

# Calculus BC

## Section 1.4 - Continuity and One-Sided Limits

- Obj:
- Determine continuity at a point and continuity on an open interval
  - Determine one-sided limit and continuity on a closed interval
  - Use properties of continuity
  - Understand and use the Intermediate Value Theorem

### **Definition of Continuity**

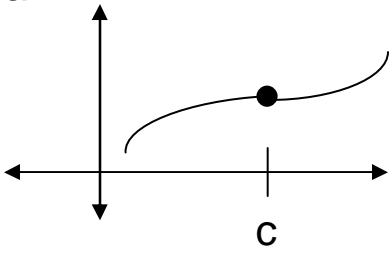
A function  $f$  is **continuous** at point  $c$  if the following three conditions are met:

1.  $f(c)$  is defined
2.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$  exists, that is,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x)$
3.  $f(c) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$

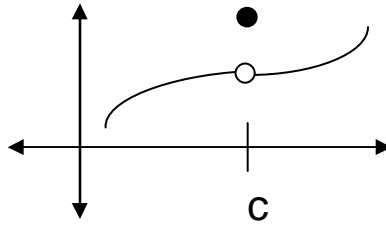
Note: on a closed interval  $[a, b]$ , a function can have a one-sided limit at the endpoints to satisfy condition 2.

1. State whether the following are continuous at  $x = c$ .  
If not, state the condition of continuity in which it fails.

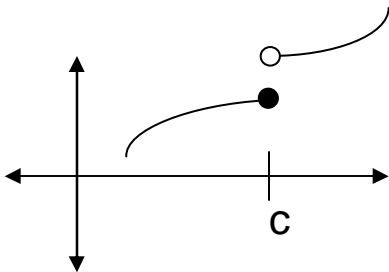
a.



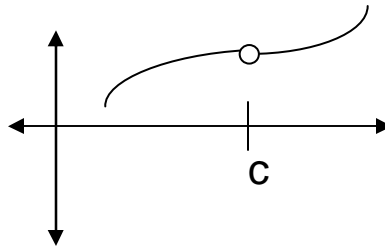
b.



c.



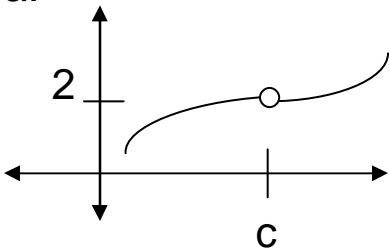
d.



Definition:

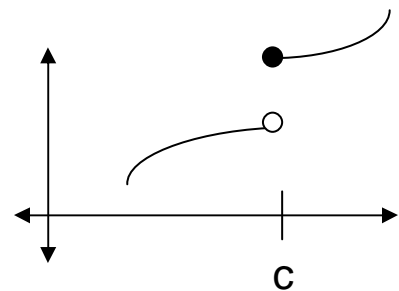
If  $f(x)$  is not continuous at  $c$ , it either has a **removable discontinuity** or a **nonremovable discontinuity**

a.



removable  
can redefine  $f(c)$  to equal 2  
open circle will be closed

b.



nonremovable

2. Define  $f(7)$  in a way that extends  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 49}{x - 7}$  to be continuous at  $x = 7$ .

- function is discontinuous at \_\_\_\_\_

-find equivalent function

-evaluate  $f(7)$

new piecewise function:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - 49}{x - 7} & x \neq 7 \\ & x = 7 \end{cases}$$

3. State the interval of continuity of each function.

a)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x - 2}$

-parent graph \_\_\_\_\_

b)  $g(x) = \frac{x^2 - 4}{x - 2}$

-find domain

-find equivalent function

$$c) h(x) = \begin{cases} x+1 & x < 0 \\ x^2 + 1 & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

-graph the piecewise function

### Continuity of Polynomial Functions and Rational Functions

- all polynomial functions are continuous at any point  $x = c$ .
- If  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  are continuous then the following are continuous:

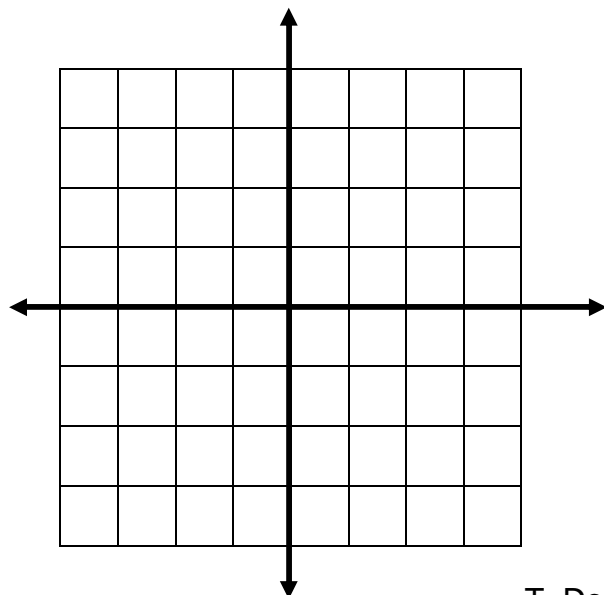
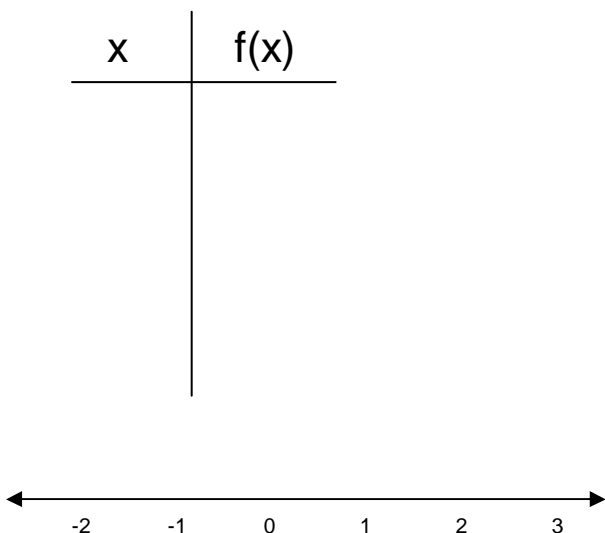
$f \pm g, fg, kg, f(g(x)), g(f(x))$  where  $k$  is a constant

$\frac{f}{g}$  is continuous at every point where  $g(x) \neq 0$

### Greatest Integer Function: $f(x) = [x]$

Given  $x$ ,  $f(x)$  is the greatest integer that is less than or equal to  $x$

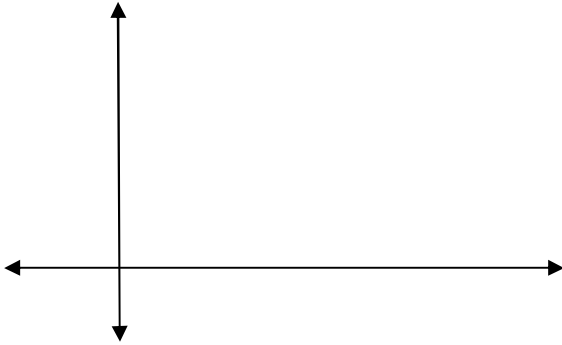
-make a table, a number line will also be helpful



## Theorem: Intermediate Value Theorem

If  $f$  is continuous on the closed interval  $[a,b]$ ,  $f(a) \neq f(b)$ , and  $f(a) < k < f(b)$ , then there is **at least** one value  $c$  in  $[a,b]$  such that

$$f(c) = k$$



Consider a car accelerating from 0 to 60 mph in 5 seconds,  $t = 0$  represents \_\_\_\_\_,  $t = 5$  represents \_\_\_\_\_  
0 mph represents \_\_\_\_\_, 60 mph represents \_\_\_\_\_

Since the velocity is continuous, there is a point in time when the odometer reads 50 mph.

50 mph represents \_\_\_\_\_, the point in time when this occurs is the value  $c$ .

-The Intermediate Value Theorem often can be used to locate the zeros of a function that is continuous on a closed interval:

given the continuous function  $f$  in interval  $[a,b]$ .

If  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  differ in sign (one is pos, one is neg), then somewhere in the interval  $[a,b]$ , there is at least one value  $c$  such that  $f(c) = 0$