

Unit 1 Limits & Continuity

8/16

What is calculus?

- A. Can we reach infinity?
- B. Finding areas between curves
- C. Motion & changes in motion

I. Limits (IA)

A. Dictionary Defn: (n) the point, edge or line beyond which something can't or may not proceed.

B. Calculus Defn:

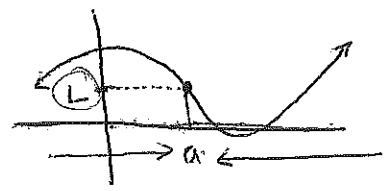
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$$

mean: "the limit of $f(x)$ as x approaches a is L "

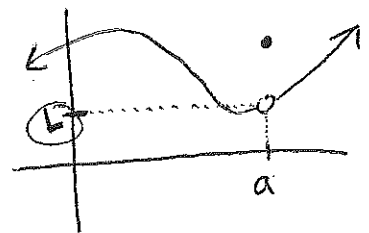
closer & closer... but not a

matter: As the x -values approach a , $f(x)$ or your y -values approach L .

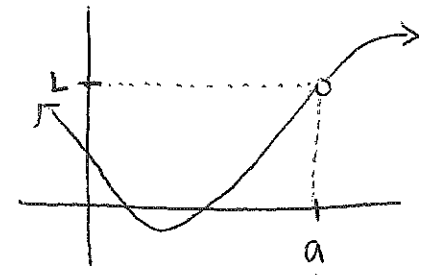
C. Visual



normal

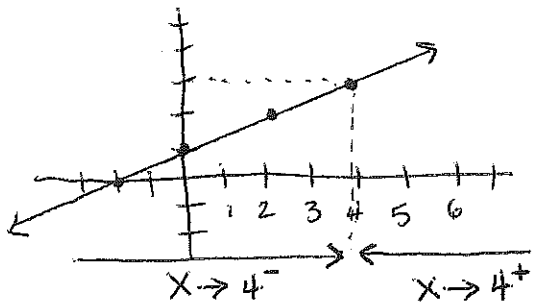


piecewise type function where the actual value of $f(x)$ at a is different than what $f(x)$ approaches near a .



"hole" in the function and the value of $f(x)$ isn't defined at a but the limit still exists.

real ex $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{1}{2}x + 1$



* the x-values can approach from the left:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} f(x) = 3$$

* or the right

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} f(x) = 3$$

* both sides approach 3.

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{1}{2}x + 1 = \boxed{3}$$

RUE:
 If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L$
 and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L$
 then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$

← if not... $\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \text{DNE}$

D. Estimating Limits Using Tables

Find the value of

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x-1}{x^2-1}$$

← notice 1 is not in the domain... so you can't just plug it in

if	x	f(x)
$x \rightarrow 1^-$.7	.58825
	.8	.5556
	.9	.52632
	1	undefined
$x \rightarrow 1^+$	1.1	.47619
	1.2	.45455
	1.3	.43478

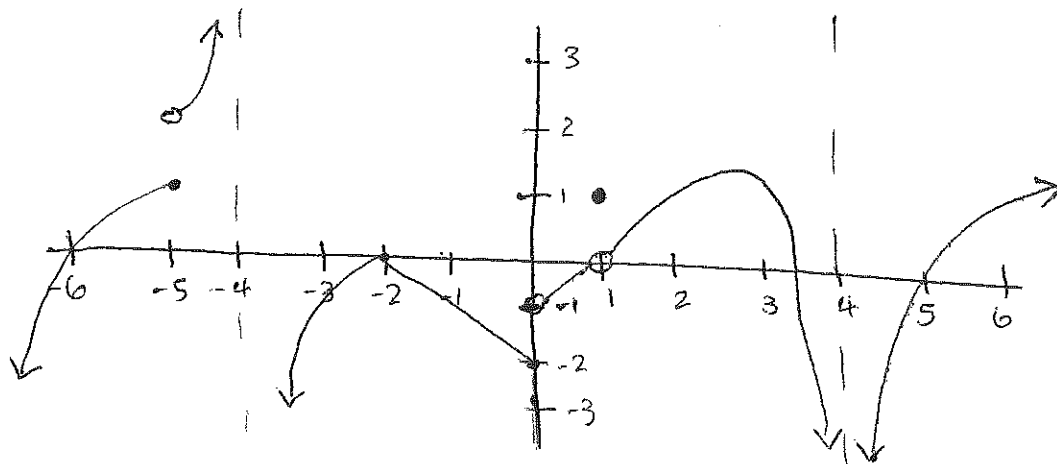
← closer & closer to .5

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x-1}{x^2-1} = \boxed{.5}$$

Note: If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty$... then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \text{DNE}$



