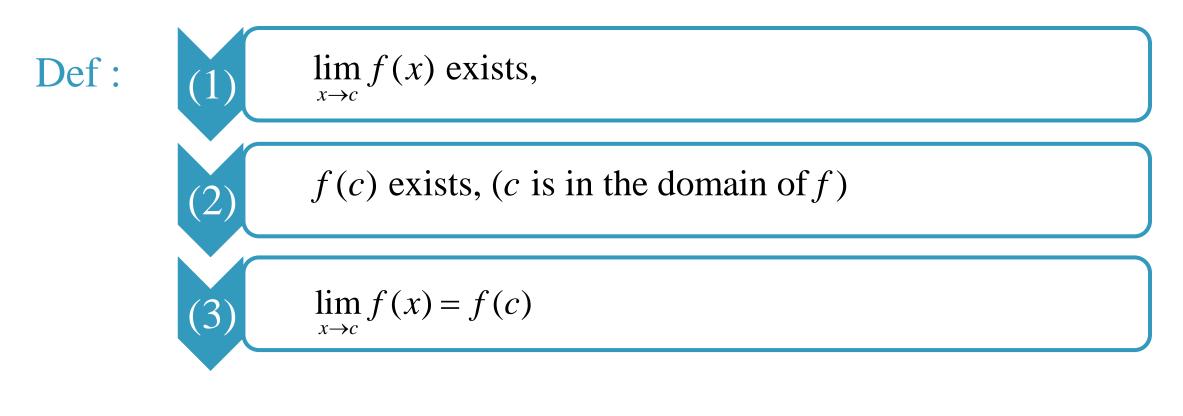




# Continuity of Functions

Lecturer: Xue Deng

#### The discontinuous point and kinds





Any one of these three fails, then f is discontinuous at c.

#### Two kinds of discontinuity:

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discontinuous point (discontinuity point of the first kind):

$$f(x_0-0)$$
 and  $f(x_0+0)$  both exist,

If  $f(x_0 - 0) = f(x_0 + 0)$ ,  $x_0$  removable discontinuity.

If  $f(x_0 - 0) \neq f(x_0 + 0)$ ,  $x_0$  jump discontinuity.

discontinuous point (discontinuity point of the second kind):

 $f(x_0 - 0)$  and  $f(x_0 + 0)$  at least one does not exist.

If one of the two limits is  $\infty$ ,  $x_0$  infinity discontinuity.

If one of two limits is changeable,  $x_0$  [oscillatory] discontinuity.

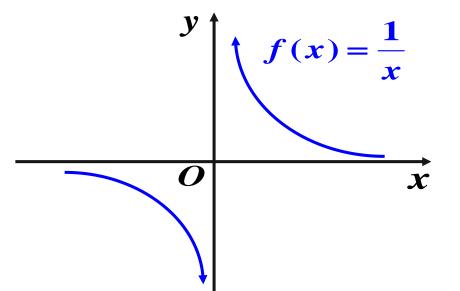
## infinity discontinuity

Eg 1: Function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ ,  $\int f(c)$  does not exist, (c is in the domain of f)

f(x) at x = 0 is not defined, f(0) does not exist  $\Rightarrow$  discontinuity.

and 
$$\lim_{x \to 0^+} f(x) = +\infty$$
,  $\lim_{x \to 0^-} f(x) = -\infty$ 

 $x = x_0$  infinity discontinuity.



