

Calc 1.5 Notes

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Chapter 1

Euler's Formula & Limits I

1.0 Euler's Formula

Goal. Use Euler's Formula (Theorem 1.0.3) to derive any number of trig identities.

Note that this isn't actually part of the standard pre-calc curriculum, but it is an immensely powerful tool which simplifies down quite a bit of pre-calc—frankly, it's almost offensive that this isn't taught during pre-calc. We may be able to prove Theorem 1.0.3 using Taylor series some time in August, but for now we'll need to just trust Euler on it.

We'll be using the following fact over and over throughout this section:

Fact 1.0.1. For any (real, complex, or otherwise!) a, b, c , we have that $a^b * a^c = a^{b+c}$.

Definition 1.0.2. Recall the imaginary number $i := \sqrt{-1}$.

Theorem 1.0.3. For any real number θ ,

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta)$$

Caution 1.0.3.1. This is only true in radians! And is a compelling reason never to use degrees for much of anything...

Fact 1.0.4. We let $w = a + ib$ and $z = c + id$ be complex numbers (that is $w, z \in \mathbb{C}$) with a, b, c, d all real numbers (that is, $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$). Then, $w = z$ if and only if $a = c$ and $b = d$.

This is a somewhat obvious fact, but it will prove extremely useful—basically, if we can find two different ways to write the same complex number, we can then conclude that the real parts and the imaginary parts must be the same (because it's the same number!). We'll use this fact to show quite a few trig identities.

Example 1.0.5. Let θ be any real number. Find formulas for $\sin(2\theta)$ and $\cos(2\theta)$ in terms of $\sin(\theta)$ and $\cos(\theta)$.

Response. We use Euler's Formula (Theorem 1.0.3) to write

$$e^{i(2\theta)} = \cos(2\theta) + i \sin(2\theta).$$

However, we also have by properties of exponentiation that $e^{i(2\theta)} = e^{2(i\theta)} = (e^{i\theta})^2$, and note that we already know how to expand out $e^{i\theta}$ (once again by Theorem 1.0.3). That is, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} e^{i(2\theta)} &= (e^{i\theta})^2 \\ &= (\cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta))^2 \\ &= \cos^2(\theta) + 2i \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta) + (i \sin(\theta))^2 \\ &= (\cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta) + i(2 \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)) \end{aligned}$$

Now, we've written the same complex number two different ways:

$$\begin{aligned} e^{i(2\theta)} &= \cos(2\theta) + i \sin(2\theta) \\ &= (\cos^2(\theta) - \sin^2(\theta)) + i(2 \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we can use Fact 1.0.4 to now write that $\cos(2\theta) = \cos^2(\theta) - \sin^2(\theta)$, and $\sin(2\theta) = 2 \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta)$. □

Exercise 1. Simplify the expression $e^{i\pi} + 1$

Exercise 2. Use the same techniques as in Example 1.0.5 to find formulas for $\cos(3\theta)$ and $\sin(3\theta)$ in terms of $\cos(\theta)$ and $\sin(\theta)$.

Exercise 3. Let θ_1 and θ_2 be real numbers. Use the same techniques as in Example 1.0.5 to find formulas for $\cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$ and $\sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2)$ in terms of $\sin(\theta_1)$, $\sin(\theta_2)$, $\cos(\theta_1)$, and $\cos(\theta_2)$.

Exercise 4. We know that in general, for any x ,

$$e^x * e^{-x} = 1. \quad (1.1)$$

This is still true if x is imaginary (or complex for that matter). Let $x = i\theta$. Reinterpret equation (1.1) in terms of $\sin(\theta)$ and $\cos(\theta)$. What familiar trigonometric identity do we recover? (Hint: what symmetries do \cos and \sin have?)

1.1 Limits I: Formal Definition & First Properties

See: Stewart, §2.4.

Goal. Understand limits in terms of formal properties, prove basic facts regarding them.

Next Week. Use these properties to do a bunch of more concrete limit computations, possibly start out derivatives.

Definition 1.1.1. Let f be a function on the real numbers, and let a and L be real numbers. We say $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$ if for any real number $\epsilon > 0$, there exists some real number $\delta > 0$ such that if $0 < |x - a| < \delta$, then $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$.

Remark 1.1.1.1. ϵ is the Greek letter *epsilon*. δ is the Greek letter *delta*.

Remark 1.1.1.2. Let's unpack that definition a bit. First, keep in mind that we should think of $|x - a|$ as the *distance* between x and a . When we say “for any ϵ , there exists a δ ,” that means that if *we are given* some number ϵ , then (theoretically) we can find some number δ with the property that if x is “less than δ away from a ,” then $f(x)$ is “less than ϵ away from L .”

