, & 0 < x \leq \frac{\pi}{3} \\ ax + b, & \frac{\pi}{3} < x < \frac{\pi}{2} \end{cases}$.

Determine the values of a and b so that $f(x)$ is continuous and has a continuous derivative at $x = \frac{\pi}{3}$.

2. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^4 + x^2 - x + 1, & x \leq 1 \\ 2x^3 - x^2 + x, & x > 1 \end{cases}$. Show that $f(x)$ is continuous and possesses a continuous first derivative at $x = 1$ but that second derivative does not exist at this point.

3. If $f(x) = \begin{cases} \min(x, x^2), & x \geq 0 \\ \min(2x, x^2 - 1), & x < 0 \end{cases}$, then find the number of non-differentiable points of $f(x)$.

4. Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(\sin x) - \cos x}{x^4}$.

5. If $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin[x^2]\pi}{x^2 - 3x - 18} + ax^3 + b, & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 2\cos \pi x + \tan^{-1} x, & 1 < x \leq 2 \end{cases}$, where $[.]$ denotes the greatest integer function, is differentiable in $[0, 2]$, then find the value of ' a ' and ' b '.

6. If $y = \log_2[\log_3(\log_5(\sin x + c))]$, find the range of c for which $\frac{dy}{dx}$ exists and hence find it.

7. If $f(x) = (1+x)^n$, show that $f(0) + \frac{f'(0)}{1!} + \frac{f''(0)}{2!} + \dots + \frac{f^n(0)}{n!} = 2^n$.

8. (i) Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x + 1, & x \leq -1 \\ 3x^2 - 4, & -1 < x \leq 1 \\ x - 2, & 1 < x < 3 \\ 4x^2 + 5, & 3 \leq x < 4 \\ x^3 + 5, & x \geq 4 \end{cases}$, Discuss the continuity of $f(x)$ on the real line.

- (ii). Find the values of a and b so that the function $f(x) = \begin{cases} x + a\sqrt{2} \sin x, & 0 \leq x < \frac{\pi}{4} \\ 2x \cot x + b, & \frac{\pi}{4} \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \\ a \cos 2x - b \sin x, & \frac{\pi}{2} < x \leq \pi \end{cases}$ is continuous for $0 \leq x \leq \pi$.

9. If $y = 1 + \frac{C_1}{x - C_1} + \frac{C_2 x}{(x - C_1)(x - C_2)} + \frac{C_3 x^2}{(x - C_1)(x - C_2)(x - C_3)}$, show that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{x} \left[\frac{C_1}{C_1 - x} + \frac{C_2}{C_2 - x} + \frac{C_3}{C_3 - x} \right].$$

10. If $f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & x < 1 \\ 2 - x, & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$ discuss the differentiability of $f \circ f(x)$.

ANSWERS

1. $A = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$, $B = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{3}}$ 3. 3 4. $1/6$ 5. $a = \frac{1}{6}$, $b = \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{13}{6}$

6. $c \in (6, \infty)$, $dy/dx = (\log_3 \log_5 (\sin x + c))^{-1} (\log_5 (\sin x + c))^{-1} (\log_2 e) (\log_3 e) (\log_5 e) \frac{\cos x}{\sin x + c}$

8. (i) Continuous in $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{3\}$ (ii). $a = \frac{\pi}{6}$, $b = -\frac{\pi}{12}$

10. $f \circ f(x)$ is differentiable $\forall x$, except at $x = 1$.