## oscillatory discontinuity

Eg 2:  $\lim_{x\to c} f(x)$  does not exist

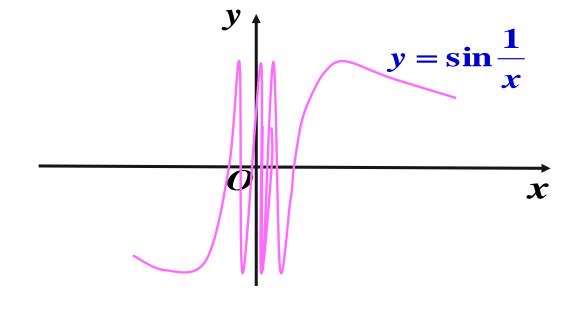
Function 
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin \frac{1}{x}, & x \neq 0, \\ 0, & x = 0, \end{cases}$$

(1) 
$$f(0)$$
 exists;

(2) 
$$\lim_{x \to 0} \sin \frac{1}{x}$$
 does not exist;

 $x \to 0$ ,  $\sin \frac{1}{x}$  is changeable between 1 and -1.

x = 0 oscillatory discontinuity.



## jump discontinuity

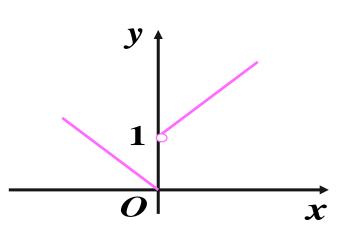
Eg 3: Function 
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -x, & x \le 0, \\ 1+x, & x > 0, \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{x \to c} f(x) \text{ does not exist}$$

(1) f(0) exists;

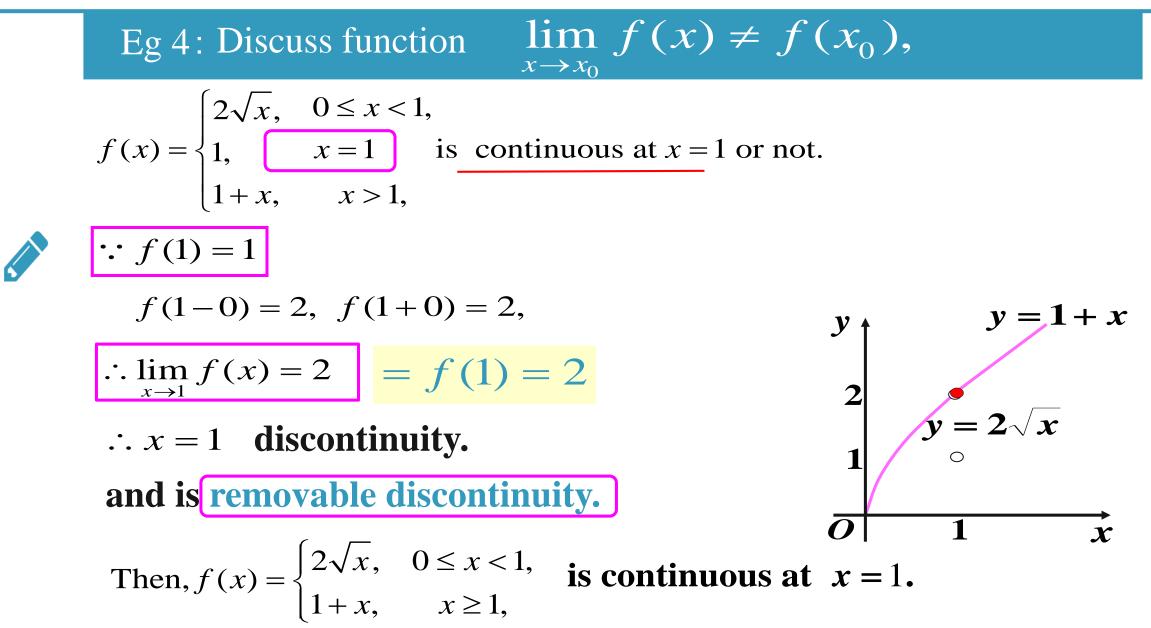
(2) 
$$\lim_{x \to 0^{-}} (-x) = 0$$
  $\lim_{x \to 0^{+}} (1+x) = 1$ 

 $f(0-0) \neq f(0+0)$ , limdoes not exist.



x = 0 jump discontinuity.