To illustrate this more concretely, let's add in some literal illustrations. Suppose we have the curve $y = f(x)$ as in figure 1.1, and suppose we are considering the statement $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$.

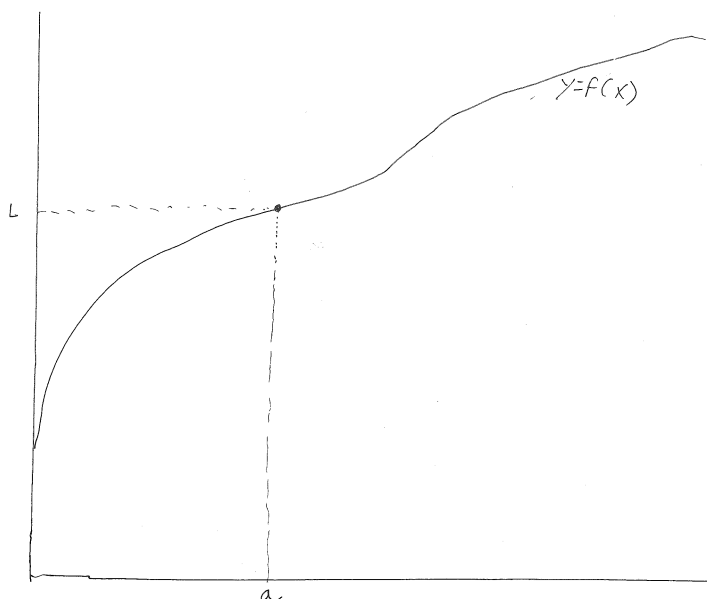


Figure 1.1: The graph of $y = f(x)$ with $x = a$ and $y = L$ drawn in.

Now, suppose we are given some real number $\epsilon > 0$. ϵ corresponds to some region around L on the y -axis (the region where $|y - L| < \epsilon$). That region is drawn in red in figure 1.2

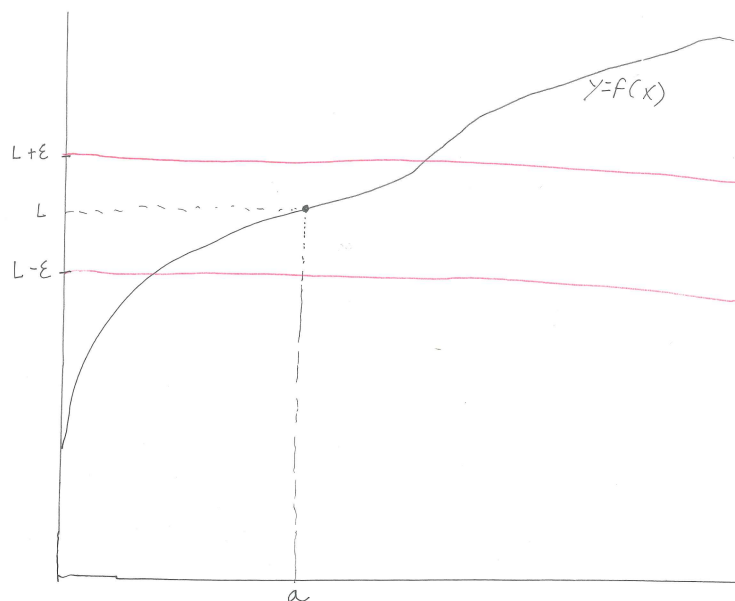


Figure 1.2: The graph of $y = f(x)$ with the vertical region between $L - \epsilon$ and $L + \epsilon$ drawn in.

Given such an ϵ , we need to find some horizontal region around $x = a$ such that for any x in that region, $f(x)$ is “close enough” to L . We can see from the graph that such a region indeed exists—note the part of the curve which sits between the two red lines. We choose some δ such that everything between $a - \delta$ and $a + \delta$ (that is, all x with $|x - a| < \delta$) has its corresponding point on the curve between $L - \epsilon$ and $L + \epsilon$. Such a δ and the corresponding region around $x = a$ is drawn in figure 1.3.