LEVEL - III

1. (i) Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq |x - y|^n$ where $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n > 1$.
Prove that $f(x)$ is a constant function.
(ii) Let f be an even function and let $f'(0)$ exist. Then find $f'(0)$.
2. Discuss the continuity and differentiability of $f(x) = \min(|x|, |x-1|, 2-|x-1|)$.
3. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} [x], & -2 \leq x \leq -\frac{1}{2} \\ 2x^2 - 1, & -\frac{1}{2} < x \leq 2 \end{cases}$ and $g(x) = f(|x|) + |f(x)|$. Check the continuity and differentiability of $g(x)$ in $(-2, 2)$.
4. Let $f(x) = x(1 - x^2)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $g(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{|x|}{x}, & x \neq 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \end{cases}$. Discuss the continuity and differentiability of $f(g(x))$ and $g(f(x))$.
5. Let $f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) = \frac{f(x)+f(y)}{2}$ for all real x and y . If $f'(0)$ exists and equals -1 and $f(0) = 1$, find $f(2)$.
6. Draw the graph of the following function and discuss its continuity and differentiability at $x = 1$.
1. $y = \begin{cases} 3^x, & -1 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 4 - x, & 1 \leq x \leq 4 \end{cases}$
7. Discuss the continuity and differentiability of the function $y = f(x)$ defined parametrically as $x = 2t - |t - 1|$, $y = 2t^2 + t$ $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}$.
8. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function satisfying $\frac{f(x) + 2f(y)}{3} = f\left(\frac{x+2y}{3}\right) \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and $f'(0) = 1$. Find $f(x)$.
9. Suppose $p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n$. If $|p(x)| \leq |e^{x-1} - 1|$ for all $x \geq 0$, prove that $|a_1 + 2a_2 + \dots + na_n| \leq 1$.
10. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} x+a & \text{if } x < 0 \\ |x-1| & \text{if } x \geq 0, \end{cases}$ and $g(x) = \begin{cases} x+1 & \text{if } x < 0 \\ (x-1)^2 + b & \text{if } x \geq 0, \end{cases}$ where a and b are nonnegative real numbers. Determine the composite function $g \circ f$. If $(g \circ f)(x)$ is continuous for all real x , determine the values of a and b . Further, for these values of a and b , is $g \circ f(x)$ differentiable at $x = 0$? Justify your answer.

ANSWERS

1. (ii) 0
2. continuous for every $x \in \mathbb{R}$, not differentiable at $x = -\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, 2$.
3. $g(x)$ is not continuous at $x = -1, -\frac{1}{2}$ and not differentiable at $x = -1, -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$
4. $f(g(x))$ is continuous and differentiable everywhere, $g(f(x))$ is discontinuous and non-differentiable at $x = 0, \pm 1$.
5. -1
6. Cont. but not diff. at $x = 1$.
7. $f(x)$ is continuous for all x and differentiable for all x except $x = 2$
8. $f(x) = x + c$
10. $g(f(x)) = \begin{cases} x + a + 1, & x < -a \\ (x + a - 1)^2 + b, & -a \leq x < 0 \\ x^2 + b, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ (x - 2)^2 + b, & x \geq 1 \end{cases} \quad a = 1, b = 0, g(f(x)) \text{ is differentiable.}$

JEE EXPERT

OBJECTIVE ASSIGNMENTS**LEVEL - I**

1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{x^2}$ is equal to
(A) $3/4$ (B) $1/4$ (C) $1/2$ (D) 1
2. If $f(x) = \sqrt{\frac{x - \sin x}{x + \cos^2 x}}$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$ is
(A) 0 (B) ∞ (C) 1 (D) none of these
3. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}}{2x + 1}$ is equal to
(A) 1 (B) 0 (C) -1 (D) $1/2$
4. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} \frac{\sqrt{2} \cos x - 1}{\cot x - 1}$ is equal to
(A) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ (B) $\frac{1}{2}$ (C) $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}$ (D) 1
5. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x}{\tan^{-1} 2x}$ is equal to
(A) 0 (B) $1/2$ (C) 1 (D) ∞
6. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 - \cos 2x) \sin 5x}{x^2 \sin 3x}$ is equal to
(A) $10/3$ (B) $3/10$ (C) $6/5$ (D) $5/6$
7. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{1}{1-n^2} + \frac{2}{1-n^2} + \dots + \frac{n}{1-n^2} \right]$ is equal to
(A) 0 (B) $-1/2$ (C) $1/2$ (D) none of these
8. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{1 - \cos 2x}}{2x}$ is equal to
(A) 1 (B) -1 (C) 0 (D) none of these
9. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^{\frac{1}{x}}$ equals
(A) 0 (B) 1 (C) e (D) ∞
10. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (-1)^{[x]}$, where $[x]$ is the greatest integer function, is equal to
(A) 1 (B) -1 (C) ± 1 (D) none of these

11. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x+3}{x-1} \right)^{x+3}$ is given by
(A) 1 (B) e^3 (C) e (D) e^4
12. The value of $f(0)$ so that the function $f(x) = \frac{2x - \sin^{-1} x}{2x + \tan^{-1} x}$, is continuous at each point in its domain, is equal to
(A) 2 (B) $1/3$ (C) $2/3$ (D) $-1/3$
13. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} x+1 & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ 3-ax^2 & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$. The value of a for which $f(x)$ is continuous is
(A) 1 (B) 2 (C) -1 (D) -2
14. Which of the following functions have finite number of points of discontinuity?
(A) $\tan x$ (B) $x[x]$ (C) $\frac{|x|}{x}$ (D) $\sin [n\pi x]$
15. The function $f(x) = [x]^2 - [x^2]$ (where $[.]$ denotes the greatest integer function) is discontinuous at
(A) all integers (B) all integers except 0 and 1
(C) all integers except 1 (D) all integers except 0

ANSWER

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 2. C | 3. D | 4. B | 5. B |
| 6. A | 7. B | 8. D | 9. B | 10. D |
| 11. D | 12. B | 13. A | 14. C | 15. C |

LEVEL - II

1. Let $f(x+y) = f(x) \cdot f(y)$, for all x and y . If $f(5) = 2$ and $f'(0) = 3$, then $f'(5)$ is equal to
(A) 5 (B) 6 (C) 0 (D) none of these
2. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} ([x] + |x|)$, (where $[.]$ denotes the greatest integer function)
(A) is 0 (B) is 1 (C) does not exist (D) none of these
3. Number of points at which $f(x) = |x^2 + x| + |x - 1|$ is non-differentiable is
(A) 0 (B) 1 (C) 2 (D) 3
4. Let $f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^{2n} - 1}{x^{2n} + 1}$, then
(A) $f(x) = 1$ for $|x| > 1$ (B) $f(x) = -1$ for $|x| < 1$
(C) $f(x)$ is not defined for any value of x (D) $f(x) = 1$ for $|x| = 1$.
5. If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(an - \frac{1+n^2}{1+n} \right) = b$, a finite number, then
(A) $a = 1, b = 1$ (B) $a = 1, b = 0$ (C) $a = -1, b = 1$ (D) none of these
6. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} \frac{\sqrt{\pi} - \sqrt{\cos^{-1} x}}{\sqrt{x+1}}$ is equal to
(A) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}}$ (B) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$ (C) 1 (D) 0
7. If $[x]$ denotes the greatest integer less than or equal to x , then the value of $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (1-x+[x-1] + [1-x])$ is
(A) 0 (B) 1 (C) -1 (D) none of these
8. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin^{-1} x - \tan^{-1} x}{x^2}$ is equal to
(A) $1/2$ (B) $-1/2$ (C) 0 (D) none of these
9. Let $h(x) = \min \{x, x^2\}$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$, then $h(x)$ is
(A) differentiable everywhere (B) non-differentiable at three values of x
(C) non-differentiable at two values of x (D) none of these
10. If $f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sin x)^{2n}$, then f is
(A) continuous at $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ (B) discontinuous at $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$
(C) discontinuous at $x = \pi$ (D) none of these
11. If $f(x) = x, x \leq 1$ and $f(x) = x^2 + bx + c (x > 1)$ and $f'(x)$ exists finitely for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, then
(A) $b = -1, c \in \mathbb{R}$ (B) $c = 1, b \in \mathbb{R}$ (C) $b = 1, c = -1$ (D) $b = -1, c = 1$

