

Math 111 Shirazi S01

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Week 2: 9/7 \rightarrow 9/9

Lecture One (9/7)

Formal Definition in Terms

ϵ arbitrary distance around a to find limit. Range of y .

δ the distance being checked from a . Range of x .

\forall for all

\exists there exists

if, for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a $\delta > 0$, such that all x ,

if $0 < |x - a| < \delta$, then $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$

$\forall \epsilon > 0 \rightarrow$ for all epsilon greater than 0

$\exists \delta > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$

$\forall x$ for all x values

Re-write as:

$\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$ such that if $0 < |x - a| < \delta$, then $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$

Examples:

Example proof n.1

math.libretexts.org Example 1.5.1

Prove:

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

$\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$ such that if $0 < |x - 1| < \delta$, then $|(2x + 1) - 3| < \epsilon$

Since the first part of the formal definition of a limit is $\forall \epsilon > 0$ every positive value of ϵ has to make this equation work. The second part is trying to find out what value of δ we should be using. \exists essentially says there has to be an answer, we just have to find it.

Since we want eventually $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$, the expression can be substituted for and manipulated:

$$|2x + 1 - 3| < \epsilon$$

$$|2x - 2| < \epsilon$$

$$|2||x - 1| < \epsilon$$

$$|x - 1| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

Since epsilon is the y-value range in which the limit exists, it makes sense to make $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ so that we check a smaller range around ϵ . δ is more or less arbitrary, but has to be based on ϵ

Now that δ has been chosen, we need to prove that

$$\text{if } 0 < |x - a| < \delta \text{ then } |f(x) - L| < \epsilon$$

$$\text{if } 0 < |x - 1| < \delta \text{ then } |x - 1| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$-\delta < x - 1 < \delta \rightarrow \text{delta neighborhood}$$

$$-\frac{\epsilon}{2} < x - 1 < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \rightarrow \text{choice of } \delta = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$-\epsilon < 2x - 2 < \epsilon \rightarrow \text{factoring}$$

$$2x - 2 < \epsilon$$

So officially there exists (\exists) a δ value ($\frac{\epsilon}{2}$) such that for every ϵ over 0 ($\forall \epsilon > 0$), if $|x - 1| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ then $2x + 1 - 3 < \epsilon$.

Which means that, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1}(2x+1) = 3$ is true based on the formal definition of: $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$ such that if $0 < |x - 1| < \delta$, then $|2x + 1 - 3| < \epsilon$

Example proof n.2

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

$$a = 0$$

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2}{x + 1}$$

$$L = 5$$

$$\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \text{ such that if } 0 < |x - 2| < \delta, \text{ then } |(x^2 + 1) - 5| < \epsilon$$

$$|f(x) - 5| = |x^2 + 1 - 5| = |x^2 - 4| = |x + 2| |x - 2|$$

$$1 < |x - 2| < 3 \rightarrow 3 < x < 5$$

$$|x - 2| < \max\{|3|, |5|\}$$

$$|x + 2| |x - 2| < \epsilon$$

$$|x - 2| < \frac{\epsilon}{x + 2}$$

$$\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{x + 2}$$

$$|x - 2| < \delta$$

$$|x - 2| < \frac{\epsilon}{x + 2}$$

$$|x - 2| |x + 2| < \epsilon$$

So:

$$\forall x > 0$$

$$\exists \delta (\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{x + 2})$$

Such that:

$$\text{if, } 0 < |x - 2| < \frac{\epsilon}{x + 2}$$

Then:

$$|x^2 + 1 - 5| < \epsilon$$

Therefore, based on the formal definition of a limit, the equation $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2}(x^2 + 1) = 5$ is valid (and based)!

Exercises

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Prove the following:

Theorem 9.

Prove the following:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} c = c$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x = a$$