

AP Calculus AB – Unit 2 Outline – Limits and Continuity

Friday 8/23

Today's Topic: Introduction to Limits: Finding Limits Graphically and Numerically

Define: Limit – The value that a function **approaches** as the input approaches a value from both sides.

In-class examples:

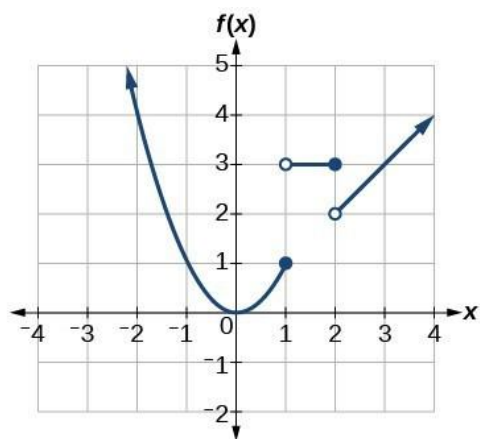
Ex. 1 For each of the following, what is approaching as x approaches a value of 2?

a) $f(x) = x - 1$

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

Ex. 2 For $f(x) = \frac{|x|}{x}$, what is $f(x)$ approaching as x approaches a value of 0?

Use the graph of $f(x)$ shown below to find each value.



Ex. 3

a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x)$ b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$ c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ d) $f(0)$

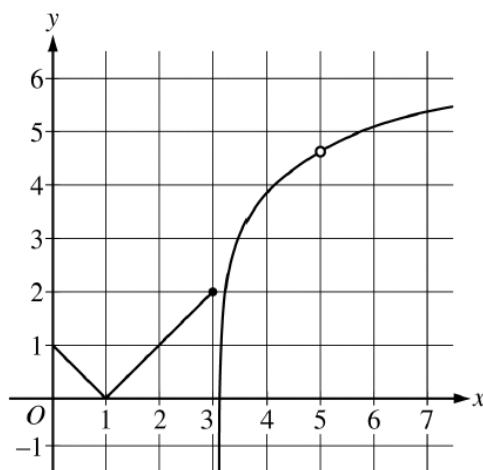
Ex. 4

a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x)$ b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x)$ c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$ d) $f(1)$

Ex. 5

a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} f(x)$ b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x)$ d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x)$

AP Multiple Choice



Graph of f

The graph of a function f is shown above. Which of the following limits does not exist?

- (A) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x)$ (B) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$ (C) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x)$ (D) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x)$ (E) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} f(x)$

Homework: Worksheet 7

In-class examples:

Ex. 1 Identify the three ways in which a limit will fail to exist. Include a graph for each.

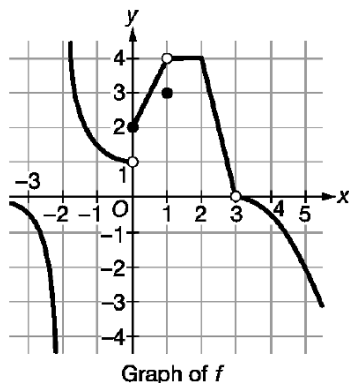
Ex. 2 Assume that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} f(x) = -1$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} g(x) = 3$, and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} h(x) = 2$. Find

a. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} (2g(x) + 3f(x))$

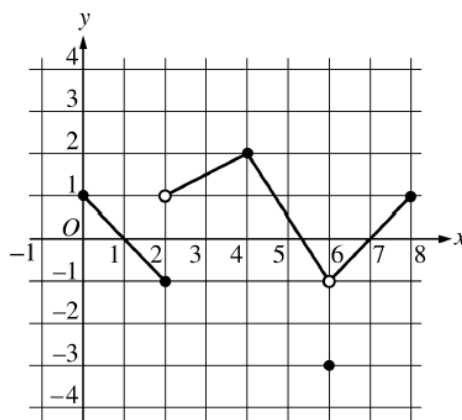
b. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \sqrt{h(x) + [g(x)]^2}$

c. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{g(x) - 1}{f(x) + x}$

Ex. 3 Given the graph of $f(x)$ and a table for selected values of $g(x)$ below, estimate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (3g(x) - 2f(x))$



x	0.8	0.9	0.99	0.999	1.001	1.01	1.1	1.2
$g(x)$	4.16	4.59	4.960	4.996	5.004	5.040	5.39	5.76

AP Multiple Choice

The figure above shows the graph of the function f . Which of the following statements are true?

