

Exercise walk-through

Defining Continuity at a Point ■ 1.11

eXercise

You must be able to

- state the three conditions for **continuity** 连续性 at a point
- test continuity using $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$

Method — Continuity at a point

f is continuous at a when all three hold:

- 1 $f(a)$ is defined;
- 2 $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ exists;
- 3 they are equal: $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$.

Method — Example

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = 5$ and $f(2) = 5$, then f is continuous at 2.

Practice 2.1 ■ 1 mark

State the three conditions for continuity at a .

Solution 2.1

Method: Continuity at a point

Worked steps

$f(a)$ is defined; the limit exists; the limit equals $f(a)$ **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 1 mark

State the single equation summarizing continuity at a .

Solution 2.2

Worked steps

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a) \quad \text{B1}.$$

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = 5$ and $f(2) = 5$, is f continuous at 2?

Solution 2.3

Worked steps

yes — the limit exists, $f(2)$ is defined, and they are equal **M1** **A1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

f is continuous at a if and only if

A $f(a)$ is defined

B $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$

C the limit exists only

D f is linear

Solution 3.1

A $f(a)$ is defined

B $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$



C the limit exists only

D f is linear

Worked steps

B.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ exists but $\neq f(a)$, then f is

- A** continuous at a
- B** discontinuous at a
- C** linear
- D** undefined everywhere

Solution 3.2

- A continuous at a
- B discontinuous at a**
- C linear
- D undefined everywhere



Worked steps

B.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

$f(2) = 5$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = 5$.

- (a) Is $f(2)$ defined?
- (b) Does the limit exist?
- (c) Is f continuous at 2?

Solution 3.3

Method: Continuity at a point

Worked steps

(a) yes **B1**. (b) yes **B1**. (c) yes **B1**.