

Exercise 5.1

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1. Prove that the function $f(x) = 5x - 3$ is continuous at $x = 0$ at $x = -3$ and at $x = 5$.

Solution:

Given function is $f(x) = 5x - 3$

Continuity at $x = 0$,

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (5x - 3) \\ &= 5(0) - 3 \\ &= 0 - 3 \\ &= -3\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Again, } f(0) = 5(0) - 3 = 0 - 3 = -3$$

As $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = f(x)$, therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$.

Continuity at $x = -3$,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -3} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -3} (5x - 3) = 5(-3) - 3 = -18$$

$$\text{And } f(-3) = 5(-3) - 3 = -18$$

As $\lim_{x \rightarrow -3} f(x) = f(x)$, therefore, is continuous at $x = -3$

Continuity at $x = 5$,

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 5} (5x - 3) \\ &= 5(5) - 3 = 22\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{And } f(5) = 5(5) - 3 = 22$$

Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} f(x) = f(x)$, so, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 5$.

2. Examine the continuity of the function $f(x) = 2x^2 - 1$ at $x = 3$.

Solution:

Given function $f(x) = 2x^2 - 1$

Check Continuity at $x = 3$,

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

$$= 2(3)^2 - 1 = 17$$

$$\text{And } f(3) = 2(3)^2 - 1 = 17$$

Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x) = f(3)$ so $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 3$.

3. Examine the following functions for continuity:

(a) $f(x) = x - 5$

(b) $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-5}, x \neq 5$

(c) $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 25}{x+5}, x \neq -5$

(d) $f(x) = |x-5|$

Solution:

(a) Given function is $f(x) = x - 5$

We know that, f is defined at every real number k and its value at k is $k - 5$.

Also observed that $\lim_{x \rightarrow k} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow k} (x - 5) = k - 5 = f(k)$

As, $\lim_{x \rightarrow k} f(x) = f(k)$, therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at every real number and it is a continuous function.

(b) Given function is $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-5}, x \neq 5$

For any real number $k \neq 5$, we have

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow k} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \frac{1}{x-5} = \frac{1}{k-5}$$

and $f(k) = \frac{1}{k-5}$

As, $\lim_{x \rightarrow k} f(x) = f(k)$

Therefore,

$f(x)$ is continuous at every point of domain of f and it is a continuous function.

(c) Given function is $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 25}{x + 5}, x \neq -5$

For any real number, $k \neq -5$, we get

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow k} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \frac{x^2 - 25}{x + 5} = \lim_{x \rightarrow k} \frac{(x + 5)(x - 5)}{x + 5} = \lim_{x \rightarrow k} (x - 5) = k - 5$$

And $f(k) = \frac{(k + 5)(k - 5)}{k + 5} = k - 5$

As, $\lim_{x \rightarrow k} f(x) = f(k)$, therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at every point of domain of f and it is a continuous function.

(d) Given function is $f(x) = |x - 5|$

Domain of $f(x)$ is real and infinite for all real x

Here $f(x) = |x - 5|$ is a modulus function.

As, every modulus function is continuous.

Therefore, f is continuous in its domain $\mathbb{R}$.

4. Prove that the function $f(x) = x^n$ is continuous at $x = n$ where n is a positive integer.

Solution: Given function is $f(x) = x^n$ where n is a positive integer.

Continuity at $x = n$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow n} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow n} (x^n) = n^n$

And $f(n) = n^n$

As, $\lim_{x \rightarrow n} f(x) = f(n)$, therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = n$.

5. Is the function f defined by $f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ 5, & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$ continuous at $x=0$, at $x=1$, at $x=2$?

Solution: Given function is $f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ 5, & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$

Step 1: At $x=0$, We know that, f is defined at 0 and its value 0.

Then $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x = 0$ and $f(0) = 0$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x=0$.