#### removable discontinuity



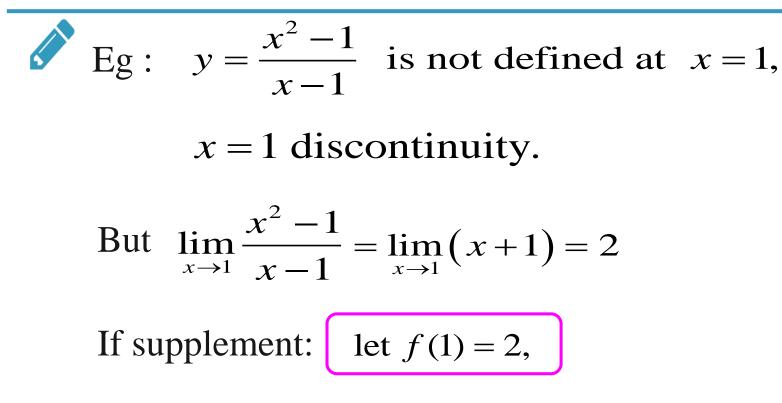
#### Note

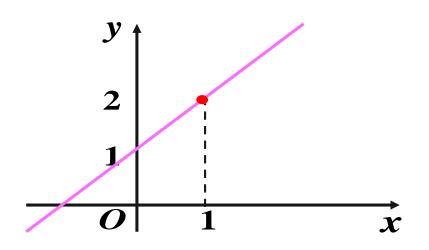
As to removable point  $x_0$ , let  $\lim_{x \to x_0} f(x) = A$ ,

And supplement or change the function value of  $x_0$ 

Such that equal to A,  $x_0$  is continuous point.

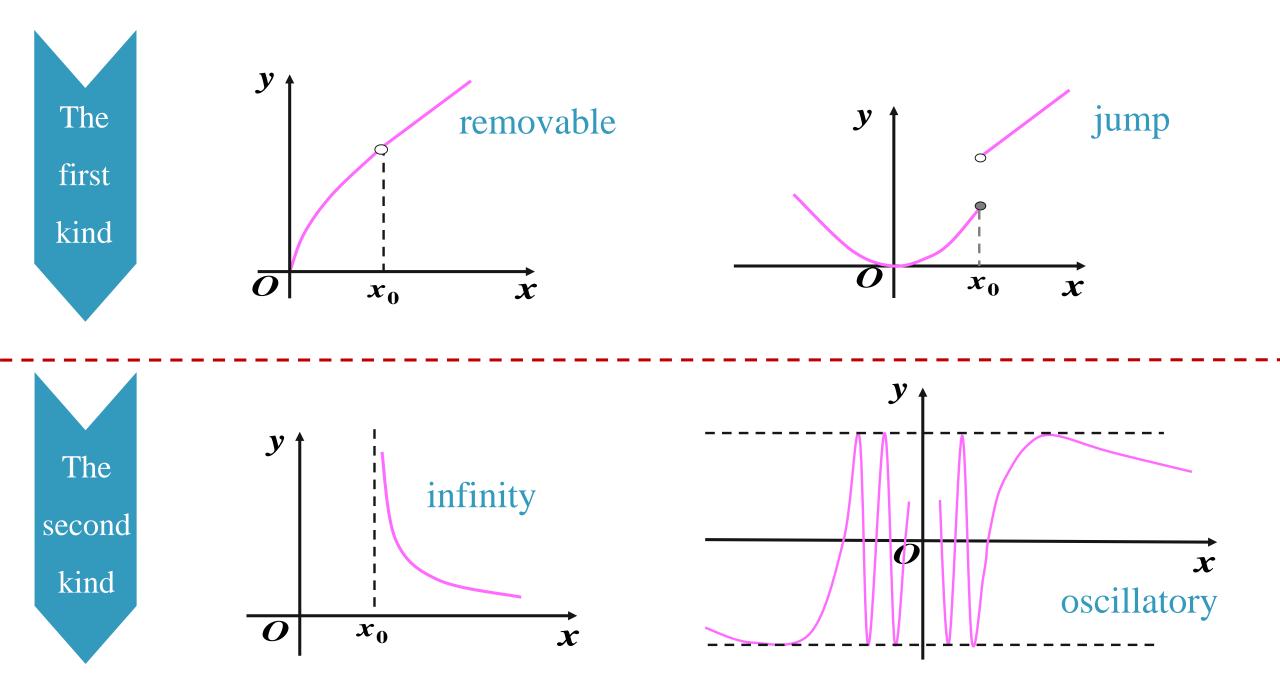
#### removable discontinuity





Then function is continuous at x = 1.