E. One Sided Limits



① what is $\lim_{x \rightarrow -5} f(x) = ?$

from the left: $\lim_{x \rightarrow -5^-} f(x) = 2$

from the right: $\lim_{x \rightarrow -5^+} f(x) = -1$

not the same ... so $\lim_{x \rightarrow -5} f(x) = \boxed{\text{DNE}}$

even though $f(-5) = 1$

② what is $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} f(x) = ?$

left: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} f(x) = -\infty$

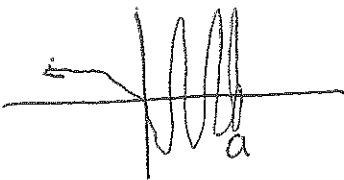
right: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} f(x) = -\infty$

~~not the same~~ but $-\infty$ is not a number... so $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} f(x) = \boxed{\text{DNE}}$

③ what is $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \boxed{-1}$

Remember: * if $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$ then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \text{DNE}$

* if $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty$ then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \text{DNE}$

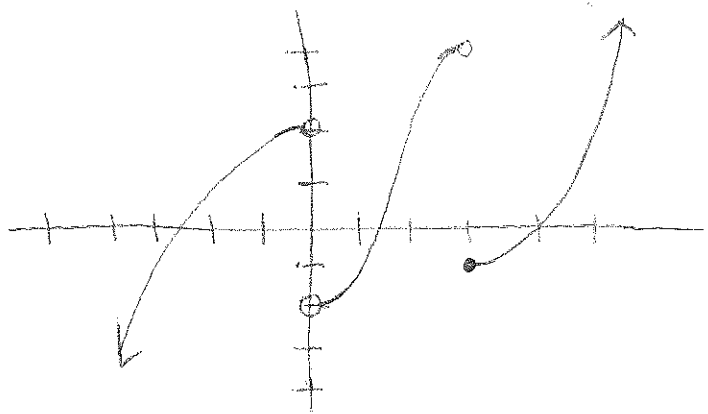
* if  then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \text{DNE}$

because $f(x)$ is oscillating and not approaching a specific y-value

F Sketch a Graph Given the Limits

ex1 Sketch a function $f(x)$ such that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) = 4$
 $f(3) = -1$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = 2$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = -2$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$ if $x \neq 0, 3$ and the range is \mathbb{R} .



II Calculating Limits Using Limit Theorems (1D)

- * A picture is not proof.
- * Inductive reasoning is not proof (tables)
 - these are estimations of the limit
- * we need theorems to prove ☺

A. Limit Theorems

"plug in rules"

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x = a$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x^n = a^n$ (n is a positive integer)
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{x} = \sqrt[n]{a}$ (n is a positive integer, and if n is even then $a > 0$)
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} C = C$ (where C is a constant)
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) \pm g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \pm \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [c \cdot f(x)] = c \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) \cdot g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)}$ ($\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \neq 0$)
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)]^n = [\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)]^n$ (n is a positive integer)
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{f(x)} = \sqrt[n]{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}$ (n is a positive integer and if n is even $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) > 0$)

ex1 Justify the limit is the indicated number.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x(x+3)}{x+1} = 2$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x(x+3)}{x+1} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x(x+3)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x+1)} = \frac{\left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x \right] \cdot \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x+3) \right]}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x+1)} =$$

$$= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x \cdot \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x + \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} 3 \right]}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x + \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} 1} = \frac{1 \cdot [1 + 3]}{1 + 1} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$$

B. Justify Vs. Evaluate

1. Justify the limit:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} \frac{x^2 - 2x + 1}{x} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} x^2 - 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow 6} x + \lim_{x \rightarrow 6} 1}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} x} = \frac{(6)^2 - 2(6) + 1}{6} = \frac{25}{6}$$

#8

2. Evaluate the limit

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} \frac{x^2 - 2x + 1}{x} = \frac{6^2 - 2(6) + 1}{6} = \frac{25}{6}$$

b/c limit theorems allow this!

