

2.4 The Precise definition of a limit:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L \text{ means } f(x) = L \text{ if } x \approx a$$

Precision can be as good as we want if x is chosen sufficiently close to a ; $x \approx a$

$|f(x) - L|$ can be made as small as we want as long as $|x - a|$ is sufficiently close to 0 but $\neq 0$

$$\text{Precision of } f(x) \approx L : |f(x) - L|$$

$$\text{closeness of } x \approx a : |x - a|$$

Definition

We say that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$ if:

For every $\varepsilon > 0$

there is a $\delta > 0$ such that

if $0 < \underbrace{|x - a|}_{\text{closeness}} < \delta$, then $\underbrace{|f(x) - L|}_{\text{Precision}} < \varepsilon$

Ex1: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = 12$; $f(x) = 10x + 2$; $f(1) = 12$

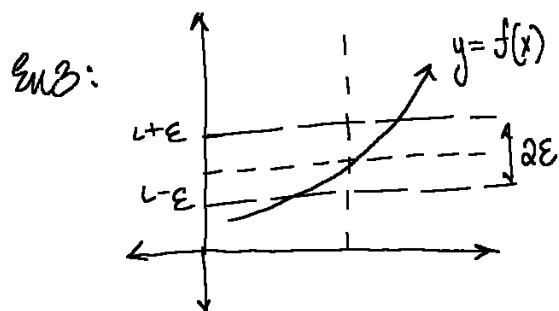
then $0 < |x - 1| < \delta$, then $|f(x) - 12| < \varepsilon$

then $x = 0.01$, smallest value

Ex2: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0$; $f(x) = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{x}\right)$;

then $0 < |x - 0| < \delta$, then $|f(x)| < \varepsilon$

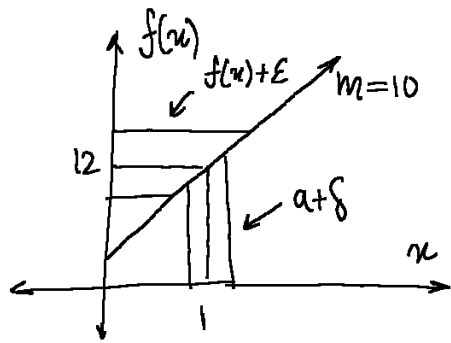
then $x = 0.08$, smallest value



please look at a video explaining the same concept

Ex 3: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = 12$; $f(x) = 10x + 12$

How to choose δ & given ϵ ?



what we want is, the vertical lines should always be within the horizontal lines:

largest: $|f(x) - 12| < \epsilon$

then $|10x + 10| \Rightarrow |10(x - 1)| \Rightarrow |x - 1| < \frac{\epsilon}{10} = \delta$

Proof that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = 12$:

given $\epsilon > 0$, let $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{10} > 0$. Then:

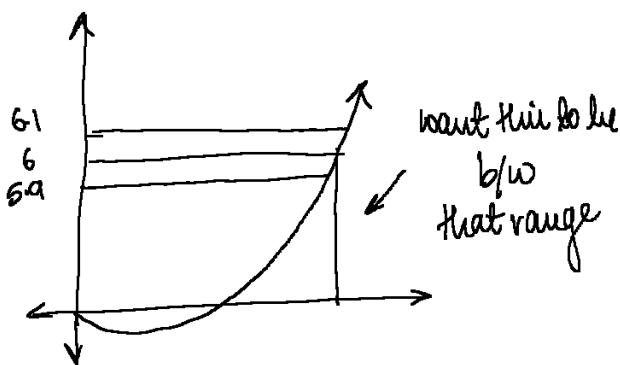
if $0 < |x - 1| < \delta$, then $|f(x) - 12| = 10|x - 1| < 10 \frac{\epsilon}{10} = \epsilon$

Ex 4: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0$; $f(x) = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{x}\right)$

How to choose ϵ ?

Ex 5: $f(x) = x^2 - x$; Find the largest $\delta > 0$ such that:

$0 < |x - 3| < \delta$ then $|f(x) - 6| < 0.1 = \epsilon$



$x^2 - x = f(x) = 5.9$

$x^2 - x = f(x) = 6.1$

$x_1 = 2.979 \dots$ & $x_2 = 3.019$

Domain

if $2.979 < x < 3.019$, then $5.9 < f(x) < 6.1$ or $|f(x) - 6| < 0.1$

$|3 - 2.979| \approx 0.021$

$|3 - 3.019| \approx 0.019 = \delta$ ← smallest distance

Ex 6: Real world intuition:

6 metal square should be 10cm width

to get $1000\text{cm}^3 = 1\text{L}$ with vol tolerance of $\pm 1\text{cm}^3$

$x = \text{width}$

$$f(x) = 1000$$

$$f(x) = \text{volume} = x^3$$

Want:

$$|f(x) - 1000| < 1$$

$$999 < f(x) < 1001$$

$$9.9966 < x < 10.0033$$

Then we want the supplier to provide a with an accuracy of

$$10 \pm 0.003322... \text{ smallest}$$

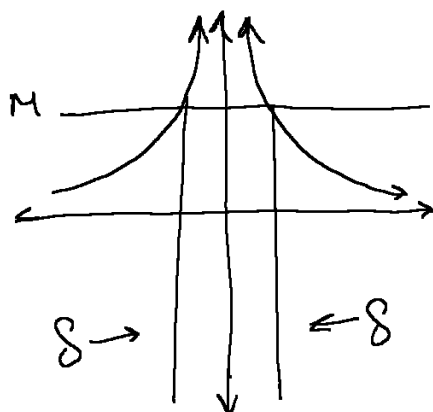
$$10 \pm 0.003$$

Definition:

We say that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty$ if:

For every where there is a $\#$ $S > 0$ such that

$$0 < |x - a| < S, \text{ then } f(x) > M$$



want to do the same thing