

Tutorial 3 (Limits & Continuity)

(You should practise writing proper steps.)

A) Limits

1. Evaluate the following limits:

$$(a) \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (-x^2 + x - 2) \quad (b) \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} 2(x-3)(x-5) \quad (c) \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 - 2}{x - 1} \quad (d) \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{2x^2 - x - 3}{x + 1}$$

$$(e) \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x^2 + x - 12}{2x - 6} \quad (f) \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^3 + 1}{x + 1} \quad [Do you know how to factorise $x^3 + 1$?]$$

$$(g) \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\sqrt{x} - 1}{x - 1} \quad (h) \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\sqrt{x} - 1}{x - 1}$$

$$(i) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{3+x} - \sqrt{3}}{x} \quad [The expression $\sqrt{3+x} + \sqrt{3}$ may be useful.]$$

$$(j) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2+x} - \frac{1}{2} \quad [Simplify the expression first.] \quad (k) \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \left[\frac{x^2 - 9}{x - 3} - \frac{x^2 - 1}{x + 1} \right]$$

$$(l) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan x}{x} \quad [Hint: $\tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$] \quad (m) \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{|x-1|}{x-1} \quad (n) \lim_{x \rightarrow 2.5} \lfloor x \rfloor$$

2. (a) Given that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x}{\sin x} = L$, what is the value of L ?

(b) Evaluate the following limits:

$$(i) \lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin u}{u} \quad (ii) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 3x}{x} \quad (iii) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x^3}{x^3}$$

$$(iv) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2x(x+1)}{\sin 3x} \quad [The expression $\frac{3x}{\sin 3x}$ may be useful.] \quad (v) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^3 \sin \frac{1}{x^3}$$

3. (a) Determine $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \lceil x \rceil$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} \lceil x \rceil$. Does $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \lceil x \rceil$ exist? Why?(b) Determine $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} \frac{|x-2|}{x-2}$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{|x-2|}{x-2}$. Does $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{|x-2|}{x-2}$ exist? Why? Undefined, both undefined4. (a) Given that $1 - \frac{x^2}{4} \leq f(x) \leq 1 + \frac{x^2}{2}$ for all $x \neq 0$, find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$.

[Which theorem do you use?]

(b) Prove that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \cos \frac{1}{x} = 0$. [Try to sandwich $x \cos \frac{1}{x}$

between two appropriate expressions.]

(c) Given that $3x - 5 \leq f(x) \leq x^2 - 3x + 4$ for $x \geq 0$, find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x)$ (d) Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^4 \sin \frac{1}{x^3}$.

5. Determine whether the limit exists by considering the corresponding one-sided limits. Give the value of the limit if it exists.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(a)} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x), f(x) &= \begin{cases} \frac{x+2}{2}, & x < 2 \\ \frac{12-2x}{3}, & x \geq 2 \end{cases} & \text{(c)} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x), f(x) &= \begin{cases} 3-x, & x < 2 \\ 2, & x = 2 \\ \frac{x}{2}, & x > 2 \end{cases} \\
 \text{(b)} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x), f(x) &= \begin{cases} 3x-2, & x < 2 \\ \frac{6}{x}+1, & x \geq 2 \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

For each of the above, is f continuous at 2? c

6. Determine the value of each of the following limits if it exists. If it does not exist, explain why.

(x-2)(x+2) : 4
 -(x-2)(x+2) : -4
 DNE, not same

$$\text{(a)} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{|x^2 - 4|}{x - 2} \quad \text{Hint: Use } |x^2 - 4| = \begin{cases} -(x-2)(x+2), & \text{if } x < 2 \\ (x-2)(x+2), & \text{if } x \geq 2 \end{cases} \text{ or try another way.}$$

$$\text{(b)} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \left\lfloor \frac{x+1}{2} \right\rfloor \quad \text{[What are the values of } \left\lfloor \frac{x+1}{2} \right\rfloor \text{ for values of } x \text{ near 2, say for } 1 < x < 3 \text{?]}$$

B) Continuity

1. Determine whether the following functions are continuous at $x = 3$.

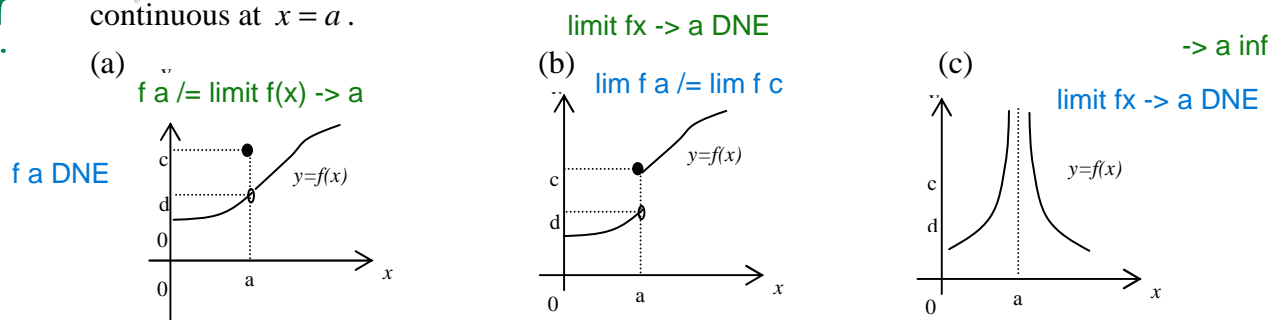
$$\text{(a)} \quad f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x^2 - 4 & (x > 3) \\ x + 11 & (x \leq 3) \end{cases} \quad \text{Yes}$$