Note:
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} f(x) \neq f(6)$
 two different ideas.

a. What if no limit theorems work?

→ Use graph/table/calculator

b. if you can use limit theorems...

→ "plug in" and simplify

HOWEVER ... you may get stuck!

if $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \frac{0}{\#} = 0$ good.

if $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \frac{\pm}{0} = \infty$ ∴ DNE good.
 approaching!

if $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \frac{0}{0}$ = ??? it's not DNE or 0 ...
 approaching

IDK
 ↑ for now :)

C. Evaluating Limits of Indeterminate Form (IE)

If you use the Limit Theorems to "plug in" and get:

$$\frac{0}{0}, \frac{\infty}{\infty}, 0^0, 0 \cdot \infty, 1^\infty, \infty^0, \infty \pm \infty$$

this is called indeterminate form, solve by:

* using algebra rules to simplify / change the format
→ factor / cancel / rationalize / trig IDs / etc

* try limit theorems again

* repeat as necessary

ex 1 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+4}-2}{x}$ can't "plug in" w/L.T. $\frac{0}{0}$ \therefore indeterminate form

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+4}-2}{x} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x+4}+2}{\sqrt{x+4}+2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x+4-4}{x\sqrt{x+4}+2x} =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{x}^*}{\cancel{x}\sqrt{x+4}+2\cancel{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+4}+2} = \frac{1}{2+2} = \boxed{\frac{1}{4}}$$

* or use your calculator

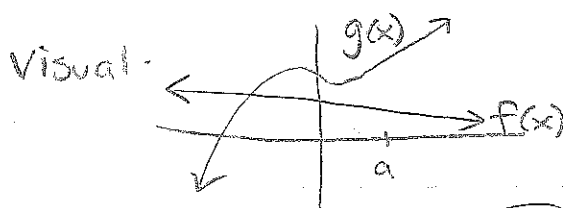
ⓕ3 → limit → $\lim (f(x), x, a)$

$$\lim \left(\frac{\sqrt{x+4}-2}{x}, x, 0 \right)$$

III Additional Theorems for Finding Limits

A. If $f(x) \leq g(x)$ when x is near a (except possibly at a) and the limits of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ both exist as x approaches a , then

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



near a ,
 $f(x) < g(x)$
 $\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) < \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$

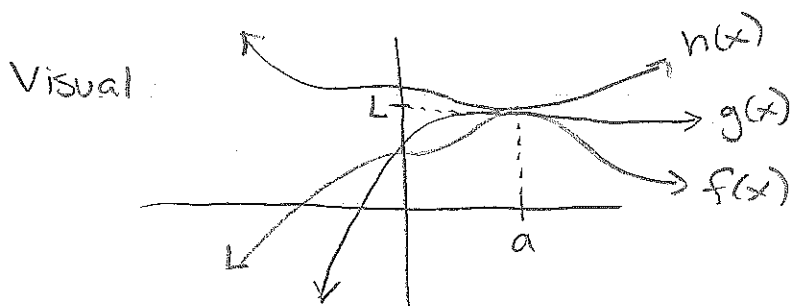
aka pinch or sandwich theorem

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



near a ,
 and $f(x) < g(x) < h(x)$
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} h(x) = L$

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

Useful when you know the limits of $f(x)$ & $h(x)$ but not $g(x)$.

C. Trig Limit Theorems

$$1. \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sin(x) = \sin(a)$$

$$2. \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \cos(x) = \cos(a)$$

$$3. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} = 1 \quad \leftarrow \text{from the Squeeze theorem}$$

$$4. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{x} = 0$$

\Rightarrow Proof of #4...

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{x} \cdot \frac{1 + \cos x}{1 + \cos x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos^2 x}{x(1 + \cos x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin^2 x}{x(1 + \cos x)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} \cdot \frac{\sin x}{1 + \cos x} = 1 \cdot \frac{0}{2} = 1 \cdot 0 = 0 \quad \checkmark \text{AWAD.}$$

if it was $\frac{\sin(4x)}{4x}$ that's #3...

