

Section 2.6

16.) $y = \frac{x+3}{x^2-3x-10}$; $y = x+3$ and $y = x^2-3x-10$ are continuous for all values of x since they are polynomials; therefore, since $y = \frac{x+3}{x^2-3x-10}$ is the quotient of these functions, it is continuous for all values of x except where $x^2-3x-10 = (x-5)(x+2) = 0$, i.e., except for $x=5$ and $x=-2$.

20.) $y = \frac{x+2}{\cos x}$; $y = x+2$ is continuous for all values of x since it is a polynomial ; $y = \cos x$ is continuous for all values of x since it is a well-known trig function; therefore, since $y = \frac{x+2}{\cos x}$ is the quotient of

these functions, it is continuous for all values of x except where $\cos x = 0$, i.e., except for $x = \pm \frac{\pi}{2}, \pm \frac{3\pi}{2}, \pm \frac{5\pi}{2}, \dots$

26.) $y = (3x-1)^{1/4}$; let $f(x) = x^{1/4}$, which is continuous for $x \geq 0$, and let $g(x) = 3x-1$, which is continuous for all values of x since it is a polynomial ; since $y = (3x-1)^{1/4} = f(3x-1) = f(g(x))$ is functional composition, it is

continuous for all x-values for which $3x-1 \geq 0$, i.e., for $x \geq \frac{1}{3}$.

38.) $g(x) = \frac{x^2-16}{x^2-3x-4}$ then

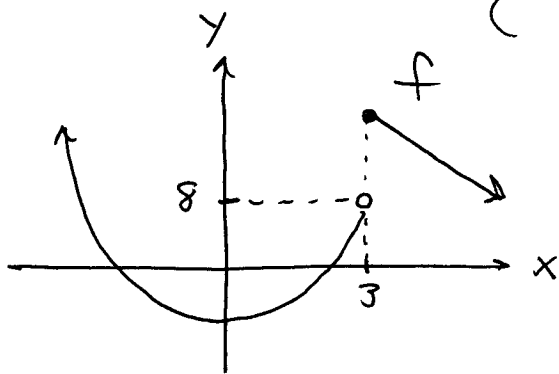
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} g(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x^2-16}{x^2-3x-4}$$

"0/0"

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(x-4)(x+4)}{(x-4)(x+1)} = \frac{8}{5}, \text{ so}$$

define $g(4) = 8/5$ and g will be continuous at $x=4$.

39.) Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2-1, & \text{if } x < 3 \\ 2ax, & \text{if } x \geq 3 \end{cases}$



$y = x^2 - 1$ is continuous for $x < 3$ (polynomial);

$y = 2ax$ is continuous for

$x > 3$ (line); make f continuous at $x = 3$ by forcing limits to be equal:

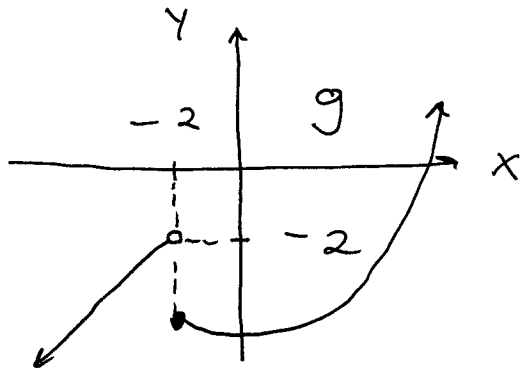
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} (x^2 - 1) = 9 - 1 = 8,$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} (2ax) = 6a, \text{ so}$$

$$6a = 8 \rightarrow a = \frac{4}{3}$$

40.) Let $g(x) = \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } x < -2 \\ bx^2, & \text{if } x \geq -2 \end{cases}$

$Y = x$ is continuous for $x < -2$ (line),
 $Y = bx^2$ is continuous for $x > -2$
 (parabola); make g continuous
 at $x = -2$ by forcing limits to be
 equal:



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} g(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} x = -2,$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} g(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} bx^2 = 4b,$$

so $4b = -2 \rightarrow b = -\frac{1}{2}$.

