

Quiz 3

Oct. 24, 2007

1. (10 pts) Determine the value of a that makes the given function continuous at $x = 0$.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} ae^x + 2 & \text{if } x < 0 \\ a^5x^5 + a^2x^2 + x - a & \text{if } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) &= ae^0 + 2 = a + 2, \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) &= -a, \\ f(0) &= -a, \end{aligned}$$

$f(x)$ will be continuous at $x = 0$ if we let $a + 2 = -a$ or $a = -1$.

2. Determine the following limits (answer as appropriate, with a number, $-\infty$, ∞ or does not exist).

• (3 pts) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{x}{2-x}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{x}{2-x} = +\infty \quad (x \rightarrow 2^- \Rightarrow 0 < x < 2; 2-x > 0 \text{ and } 2-x \rightarrow 0^+)$$

• (3 pts) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} \frac{x}{2-x}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} \frac{x}{2-x} = -\infty \quad (x \rightarrow 2^+ \Rightarrow x > 2; 2-x < 0 \text{ and } 2-x \rightarrow 0^-)$$

• (4 pts) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x}{2-x}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{2-x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2/x - 1} = -1$$