

Calculus, Fall 2025, week 6

Recall

① Let $f(x)$ be a function defined in (a, b) and $c \in (a, b)$.

f is continuous at $x=c$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \text{(i)} & \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) \text{ exists} \\ \text{(ii)} & \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = f(c) \end{cases}$$

$\Leftrightarrow$ for any seq. $x_n \in (a, b)$ and

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = c$, we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(c) = f\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n\right)$$

② f is continuous on $[a, b]$ if

i) f is continuous at any $c \in (a, b)$

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

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

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

③ Polynomials, $\sin x$, $\cos x$, $|x|$,
are continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$

Application to limits

Thm

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = b$ and g is continuous
at $x = b$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(f(x)) &= g\left(\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)\right) \\ &= g(b) \end{aligned}$$

pf

Recall:

$$\textcircled{1} \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = b \Leftrightarrow \forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \text{ s.t. } \underline{\underline{|f(x) - b| < \varepsilon}} \quad \forall 0 < |x - c| < \delta$$

② g is continuous at $b \Leftrightarrow \lim_{y \rightarrow b} g(y) = g(b)$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta' > 0 \text{ s.t. } |g(y) - g(b)| < \varepsilon$$

idea: plug in
 $y = f(x)$

$$\forall \text{ ~~some~~ } |y - b| < \delta'$$

$$\underline{\underline{|f(x) - b| < \delta'}}$$

③ Want to show: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(f(x)) = g(b)$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \tilde{\delta} > 0 \text{ s.t.}$$

$$| \underline{g(f(x))} - g(b) | < \varepsilon \quad \forall 0 < |x - c| < \tilde{\delta}$$

Since g is continuous at b , we have
for any $\varepsilon > 0$, $\exists \delta' > 0$ s.t.

$$|g(y) - g(b)| < \varepsilon \quad \forall |y - b| < \delta'$$

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = b$, for $\delta' > 0$, $\exists \delta > 0$ s.t.

$$|f(x) - b| < \delta' \quad \forall 0 < |x - c| < \delta$$

So (set $y = f(x)$)

$$|g(f(x)) - g(b)| < \varepsilon \quad \forall 0 < |x - c| < \delta$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(f(x)) = g(b) \quad \#$$

Example

$$\textcircled{1} \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \cos \left(2x + \sin \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} + x \right) \right)$$

by Thm
 $\cos$ is conti.

$$\cos \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \left(2x + \sin \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} + x \right) \right) \right)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} 2x + \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \sin \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} + x \right)$$

$\leftarrow \sin$ is conti.

$$\frac{3\pi}{2} + \frac{\pi}{2} = 2\pi$$

$$2 \cdot \frac{\pi}{2} + \sin \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \left(\frac{3\pi}{2} + x \right) \right)$$

$$= \cos \left(2 \cdot \frac{\pi}{2} + \overset{0}{\sin 2\pi} \right) = \cos \pi = -1 \quad \#$$

$\sin$ is conti.

$$\textcircled{2} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{n} \right) \Downarrow \sin \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\pi}{n} \right)$$

$$= \sin 0 = 0 \quad \#$$

$\sqrt{x}$ is continuous in $[0, +\infty)$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{3} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{2n-1}{n}} &= \sqrt{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n-1) \times \frac{1}{n}}{n \times \frac{1}{n}}} \\ &= \sqrt{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2 - \frac{1}{n}}{1}} = \sqrt{2} \quad \# \end{aligned}$$

$|x|$ is continuous

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{4} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{2n-1}{n} \right| &= \left| \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n-1}{n} \right| \\ &= |2| = 2 \quad \# \end{aligned}$$

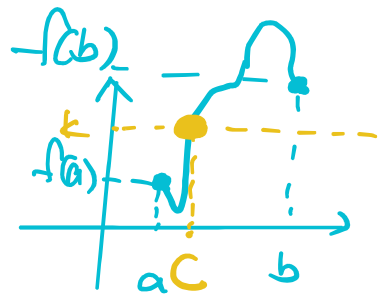
Application to solving equations:

Thm (Intermediate Value Thm, 中間值定理
Thm 2.6.1)

Let f be a continuous function on $[a, b]$. If $k \in \mathbb{R}$ is a number

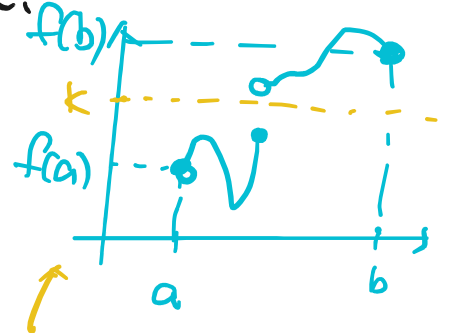
st. $f(a) < k < f(b)$

or $f(b) < k < f(a)$,



then $\exists c \in (a, b)$ st.

$$f(c) = k$$



NOT continuous
 $\nexists c$ st. $f(c) = k$

pf
Step 1:

Divide $[a, b]$ into $[a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$ and $[\frac{a+b}{2}, b]$

If $f(\frac{a+b}{2}) = k$, then the conclusion follows.