ex1 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(4x)}{x}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(4x)}{x} \cdot \frac{4}{4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4 \sin(4x)}{4x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 4 \cdot 1 = \boxed{4}$$

ex2 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin^2 5x}{x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sin(5x)}{x} \right)^2 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{5 \sin(5x)}{5x} \right)^2 =$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (5 \cdot 1)^2 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 25 = \boxed{25}$$

ex3 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x}} = 0$ by #4

all of
indefinite
"0/0"
form

otherwise
just
"plug in"

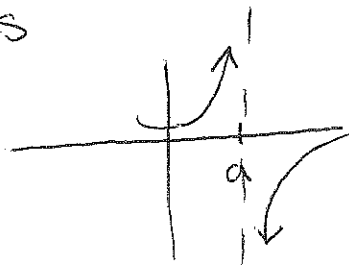
so you can
"plug in"

for
Sine & Cosine too

IV Limits Involving Infinity : Asymptotes (IF)

A. Vertical Asymptotes

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



Determined by domain

ex1 $f(x) = \frac{x}{x-3}$, find the Vertical Asymptote

$$x-3=0 \\ x=3$$

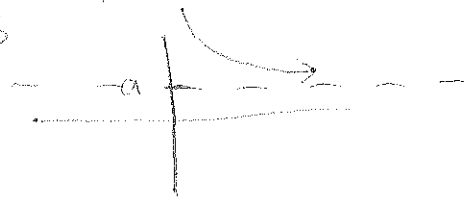
because $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x}{x-3} = \frac{3}{0} = \infty$
close to

$\frac{1}{0} = \frac{1}{\text{really small}} = \infty$
close to

$\frac{1}{\infty} = \frac{1}{\text{really big}} = 0$

B. Horizontal Asymptotes

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



ex2 $f(x) = \frac{x}{x-3}$, find the Horizontal Asymptotes

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm \infty} \frac{x}{x-3} = \frac{\infty}{\infty-3} = \frac{\infty}{\infty} \dots \text{indeterminate form}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm \infty} \frac{x}{x(1-\frac{3}{x})} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm \infty} \frac{1}{1-\frac{3}{x}} = \frac{1}{1-0} = 1$$

using either $\pm \infty$

$\therefore y=1$ is the H.A.

ex3) $f(x) = \frac{x+4}{x^2-9}$, Find the H.A.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{x+4}{x^2-9} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{x^2(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{4}{x^2})}{x^2(1 - \frac{9}{x^2})} = \frac{0+0}{1+0} = 0$$

$\therefore y=0$

↑
indeterminate form

ex4) $f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x^2+2}}{4x-6}$

find H.A.
highest power to x^1 b/c $\sqrt{x^2} = x$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+2}}{4x-6} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2(1+\frac{2}{x^2})}}{x(4-\frac{6}{x})} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{x\sqrt{1+\frac{2}{x^2}}}{x(4-\frac{6}{x})} =$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{1+0}}{4-0} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$\therefore y = \frac{1}{4}$

ex5)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 7^+} \frac{2x}{x-7} = \frac{2 \cdot 7}{0 \text{ close to}} = +\infty$$

↑ but its positive b/c $7.1 - 7 = +.1$
↑
x approaches 7 from the right; bigger than 7

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 7^-} \frac{2x}{x-7} = \frac{2 \cdot 7}{0 \text{ close to}} = -\infty$$

↑ negative though

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} e^x = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^x = \infty$$

If $r > 0$ is a rational #

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x^r} = 0$$

if $r < 0$ and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{x^r} = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} e^{1/x}$$

replace $t = \frac{1}{x}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{1}{x} = -\infty$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} e^t = 0$$

V One-Sided-Limits (1B)

A. Definition of a Limit

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L$ then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$

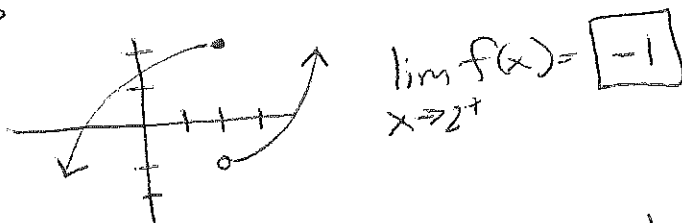
B. Solving Limits

1. Use Limit Theorem

ex1) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5^+} \frac{x^2+3}{x-4} = \frac{5^2+3}{5-4} = \boxed{28}$

