

# **MATHEMATICS**

## **2nd SEM**

**All Branch**

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depends upon the value of  $\epsilon$ .

**Example - 1:** Show that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (3x + 2) = 5$ .

**Sol<sup>n</sup>:** Since,  $(3x + 2) - 5 = 3x - 3$ ,

$$\therefore |(3x + 2) - 5| = 3|x - 1|$$

Hence if  $\epsilon$  is given possible number, then

$$|(3x + 2) - 5| < \epsilon \text{ whenever } |x - 1| < \epsilon/3$$

We can, therefore, choose  $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{3}$ , such that

$$|(3x + 2) - 5| < \epsilon, \text{ whenever } 0 < |x - 1| < \delta.$$

Hence  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (3x + 2) = 5$

**Example - 2:** Show that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x^2 - 9}{x - 3} = 6$

**Sol<sup>n</sup>:** The function is not defined at  $x = 3$ . For  $x \neq 3$ ,

$$\frac{x^2 - 9}{x - 3} = x + 3 \text{ and hence } \left| \frac{x^2 - 9}{x - 3} - 6 \right| = |(x + 3) - 6| = |x - 3|.$$

$$\text{Now } \left| \frac{x^2 - 9}{x - 3} - 6 \right| < \epsilon, \text{ whenever } |x - 3| < \epsilon.$$

Thus for given  $\epsilon > 0$ , we have found a positive number  $\delta$ , which in this case, is equal to  $\epsilon$  itself such that

$$0 < |x - 3| < \delta \Rightarrow \left| \frac{x^2 - 9}{x - 3} - 6 \right| < \epsilon.$$

Hence  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x^2 - 9}{x - 3} = 6$

### Evaluation of Left Hand and Right Hand limits:

The statements  $x \rightarrow a^-$  means that 'x' is tending to a from the left hand side i.e. x is a number less than a but very very close to 'a'. Therefore  $x \rightarrow a^-$  is equivalent to  $x = a - h$  where  $h > 0$  such that  $h \rightarrow 0^+$ . Similarly  $x \rightarrow a^+$  is equivalent to  $x = a + h$ . Where  $h \rightarrow 0^+$ . Thus, we have the following rules for

### Left Hand Limit:

To evaluate L.H.L of  $f(x)$  at  $x = a$  i.e.

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x)$  we proceed as follows:

**Step 1 :** Write  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x)$

**Step 2 :** Put  $x = a - h$  and replace  $x \rightarrow a^-$  by

$h \rightarrow 0$  to obtain  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a - h)$

**Step 3 :** Simplify  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a - h)$  by using the formula for the given function.

**Step 4 :** The value obtained in step III is the LHL of  $f(x)$  at  $x = a$ .

**Right Hand Limit :**

To evaluate RHL of  $f(x)$  at  $x = a$  i.e.

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$  we proceed as follows :

**Step 1 :** Write  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$

**Step 2 :** Put  $x = a + h$  and replace  $x \rightarrow a^+$  by

$h \rightarrow 0$  to obtain  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a + h)$

**Step 3 :** Simplify  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a + h)$  by using the formula for the given function.

**Step 4 :** The value obtained in step III is the RHL of  $f(x)$  at  $x = a$ .

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**Example - 1 :** Evaluate the left hand limit of the function.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{|x-4|}{x-4}, & x \neq 4 \\ 0 & , x = 4 \end{cases} \text{ at } x = 4.$$

**Sol<sup>n</sup> :** (LHL of  $f(x)$  at  $x = 4$ )

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} f(4-h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|4-h-4|}{4-h-4} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|-h|}{-h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} (-1) = -1$$

**Example - 2 :** Evaluate the right hand limit of the function.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{|x-4|}{x-4}, & x \neq 4 \\ 0 & , x = 4 \end{cases} \text{ at } x = 4.$$

**Sol<sup>n</sup> :** (RHL of  $f(x)$  at  $x = 4$ )

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} f(4+h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|4+h-4|}{4+h-4} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|h|}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} 1 = 1$$

So,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1}$

**Example - 4 :** If  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x-|x|}{x}, & x \neq 0 \\ 2 & x = 0 \end{cases}$  at  $x = 0$ , So that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$  does not exist.

