

Homework problems

9. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^2 + 6x + 5}{x^2 - 3x - 4}$

Scratch paper

plug -1 in : $\frac{(-1)^2 + 6(-1) + 5}{(-1)^2 + 3 - 4} = \frac{0}{0}$ (indeterminate)

we will simplify it before plugging $x = -1$ in

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^2 + 6x + 5}{x^2 - 3x - 4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{(x+1)(x+5)}{(x+1)(x-4)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x+5}{x-4} = \frac{-1+5}{-1-4} = \frac{4}{-5}$$

1.5. Continuity.

Example: Given $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-1}$

Q. Is $f(x)$ continuous at $x = 2$?

Let check the 3 conditions

① Does $f(2)$ exist? Yes: $f(2) = \frac{1}{2-1} = 1 \checkmark$

② Does $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ exist? Yes: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = \frac{1}{2-1} = 1 \checkmark$

③ Is $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = f(2)$? Yes, they both equal 1

✓

Because all 3 conditions are satisfied, $f(x)$ is cont.

at $x = 2$.

5. Find values of x , if any, at which f is not continuous.

The function is continuous at any point except $x = 1$ b/c

the first condition is not satisfied at $x = 1$ or $f(1)$

DNE.

Example: (HW problems)

11-22 Find values of x , if any, at which f is not continuous.

11. $f(x) = 5x^4 - 3x + 7$ **12.** $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x - 8}$

There is no values of x at which $f(x)$ is not cont.

13. $f(x) = \frac{x + 2}{x^2 + 4}$

✓

cont. everywhere

14. $f(x) = \frac{x + 2}{x^2 - 4}$

↓

not cont. at $x = 2, x = -2$

Result: 1. If $f(x)$ is a polynomial, it is cont. everywhere.

2. If $f(x)$ is a rational function (ratio of 2 polynomials) then $f(x)$ is cont. at values of x in the domain of $f(x)$.

OR: If $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$ then $f(x)$ is not cont.

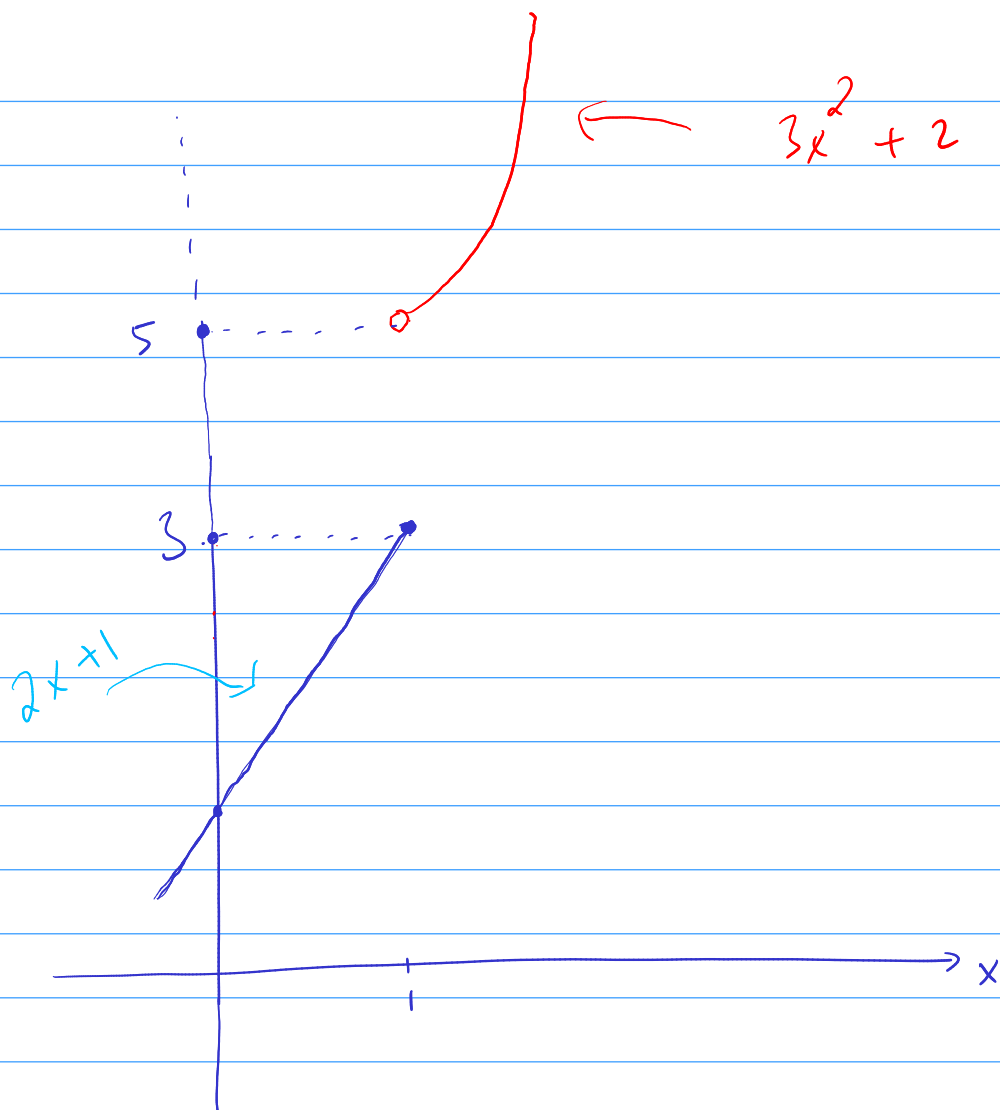
at x where $q(x) = 0$ and cont. everywhere else.

Example: At which points, $f(x)$ is not cont.?

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x + 1, & x \leq 1 \\ 3x^2 + 2, & x > 1 \end{cases}$$

notice that $f(x)$ exists everywhere so the 1st condition is always satisfied for any value of x .

Is there anywhere the limit DNE? (2nd condition)



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = 2 \cdot 1 + 1 = 3$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = 3(1)^2 + 2 = 5$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) \text{ DNE. } \Rightarrow f(x) \text{ is not cont. at } x=1.$$

Find value of x where $f(x)$ is not cont.

①

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 1}{x^2 - 9}$$

②

$$f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+1}$$