Step 2: At $x=1$, Left Hand limit (LHL) of $f \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (x) = 1$

Right Hand limit (RHL) of $f \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (x) = 5$

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

Therefore, $f(x)$ is not continuous at $x=1$.

Step 3: At $x=2$, f is defined at 2 and its value at 2 is 5.

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (5) = 5$, therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = f(2)$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x=2$.

Find all points of discontinuity of f , where f is defined by:

6. $f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x+3, & x \leq 2 \\ 2x-3, & x > 2 \end{cases}$

Solution: Given function is $f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x+3, & \text{if } x \leq 2 \\ 2x-3, & \text{if } x > 2 \end{cases}$

Here $f(x)$ is defined for $x \leq 2$ or $(-\infty, 2)$ and also for $x > 2$ or $(2, \infty)$.

Therefore, Domain of f is $(-\infty, 2) \cup (2, \infty) = (-\infty, \infty) = \mathbb{R}$

Therefore, For all $x < 2$, $f(x) = 2x + 3$ is a polynomial and hence continuous and for all $x > 2$, $f(x) = 2x - 3$ is a continuous and hence it is also continuous on $\mathbb{R} - \{2\}$.

$$\text{Now Left Hand limit} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} (2x + 3) = 2 \times 2 + 3 = 7$$

$$\text{Right Hand limit} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} (2x - 3) = 2 \times 2 - 3 = 1$$

$$\text{As, } \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x)$$

Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ does not exist and hence $f(x)$ is discontinuous at only $x = 2$.

Find all points of discontinuity of f , where f is defined by:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} |x| + 3, & \text{if } x \leq -3 \\ -2x, & \text{if } -3 < x < 3 \\ 6x + 2, & \text{if } x \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

7.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} |x| + 3, & \text{if } x \leq 2 \\ -2x, & \text{if } x > 2 \\ 6x + 2, & \text{if } x \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

Solution: Given function is

Here $f(x)$ is defined for $x \leq -3$ or $(-\infty, -3)$ and for $-3 < x < 3$ and also for $x \geq 3$ or $(3, \infty)$.

Therefore, Domain of f is $(-\infty, -3) \cup (-3, 3) \cup (3, \infty) = (-\infty, \infty) = \mathbb{R}$

Therefore, For all $x < -3$, $f(x) = |x| + 3 = -x + 3$ is a polynomial and hence continuous and

for all $x(-3 < x < 3)$, $f(x) = -2x$ is a continuous and a continuous function and also

for all $x > 3$, $f(x) = 6x + 2$.

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous on $\mathbb{R} - \{-3, 3\}$.

And, $x = -3$ and $x = 3$ are partitioning points of domain $\mathbb{R}$.

Now, Left Hand limit = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} (|x| + 3) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} (-x + 3) = 3 + 3 = 6$

Right Hand limit = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} (-2x) = (-2)(-3) = 6$

And $f(-3) = |-3| + 3 = 3 + 3 = 6$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = -3$.

Again, Left Hand limit = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} (-2x) = -2(3) = -6$

Right Hand limit = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} (6x + 2) = 6(3) + 2 = 20$

As, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} f(x)$

Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x)$ does not exist and hence $f(x)$ is discontinuous at only $x = 3$.

Find all points of discontinuity of f , where f is defined by:

8.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{|x|}{x}, & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{|x|}{x}, & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

Solution: Given function is

$f(x) = |x|/x$ can also be defined as,

$$\frac{x}{x} = 1 \text{ if } x > 0 \text{ and } \frac{-x}{x} = -1 \text{ if } x < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = 1 \text{ if } x > 0, f(x) = -1 \text{ if } x < 0 \text{ and } f(x) = 0 \text{ if } x = 0$$

We get that, domain of $f(x)$ is $\mathbb{R}$ as $f(x)$ is defined for $x > 0$, $x < 0$ and $x = 0$.

For all $x > 0$, $f(x) = 1$ is a constant function and continuous.

For all $x < 0$, $f(x) = -1$ is a constant function and continuous.