**Sol<sup>n</sup> :** We have,

(LHL of  $f(x)$  at  $x = 0$ )

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} f(0 - h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-h - |-h|}{(-h)} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-h - h}{-h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-2h}{-h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} 2 = 2. \quad (\text{RHL of } f(x) \text{ at } x = 0)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} f(0 + h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h - |h|}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h - h}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 0 = 0$$

Since,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$ . So,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$  does not exist.

**Example - 5 :** If  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 5x - 4, & 0 < x \leq 1 \\ 4x^3 - 3x, & 1 < x < 2 \end{cases}$

Show that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$  exists.

**Sol<sup>n</sup> :** We have :

(LHL of  $f(x)$  at  $x = 1$ )

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} f(1 - h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} 5(1 - h) - 4 = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} 1 - 5h = 1$$

(RHL of  $f(x)$  at  $x = 1$ )

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} f(1 + h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} 4(1 + h)^3 - 3(1 + h)$$
$$= 4(1)^3 - 3(1) = 1$$

Clearly,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x)$ . So,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$  exists and is equal to 1.

hence  $a = 1$  and  $b = 2 - 3$

### Expansion Formulae :

Sometimes following expansion are very useful to evaluate limits.

- (a)  $(1+x)^n = 1 + nx + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$
- (b)  $e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$
- (c)  $a^x = 1 + x(\log_e a) + \frac{x^2}{2!}(\log_e a)^2 + \dots$
- (d)  $\log(1+x) = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} + \dots$
- (e)  $\log(1-x) = -x - \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} + \dots$
- (f)  $\tan x = x + \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{2}{15}x^5 + \dots$
- (g)  $\cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \dots$
- (h)  $\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} + \dots$
- (i)  $\sin^{-1}x = x + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{4}x^5 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{5}{6} \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots$
- (j)  $\tan^{-1}x = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} + \dots$
- (k)  $\sec x = 1 + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{5}{4!}x^4 + \dots$

**Theorem - 2 :** Prove that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{a^x - 1}{x} \right) = \log_e a$ , ( $a > 0$ )

a point  
2.1

**Proof:**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x - 1}{x}$

putting  $a^x - 1 = y$ ,  $a^x = y + 1$ ,  $\log a^x = \log(y + 1)$ ,  $x \log a = \log(y + 1)$

$x = \frac{\log(1+y)}{\log a}$  [When  $x \rightarrow 0$  i.e.  $y \rightarrow 0$ ]

$$= \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{y}{\frac{\log(1+y)}{\log a}} = \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log a}{\frac{\log(1+y)}{y}} = \frac{\log a}{\lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(1+y)}{y}} = \log_e a \quad \left[ \because \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(1+y)}{y} = 1 \right]$$

**Another Method :**

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{a^x - 1}{x} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{\{1 + x(\log a) + \frac{x^2}{2!}(\log a)^2 + \dots\} - 1}{x} \right\} \quad \text{[on expanding } a^x \text{]}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x \{(\log a) + \frac{x}{2!}(\log a)^2 + \dots\}}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \log a + \frac{x}{2!}(\log a)^2 + \dots \right\}$$

$$= \log a \quad \text{[Putting } x = 0 \text{]}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{a^x - 1}{x} \right) = \log_e a$$

**Theorem - 3 :** Prove that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{e^x - 1}{x} \right) = 1$

**Proof:**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{e^x - 1}{x} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{\left(1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots\right) - 1}{x} \right\}$  [on expanding  $e^x$ ]

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{\left(x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots\right)}{x} \right\} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{x \left(1 + \frac{x}{2!} + \frac{x^2}{3!} + \dots\right)}{x} \right\}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( 1 + \frac{x}{2!} + \frac{x^2}{3!} + \dots \right) \quad \therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{e^x - 1}{x} \right) = 1$$

**Example-1: Evaluate:** (i)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 2x}{x}$  (ii)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 3x}{5x}$  (iii)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\sin ax}{\sin bx} \right)$

**Sol:** (i)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 2x}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( 2 \times \frac{\sin 2x}{2x} \right) = 2 \cdot \lim_{2x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 2x}{2x}$   
 [∵ when  $x \rightarrow 0$ , then  $2x \rightarrow 0$ ]

$$= (2 \times 1) = 2$$

$$\left[ \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta} = 1 \right]$$

(ii)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 3x}{5x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{\sin 3x}{3x} \right) = \frac{3}{5} \cdot \lim_{3x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 3x}{3x}$   
 [∵ when  $x \rightarrow 0$ , then  $3x \rightarrow 0$ ]

$$= \left( \frac{3}{5} \times 1 \right) = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\left[ \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta} = 1 \right]$$