12. If the function $f(x) = \begin{cases} Ax - B, & x \leq 1 \\ 3x, & 1 < x < 2 \\ Bx^2, & x \geq 2 \end{cases}$ be continuous at $x = 1$ and discontinuous at $x = 2$, then
 (A) $A = 3 + B, B \neq 3$ (B) $a = 3 + B, B = 3$ (C) $A = 3 + B$ (D) none of these
13. If $f(x) = \begin{cases} ax^2 + b, & x \leq 1 \\ bx^2 + ax + c, & x > 1 \end{cases}$ $b \neq 0$, then $f(x)$ is continuous and differentiable at $x = 1$ if
 (A) $c = 0, a = 2b$ (B) $a = b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ (C) $a = b, c = 0$ (D) $a = b, c \neq 0$.
14. If $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^3, & x > 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \\ -x^3, & x < 0 \end{cases}$, then
 (A) f is derivable at $x = 0$ (B) f is continuous, but not derivable at $x = 0$
 (C) LHD at $x = 0$ is 1 (D) none of these
15. Let $f''(x)$ be continuous at $x = 0$ and $f''(0) = 4$. Then $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2f(x) - 3f(2x) + f(4x)}{x^2}$ is equal to
 (A) 11 (B) 2 (C) 12 (D) none of these

ANSWER

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|
| 1. B | 2. C | 3. D | 4. A, B | 5. A |
| 6. B | 7. C | 8. C | 9. C | 10. B |
| 11. D | 12. A | 13. A | 14. A | 15. C |

DO YOURSELF

1. If α is a repeated root of $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $\lim_{x \rightarrow \alpha} \frac{\sin(ax^2 + bx + c)}{(x - \alpha)^2}$ is
 (a) 0 (b) a (c) b (d) c
2. Let $a = \min \{x^2 + 2x + 3, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ and $b = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos r}{r^2}$. Then the value of $\sum_{r=0}^n a^r \cdot b^{n-r}$ is.
 (a) $\frac{2^{n+1} - 1}{3 \cdot 2^n}$ (b) $\frac{2^{n+1} + 1}{3 \cdot 2^n}$ (c) $\frac{4^{n+1} - 1}{3 \cdot 2^n}$ (d) $\frac{4^{n+1} + 1}{3 \cdot 2^n}$
3. At the point $x = 1$, the function $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^3 - 1; & 1 < x < \infty \\ x - 1; & -\infty < x \leq 1 \end{cases}$
 (a) continuous and differentiable (b) continuous and not differentiable
 (c) discontinuous and differentiable (d) discontinuous and not differentiable
4. Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{|x|} & ; |x| \geq 1 \\ ax^2 + b & ; |x| < 1 \end{cases}$ be continuous and differentiable everywhere. Then a and b are
 (a) $-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}$ (b) $\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{3}{2}$ (c) $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}$ (d) none of these
5. Let $f(x) = \max \{4, 1 + x^2, x^2 - 1\} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$. Total number of points, where $f(x)$ is non-differentiable, is equal to
 (a) 2 (b) 4 (c) 6 (d) none of these
6. The function $f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin \frac{x}{2}, & x < 1 \\ [2x - 3]x, & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$, where $[.]$ denotes the greatest integer function, is
 (a) continuous and differentiable at $x = 1$ (b) continuous but not differentiable at $x = 1$
 (c) discontinuous at $x = 1$ (d) none of these
7. If $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{(1 - \sin^3 x)}{3 \cos^3 x} & ; x < \frac{\pi}{2} \\ a & ; x = \frac{\pi}{2} \\ \frac{b(1 - \sin x)}{(-2x)^2} & ; x > \frac{\pi}{2} \end{cases}$ is continuous at $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$. Then (a, b) is
 (a) $\left(\frac{1}{2}, 4\right)$ (b) $\left(1, \frac{1}{4}\right)$ (c) $\left(2, \frac{1}{4}\right)$ (d) none of these

1. B 2. C 3. B 4. A 5. A 6. C 7. A
