

Summary of Calculus I

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1 Limits

- **Tangent:** A tangent line is a line that touches a curve, and has the same slope as the curve at the point of contact.
- **Average rate of change:** The average rate of change of a function $f(x)$ between $x = a$ and $x = b$ is

$$\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}.$$

- **Limit:** Let f be a function defined on some open interval that contains a but not necessarily at a itself. Then we say the limit of $f(x)$ as x approaches a is L and we write

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

if for every number $\epsilon > 0$ there is a number $\delta > 0$ such that if

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta \text{ then } |f(x) - L| < \epsilon.$$

- **Left-hand limit:**

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L,$$

if for every number $\epsilon > 0$ there is a number $\delta > 0$ such that if

$$a - \delta < x < a \text{ then } |f(x) - L| < \epsilon.$$

- **Right-hand limit:**

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

if for every number $\epsilon > 0$ there is a number $\delta > 0$ such that if

$$a < x < a + \delta \text{ then } |f(x) - L| < \epsilon.$$

- **Theorem 1:**

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L \text{ if and only if } \lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L.$$

- **Infinite limits:** Let f be a function defined on some open interval that contains a but not necessarily at a itself. Then

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

means that for every positive number M there is a positive number δ such that if

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta \text{ then } f(x) > M.$$

Let f be a function defined on some open interval that contains a but not necessarily at a itself. Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = -\infty$$

means that for every negative number N there is a positive number δ such that if

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta \text{ then } f(x) < N.$$

- **Vertical asymptote:** The line $x = a$ is called a vertical asymptote of the curve $y = f(x)$ if at least one of the following is true:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty, & \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = -\infty, \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = \infty, & \lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = -\infty, \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = \infty, \text{ or } & \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = -\infty. \end{array}$$

- **Limit laws:** Suppose that c is a constant and that the limits

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$$

exist. Then:

1. **Sum law** $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) + g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) + \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$
2. **Difference law** $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) - g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) - \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$
3. **Constant multiple law** $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [cf(x)] = c \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$
4. **Product law** $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$
5. **Quotient law** $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)}$ if $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \neq 0$
6. **Power law** $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)]^n = \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \right]^n$ where n is a positive integer
7. $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} c = c$
8. $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x = a$
9. $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x^n = a^n$ where n is a positive integer

10. $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{x} = \sqrt[n]{a}$ where n is a positive integer and if n is even then we assume that $a > 0$
11. **Root law** $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{f(x)} = \sqrt[n]{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}$ where n is a positive integer and if n is even then we assume that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) > 0$

- **Direct substitution property:** If f is a polynomial or a rational function and a is in the domain of f , then

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

Such functions are called continuous at a .

- **Theorem 2:** If $f(x) \leq g(x)$ when x is near a (except possibly at a) and the limits of both f and g exist as x approaches a then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \leq \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x).$$

- **Theorem 3:** The squeeze theorem. If $f(x) \leq g(x) \leq h(x)$ when x is near a (except possibly at a) and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} h(x) = L$$

then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = L.$$

- **Continuous function:** A function f is said to be continuous at a if $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$.
 - A function f is continuous from the right at a number a if $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = f(a)$.
 - A function f is continuous from the left at a number a if $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = f(a)$.
 - A function f is said to be continuous on an interval if it is continuous at every number in the interval.
- **Theorem 4:** If f and g are continuous at a and c is a constant, then the following functions are also continuous at a :
 - 1.1. $f + g$,
 - 1.2. $f - g$,
 - 1.3. cf ,
 - 1.4. fg , and
 - 1.5. $\frac{f}{g}$ if $g(a) \neq 0$.
- **Theorem 5:**
 - (a) Any polynomial is continuous everywhere, that is, it is continuous on $\mathbb{R} = (-\infty, \infty)$.

(b) Any rational function is continuous wherever it is defined; that is, it is continuous on its domain.

- **Lemma 6:** $\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \cos(\theta) = 1$ and $\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \sin(\theta) = 0$.
- **Theorem 7:** Polynomials, rational functions, root functions, and trigonometric functions are all continuous at every number in their domains.
- **Theorem 8:** If f is continuous at b and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = b$ then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(g(x)) = f(b)$. Equivalently $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(g(x)) = f\left(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)\right)$.
- **Theorem 9:** If g is continuous at a and f is continuous at $g(a)$ then the composite function $f \circ g$ given by $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$ is continuous at a .
- **Theorem 10:** The intermediate value theorem. Suppose that f is continuous on the closed interval $[a, b]$ and let N be any number between $f(a)$ and $f(b)$, where $f(a) \neq f(b)$. Then there exists a number c in (a, b) such that $f(c) = N$.

2 Differentiation

- **Tangent line:** The tangent line to the curve $y = f(x)$ at the point $P(a, f(a))$ is the line through P with the slope

$$m = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}$$

provided that this limit exists. Equivalently

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a + h) - f(a)}{h}.$$

- **Derivative:** The derivative of a function f at a number a , denoted by $f'(a)$ is

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

if this limit exists.

- **Instantaneous velocity:** If $f(t)$ represents position as a function of time then the derivative $f'(a)$ is the instantaneous velocity of $y = f(t)$ with respect to t when $t = a$.
- **Instantaneous rate of change:** The derivative $f'(a)$ is the instantaneous rate of change of $y = f(x)$ with respect to x when $x = a$.
- **Derivative as a function:** The derivative of a function $f(x)$,

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

can be regarded as a new function called the derivative of f . Other notations for the derivative of $y = f(x)$ with respect to x are

$$f'(x) = y' = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{df}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx}f(x) = Df(x) = D_x f(x).$$

- **Differentiable:** A function f is differentiable at a if $f'(a)$ exists. It is differentiable on an open interval (a, b) if it is differentiable at every number in the interval.
- **Theorem 1:** If f is differentiable at a then it is continuous at a .
- **Higher derivatives:** The derivative of a derivative is called the second derivative, denoted by $(f')' = f''$ or

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

In general the n th derivative, where n is a positive integer, is written as $f^n(x)$ or $\frac{d^n y}{dx^n}$.

- **Differentiation formulas:** If c is a constant and n is a real number then:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}(c) &= 0, \text{ and} \\ \frac{d}{dx}(x^n) &= nx^{n-1}, \\ \frac{d}{dx}\sin(x) &= \cos(x), \\ \frac{d}{dx}\cos(x) &= -\sin(x).\end{aligned}$$

- **Differentiation rules:** If c is a constant and f and g are differentiable functions then:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}[cf(x)] &= cf'(x) && \text{the constant multiple rule,} \\ \frac{d}{dx}[f(x) + g(x)] &= f'(x) + g'(x) && \text{the sum rule,} \\ \frac{d}{dx}[f(x) - g(x)] &= f'(x) - g'(x) && \text{the difference rule,} \\ \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)g(x)] &= g(x)f'(x) + f(x)g'(x) && \text{the product rule,} \\ \frac{d}{dx}\left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right] &= \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{g^2(x)} && \text{the quotient rule, and} \\ \frac{d}{dx}[f(g(x))] &= f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) && \text{the chain rule.}\end{aligned}$$