I.) Prove $x^3 = x + 2$ is solvable:

$$x^3 = x + 2 \rightarrow x^3 - x - 2 = 0, \text{ so let } f(x) = x^3 - x - 2 \text{ and } m = 0;$$

note that $f(1) = -2 < 0$ and $f(2) = 4 > 0$

so $m = 0$ is between $f(1)$ and $f(2)$;
 use the interval $[1, 2]$; f is a
continuous function on $[1, 2]$ since

it is a polynomial. By the IMVT
 it follows that there is a number
 c , $1 \leq c \leq 2$, so that $f(c) = m$, i.e.,

$$c^3 - c - 2 = 0, \text{ and the}$$

original equation is solvable.

II.) Prove $2 + \sin x = x$ is solvable:

$2 + \sin x = x \rightarrow 2 - x + \sin x = 0$ so
let $f(x) = 2 - x + \sin x$ and $m = 0$;
 f is continuous for all values
of x since it is the sum of continuous
functions ($y = 2 - x$, a line, and
 $y = \sin x$, a well-known trig
function); note that $f(0) = 2 > 0$
and $f(\pi) = 2 - \pi - \sin \pi = 2 - \pi < 0$,
so $m = 0$ is between $f(0)$ and $f(\pi)$;
use the interval $[0, \pi]$. By the IMVT
it follows that there is a number
 c , $0 \leq c \leq \pi$, so that $f(c) = m$, i.e.,
 $2 - c + \sin c = 0$, and the
original equation is solvable.

1.) Use limits and algebra to determine the value of constants A and B so that each of the following functions is continuous for all values of x.

$$\text{a.) } f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - 7x + 6}{x - 6}, & \text{if } x \neq 6 \\ A, & \text{if } x = 6. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{b.) } f(x) = \begin{cases} A^2x - A, & \text{if } x \geq 1 \\ 2, & \text{if } x < 1. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{c.) } f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{A + x}{A + 1}, & \text{if } x < 0 \\ Ax^3 + 3, & \text{if } x \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{d.) } f(x) = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ Ax^2 + B, & \text{if } 1 < x \leq 2 \\ 5, & \text{if } x > 2. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{e.) } f(x) = \begin{cases} Ax - B, & \text{if } x \leq -1 \\ 2x + 3A + B, & \text{if } -1 < x \leq 1 \\ 4, & \text{if } x > 1. \end{cases}$$

2.) For what x-values are the following functions continuous? Briefly explain why using shortcuts and rules from class. Sketch the graph of each using a graphing calculator.

$$\text{a.) } g(x) = \frac{x + 1}{x^2 - 4}$$

$$\text{b.) } h(x) = \frac{100}{4 - \sqrt{x^2 - 9}}$$

$$\text{c.) } h(x) = \sin^3(\ln(3x - 5))$$

$$\text{d.) } g(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - 3x - 4}{x - 4}, & \text{if } x \neq 4 \\ 5, & \text{if } x = 4. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{e.) } f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^3 + 1}{x^2 - 1}, & \text{if } x \neq 1, -1 \\ -3/2, & \text{if } x = -1 \\ 3, & \text{if } x = 1. \end{cases}$$

Worksheet 2 Solutions

1.) a.) Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 6} \frac{x^2 - 7x + 6}{x - 6}$

$\frac{0}{0}$
 $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 6} \frac{(x-6)(x-1)}{(x-6)} = 5$, choosing $\boxed{a=5}$

makes f continuous at $x=6$ (It's already continuous for $x \neq 6$.)

b.) f is continuous for $x < 1$ and for $x > 1$.