- I. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = f(2)$
- II. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 6^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 6^+} f(x)$
- III. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} f(x) = f(6)$

- (A) II only
- (B) III only
- (C) I and II only
- (D) II and III only
- (E) I, II, and III

Tuesday 8/27	Today's Topic: Algebraic Methods for finding Limits
In-class examples: Ex. 1 Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (4x^2 + 3)$ using limit laws. Ex. 2 Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\cos x - 4)$ using direct substitution. Ex. 3 Evaluate the following limits: a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x + 1}$ b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pi} x \cos x$ c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 - 4}{x + 2}$ d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x + 6}{x - 3}$ Ex. 4 For $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}x + 1, & x \leq 2 \\ 3 - x, & x > 2 \end{cases}$, evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$. Ex. 5 For $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 - 5, & x < -3 \\ 0 & x = -3 \\ 8 - x, & x > -3 \end{cases}$, evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow -3} f(x)$.	
AP Multiple Choice If $f(x) = \begin{cases} \ln x & \text{for } 0 < x \leq 2 \\ x^2 \ln 2 & \text{for } 2 < x \leq 4, \end{cases}$ then $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ is (A) $\ln 2$ (B) $\ln 8$ (C) $\ln 16$ (D) 4 (E) nonexistent	
Homework: Worksheet 9	

Wednesday 8/28	Today's Topic: Algebraic Methods for Finding Limits; Indeterminate Forms
In-class examples: Ex.1 Evaluate the following limits: a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x - 3}{x^2 - 9}$ b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 - 5x + 6}{x^2 - 7x + 10}$ c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x - 3}{\sqrt{x + 1} - 2}$ d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x + 1} - 1}{x}$	
AP Multiple Choice: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 + x - 6}{x^2 - 4}$ is (A) $-\frac{1}{4}$ (B) 0 (C) 1 (D) $\frac{5}{4}$ (E) nonexistent	
Homework: Worksheet 10	

Thursday 8/29	Today's Topic: Limits involving the Difference Quotient; The Squeeze Theorem
Warm-Up: Evaluate $\frac{f(x+h)-f(x)}{h}$ for a) $f(x)=4x-1$ b) $f(x)=x^2-2x+1$	
In-class examples: Ex. 1 Evaluate $\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+\Delta x)-f(x)}{\Delta x}$ for a) $f(x)=3x+2$ b) $f(x)=x^2+4x+5$ The Squeeze Theorem Ex. 2 If $-3\cos(\pi x) \leq f(x) \leq x^3+2$, evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$. Justify your answer.	
AP Multiple Choice If $a \neq 0$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{x^2 - a^2}{x^4 - a^4}$ is (A) $\frac{1}{a^2}$ (B) $\frac{1}{2a^2}$ (C) $\frac{1}{6a^2}$ (D) 0 (E) nonexistent	
Homework: Worksheet 11	

Friday 8/30	Today's Topic: Limits at Infinity (Principle of Dominance); End Behavior; Definition of a Horizontal Asymptote.
In-class examples Ex. 1 Find the limit: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x-1}{x+1}$ Ex. 2 Find the limit: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(5 - \frac{2}{x^2}\right)$ Ex. 3 Find the limit: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x^3+2x^2-5}{3x^2-4x+1}$ Ex. 4 Find the limit: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin x}{3x^2+1}$ Ex. 5 Find the limit: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{3x^{20}+1}$ Ex. 6 Find the limit: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x-2}{\sqrt{2x^2+1}}$ Ex. 7 Find the limit: $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\ln x}{e^x}$ Ex. 8 Find the limit: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \cos \frac{1}{x}$	
AP Multiple Choice $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{9x^4+1}}{4x^2+3}$ is (A) $\frac{1}{3}$ (B) $\frac{3}{4}$ (C) $\frac{3}{2}$ (D) $\frac{9}{4}$ (E) infinite	
Homework: Worksheet 12	