Therefore $f(x)$ is continuous on $\mathbb{R} - \{0\}$.

Now,

$$\text{Left Hand limit} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (-1) = -1$$

$$\text{Right Hand limit} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (1) = 1$$

$$\text{As, } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$$

Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ does not exist and $f(x)$ is discontinuous at only $x = 0$.

Find all points of discontinuity of f , where f is defined by:

9.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{|x|}, & \text{if } x < 0 \\ -1, & \text{if } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Solution: Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{|x|}, & \text{if } x < 0 \\ -1, & \text{if } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{At } x=0, \text{ L.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{x}{|x|} = -1 \quad \text{And } f(0) = -1$$

$$\text{R.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = -1$$

$$\text{As, L.H.L.} = \text{R.H.L.} = f(0)$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is a continuous function.

Now,

$$\text{for } x = c < 0 \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} \frac{x}{|x|} = -1 = f(c)$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x) = f(c)$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is a continuous at $x = c < 0$

$$\text{Now, for } x = c > 0 \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x) = 1 = f(c)$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is a continuous at $x = c > 0$

Answer: The function is continuous at all points of its domain.

Find all points of discontinuity of f , where f is defined by:
10.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x+1, & \text{if } x \geq 1 \\ x^2+1, & \text{if } x < 1 \end{cases}$$

Solution: Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x+1, & \text{if } x \geq 1 \\ x^2+1, & \text{if } x < 1 \end{cases}$$

We know that, $f(x)$ being polynomial is continuous for $x \geq 1$ and $x < 1$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Check Continuity at $x = 1$

$$\text{R.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (x+1) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (1+h+1) = 2$$

$$\text{L.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (x^2+1) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} ((1-h)^2+1) = 2$$

$$\text{And } f(1) = 2$$

$$\text{As, L.H.L.} = \text{R.H.L.} = f(1)$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is a continuous at $x = 1$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Hence, $f(x)$ has no point of discontinuity.

Find all points of discontinuity of f , where f is defined by:
11.

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

Solution: Given function is

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

$$\text{At } x=2, \text{ L.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} (x^3 - 3) = 8 - 3 = 5$$

$$\text{R.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} (x^2 + 1) = 4 + 1 = 5$$

$$f(2) = 2^3 - 3 = 8 - 3 = 5$$

$$\text{As, L.H.L.} = \text{R.H.L.} = f(2)$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is a continuous at $x=2$

Now, for $x=c < 0$ $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} (x^3 - 3) = c^3 - 3 = f(c)$ and

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

$$\text{Therefore, } \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = f(c)$$

This implies, $f(x)$ is a continuous for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Hence the function has no point of discontinuity.

Find all points of discontinuity of f , where f is defined by:

12.
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^{10} - 1, & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ x^2, & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$$

Solution: Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^{10} - 1, & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ x^2, & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$$

At $x=1$, L.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (x^{10} - 1) = 0$

R.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (x^2) = 1$

$f(1) = 1^{10} - 1 = 0$

As, L.H.L. $\neq$ R.H.L.

Therefore, $f(x)$ is discontinuous at $x=1$

Now, for $x=c < 1$ $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} (x^{10} - 1) = c^{10} - 1 = f(c)$ and for $x=c > 1$ $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} (x^2) = c^2 = f(c)$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is a continuous for all $x \in \mathbb{R} - \{1\}$

Hence for all given function $x=1$ is a point of discontinuity.

13. Is the function defined by $f(x) = \begin{cases} x+5, & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ x-5, & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$ a continuous function?

Solution: Given function is $f(x) = \begin{cases} x+5, & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ x-5, & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$

At $x=1$, L.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (x+5) = 6$

R.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (x-5) = -4$

As, L.H.L. $\neq$ R.H.L.