If not, then k is either between $f(a)$ and $f(\frac{a+b}{2})$

or

between $f(\frac{a+b}{2})$ and $f(b)$

Let

$$[a, b] = \begin{cases} [a, \frac{a+b}{2}] & \text{if } k \text{ is between } f(a) \text{ and } f(\frac{a+b}{2}) \\ [\frac{a+b}{2}, b] & \text{if } k \text{ is between } f(\frac{a+b}{2}) \text{ and } f(b) \end{cases}$$

Step 2: Do the same thing for $[a_1, b_1]$:

If $f(\frac{a_1+b_1}{2}) = k$, take $c = \frac{a_1+b_1}{2}$

If not, set

$$[a_2, b_2] = \begin{cases} [a_1, \frac{a_1+b_1}{2}] & \text{if } k \text{ is between } f(a_1) \text{ and } f(\frac{a_1+b_1}{2}) \\ [\frac{a_1+b_1}{2}, b_1] & \text{if } k \text{ is between } f(\frac{a_1+b_1}{2}) \text{ and } f(b_1) \end{cases}$$

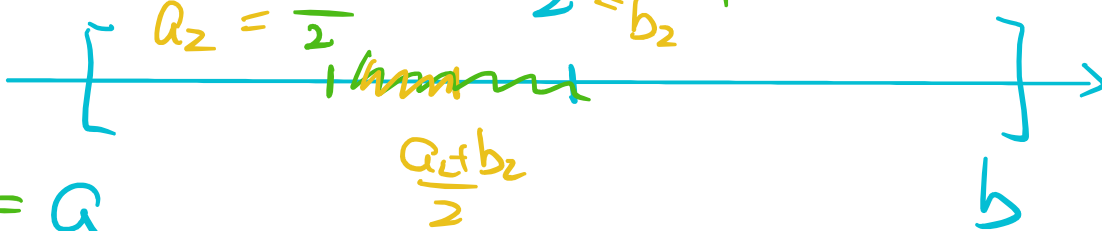
$$f(a) - k - f(\frac{a+b}{2}) - f(\frac{a+b}{2}) \neq k$$

$$f(\frac{a_1+b_1}{2}) \neq k$$

$$\frac{a+b}{2} = b_1$$

$$\frac{a+b}{2} = b_2$$

$$a_2 = \frac{a_1+b_1}{2}$$



$$a_1 = a$$

Step 3: Repeat this process:

If $f\left(\frac{a_n+b_n}{2}\right) = k$ for some n , then the thm is proved.

If $f\left(\frac{a_n+b_n}{2}\right) \neq k \quad \forall n$, then ...

we obtain a seq. of intervals:

$$\underline{[a, b] \supseteq [a_1, b] \supseteq [a_2, b_2] \supseteq [a_3, b_3] \supseteq \dots}$$

s.t. (i) $b_n - a_n = \frac{b-a}{2^n}$

(ii) k is between $f(a_n)$ and $f(b_n)$

(iii)

$$\underline{a} \leq a_1 \leq a_2 \leq a_3 \leq \dots \leq \underline{a_n} < \underline{b_n} \leq b_3 \leq b_2 \leq \underline{b_1} \leq \underline{b}$$

So by (iii),

$(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is increasing and bounded above by b

$(b_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is decreasing and bounded below by a

$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n$ exist.

By (i),

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n - a_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{b-a}{2^n} \right) = 0$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n \stackrel{\text{let}}{=} c \in [a, b]$$

By (ii), k is between $f(a_n)$ and $f(b_n)$

$$\Rightarrow (k - f(a_n))(k - f(b_n)) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (k - f(a_n))(k - f(b_n)) \leq 0$$

$\parallel \leftarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = c = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n \stackrel{f \text{ cont.}}{\Rightarrow} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = f(c)$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (k - f(a_n)) \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (k - f(b_n)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(b_n)$$

||

$$(k - f(c)) \cdot (k - f(c))$$

$$\begin{matrix} || \\ (k - f(c))^2 \\ \forall \\ 0 \end{matrix}$$

$$\left(\begin{matrix} f(a) \neq k, f(b) \neq k \\ \Rightarrow c \in (a, b) \end{matrix} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow (k - f(c))^2 = 0 \Rightarrow k = f(c) \quad \#$$

Example

① Show that $x^4 - x - 1 = 0$ has a solution in $[-1, 1]$.

pf
Let $f(x) = x^4 - x - 1$. which is Continuous on $[-1, 1]$

Since $f(-1) = (-1)^4 - (-1) - 1 = 1 > 0$ "k in Thm"

$$f(1) = 1^4 - 1 - 1 = -1 < 0$$

h. m. r. . . n . . . i

By IVT (intermediate value thm),

$$\exists c \in (-1, 1) \text{ s.t.}$$

$$f(c) = 0$$

That is, c is a sol ~~#~~

② Show that $x^3 - 4x + 2 = 0$ has 3 distinct roots in $[-3, 2]$ has at most 3 roots.

pf

Let $g(x) = x^3 - 4x + 2$ which is continuous on $[-3, 2]$

Since

$$g(-3) = -13 < 0$$

$$g(-2) = 2 > 0 \quad \leftarrow$$

$$g(0) = 2 > 0$$

$$g(1) = -1 < 0 \quad \leftarrow$$

$$g(2) = 2 > 0 \quad \leftarrow$$

$$\exists c_1 \in (-3, -2), \quad c_2 \in (0, 1), \quad c_3 \in (1, 2)$$

s.t.

$$g(c_1) = g(c_2) = g(c_3) = 0 \quad \#$$