(iii)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\sin ax}{\sin bx} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{ax \cdot \left( \frac{\sin ax}{ax} \right)}{bx \cdot \left( \frac{\sin bx}{bx} \right)}$

$$= \frac{a}{b} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\sin ax}{ax} \right) = \frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{\lim_{ax \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin ax}{ax}}{\lim_{bx \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin bx}{bx}} = \left( \frac{a}{b} \times \frac{1}{1} \right) = \frac{a}{b}$$

[∵  $x \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow ax \rightarrow 0$  and  $bx \rightarrow 0$ ]

$$= \left( \frac{a}{b} \times \frac{1}{1} \right) = \frac{a}{b} \quad \left[ \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta} = 1 \right]$$

**Example-2: Evaluate:**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 5x}{\tan 3x}$

**Sol:**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 5x}{\tan 3x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{5x \cdot \left( \frac{\sin 5x}{5x} \right)}{3x \cdot \left( \frac{\tan 3x}{3x} \right)} = \frac{5}{3} \cdot \frac{\lim_{5x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\sin 5x}{5x} \right)}{\lim_{3x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\tan 3x}{3x} \right)} = \left( \frac{5}{3} \times \frac{1}{1} \right) = \frac{5}{3}$

**Example-3: Evaluate:**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x^\circ}{x}$

**Sol:** We know that  $x^\circ = \left( \frac{\pi x}{180} \right)^\circ$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x^\circ}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \left( \frac{\pi x}{180} \right)}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{\sin \left( \frac{\pi x}{180} \right)}{\left( \frac{\pi x}{180} \right)} \times \frac{\pi}{180} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{180} \cdot \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta}, \text{ (where } \theta = \frac{\pi x}{180} \text{) [clearly, } x \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\pi x}{180} \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \theta \rightarrow 0 \text{]}$$

$$= \left( \frac{\pi}{180} \times 1 \right) = \frac{\pi}{180}$$



Example - 14 : Examine the existence of the following limits.

(a)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{|x|}{x}$       (b)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{[x]}$       (c)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 - x}{[x^2 - x]}$

(a)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{|x|}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{-h}{-h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-h}{-h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{-h} = -1$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|x|}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{+h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 1 = 1$

Hence  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{|x|}{x}$  does not exist.

(b)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{[x]}$

We know  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad [x] \leq x < [x] + 1$

$\Rightarrow \frac{[x]}{[x]} \leq \frac{x}{[x]} < 1 + \frac{1}{[x]} = 1 \leq \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{[x]} \leq \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} 1 + \frac{1}{[x]}$

$= 1 \leq \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{[x]} \leq 1 \quad [\text{Hence } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{[x]} = 1]$

(c)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 - x}{[x^2 - x]}$  set  $y = x^2 - x$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ , i.e.  $y \rightarrow \infty$

$= \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{y}{[y]}$  exist's and equal to 1

**Definition :** A function  $f(x)$  is said to be continuous at  $x = a$  if :

- (i)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$  exists,  
i.e. right hand and left hand limits exist and are equal.
  - (ii)  $f(a)$  exists.
  - (iii)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$
- Other than conditions fails then the function is discontinuous.

**Example - 1 :** Test the continuity of the following function  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - 4x + 3}{x - 1}, & x \neq 1 \\ -2, & x = 1 \end{cases}$  at  $x = 1$

**Sol<sup>n</sup> :** We have to test the continuity of the function at  $x = 1$   
 Here  $f(1) = -2$  (Given)

$$\text{Now } \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 4x + 3}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x - 3)(x - 1)}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x - 3) = 1 - 3 = -2$$

$$\text{and } \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 4x + 3}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x - 3) = -2$$

$\therefore \lim f(x)$  exists and  $= f(1)$

Thus the given function is continuous at  $x = 1$ .