So x = 1 is called removable.



#### Relationship of continuity and limit:







Say something about kind.

Find the discontinuity of 
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 - e^{1-\frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{2}}}}$$
,



When x = 0, x = 1, not defined, discontinuity.

$$x = 0$$
, by  $\lim_{x \to 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \to 0} \frac{1}{1 - e^{\frac{x}{1 - x}}} = \infty$ ,

So x = 0 infinity discontinuity.

$$x = 1$$
, by  $\lim_{x \to 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \to 1^-} \frac{1}{1 - e} = 0$   
 $\lim_{x \to 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \to 1^-} \frac{1}{1 - e} = 1$ 

$$\lim_{x \to 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \to 1^+} \frac{1}{1 - e^{\frac{x}{1 - x}}} \xrightarrow{-\infty} 1$$

So x = 1 jump discontinuity.

#### Exercise

Let 
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin x}{x} & x < 0\\ a & x = 0\\ b + x \sin \frac{1}{x} & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

(1)  $\lim_{x \to 0} f(x)$  exist; (2) f(x) is continuous at x = 0.

By 
$$\lim_{x \to 0^{-}} f(x) = 1$$
,  $\lim_{x \to 0^{+}} f(x) = b$ , so  
(1)  $\lim_{x \to 0} f(x)$  exist; only need to  
 $\lim_{x \to 0^{-}} f(x) = \lim_{x \to 0^{+}} f(x)$ , namely,  $b = 1$  (*a* any number).

(2) f(x) is continuous at x = 0. Only need to

$$\lim_{x \to 0^{-}} f(x) = \lim_{x \to 0^{+}} f(x) = f(0), \text{ namely } a = b = 1.$$

#### Intermediate Value Theorem

Lemma (Existence Theorem of Equation Root)

Zero Point Theorem

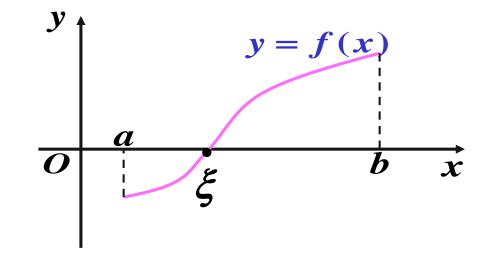
Let  $f(x) \in C[a,b]$ ,

 $f(a) \cdot f(b) < 0$  (f(a) and f(b) have different signs)

then there is at least one point  $\xi \in (a,b), f(\xi) = 0,$ 

 $\xi$  is the root of equation f(x) = 0, sometimes called zero point

Geometrical meaning:

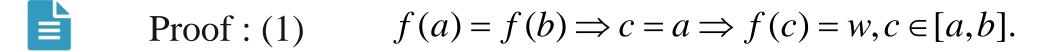


#### Theorems of Continuity of Functions

If f is defined on [a,b]

Th F

$$f \text{ is continuous on } [a,b] \right\} \Rightarrow \exists c \in [a,b], \text{ such that } f(c) = w.$$
$$\forall w \in [f(a), f(b)]$$



#### Theorems of Continuity of Functions

If f is defined on [a,b]

$$f \text{ is continuous on } [a,b] \\ \Rightarrow \exists c \in [a,b], \text{ such that } f(c) = w. \\ \forall w \in [f(a), f(b)] \\ \end{cases}$$