We must make f continuous at $x=1$:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (a^2x - a) = a^2 - a \quad \text{and}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (2) = 2, \quad \text{thus } a^2 - a = 2 \rightarrow$$

$$a^2 - a - 2 = 0 \rightarrow (a-2)(a+1) = 0 \rightarrow \boxed{a=2} \text{ or } \boxed{a=-1}$$

c.) f is continuous for $x < 0$ (so long as $a \neq -1$)

and for $x > 0$. We must make f continuous at $x=0$:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (ax^3 + 3) = 3 \quad \text{and}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{a+x}{a+1} = \frac{a}{a+1}, \quad \text{thus } \frac{a}{a+1} = 3 \rightarrow$$

$$a = 3a + 3 \rightarrow -3 = 2a \rightarrow a = \frac{-3}{2}$$

d.) f is continuous for $x < 1$, for $1 < x < 2$, and for $x > 2$. We must make f continuous at $x=1$ and at $x=2$:

at $x=1$: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (ax^2 + b) = a+b$ and

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (3) = 3$, thus $\boxed{a+b=3}$;

at $x=2$: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} (5) = 5$ and

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} (ax^2 + b) = 4a+b$, so $\boxed{4a+b=5}$;

thus $\left. \begin{array}{l} a+b=3 \\ 4a+b=5 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} b=3-a \\ \leftarrow \rightarrow 4a+(3-a)=5 \rightarrow \end{array}$

$3a=2 \rightarrow \boxed{a=\frac{2}{3}}$ and $\boxed{b=\frac{7}{3}}$.

e.) f is continuous for $x < -1$, for $-1 < x < 1$, and for $x > 1$. We must make f continuous at $x=-1$ and $x=1$:

at $x=-1$: $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} (2x+3a+b) = 3a+b-2$ and

$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} (ax-b) = -a-b$, so $\boxed{3a+b-2 = -a-b}$;

at $x=1$: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (4) = 4$ and

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (2x+3a+b) = 2+3a+b$, so $\boxed{2+3a+b=4}$;

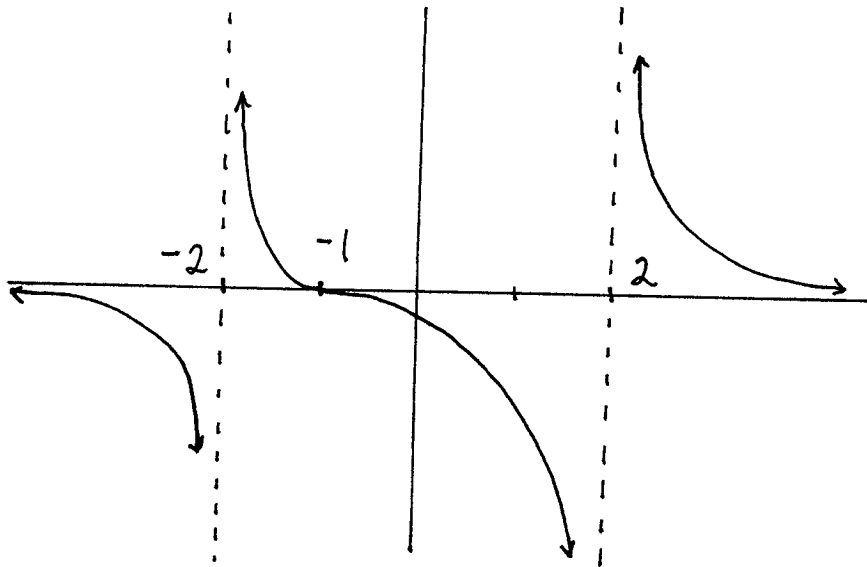
$$\text{thus, } \left. \begin{array}{l} 3a+b-2 = -a-b \\ 2+3a+b = 4 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} 4a+2b = 2 \\ 3a+b = 2 \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} 3a+b-2 = -a-b \\ 2+3a+b = 4 \end{array}} \right\} \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} b = 2 - 3a \end{array}$$

$$\rightarrow 4a + 2(2 - 3a) = 2 \rightarrow 4a + 4 - 6a = 2 \rightarrow$$

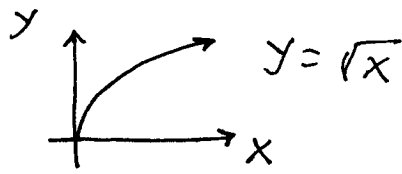
$$2 = 2a \rightarrow \boxed{a=1} \text{ and } \boxed{b=-1}$$