**Example - 2 :** Show that  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{|x - a|}{x - a}, & x \neq a \\ 1, & x = a \end{cases}$  discontinuity at  $x = a$ .

$$\text{Sol<sup>n</sup> : L.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} \frac{|x - a|}{x - a} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|(a - h) - a|}{(a - h) - a} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|-h|}{-h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{-h} = -1$$

$$\text{R.H.L.} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} \frac{|x - a|}{x - a} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|(a + h) - a|}{a + h - a} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|h|}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h} = 1$$

$\therefore \text{L.H.L.} \neq \text{R.H.L.}$

Hence  $f(x)$  is discontinuous at  $x = a$ .

**Example - 3:** A function  $f(x)$  is defined by  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \cos x, & \text{when } x \geq 0 \\ -\cos x, & \text{when } x \leq 0 \end{cases}$   
 Examine the continuity of  $f(x)$  at  $x = 0$ .

**Sol:**  $f(0) = \cos 0 = 1$

L.H.L. =  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (-\cos x)$   
 $= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} -\cos(0-h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} -\cos h = -1$

R.H.L. =  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$   
 $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \cos x = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \cos(0+h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \cos h = 1$

The given function  $f(x)$  is continuous at  $x = 0$

**Example - 4:** Show that  $f(x) = [x]$  is not continuous at  $x = n$ , where  $n$  is an integer.

**Sol:** We have,  $f(n) = [n] = n$ ;

$\lim_{x \rightarrow n^+} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(n+h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [n+h] = n$ ;  $\{\because [n+h] = n\}$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow n^-} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(n-h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [n-h] = (n-1)$   $\{\because [n-h] = (n-1)\}$

Thus,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow n^+} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow n^-} f(x)$  and therefore,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow n} f(x)$  does not exist.

Hence,  $f(x)$  is discontinuous at  $x = n$ .

**Example - 5:** Show that the function  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{|x|}, & \text{when } x \neq 0 \\ 1, & \text{when } x = 0 \end{cases}$  is discontinuous at  $x = 0$ .

**Sol:** It is being given that  $f(0) = 1$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(0+h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{|h|} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h} = 1$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(0-h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-h}{|h|} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-h}{h} = -1$

$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x)$

So,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$  does not exist.

Hence,  $f(x)$  is discontinuous at  $x = 0$ .

**Example - 6:** Determine the value of  $k$  for which the function

$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin 5x}{3x}, & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ k, & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$  is continuous at  $x = 0$

**Sol:** Clearly,  $f(0) = k$

Now,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 5x}{3x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\sin 5x}{5x} \times \frac{5}{3} \right) = \frac{5}{3} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 5x}{5x} = \left( \frac{5}{3} \times 1 \right) = \frac{5}{3}$

For continuity of  $f(x)$  at  $x = 0$ , we must have  $f(0) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ , i.e.  $k = \frac{5}{3}$ .

Hence, the required value of  $k$  is  $\frac{5}{3}$ .

**Example - 12:**  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{1/x} - 1}{e^{1/x} + 1}, & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$  at  $x = 0$

**Sol:**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{e^{1/x} - 1}{e^{1/x} + 1} = \frac{0 - 1}{0 + 1} = -1$

(As  $x \rightarrow 0^-$ ,  $\frac{1}{x} \rightarrow -\infty$  and  $e^{1/x} \rightarrow 0$ )

Again  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{e^{1/x} - 1}{e^{1/x} + 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1 - \frac{1}{e^{1/x}}}{1 + \frac{1}{e^{1/x}}} = \frac{1}{1} = 1$

( $x \rightarrow 0^+$ ,  $\frac{1}{x} \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow e^{1/x} \rightarrow \infty$ )

Hence  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$  does not exist at  $x = 0$  and consequently  $f(x)$  is not continuous at  $x = 0$

**Example - 13:**  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x + 1, & \text{if } x \leq 0 \\ x, & \text{if } 0 < x \leq 1 \\ 2x - 1, & \text{if } x \geq 1 \end{cases}$  at  $x = 0$

**Sol:** Consider at  $x = 0$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (2x + 1) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} [2(0 - h) + 1] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (-2h + 1) = 1$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (0 + h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} h = 0$

Clearly  $f(0) = 1$

$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$  at  $x = 0$  does not exist and consequently  $f(x)$  is not continuous at  $x = 0$

Consider at  $x = 1$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} x = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (1 - h) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (1 - h) = 1$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (2x - 1) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} [2(1 + h) - 1]$

$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (2 + 2h - 1) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (2h + 1) = 1$

$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = 1$  And  $f(x) = 2 \cdot 1 - 1 = 2 - 1 = 1$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = 1 = f(1)$ , we conclude that the function is continuous at  $x = 1$

### 3.3 SOME IMPORTANT DERIVATIVE USING FIRST PRINCIPLES

**Theorem - 1.** From first principles prove that  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = nx^{n-1}$ , where  $n$  is a fixed number / integer / rational.