Tuesday 9/3	Today's Topic: 3 Part Definition of Continuity
In-class examples: Ex. 1 Show that $f(x) = x^2 + 3x + 2$ is continuous at $x = 1$ using the 3-part definition of continuity. Ex. 2 Determine if $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-2}$ is continuous at $x = 2$ using the 3-part definition of continuity. Ex. 3 For $f(x) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{x+1}, & 0 \leq x \leq 3 \\ 5-x, & 3 < x \leq 5 \end{cases}$, determine if $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 3$.	
AP Multiple Choice Let f be the function given by $f(x) = \frac{(x-2)^2(x+3)}{(x-2)(x+1)}$. For which of the following values of x is f not continuous? (A) -3 and -1 only (B) -3, -1, and 2 (C) -1 only (D) -1 and 2 only (E) 2 only	
Homework: Worksheet 13	

Wednesday 9/4

Today's Topic: Removable discontinuities

In-class examples:

Ex. 1 Sketch the graph of any function f such that, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = 1$ and $f(2) = 5$.

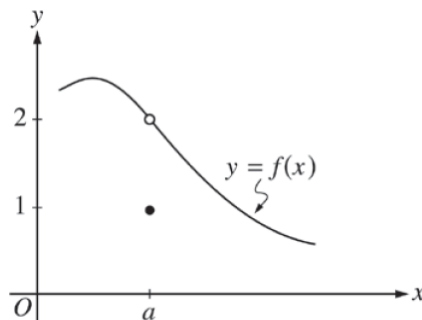
Ex. 2

- Determine the x -coordinates of any discontinuities on the graph of $f(x) = \frac{x-3}{x^2-9}$.
- Identify the discontinuities as either **infinite** or **removable**.
- Evaluate the limit at each **removable** discontinuity.
- State the interval(s) on which $f(x)$ is continuous.
- Write an extended function of $g(x)$ that is continuous.

Ex. 3

- Determine the x -coordinates of any discontinuities on the graph of $f(x) = \frac{x^2-3x+2}{x^2-4}$.
- Identify the discontinuities as either **infinite** or **removable**.
- Evaluate the limit at each **removable** discontinuity.
- State the interval(s) on which $f(x)$ is continuous.
- Write an extended function of $g(x)$ that is continuous.

AP Multiple Choice



The graph of a function f is shown in the figure above. Which of the following statements is true?

- $f(a) = 2$
- f is continuous at $x = a$.
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 1$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 2$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ does not exist.

Homework: Worksheet 14

Thursday 9/5

Today's Topic: Continuity; Infinite Discontinuities

In-class Examples:

Ex. 1 Sketch the graph of any function f such that, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = \infty$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = -\infty$.

Ex. 2

Recall Example 2 from Yesterday:

- f) Identify any vertical asymptotes on the graph of $f(x)$. Use limits to describe the behavior of $f(x)$ on the left and right of the vertical asymptote.

Ex. 3

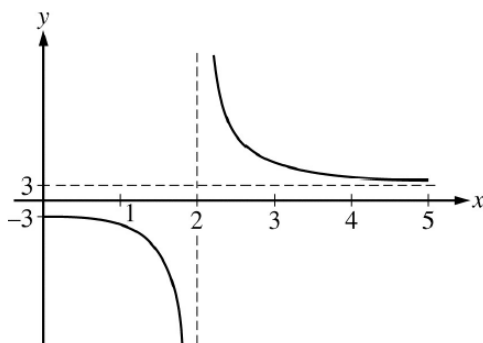
Recall Example 3 from Yesterday:

- f) Identify any vertical asymptotes on the graph of $f(x)$. Use limits to describe the behavior of $f(x)$ on the left and right of the vertical asymptote.

AP Multiple Choice

The vertical line $x = 2$ is an asymptote for the graph of the function f . Which of the following statements must be false?

- (A) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = 0$
(B) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = -\infty$
(C) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = \infty$
(D) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = 2$
(E) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \infty$



The function f is given by $f(x) = \frac{ax^2 + 12}{x^2 + b}$. The figure above shows a portion of the graph of f . Which of the following could be the values of the constants a and b ?