2.) a.) $y = x+1$ and $y = x^2 - 4$ are continuous for all values of x (since they are polynomials), so $g(x) = \frac{x+1}{x^2-4}$ is

continuous for all values of x (quotient of continuous functions) except where $x^2 - 4 = (x-2)(x+2) = 0$, i.e., except for $x=2$ and $x=-2$.



b.) $y = x^2 - 9$ and $y = 100$ are continuous for all values of x (since they are polynomials); $y = \sqrt{x}$ is a well



known continuous function for $x \geq 0$; let $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ and $g(x) = x^2 - 9$, then $\sqrt{x^2 - 9} = f(g(x))$ is continuous (composition of continuous functions) so long as $x^2 - 9 \geq 0$, i.e., $(x-3)(x+3) \geq 0$,
 $\begin{array}{c} + \quad 0 \quad - \quad 0 \quad + \\ \hline x = -3 \quad x = 3 \end{array}$ i.e., for $x \geq 3$ and $x \leq -3$;

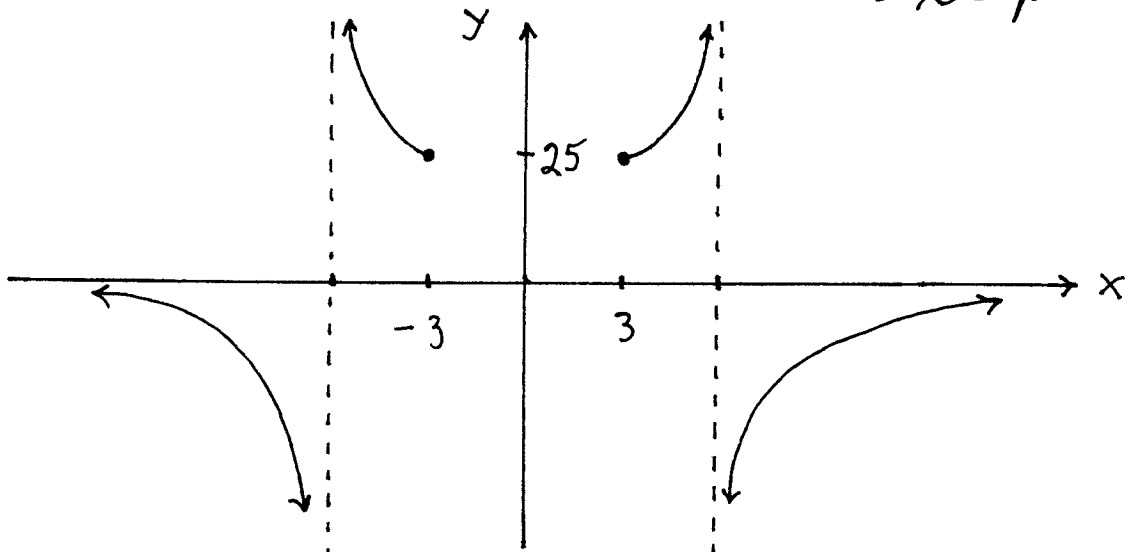
$y = 4$ is continuous for all values of x , so that $y = 4 - \sqrt{x^2 - 9}$ is continuous (difference of continuous functions) for $x \geq 3$ and $x \leq -3$; finally,