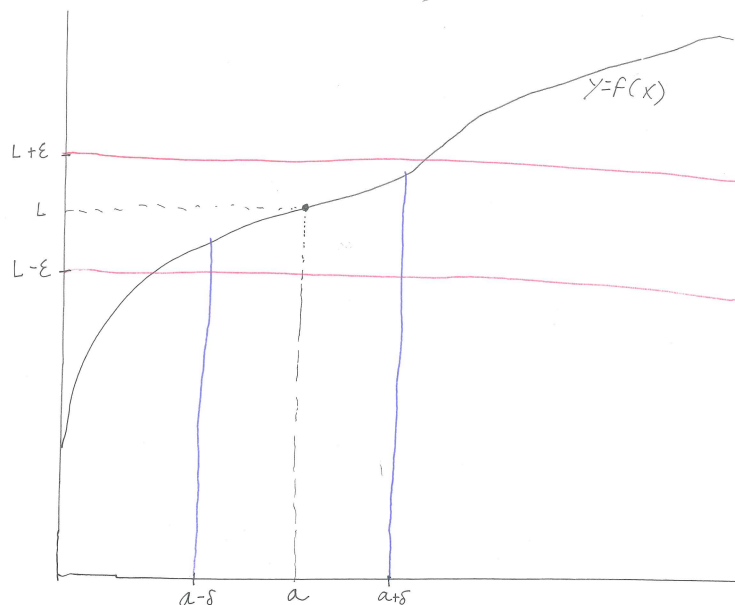


Figure 1.3: The graph of $y = f(x)$, now with a horizontal region around $x = a$.

Note that we could have chosen a different δ —in particular, any smaller δ would work. Also note that we would not be done after just finding this one δ —we must find such a δ for *any* ϵ , no matter how small—in other words, we must repeat this process infinitely many times! As that would take all day (as well as all of the other days), in practice

we almost always do this abstractly (for some *general* ϵ) instead of case-by-case, as in Example 1.1.2.

Example 1.1.2. Use Definition 1.1.1 to show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} 4x - 3 = 5$.

Response. Let x be arbitrary (that is, let it be any real number). Let's try writing out $f(x) - f(2)$.

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) - f(2) &= (4x - 3) - (4(2) - 3) \\ &= 4x - 3 - 4(2) + 3 \\ &= 4(x - 2) \end{aligned}$$

Now, suppose we are given some $\epsilon > 0$. We need to choose a δ such that if $|x - 2| < \delta$, then $|f(x) - f(2)| < \epsilon$. But as we just saw, as long as we pick $0 < \delta < \epsilon/4$, we get that if $|x - 2| < \delta$, then $|f(x) - f(2)| = |4(x - 2)| = 4|x - 2| < 4\delta < 4(\epsilon/4) = \epsilon$. So indeed, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (4x - 3) = 5$. \square

Exercise 5. Use the techniques of Example 1.1.2 to show that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} 5x - 6 = 9$$

Exercise 6. Or if that's too boring, use the techniques of Example 1.1.2 to show that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} mx + b = ma + b$$

1.1.1 Limits at/to infinity

Definition 1.1.3. We say that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty$ if for any real number N , there exists a real number $\delta > 0$ such that if $0 < |x - a| < \delta$, then $f(x) > N$.

Remark 1.1.3.1. Basically, the way this differs from 1.1.1 is defining “closeness to infinity.” That is, we say that f “approaches infinity” when for any number N (no matter how large!) there is a region surrounding $x = a$ where $f(x) > N$ (replacing the condition $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$).

Definition 1.1.4. We say that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L$ if for any $\epsilon > 0$, there exists some real number R such that for all $x > R$, $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$

Remark 1.1.4.1. Once again, let's unpack this a bit. Suppose we are considering the graph of $y = f(x)$ as in figure 1.4 and wish to show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L$.

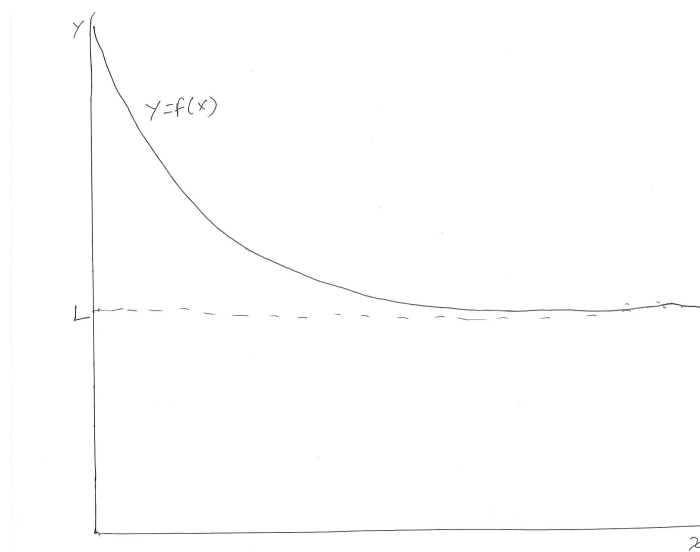


Figure 1.4: The graph of $y = f(x)$ with $y = L$ drawn in.