Therefore, $f(x)$ is discontinuous at $x=1$

Now, for $x=c < 1$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} (x+5) = c+5 = f(c) \quad \text{and}$$

$$\text{for } x=c > 1 \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow c} (x-5) = c-5 = f(c)$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is a continuous for all $x \in \mathbb{R} - \{1\}$

Hence $f(x)$ is not a continuous function.

Discuss the continuity of the function f , where f is defined by:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 4, & \text{if } 1 < x < 3 \\ 5, & \text{if } 3 \leq x \leq 10 \end{cases}$$

14.

Solution: Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 4, & \text{if } 1 < x < 3 \\ 5, & \text{if } 3 \leq x \leq 10 \end{cases}$$

In interval, $0 \leq x \leq 1$, $f(x) = 3$

Therefore, f is continuous in this interval.

At $x = 1$,

$$\text{L.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = 3 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{R.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = 4$$

As, L.H.L. $\neq$ R.H.L.

Therefore, $f(x)$ is discontinuous at $x = 1$.

$$\text{At } x=3, \text{ L.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) = 4 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{R.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} f(x) = 5$$

As, L.H.L. $\neq$ R.H.L.

Therefore, $f(x)$ is discontinuous at $x = 3$

Hence, f is discontinuous at $x = 1$ and $x = 3$.

Discuss the continuity of the function f , where f is defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x, & \text{if } x < 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 4x, & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$$

15.

Solution: Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x, & \text{if } x < 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 4x, & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$$

At $x = 0$, L.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} 2x = 0$ and R.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (0) = 0$

As, L.H.L. = R.H.L.

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$

At $x = 1$, L.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (0) = 0$ and R.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (4x) = 4$

As, L.H.L. $\neq$ R.H.L.

Therefore, $f(x)$ is discontinuous at $x = 1$.

When $x < 0$,

$f(x)$ is a polynomial function and is continuous for all $x < 0$.

When $x > 1$, $f(x) = 4x$

It is being a polynomial function is continuous for all $x > 1$.

Hence, $x = 1$ is a point of discontinuity.

Discuss the continuity of the function f , where f is defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -2, & \text{if } x \leq -1 \\ 2x, & \text{if } -1 < x \leq 1 \\ 2, & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$$

16.

Solution: Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -2, & \text{if } x \leq -1 \\ 2x, & \text{if } -1 < x \leq 1 \\ 2, & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$$

At $x = -1$,

$$\text{L.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} f(x) = -2 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{R.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} f(x) = -2$$

As, L.H.L. = R.H.L.

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = -1$

At $x = 1$,

$$\text{L.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{R.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = 2$$

As, L.H.L. = R.H.L.

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 1$.

17. Find the relationship between a and b so that the function f defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} ax+1, & \text{if } x \leq 3 \\ bx+1, & \text{if } x > 3 \end{cases}$$

is continuous at $x = 3$

Solution: Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} ax+1, & \text{if } x \leq 3 \\ bx+3, & \text{if } x > 3 \end{cases}$$

Check Continuity at $x = 3$,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} (ax + 1) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \{a(3 - h) + 1\} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (3a - ah + 1) = 3a + 1$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} (bx + 3) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \{b(3 + h) + 3\} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (3b + bh + 3) = 3b + 3$$

Also $f(3) = 3a + 1$

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

$$\Rightarrow 3b + 3 = 3a + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow a - b = \frac{2}{3}$$

18. For what value of λ is the function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda(x^2 - 2x), & \text{if } x \leq 0 \\ 4x + 1, & \text{if } x > 0 \end{cases}$$

continuous at $x = 0$? What about continuity at $x = 1$?

Solution: Since $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$.
Therefore,

L.H.L.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = f(0) = \lambda(x^2 - 2x) = \lambda(0 - 0) = 0$$

R.H.L

And $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = f(0) = 4x + 1 = 4 \times 0 + 1 = 1$

Here, L.H.L. $\neq$ R.H.L.

This implies $0 = 1$, which is not possible.

Again, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 1$.

