

Answer on Question #69038 – Math – Real Analysis

Question

Check whether the following functions are continuous or not at $x = 0$. Also, find the nature of discontinuity at that point, if it exists.

(i) $f(x) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [(2-x)^{1/2} - (2+x)^{1/2}] / [x], \quad x \neq 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{2}, \quad x = 0 \end{array} \right.$

(ii) $f(x) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x^2 + 1/3, \quad x \leq 0 \\ -[x^3 + 1/3], \quad x > 0 \end{array} \right.$

Solution

$$(i) f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sqrt{2-x} - \sqrt{2+x}}{x}, & x \neq 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

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

$$f(0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Thus, $f(x)$ has a removable discontinuity at $x = 0$.

$$(ii) f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 + \frac{1}{3}, & x \leq 0 \\ -x^3 - \frac{1}{3}, & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

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

Thus, $f(x)$ has a jump discontinuity at $x = 0$ (discontinuity of the first kind).

Answer: (i) discontinuous; a removable discontinuity; (ii) discontinuous, a jump discontinuity.