Now suppose we are once again given some $\epsilon > 0$. In Figure 1.5, we draw in the region on the y -axis of all points y with $|y - L| < \epsilon$ in red.

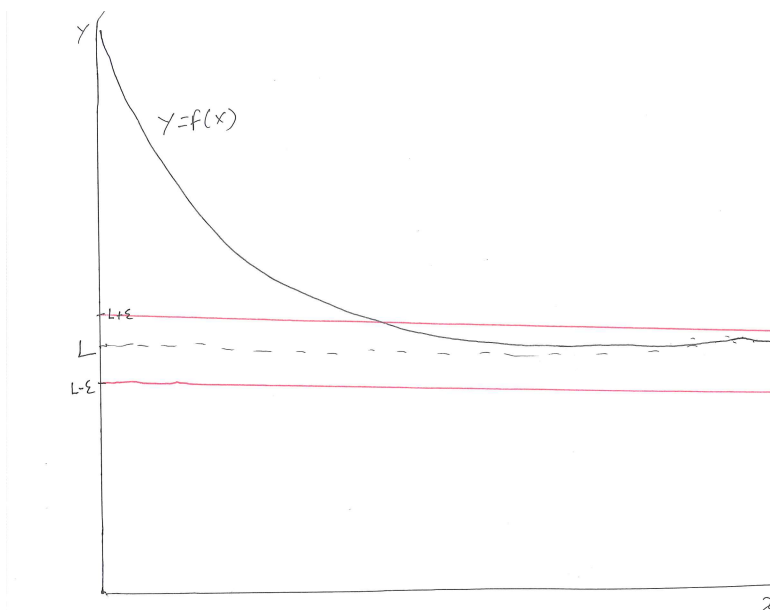


Figure 1.5: The graph of $y = f(x)$ with $y = L$ and the surrounding region of radius ϵ drawn in.

We need to find some R such that for all x to the right of R , the graph of the function stays within the two red lines. However, we may indeed find such an R (assuming the function isn't too badly behaved to the right of our frame). This R is inserted in figure 1.6.

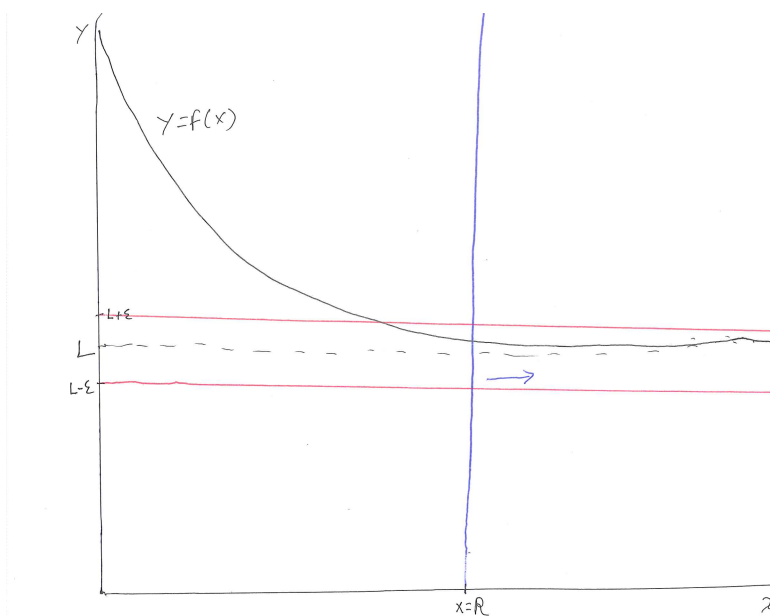


Figure 1.6: The graph of $y = f(x)$ with $y = L$ drawn in.

Of course, once more, we wouldn't actually be done once we had found this x -coordinate R —we must do so for *any* possible ϵ , no matter how small.

Exercise 7. Rewrite Definitions 1.1.3 and 1.1.4 replacing ∞ with $-\infty$ and making the appropriate other adjustments.

Exercise 8. Combine definitions 1.1.4 and 1.1.3 in order to define what it means to say that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \infty$. (Hint: read ahead to the next example if you're having trouble). You don't have to write it out, but also convince yourself that you'd be able to do the same for $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = \infty$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = -\infty$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = -\infty$.

Example 1.1.5. Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x = \infty$.

Response. We need to show that for any real N , there exists a number R such that if $x > R$, then $f(x) > N$. Let N be arbitrary. Let $R \geq N$. Then, for any $x > R$, $f(x) = x > R \geq N$. Thus, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x = \infty$. \square

Exercise 9. Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$.

Exercise 10. Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^2} = \infty$.