

Counterexamples in Calculus

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1. A bounded sequence need not be convergent.

Example: $a_n := (-1)^n$.

2. A continuous function need not have the intermediate value property.

Example: $f : (0, 1) \cup (2, 3) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by $f(x) := x$.

3. The inverse of a differentiable function need not be continuous.

Example: $f : [0, 1] \cup (2, 3] \rightarrow [0, 2]$ given by

$$f(x) := \begin{cases} x & x \in [0, 1] \\ x - 1 & x \in (2, 3] \end{cases}$$

Corollaries: The inverse of a continuous function need not be continuous. The inverse of a differentiable function need not be differentiable.

4. A function defined on an interval with the intermediate value property need not be continuous *anywhere*.

Example: Conway Base 13 function.

5. A Riemann integrable function may have infinitely many discontinuities.

Example: Thomae's functions.

6. A differentiable function with derivative zero everywhere need not be constant.

Example: $f : (0, 1) \cup (2, 3) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined as

$$f(x) := \begin{cases} 1 & x \in (0, 1) \\ -1 & x \in (2, 3) \end{cases}$$