$$\text{(b)} \quad f(x) = \frac{2x}{3x^2 - 9x} \quad \text{No}$$

$$\text{(c)} \quad f(x) = \begin{cases} 3x - 2 & x < 2 \\ \frac{6}{x} + 1 & x \geq 2 \end{cases} \quad \text{No}$$

2.
 ?

For each of the functions graphed below, explain why the function is not continuous at $x = a$.



3. (a) If you look at the graph of $y = \tan x$, where are the points of discontinuity?

$$x = n\pi/2 \quad (2n+1)\pi/2, n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$(2n+1)\pi/6 + 2/3$$

Find the discontinuities of $f(x) = \tan(3x - 2)$.

(b) Determine the discontinuities, if any, of the following function.

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

$0^- = 1$
 $0^+ = 1$
 $1^- = 1$
 $1^+ = 2$
 discontinuous at $x > 1$, limit $x \rightarrow 1$ DNE

4. Evaluate each of the following limits by observing that each expression involved is a composition of continuous functions.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pi} \cos(x + \sin x)$ (b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} e^{x^2-1}$ e^3

-1

5. At what points are the functions continuous?

(a) $f(x) = \frac{x+1}{x^2-3x+2}$ (b) $g(x) = \begin{cases} 3-x & \text{if } x < 3 \\ 2x+1 & \text{if } x \geq 3 \end{cases}$

$x \neq 2, 1, \text{ and } 3$

6. (a) Explain why $g(x) = \begin{cases} 3-x & \text{if } x < 3 \\ 2x+1 & \text{if } x \geq 3 \end{cases}$ is a continuous function on the interval $(0,3)$ but not a continuous function on the interval $[0,3]$

(b) Explain why $g(x) = \frac{x}{x-2}$ is not a continuous function on the interval $[0,3]$

7. (a) State the intermediate value theorem (i.e. the full statement including the hypothesis and the conclusion).

(b) Show that there is a root of the equation $x - \cos x = 0$ in the interval $[0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$.

$-1 < 0 < \pi/2$ $f(0) < 0 < f(\pi/2)$

[Let $f(x) = x - \cos x$. Then apply Intermediate Value Theorem.]

8. (a) If $f(x) = x^3 - 8x + 10$, show that there is a value of c in the interval $(0,1)$ for which $f(c) = \pi$.

$f(1) < f(c) < f(0)$

(b) Show that there is a root of the equation $4x^3 - 6x^2 + 3x - 3 = 0$ in the interval $[1,2]$.

$-2 < 0 < 9$

C) Limits involving infinity

1. Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \left(\frac{1}{|x|} - \frac{1}{x} \right)$ exists but $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \left(\frac{1}{|x|} - \frac{1}{x} \right)$ does not.
- ? inf - inf = 0 - inf - inf inf - (-inf) = inf

What can you conclude about $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{|x|} - \frac{1}{x} \right)$? [Reminder: $|x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$]

2. (a) Determine the vertical and/or horizontal asymptote(s) for the graph of each function defined as follows.

[Consider $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x)$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x)$ and/or $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$ for appropriate a .]

(i) $f(x) = \frac{2x+1}{2x^2-5x+2}$

(ii) $f(x) = \frac{3x^2-2x+4}{2x^2-5x+2}$ [Factoring $2x^2-5x+2$ may help.]

(iii) $f(x) = \frac{x+3}{\sqrt{x^2+2x-8}}$

- (b) The graph of $f(x) = \frac{4x+8}{x^2-4}$ has a horizontal asymptote. Give the equation of this asymptote.

Show that $x = -2$ is NOT a vertical asymptote for the graph of $f(x) = \frac{4x+8}{x^2-4}$.

3. For each of the following limits, determine if it exists. If it does not exist, could you write as $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty$ or $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = -\infty$. Show steps to justify your answers.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{2x^3-4x}{5x^3+2}$

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{5x^5-3}{3x^3-2}$

(c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{8x^2+7}{2x^2} - \frac{9x^3+27}{3x^3-3} \right)$

(d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{x(x+2)} - x)$

(e) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{2x+3}{3x^2-4x-4}$

(f) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x+3}{3x^2-4x-4}$

(g) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x}{x^4}$

(h) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x^4}$

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2+1}{x^4}$

(j) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2+1}{x^4}$

(nby, Jun 2017)