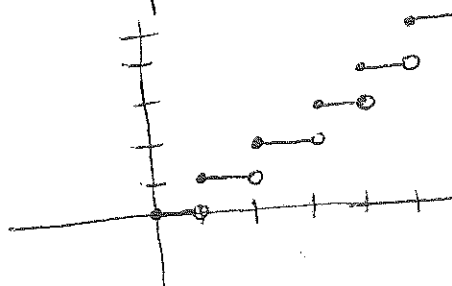
2. Use Graphs

ex2) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x)$



3. Use tables

ex3) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} [x]$



x	y
3.7	3
3.8	3
3.9	3
4	4

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} [x] = \boxed{3}$

Note: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} [x] = \text{DNE}$

4. Involving ∞

ex4) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{0} = +\infty = \text{DNE}$
close to but positive

this info helps us draw the graph

ex4) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^2+5}{x^3+1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2(\frac{2}{x} + \frac{5}{x^3})}{x^3(1 + \frac{1}{x^3})} = \frac{0+0}{1+0} = \frac{0}{1} = \boxed{0}$

5. Piecewise (New)

ex5) If $f(x) = \begin{cases} x-4 & x \geq 3 \\ -3x+2 & x < 3 \end{cases}$

@ find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x)$

① $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} x-4 = -1$

② $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} -3x+2 = -7$

$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x) = \boxed{\text{DNE}}$

⑥ find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} -3x+2 = -3(2)+2 = \boxed{-4}$

ex5 Find the value of K , such that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} f(x)$ exists

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 3x+2 & x < 4 \\ 5K+5 & x \geq 4 \end{cases}$$

for $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} f(x)$ to exist ...

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} f(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} 5K+5 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} 3x+2$$

$$5K+5 = 3(4)+2$$

$$5K+5 = 14$$

$$5K = 9$$

$$\boxed{K = \frac{9}{5}}$$

ex5 If $f(x) = |x-7|$ find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 7} f(x)$

→ write as a piecewise
c.p. $x=7$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x-7 & x \geq 7 \\ -(x-7) & x < 7 \end{cases}$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x-7 & x \geq 7 \\ -x+7 & x < 7 \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 7^+} x-7 = 7-7 = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 7^-} -x+7 = -7+7 = 0$$

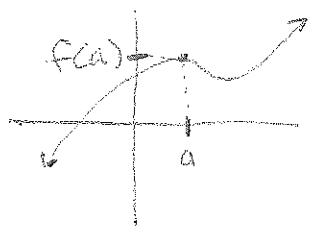
$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 7} f(x) = \boxed{0}$$

VI Continuity (IH)

Vague definition of continuity is if you can trace the graph of the function without lifting your pencil, the function is continuous.

Real definition of continuity is:

$f(x)$ is continuous at "a" if and only if:



① $f(a)$ exists

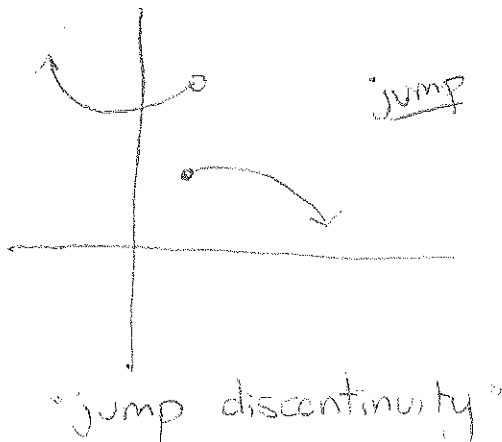
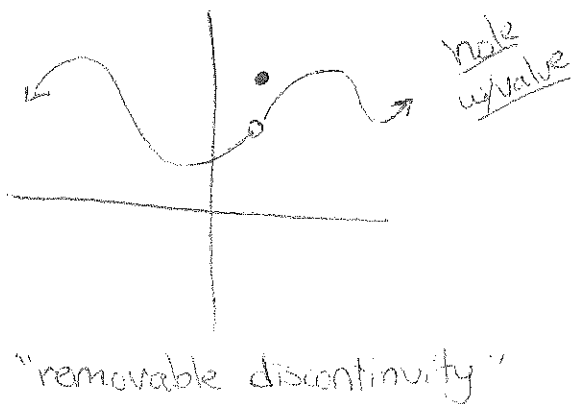
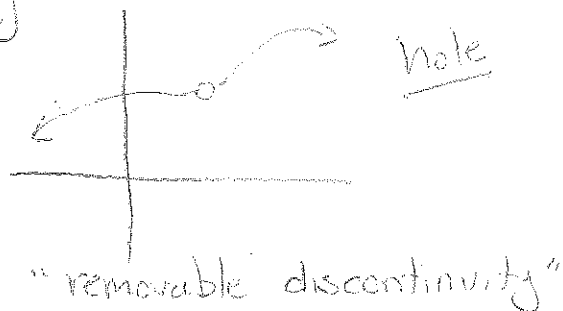
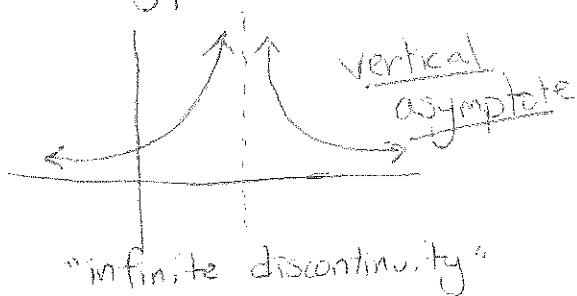
② $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ exists