Therefore,

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

And $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = f(1) = 4x + 1 = 4 \times 1 + 1 = 5$

Let us say, L.H.L. = R.H.L.

$$\Rightarrow 3\lambda = 5$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{5}{3}$$

The value of λ is $\frac{5}{3}$.

19. Show that the function defined by $g(x) = x - [x]$ is discontinuous at all integral points.

Here $[x]$ denotes the greatest integer less than or equal to x .

Solution: For any real number, x ,

$[x]$ denotes the fractional part or decimal part of x .

For example,

$$[2.35] = 0.35$$

$$[-5.45] = 0.45$$

$$[2] = 0$$

$$[-5] = 0$$

The function $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $g(x) = x - [x] \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ is called the fractional part function.

The domain of the fractional part function is the set $\mathbb{R}$ of all real numbers, and

$[0, 1)$ is the range of the set.

So, given function is discontinuous function.

20. Is the function $f(x) = x^2 - \sin x + 5$ continuous at $x = \pi$?

Solution: Given function is $f(x) = x^2 - \sin x + 5$

$$\text{L.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pi^-} (x^2 - \sin x + 5) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pi^-} [(\pi - h)^2 - \sin(\pi - h) + 5] = \pi^2 + 5$$

$$\text{R.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pi^+} (x^2 - \sin x + 5) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pi^+} [(\pi + h)^2 - \sin(\pi + h) + 5] = \pi^2 + 5$$

And $f(\pi) = \pi^2 - \sin \pi + 5 = \pi^2 + 5$

Since L.H.L. = R.H.L. = $f(\pi)$

Therefore, f is continuous at $x = \pi$

21. Discuss the continuity of the following functions:

(a) $f(x) = \sin x + \cos x$

(b) $f(x) = \sin x - \cos x$

(c) $f(x) = \sin x \cdot \cos x$

Solution: (a) Let "a" be an arbitrary real number then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) \Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a + h)$$

Now,

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a + h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sin(a + h) + \cos(a + h)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (\sin a \cos h + \cos a \sin h + \cos a \cos h - \sin a \sin h)$$

$$= \sin a \cos 0 + \cos a \sin 0 + \cos a \cos 0 - \sin a \sin 0$$

{As $\cos 0 = 1$ and $\sin 0 = 0$ }

$$= \sin a + \cos a = f(a)$$

Similarly,

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

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

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$.

As, “a” is an arbitrary real number, therefore, $f(x) = \sin x + \cos x$ is continuous.

(b) Let “a” be an arbitrary real number then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) \Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a+h)$
Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a+h) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sin(a+h) - \cos(a-h) \\ &\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (\sin a \cos h + \cos a \sin h - \cos a \cos h - \sin a \sin h) \\ &= \sin a \cos 0 + \cos a \sin 0 - \cos a \cos 0 - \sin a \sin 0 \\ &= \sin a + 0 - \cos a - 0 \\ &= \sin a - \cos a = f(a) \end{aligned}$$

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

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

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$.

Since, “a” is an arbitrary real number, therefore, $f(x) = \sin x - \cos x$ is continuous.

(c) Let “a” be an arbitrary real number then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) \Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a+h)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a+h) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sin(a+h) \cdot \cos(a+h) \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (\sin a \cos h + \cos a \sin h)(\cos a \cos h - \sin a \sin h) \end{aligned}$$

$$= (\sin a \cos 0 + \cos a \sin 0)(\cos a \cos 0 - \sin a \sin 0)$$

$$= (\sin a + 0)(\cos a - 0)$$

$$= \sin a \cdot \cos a = f(a)$$

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

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

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$.

Since, “a” is an arbitrary real number, therefore, $f(x) = \sin x \cdot \cos x$ is continuous.

