

Do Now: #s 9 and 32 from the last page of the Limits Practice packet (Introductory Limits Problems)

$$9) \quad \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h-x)(x+h+x)}{(x+h)^2 - x^2}$$
$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(2x+h)}{h} = 2x$$

$$32) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left(\frac{(x-1)}{(\sqrt{x^2+3}-2)} \cdot \frac{(\sqrt{x^2+3}+2)}{(\sqrt{x^2+3}+2)} \right)$$
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x-1)(\sqrt{x^2+3}+2)}{(x^2+3-4)(\sqrt{x^2+3}+2)} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$$

Name: _____
AP Calculus: Continuity

Date: _____
Ms. Loughran

Intuitive definition:

A function is continuous if it can be drawn without lifting the pencil from the paper.

Mathematical definition of continuity at a point:

A function is continuous at $x = a$, if and only if:

- 1) $f(a)$ exists
- 2) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ exists (Remember this means $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$)
- 3) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$

1. For what value(s) of x is each of the following functions discontinuous?

(a) $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+1}$

@ $x = -1$

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

$(x-3)(x-1)$

@ $x = 3, 1$

2. Given: $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1} & \text{if } x \neq 1, x > 1 \text{ or } x < 1 \\ 2 & \text{if } x = 1 \end{cases}$ $f(1) = 2$

Is the function continuous at $x = 1$?

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

$f(1) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$ so yes

3. For $x \neq 2$, $f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 3x - 10}{x - 2}$. What value should be assigned to $f(2)$ to make $f(x)$ continuous at $x = 2$?

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\cancel{(x+5)}(x-2)}{\cancel{x-2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x+5 = 7$

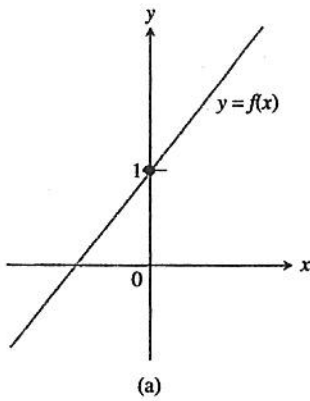
$f(2) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$

$f(2) = 7$

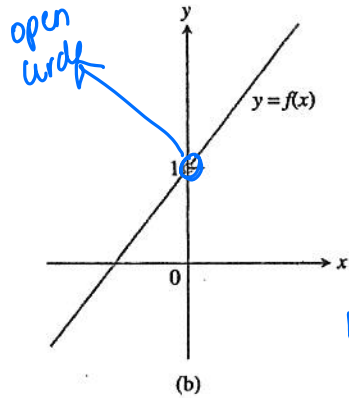
Name: _____
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Decide whether or not each graph is continuous at $x = 0$.

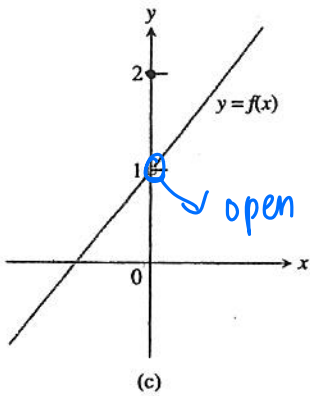


yes



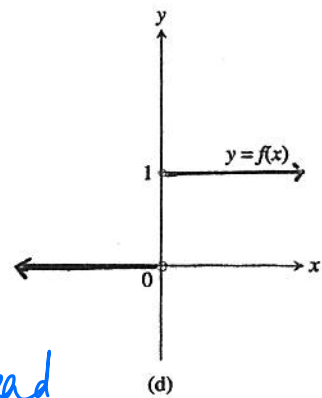
not continuous
@ $x = 0$

removable
discontinuity



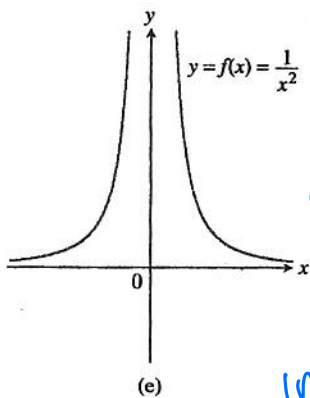
not continuous
at $x = 0$

we could make it
continuous by
redefining $f(0)$
letting $f(0) = 1$ instead
of $f(0) = 2$

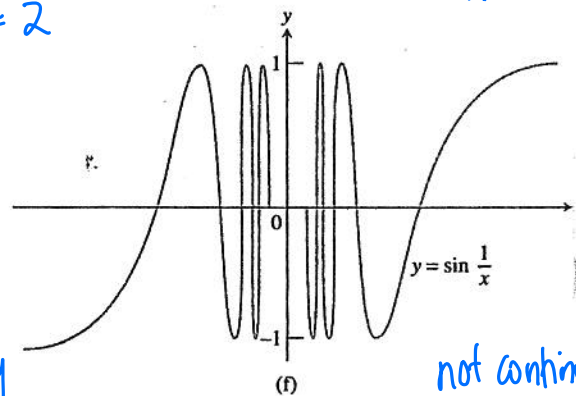


not
continuous
at $x = 0$

jump
discontinuity
not removable



not
continuous
at $x = 0$
infinite discontinuity
not removable



not continuous
at $x = 0$
oscillating discontinuity
not removable

4. For each of the following, find a value for the constant k , that will make the function continuous.

a) $f(x) = \begin{cases} 7x-2 & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ kx^2 & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$ $f(1) = 5$

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} 7x-2 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} kx^2$$

$$7(1)-2 = k(1)^2$$

$$5 = k$$

b) $f(x) = \begin{cases} x-k & \text{if } x \leq 2 \\ 2x-3 & \text{if } x > 2 \end{cases}$ *more formally* $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} x-k = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} 2x-3$

$$x-k = 2x-3 \quad @ \quad x=2$$

$$2-k = 2(2)-3$$

$$2-k = 1$$

$$-k = -1$$

$$k = 1$$

c) $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin x}{x} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ k & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$ $\frac{\sin x}{x} = 1 \quad @ \quad x=0$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = k$$

$$1 = k$$

d) $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{4-\sqrt{x}}{x-16} & \text{if } x \neq 16 \\ k & \text{if } x = 16 \end{cases}$ $f(16) = k$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 16} \frac{4-\sqrt{x}}{x-16} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 16} \frac{-\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}}{\sqrt{x}-4} = -\frac{1}{8}$$

$$k = -\frac{1}{8}$$

transformation of $\frac{1}{x}$
moves it right one

5. Is $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-1}$ continuous at $x=1$? $x=2$?

continuous at $x=1$? $f(1)$ is undefined

continuous at $x=2$? $f(2) = 1$
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{1}{x-1} = 1$ } = yes

6. Given the function $f(x) = |x-3|$. Prove that f is continuous at $x=3$. Graph $f(x)$.