③ $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$

} all 3 must be true!

$f(x)$ is continuous on an interval if it is continuous at every number in the interval.

A. Types of Discontinuity



B. Determining if an Equation is Continuous

ex1 Is $f(x)$ continuous? means everywhere

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - 3x - 4}{x - 4} & ; x \neq 4 \\ 2 & ; x = 4 \end{cases}$$

concerned at the domain
 $x = 4$ check "a = 4"

check all 3 parts

① $f(4) = 2$ exists! ☺

0/0 indeterminate form!

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

③ $f(4) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} f(x) ?$ $2 \neq 5$ ☹ $= 4 + 1 = 5$ exists! ☺

$\therefore f(x)$ is not continuous

ex2 Where is $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 5x + 6}{x - 2}$ discontinuous?

concerned at domain, $x = 2$ check $a = 2$

① $f(2) = \frac{2^2 - 5(2) + 6}{2 - 2} = \frac{0}{0} \therefore \text{DNE}$

$\therefore f(x)$ is discontinuous at $x = 2$

remember
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \frac{0}{0}$ indeterminate
 $f(x) = \frac{0}{0}$ DNE

ex3 Is $f(x) = \frac{x+3}{x+1}$ continuous on the interval

i. $(-2, 4)$

domain issue, $x = -1$

ii. $(2, 4)$

① $f(-1) = \frac{-1+3}{-1-1} = \frac{2}{-2} = -1$ DNE

iii. $(-1, 2)$

$\therefore f(x)$ is not continuous at $x = -1$

iiii. $[-1, 2)$

i no b/c -1 is in the interval $(-2, 4)$

ii yes

iii yes

iiii no b/c -1 is included in the interval

ex4 For what values of c is $f(x)$ continuous?

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} cx^2 + 2x & x < 2 \\ x^2 - cx & x \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

↑ concerned at domain, $x=2$

① $f(2) = (2)^2 - c(2) = 4 - 2c$

② $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) =$ two parts

i. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = (2)^2 - c(2) = 4 - 2c$

ii. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = c(2)^2 + 2(2) = 4c + 4$

for $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ to exist, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x)$

$$4 - 2c = 4c + 4$$

$$0 = 6c$$

$$0 = c$$

Does

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

$$4 - 2c = \frac{4 - 2c}{\cancel{4 - 2c}} = 4c + 4$$

$$4 - 2(0) = 4 - 2(0) = 4(0) + 4$$

$$4 = 4 = 4 \quad \text{☺}$$

$$\boxed{c=0}$$

C. Additional Theorems

1. If $f(x)$ is continuous from the right at "a" then

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

2. If $f(x)$ is continuous from the left at "a" then

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

3. If f and g are continuous at " a " and c is a constant, then the following functions are also continuous at " a ".

1. $f+g$ 2. $f-g$ 3. fg 4. cf

5. $\frac{f}{g}$ if $g(a) \neq 0$

4. Any polynomial is continuous everywhere, \mathbb{R} or $(-\infty, \infty)$

5. Any rational function is continuous wherever it is defined & continuous over its domain
→ also works with trig functions, root functions, exponential functions & log functions.