22. Discuss the continuity of cosine, cosecant, secant and cotangent functions.

Solution:

Continuity of cosine:

Let say “a” be an arbitrary real number then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} \cos x \Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \cos(a + h)$$

Which implies, $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (\cos a \cos h - \sin a \sin h)$

$$= \cos a \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \cos h - \sin a \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sin h$$

$$= \cos a \times 1 - \sin a \times 0 = \cos a = f(a)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a) \text{ for all } a \in \mathbb{R}$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$.

Since, “a” is an arbitrary real number, therefore, $\cos x$ is continuous.

Continuity of cosecant:

Let say “a” be an arbitrary real number then

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= \csc x = \frac{1}{\sin x} \text{ and} \\
 \text{domain } x &= \mathbb{R} - (n\pi), x \in \mathbb{R} \\
 \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{1}{\sin x} &= \frac{1}{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sin(a+h)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (\sin a \cos h + \cos a \sin h)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sin a \cos 0 + \cos a \sin 0} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sin a(1) + \cos a(0)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sin a} = f(a)
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$.

Since, "a" is an arbitrary real number, therefore, $f(x) = \csc x$ is continuous.

Continuity of secant:

Let say "a" be an arbitrary real number then

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= \sec x = \frac{1}{\cos x} \text{ and domain } x = \mathbb{R} - (2n+1)\frac{\pi}{2}, x \in \mathbb{R} \\
 \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{1}{\cos x} &= \frac{1}{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \cos(a+h)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (\cos a \cos h - \sin a \sin h)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\cos a \cos 0 - \sin a \sin 0}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\cos a(1) - \sin a(0)} = \frac{1}{\cos a} = f(a)$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$.

Since, "a" is an arbitrary real number, therefore, $f(x) = \sec x$ is continuous.

Continuity of cotangent:

Let say "a" be an arbitrary real number then

$$f(x) = \cot x = \frac{1}{\tan x} \text{ and domain } x = \mathbb{R} - (x\pi), x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{1}{\tan x} = \frac{1}{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \tan(a+h)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\tan a + \tan h}{1 - \tan a \tan h} \right)} = \frac{1}{\frac{\tan a + 0}{1 - \tan a \tan 0}}$$

$$= \frac{1-0}{\tan a} = \frac{1}{\tan a} = f(a)$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$.

Since, "a" is an arbitrary real number, therefore, $f(x) = \cot x$ is continuous.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin x}{x}, & \text{if } x < 0 \\ x+1, & \text{if } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

23. Find all points of discontinuity of f , where

Solution: Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin x}{x}, & \text{if } x < 0 \\ x+1, & \text{if } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

At $x = 0$,

$$\text{L.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{\sin(-h)}{-h} = 1$$

$$\text{R.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (x+1) = 0+1=1$$

$$f(0)=1$$

Therefore, f is continuous at $x=0$.

When $x < 0$, $\sin x$ and x are continuous, then $\frac{\sin x}{x}$ is also continuous.

When $x > 0$, $f(x) = x+1$ is a polynomial, then f is continuous.

Therefore, f is continuous at any point.

24. Determine if f defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x}, & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

is a continuous function.

Solution:

Given function is:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x}, & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x}$$

As we know, $\sin(1/x)$ lies between -1 and 1, so the value of $\sin 1/x$ be any integer, say m , we have

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x}$$

$$= 0 \times m$$

$$= 0$$

$$\text{And, } f(0) = 0$$

Since, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = f(0)$, therefore, the function f is continuous at $x=0$.

25. Examine the continuity of f, where f is defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin x - \cos x, & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ -1, & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

Solution:

Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin x - \cos x, & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ -1, & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

Let's find the left hand and right hand limits at $x = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{At } x = 0, \text{ L.H.L.} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (0 - h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(-h) \\ &\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sin(-h) - \cos(-h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (-\sin h - \cos h) = -0 - 1 = -1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{R.H.L.} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (0 + h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(h) \\ &\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sin(h) - \cos(h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (\sin h - \cos h) = 0 - 1 = -1 \end{aligned}$$

And, given $f(0) = -1$

$$\text{Thus, } \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = f(0)$$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 0$.