- (A) $a = -3$, $b = 2$
(B) $a = 2$, $b = -3$
(C) $a = 2$, $b = -2$
(D) $a = 3$, $b = -4$
(E) $a = 3$, $b = 4$

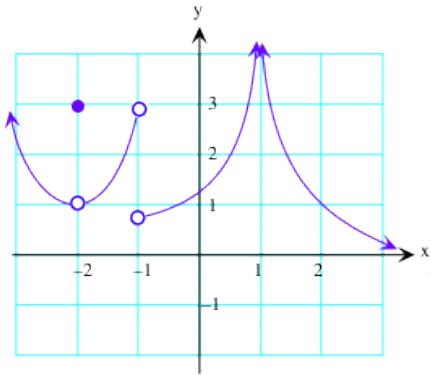
Homework: Worksheet 15

Friday 9/6	Today's Topic: Limits Quiz #1
In-class examples: None	
Homework: None	

Monday 9/9	Today's Topic: Continuity; Jump Discontinuities; Review
In-class examples: - Sketch the graph of any function f such that, $f(3) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} f(x) = 1$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) = 0$. - Determine whether f is continuous at c: $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & x < 1 \\ 3x + 2 & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$, $c = 1$. - Determine the numbers at which the following function is continuous: $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } x \leq 0 \\ x + 1 & \text{if } 0 < x < 2 \\ 5 - x & \text{if } 2 \leq x \leq 5 \end{cases}$	
AP Multiple Choice $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 - 3x + 9 & \text{for } x \leq 2 \\ kx + 1 & \text{for } x > 2 \end{cases}$ The function f is defined above. For what value of k, if any, is f continuous at $x = 2$? (A) 1 (B) 2 (C) 3 (D) 7 (E) No value of k will make f continuous at $x = 2$.	
Homework: Worksheet 16	

Tuesday 9/10	Today's Topic: Intermediate Value Theorem
In-Class Examples	
Ex. 1 Use the Intermediate Value Theorem to show that the polynomial function $f(x) = x^3 + 2x - 1$ has a zero in the interval $[0,1]$.	
Ex. 2 If $f(x) = x^2 + 10\sin x$, show that there is a number c such that $f(c) = 800$ in $[0,30]$.	
AP Multiple Choice	
Let f be a function that is continuous on the closed interval $[2, 4]$ with $f(2) = 10$ and $f(4) = 20$. Which of the following is guaranteed by the Intermediate Value Theorem?	
(A) $f(x) = 13$ has at least one solution in the open interval $(2, 4)$.	
(B) $f(3) = 15$	
(C) f attains a maximum on the open interval $(2, 4)$.	
(D) $f'(x) = 5$ has at least one solution in the open interval $(2, 4)$.	
(E) $f'(x) > 0$ for all x in the open interval $(2, 4)$.	
Homework: Worksheet 17	

Wednesday 9/11	Today's Topic: Special Trig Limits		
In-class examples:			
Ex. 1 Use a graphing calculator to determine: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x}$	Ex. 2 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 3x}{x}$		
Ex. 3 Use a graphing calculator to determine: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{x}$	Ex. 4 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos 7x}{x}$		
Homework: Find each limit:			
1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \frac{1}{2}x}{x}$	2. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \sec x$	3. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{2x}$	4. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3 \sin x}{x}$
5. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 3x}{5x}$	6. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin^2 2x}{3x^2}$	7. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan x}{x}$	8. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos(2x)}{2x}$
9. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x + 2}{\cos x}$	10. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} \tan x$	11. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin^2 x}{1 - \cos x}$ (Hint: Use an identity)	12. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3x}{\sin x}$

Thursday 9/12	Today's Topic: Limits/Continuity Review
In-class examples Ex. 1 Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 - a^2x, & x < 2 \\ 4 - 2x^2, & x \geq 2 \end{cases}$. Find all values of a that make f continuous at $x = 2$. Ex. 2 Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 \sin(\pi x), & x < 2 \\ x^2 - cx + 18, & x \geq 2 \end{cases}$. Find all values of c that make f continuous at $x = 2$. Ex. 3	
	The graph of $f(x)$ is shown at left. a) Determine the domain of $f(x)$. b) Determine the values of c for which $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$ exists. c) Determine the values of x for which $f(x)$ is continuous.
Homework: Worksheet 18	

Friday 9/13	Today's Topic: Unit 2 Test - Limits/Continuity – Good Luck!!
- Good luck on today's exam	
Homework: None	