

Differentiability implies Continuity

Here is a theorem that we talked about in class but never really explored:

Thm If $f(x)$ is differentiable at $x=c$, then $f(x)$ is continuous at $x=c$.

pt. Since $f(x)$ is diff at $x=c$, we know

$f'(c) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c}$ exists. So what can we

say about $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) - f(c)$? If $f(x)$ is cont at $x=c$, this limit should be 0:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) - f(c) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} (f(x) - f(c)) \left(\frac{x-c}{x-c} \right) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \left(\frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x-c} \right) (x-c) \\ &\stackrel{\text{prod rule}}{=} \underbrace{\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \left(\frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x-c} \right)}_{f'(c)} \underbrace{\lim_{x \rightarrow c} (x-c)}_0 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Hence $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) - f(c) = 0$ so that $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = f(c)$

and $f(x)$ is cont. at $x=c$. □