**Proof:** Let  $y = x^n$  ..... (i)

Let  $\delta y$  be an increment in  $y$ , corresponding to an increment  $\delta x$  in  $x$ .

Then,  $y + \delta y = (x + \delta x)^n$  ..... (ii)

On subtracting (i) from (ii)

We get :  $\delta y = (x + \delta x)^n - x^n$

$$\text{or } \frac{\delta y}{\delta x} = \frac{(x + \delta x)^n - x^n}{\delta x}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = \lim_{\delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta y}{\delta x}$$

$$= \lim_{(x+\delta x) \rightarrow x} \frac{(x + \delta x)^n - x^n}{(x + \delta x) - x} \quad [\because \delta x \rightarrow 0 \text{ means } x + \delta x \rightarrow x]$$

$$= nx^{n-1} \quad \left[ \because \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{x^n - a^n}{x - a} = na^{n-1} \right]$$

Thus  $\frac{dy}{dx} = nx^{n-1}$  i.e.,  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = nx^{n-1}$

**Examples:** Find the derivative of the followings

- (i)  $x^9$ , (ii)  $x^{-3}$ , (iii)  $\sqrt[3]{x}$ , (iv)  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$

We know that  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = nx^{n-1}$

So, we have :

(i)  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^9) = 9 \cdot x^{(9-1)} = 9x^8$

(ii)  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^{-3}) = -3 \cdot x^{(-3-1)} = -3x^{-4} = \frac{-3}{x^4}$

(iii)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sqrt[3]{x}) = \frac{d}{dx}x^{(1/3)} = \frac{1}{3}x^{(\frac{1}{3}-1)} = \frac{1}{3}x^{-2/3}$

(iv)  $\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}\right) = \frac{d}{dx}(x^{-1/2}) = -\frac{1}{2}x^{(-\frac{1}{2}-1)} = -\frac{1}{2}x^{-3/2}$

or  $x^2 = 1$  or  $x = \pm 1$   
 when  $x = 1, y = 2 - 6 + 3 = -1$   
 and when  $x = -1, y = -2 + 6 + 3 = 7$   
 Points are  $(1, -1)$  and  $(-1, 7)$ .

**Example - 3.** At what point of the curve  $y = x^2$  does the tangent to the curve make an angle of  $45^\circ$  with the axis of  $x$ ?

**Sol<sup>n</sup>:** The equation of the curve is

$$y = x^2 \quad \therefore \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = 2x \quad \dots (i)$$

$$\text{We are given that } \frac{dy}{dx} = \tan 45^\circ = 1 \quad \dots (ii)$$

From (i) and (ii),

$$2x = 1 \quad \text{or } x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore y = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{4}$$

Thus the required point is  $\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}\right)$

**Example - 4.** Find the equation of the tangent and the normal to the curve  $y = 2x^2 - 3x - 1$  at the point  $(1, -2)$ .

**Sol<sup>n</sup>:** The equation of the curve is

$$y = 2x^2 - 3x - 1$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = 4x - 3 \quad \therefore \quad \left[\frac{dy}{dx}\right]_{x=1} = 4 \cdot 1 - 3 = 1$$

$\therefore$  Equation of the tangent at  $(1, -2)$  is

$$y + 2 = 1(x - 1)$$

$$\text{or } x - y - 3 = 0$$

Equation of the normal is

$$y + 2 = -1(x - 1) \quad \left[ \text{Slope of the normal} = \frac{-1}{dy/dx} \right]$$

$$\text{or } y + 2 = -x + 1$$

$$\therefore x + y + 1 = 0.$$

**Example - 5.** Find the points on the curve  $y = x^3$  at which the slope of the tangent is equal to the  $y$ -coordinate.

**Sol<sup>n</sup>:** The equation of the curve is

$$y = x^3 \quad \dots (i)$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2$$