$h(x) = \frac{100}{4 - \sqrt{x^2 - 9}}$ is continuous (quotient

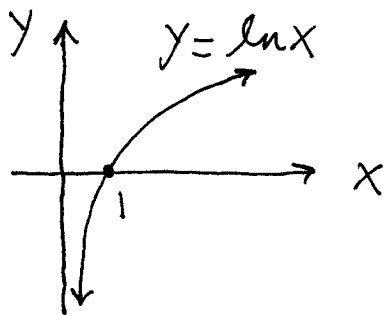
of continuous functions) for $x \geq 3$ and $x \leq -3$ so long as $4 - \sqrt{x^2 - 9} \neq 0$;

$4 - \sqrt{x^2 - 9} = 0 \Rightarrow 4 = \sqrt{x^2 - 9} \Rightarrow 16 = x^2 - 9 \Rightarrow x^2 = 25 \Rightarrow x = \pm 5$; thus,

$h(x) = \frac{100}{4 - \sqrt{x^2 - 9}}$ is continuous for $x \geq 3$ and $x \leq -3$ except $x = \pm 5$.



c.) $y = 3x - 5$ and $y = x^3$ are continuous for all values of x (since they are polynomials), and $y = \sin x$ is a well known function continuous for all values of x ; $y = \ln x$ is a well



known function continuous for $x > 0$; let $f(x) = \ln x$ and $g(x) = 3x - 5$, then $\ln(3x - 5) = f(g(x))$ is continuous (composition of

continuous functions) so long as $3x - 5 > 0$, i.e., for $x > 5/3$; let

$k(x) = x^3$ and $l(x) = \sin x$, then

$h(x) = \sin^3(\ln(3x - 5)) = k(l(f(g(x))))$

is continuous (composition of continuous functions) for $x > 5/3$.

For graph of function try the following ranges for x :

1. $5/3 < x \leq 1000$
2. $5/3 < x \leq 100$
3. $5/3 < x \leq 10$
4. $5/3 < x \leq 2$
5. $5/3 < x \leq 1.75$
6. $5/3 < x \leq 1.68$
7. $5/3 < x \leq 1.668$
8. $5/3 < x \leq 1.6668$

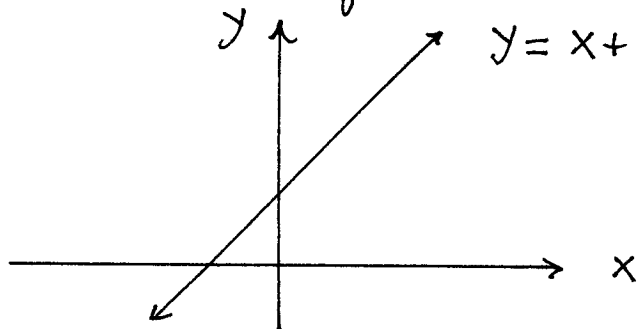
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{d.) } g(x) &= \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - 3x - 4}{x - 4} & , \text{ if } x \neq 4 \\ 5 & , \text{ if } x = 4 \end{cases} \\
 &= \begin{cases} \frac{(x-4)(x+1)}{x-4} & , \text{ if } x \neq 4 \\ 5 & , \text{ if } x = 4 \end{cases} \\
 &= \begin{cases} x+1 & , \text{ if } x \neq 4 \\ 5 & , \text{ if } x = 4 \end{cases} ;
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.) } g(4) = 5$$

$$\text{ii.) } \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} g(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} (x+1) = 4+1 = 5$$

$$\text{iii.) } \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} g(x) = g(4) \quad ;$$

thus g is continuous at $x=4$;
 since $y=x+1$ is continuous for
 $x \neq 4$ (since it is a polynomial),
 g is continuous for all values of x .



$$\text{e.) } f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^3 + 1}{x^2 - 1} & , \text{ if } x \neq 1, -1 \\ -3/2 & , \text{ if } x = -1 \\ 3 & , \text{ if } x = 1 \end{cases}$$

