

§2-5 Continuity

Definition :

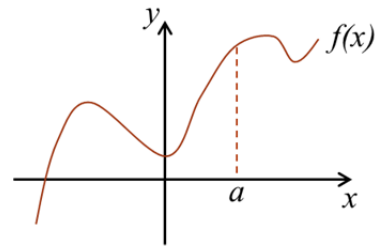
f is continuous at $x=a$

\Leftrightarrow The graph of f has no break at $x=a$

$\Leftrightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x) = f(a)$ (極限和函數可交換)

\Leftrightarrow Given $\varepsilon > 0$, \exists a $\delta = \delta_\varepsilon$ s.t.

if $|x - a| < \delta$, then $|f(x) - f(a)| < \varepsilon$.



* Three types of discontinuities :

<p>1. Jump</p> <p>discontinuity at $x=1$.</p>	<p>2. Infinite</p> $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{x}, & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 1, & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$ <p>discontinuity at $x=0$.</p>	<p>3. Removable</p> $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1}, & x \neq 1 \\ 3, & x = 1 \end{cases}$ <p>discontinuity at $x=1$.</p>

Definition :

f is continuous on I .

$\Leftrightarrow f$ is continuous at every point in I .

* Functions that are continuous on their domains :

Polynomials.

Exponentials & Log functions.

Trig. & Inverse trig. functions.

Rational.

Root functions.

Example 1 : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \sqrt{x} = ?$

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \sqrt{x} = \sqrt{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x} = \sqrt{1} = 1$

Example 2 : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{x}}{1 - x} \right) = ?$

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{x}} \right) = \sin^{-1} \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\pi}{6}$

Example 3 : $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - x - 2}{x - 2}, & x \neq 2 \\ 1, & x = 2 \end{cases}$

(i) Is f continuous at $x=2$?

(ii) If not, classify the type of discontinuity of f at $x=2$.

Solution :

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \left(\frac{x^2 - x - 2}{x - 2} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (x + 1) = 3 \neq 1 \Rightarrow \text{No!}$

(ii) Removable discontinuity.

Example 4 : $f_1(x) = [x]$, $f_2(x) = \frac{x-7}{|x-7|}$

(i) Find, respectively, the set of discontinuities of $f_i, i=1, 2$.

(ii) Classify the type of discontinuity of $f_i, i=1, 2$.

Solution :

(i) f_1 : discontinuous at all the integers.

f_2 : discontinuous at $x=7$.

(ii) All are jump discontinuity.

Example 5 : $f(x) = \begin{cases} cx^2 + 1, & x \leq 3. \\ cx - 1, & x > 3. \end{cases}$ Find c so that f is continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$.

Example 6 : $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \text{ is irrational.} \\ 1, & x \text{ is rational.} \end{cases}$ Find the set of discontinuity of f .

Solution :

因為有理數與無理數在實數線上接稠密(dense)(任意兩個不同的實數中間，一定存在一個有理數和無理數)，因此 f 在所有實數點上皆不連續。

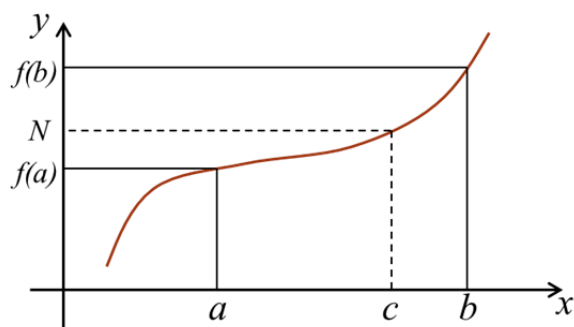
Example 7 : $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \text{ is irrational.} \\ x, & x \text{ is rational.} \end{cases}$ Find the set of discontinuity of f .

Solution : $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0 = f(0) \Rightarrow$ 在 0 點 f is continuous.

In fact, it is the only continuity.

\Rightarrow Discontinuity of $f = \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$.

* The Intermediate Value Theorem (中間值定理) (IVT)

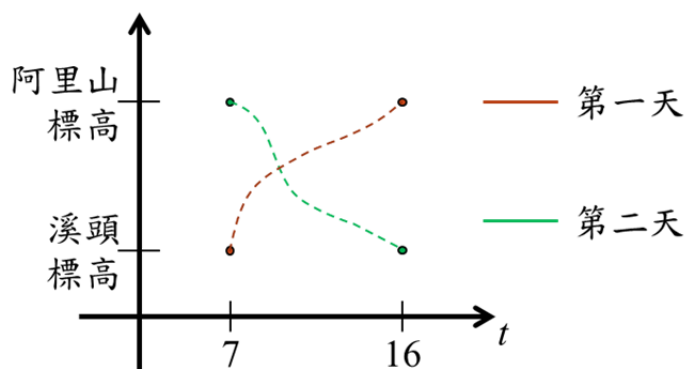


- f is cont. on $[a,b]$.
- $f(a) < N < f(b)$ or $f(b) < N < f(a)$

$$\Rightarrow \exists c \in (a,b) \text{ s.t. } f(c) = N$$

Example 8 : 小明早上 7 點從溪頭出發，一路往上，爬上阿里山，於下午 4 點抵達，在阿里山休息了一個晚上以後，隔天 7 點沿著相同路線往下走回溪頭，一樣在下午 4 點抵達。試說明小明在這兩天所經過的路徑中，必然有一點小明在這兩天的同一時間經過。

Solution :



Let $f(t) = (\text{第一天小明在 } t \text{ 時間的標高}) - (\text{第二天小明在 } t \text{ 時間的標高})$

$$\Rightarrow f(7) < 0 \text{ and } f(16) > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists t \text{ s.t. } f(t) = 0$$

* 問：如果這條“溪—阿路線”不是一直往上(有上上下下的路段)，以上結論還是對嗎？