Proof : (2) 
$$f(a) \neq f(b)$$

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Auxiliary function 
$$\phi(x) = f(x) - w$$
, then  $\phi(x) \in C[a,b]$ ,  
and  $\phi(a) = f(a) - w = f(a) - w$ , Zero Theorem

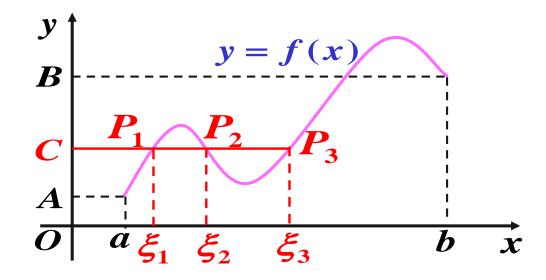
and 
$$\phi(b) = f(b) - w = f(b) - w$$
,

 $\therefore \phi(a) \cdot \phi(b) < 0, \exists c \in (a,b), \text{ such that}$ 

$$\phi(c) = 0$$
, namely,  $\phi(c) = f(c) - w = 0$ ,  $\therefore f(c) = w$ .

#### Geometrical meaning:

There is at least one intersection point of y = f(x) and line y = C



## **Questions and Answers**

Eg 1: Show that the equation  $x^3 - 8x + 1 = 0$ has at least one root in (0,1).

Let 
$$f(x) = x^3 - 8x + 1 \in C[0, 1]$$

and 
$$f(0) = 1 > 0$$
,  $f(1) = -6 < 0$ ,

#### By Intermediate Value Theorem,

 $\exists c \in (0,1), \text{ such that } f(c) = 0, \text{ namely, } c^3 - 8c + 1 = 0,$ 

 $\therefore x^3 - 8x + 1 = 0$  has at least one root in (0,1).

#### Questions and Answers

Eg 2: 
$$f(x) \in C[a,b]$$
, and  $f(a) < a$ ,  $f(b) > b$ .  
Prove  $\exists \xi \in (a,b)$ , such that  $f(\xi) = \xi$ .

Auxiliary function

Let 
$$F(x) = f(x) - x$$
,  $F(x) \in \mathbb{C}[a, b]$ ,

and 
$$F(a) = f(a) - a < 0$$
,

$$F(b) = f(b) - b > 0,$$

$$\exists \xi \in (a,b), \text{ s.t. } F(\xi) = f(\xi) - \xi = 0,$$

Namely,  $f(\xi) = \xi$ .

Questions and Answers  
Eg 3: 
$$f(x) \in C[a,b], \alpha, \beta > 0,$$
  
prove:  $\exists \xi \in [a,b], \text{ sucht that } f(\xi) = \frac{\alpha f(a) + \beta f(b)}{\alpha + \beta}.$   
(1) $f(a) = f(b), \xi = a.$   
(2) $f(a) < f(b), (f(a) > f(b), \text{similar way}).$   
Let  $\mu = \frac{\alpha f(a) + \beta f(b)}{\alpha + \beta}$   
Obviously,  $f(a) < \mu < f(b), \text{Intermediate Value TH}$   
 $\exists \xi \in (a,b), \text{ s.t. } f(\xi) = \mu,$   
Namely,  $f(\xi) = \frac{\alpha f(a) + \beta f(b)}{\alpha + \beta}.$ 

#### Questions and Answers

Eg 4: 
$$f(x), g(x) \in C[a, b], \text{and } f(a) < g(a), \lim_{\delta x \to 0} f(b) > g(b),$$
  
prove: $\exists \xi \in [a, b], s.t. f(\xi) = g(\xi).$ 

Let 
$$F(x) = f(x) - g(x)$$
, then

 $F(x) \in \mathbb{C}[a,b]$ , and

$$F(a) = f(a) - g(a) < 0;$$

F(b) = f(b) - g(b) > 0. Zero Theorem

 $\exists \xi \in (a,b), \quad s.t.F(\xi) = 0, \text{ namely, } f(\xi) = g(\xi).$ 

#### **Continuity of Functions**

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