$y = x^3 + 1$ and $y = x^2 - 1$ are continuous for all values of x (since they are polynomials), so $y = \frac{x^3 + 1}{x^2 - 1}$ is continuous for all values of x except where $x^2 - 1 = 0$, i.e., except for $x = \pm 1$;

check $x = 1$: i.) $f(1) = 3$, ii.) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^3 + 1}{x^2 - 1} = \frac{2}{0^\pm} = \pm \infty \text{ so } \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$$

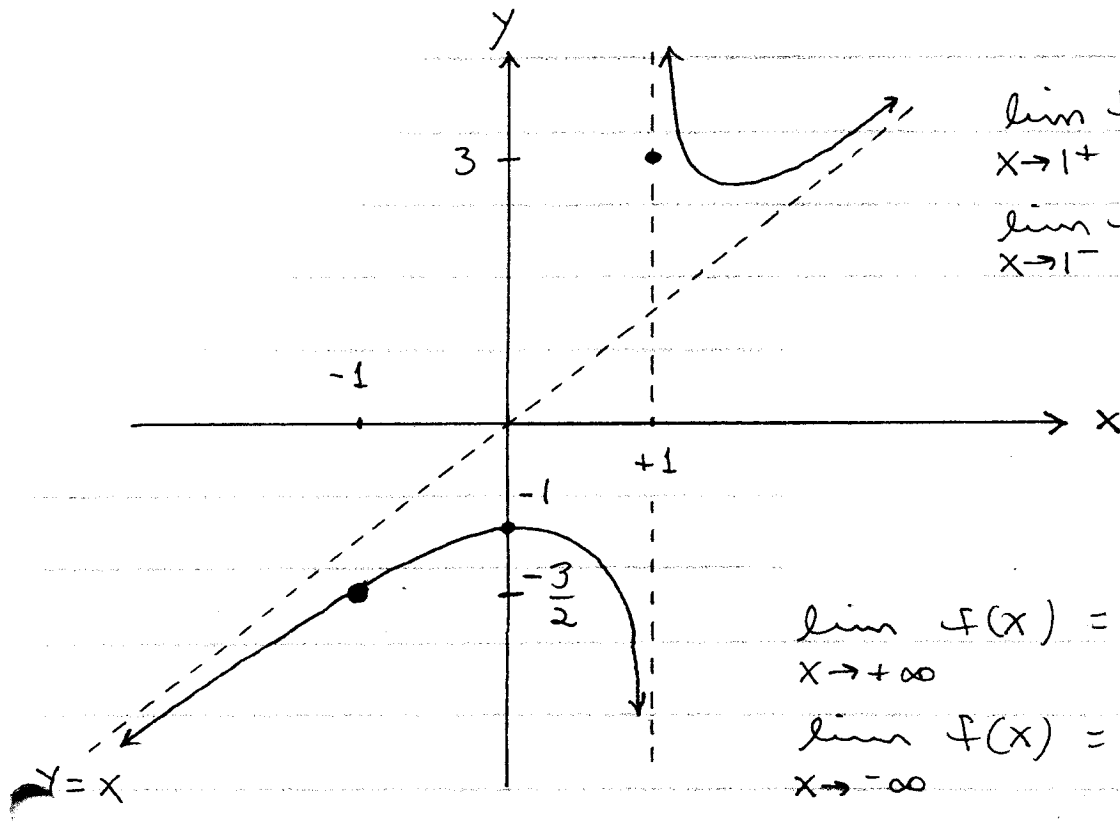
does NOT exist and f is NOT cont. at $x = 1$;

check $x = -1$: i.) $f(-1) = \frac{-3}{2}$, ii.) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} f(x)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^3 + 1}{x^2 - 1} \stackrel{0/0}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{(x+1)(x^2 - x + 1)}{(x+1)(x-1)} = \frac{3}{-2} = \frac{-3}{2}$$

and iii.) $f(-1) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} f(x)$ so that

f is continuous at $x = -1$; thus, f is continuous for all x -values except $x = 1$.



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \frac{2}{0^+} = +\infty,$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \frac{2}{0^-} = -\infty,$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) = +\infty,$$

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