Find the values of k so that the function f is continuous at the indicated point in Exercise 26 to 29.

26.
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{k \cos x}{\pi - 2x}, & \text{if } x \neq \frac{\pi}{2} \\ 3, & \text{if } x = \frac{\pi}{2} \end{cases} \text{ at } x = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

Solution:

Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{k \cos x}{\pi - 2x}, & \text{if } x \neq \frac{\pi}{2} \\ 3, & \text{if } x = \frac{\pi}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{k \cos x}{\pi - 2x}$$

So, $x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}$

This implies, $x \neq \frac{\pi}{2}$

Putting $x = \frac{\pi}{2} + h$ where $h \rightarrow 0$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{k \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + h\right)}{\pi - 2\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + h\right)}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-k \sin h}{\pi - \pi - 2h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-k \sin h}{-2h}$$

$$= \frac{k}{2} \times \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin h}{h}$$

$$= \frac{k}{2} \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

And $f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 3 \dots\dots\dots(2)$

$f(x) = 3$ when $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ [Given]

As we know, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = \pi/2$.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} f(x) = f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

From equation (1) and equation (2), we have

$$\frac{k}{2} = 3$$

$$k = 6$$

Therefore, the value of k is 6.

27. $f(x) = \begin{cases} kx^2, & \text{if } x \leq 2 \\ 3, & \text{if } x > 2 \end{cases}$ at $x = 2$.

Solution:

Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} kx^2, & \text{if } x \leq 2 \\ 3, & \text{if } x > 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(2+h) = 3$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = 3 \quad \text{and} \quad f(2) = 3$$

$$k \times 2^2 = 3$$

This implies, $k = \frac{3}{4}$

when $k = 3/4$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(2-h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3}{4}(2-h)^2 = 3$

Therefore, $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 2$ when $k = \frac{3}{4}$.

28. $f(x) = \begin{cases} kx+1, & \text{if } x \leq \pi \\ \cos x, & \text{if } x > \pi \end{cases}$ at $x = \pi$.

Solution:

Given function is:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} kx+1, & \text{if } x \leq \pi \\ \cos x, & \text{if } x > \pi \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pi^+} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(\pi + h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \cos(\pi + h) = -\cos h = -\cos 0 = -1$$

$$\text{and } \lim_{x \rightarrow \pi^-} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(\pi - h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \cos(\pi - h) = -\cos h = -\cos 0 = -1$$

Again,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pi^-} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (k\pi + 1)$$

As given function is continuous at $x = \pi$, we have

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

$$\Rightarrow k\pi + 1 = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow k\pi = -2$$

$$\Rightarrow k = \frac{-2}{\pi}$$

The value of k is $-2/\pi$.

29. $f(x) = \begin{cases} kx+1, & \text{if } x \leq 5 \\ 3x-5, & \text{if } x > 5 \end{cases}$ at $x = 5$.

Solution:

Given function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} kx+1, & \text{if } x \leq 5 \\ 3x-5, & \text{if } x > 5 \end{cases}$$

When $x < 5$, $f(x) = kx + 1$: A polynomial is continuous at each point $x < 5$.

When $x > 5$, $f(x) = 3x - 5$: A polynomial is continuous at each point $x > 5$.

Now $f(5) = 5k + 1 = 3(5 + h) - 5$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 5^+} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(5 + h) = 15 + 3h - 5 \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

$$= 10 + 3h = 10 + 3 \times 0 = 10$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 5^-} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(5 - h) = k(5 - h) + 1 = 5k - kh + 1 = 5k + 1 \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

Since function is continuous, therefore, both the equations are equal,

Equate both the equations and find the value of k,

$$10 = 5k + 1$$

$$5k = 9$$

$$k = \frac{9}{5}$$

30. Find the values of a and b such that the function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 5, & \text{if } x \leq 2 \\ ax + b, & \text{if } 2 < x < 10 \\ 21, & \text{if } x \geq 10 \end{cases}$$

is a continuous function.

