

(Q3)

Theorem 1. *Prove that $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} x^3 = -1$ using the $\delta - \varepsilon$ definition of the limit.*

Proof. The $\delta - \varepsilon$ definition of the limit, as applied to this function, is

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0 \text{ s.t. } \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, 0 < |x + 1| < \delta \implies |x^3 + 1| < \varepsilon$$

Fix $\varepsilon > 0$. Thus,

By the sum of cubes,

$$\begin{aligned} |x^3 + 1| &= |x + 1||x^2 - x + 1| < \varepsilon \\ \implies \delta |x^2 - x + 1| &< \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Let $\delta = \min\{1, \frac{\varepsilon}{3}\}$.

Assuming $0 < |x + 1| < \delta$, $|x + 1| < \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$ and $|x + 1| < 1$.

Considering $\delta \leq 1$ implies:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &< |x + 1| < 1 \\ \implies -1 &< x + 1 < 1 \\ \implies -2 &< x < 0 \\ \implies |x| &< 2 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\delta \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$, it follows that:

$$\begin{aligned} |x^2 - x + 1| < 3 &\implies \delta |x^2 - x + 1| < 3\delta \leq \varepsilon \\ \implies |x^3 + 1| &< \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

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