第1.4节: 函数的连续性(Continuity of functions)

- 一、内容提要(contents)
 - ①函数在一点连续的定义: 函数 f(x) 在点 $x = x_0$ 处连续当且仅当 $\lim_{x \to x_0} f(x) = f(x_0)$ 。
 - ②函数 f(x) 在点 $x = x_0$ 处连续的三个条件:
 - (1) 函数 f(x) 在点 $x = x_0$ 处有定义,即 $f(x_0)$ 存在;
 - (2) 函数 f(x) 在点 $x = x_0$ 处有极限,即 $\lim_{x \to x_0} f(x)$ 存在,而 $\lim_{x \to x_0} f(x)$ 存在当且仅当 左极限 $\lim_{x \to x_0^-} f(x)$ 和右极限 $\lim_{x \to x_0^+} f(x)$ 分别存在且相等。
 - (3) $\lim_{x \to x_0} f(x) = f(x_0)$
 - ③函数 f(x) 的间断点(discontinuity)的类型:

第一类间断点(First class discontinuity): 点 $x = x_0$ 为函数 f(x) 的间断点,且左极限 $\lim_{x \to x_0^+} f(x)$ 与右极限 $\lim_{x \to x_0^+} f(x)$ 均存在。

当左极限 $\lim_{x\to x_0^+} f(x)$ 与右极限 $\lim_{x\to x_0^+} f(x)$ 不等时,点 $x=x_0$ 称为函数 f(x) 跳跃间断点(jump discontinuity); 当左极限 $\lim_{x\to x_0^-} f(x)$ 与右极限 $\lim_{x\to x_0^+} f(x)$ 相等时,点 $x=x_0$ 称为函数 f(x) 可去间断点(removable discontinuity)。

第二类间断点(Second class discontinuity)点 $x = x_0$ 为函数 f(x) 的间断点,且左极限 $\lim_{x \to x_0^-} f(x)$ 与右极限 $\lim_{x \to x_0^+} f(x)$ 至少有一个不存在。

若左极限 $\lim_{x\to x_0^-} f(x)$ 与右极限 $\lim_{x\to x_0^+} f(x)$ 有一个是趋于无穷大的,则点 $x=x_0$ 称为函数 f(x) 无穷间断点(infinite discontinuity); 若左极限 $\lim_{x\to x_0^-} f(x)$ 与右极限 $\lim_{x\to x_0^+} f(x)$ 中至少有一个不存在但是也不趋于无穷大,则称点 $x=x_0$ 为函数 f(x) 震荡间断点(the shock discontinuity)。

- ④连续函数做四则运算还连续。注意,除法要求分母上的函数值不为零。
- ⑤反函数的连续性定理(the continuity of inverse function): 一个严格单调的连续函数的反函数还是连续函数。
- ⑥复合函数的连续性定理 (The continuity of a composite function) :如果 f(x) 在 x = b 处连续,即 $\lim_{x \to b} f(x) = f(b)$,而 g(x) 在 x = a 有极限,且 $\lim_{x \to a} g(x) = b$,则

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(g(x)) = f(b) = f(\lim_{x \to a} g(x)) \circ$$

因此,如果 g(x) 在 x = a 处连续,且 f(u) 在 g(a) 处连续,则复合函数 $f \circ g(x) = f(g(x))$ 在 x = a 处连续。此定理简单表述为两个连续函数的复合函数还连续。

⑦初等函数的连续性定理(the continuity of elementary functions):初等函数在其定义区间内每一点均连续。

二、习题解答 (answers)

Exercise 1.4

1. Show that
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin x, & x \le \frac{\pi}{4} \\ \cos x, & x > \frac{\pi}{4} \end{cases}$$
 is continuous on $(-\infty, +\infty)$.

Proof. The fact that $f(x) = \sin x$ is continuous on the interval $(-\infty, \frac{\pi}{4})$, whereas

 $f(x) = \cos x$ is continuous on the interval $(\frac{\pi}{4}, +\infty)$ is based on the continuity of the Basic elementary functions. And

$$\lim_{x \to \frac{\pi}{4}^{-}} f(x) = \lim_{x \to \frac{\pi}{4}^{-}} \sin x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad \lim_{x \to \frac{\pi}{4}^{+}} f(x) = \lim_{x \to \frac{\pi}{4}^{+}} \cos x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \text{ So}$$

$$\lim_{x \to \frac{\pi}{4}} f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = f(\frac{\pi}{4}), \text{ which means that } f(x) \text{ is continuous at } x = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

In summary,
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin x, & x \le \frac{\pi}{4} \\ \cos x, & x > \frac{\pi}{4} \end{cases}$$
 is continuous on $(-\infty, +\infty)$.

2. For what value of the constant c, is the function of the following is continuous on

$$(-\infty,+\infty)$$
, where $f(x) = \begin{cases} cx+1, & x \le 3\\ cx^2-3, & x > 3 \end{cases}$.

Solution. It is obvious that f(x) is continuous on $(-\infty,3)$ and $(3,+\infty)$. We need

Only to make f(x) continue at point x = 3, that is,

Both
$$\lim_{x \to 3^{-}} f(x) = \lim_{x \to 3^{-}} cx + 1 = 3c + 1 = f(3)$$
 and

$$\lim_{x \to 3^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \to 3^+} cx^2 - 3 = 9c - 3 = f(3) \text{ hold.}$$

By solving the equation 3c+1=9c-3, we have $c=\frac{2}{3}$.

3. Use continuity to evaluate the limits.

(1).
$$\lim_{x\to 4} \frac{5+\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x+5}} = \frac{5+\sqrt{4}}{\sqrt{4+5}} = \frac{7}{3}$$
, Because $x=4$ lies in the

domain of the given function, and the given function is an elementary function, which is continuous at any point in an interval of the domain.

(2).
$$\lim_{x \to 1} e^{x^3 - x} = e^{1^3 - 1} = e^0 = 1$$

(3).

$$\lim_{x \to 2} \arctan \frac{x^2 - 4}{3x^2 - 6x} = \lim_{x \to 2} \arctan \frac{(x - 2)(x + 2)}{3x(x - 2)}$$
$$= \lim_{x \to 2} \arctan \frac{(x + 2)}{3x}$$
$$= \arctan \frac{(2 + 2)}{3 \cdot 2}$$
$$= \arctan \frac{2}{3}$$

(4).

$$\lim_{x \to \frac{\pi}{2}} \sin(x + \sin x) = \sin(\frac{\pi}{2} + \sin\frac{\pi}{2}) = \sin(\frac{\pi}{2} + 1) = \cos 1$$