Solution:

Given function is:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 5, & \text{if } x \leq 2 \\ ax + b, & \text{if } 2 < x < 10 \\ 21, & \text{if } x \geq 10 \end{cases}$$

For $x < 2$; function is $f(x) = 5$; which is a constant.

Function is continuous.

For $2 < x < 10$; function $f(x) = ax + b$; a polynomial.

Function is continuous.

For $x > 10$; function is $f(x) = 21$; which is a constant.

Function is continuous.

Now, for continuity at $x = 2$,

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

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (5) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \{a(2+h) + b\} = 5$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a + b = 5 \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

For continuity at $x = 10$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 10^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 10^+} f(x) = f(10)$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (21) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \{a(10-h) + b\} = 21$$

$$\Rightarrow 10a + b = 21 \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

Solving equation (1) and equation (2), we get

$a = 2$ and $b = 1$.

31. Show that the function defined by $f(x) = \cos(x^2)$ is a continuous function.

Solution:

Given function is :

$$f(x) = \cos(x^2)$$

Let $g(x) = \cos x$ and $h(x) = x^2$, then

$$goh(x) = g(h(x))$$

$$= g(x^2)$$

$$= \cos(x^2)$$

$$= f(x)$$

This implies, $goh(x) = f(x)$

Now,

$g(x) = \cos x$ is continuous and

$h(x) = x^2$ (a polynomial)

[We know that, if two functions are continuous then their composition is also continuous]

So, $goh(x)$ is also continuous.

Thus $f(x)$ is continuous.

32. Show that the function defined by $f(x) = |\cos x|$ is a continuous function.

Solution: Given function is

$$f(x) = |\cos x|$$

$f(x)$ is a real and finite for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and Domain of $f(x)$ is $\mathbb{R}$.

$$\text{Let } g(x) = \cos x \text{ and } h(x) = |x|$$

Here, $g(x)$ and $h(x)$ are cosine function and modulus function are continuous for all real x .

Now, $(goh)x = g\{h(x)\} = g(|x|) = \cos|x|$ is also is continuous being a composite function of two continuous functions, but not equal to $f(x)$.

$$\text{Again, } (hog)x = h\{g(x)\} = h(\cos x) = |\cos x| = f(x) \text{ [Using given]}$$

Therefore, $f(x) = |\cos x| = (hog)x$ is composite function of two continuous functions is continuous.

33. Examine that $\sin|x|$ is a continuous function.

Solution:

Let $f(x) = |x|$ and $g(x) = \sin x$, then

$$(gof)x = g\{f(x)\} = g(|x|) = \sin|x|$$

Now, f and g are continuous, so their composite, $(g \circ f)$ is also continuous.

Therefore, $\sin|x|$ is continuous.

34. Find all points of discontinuity of f defined by $f(x) = |x| - |x + 1|$

Solution:

Given function is $f(x) = |x| - |x + 1|$

When $x < -1$: $f(x) = -x - \{-(x + 1)\} = -x + x + 1 = 1$

When $-1 \leq x < 0$; $f(x) = -x - (x + 1) = -2x - 1$

When $x \geq 0$; $f(x) = x - (x + 1) = -1$

So, we have a function as:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x < -1 \\ -2x - 1, & \text{if } -1 \leq x < 0 \\ -1, & \text{if } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Checking the continuity at $x = -1$ and $x = 0$

At $x = -1$, L.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} 1 = 1$

R.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} (-2x - 1) = 1$

And $f(-1) = -2 \times 1 - 1 = -1$

Therefore, at $x = -1$, $f(x)$ is continuous.

At $x = 0$, L.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (-2x - 1) = -1$ and R.H.L. = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (-1) = -1$

And $f(0) = -1$

Therefore, at $x = 0$, $f(x)$ is continuous.

Hence, there are no points of discontinuity for $f(x)$.