

differentiable functions are continuous

Canonical name DifferentiableFunctionsAreContinuous

Date of creation 2013-03-22 14:35:27 Last modified on 2013-03-22 14:35:27

Owner matte (1858) Last modified by matte (1858)

Numerical id 8

Author matte (1858)
Entry type Theorem
Classification msc 57R35
Classification msc 26A24

Related topic DifferentiableFunctionsAreContinuous2

Related topic LimitsOfNaturalLogarithm

Proposition 1. Suppose I is an open interval on \mathbb{R} , and $f: I \to \mathbb{C}$ is differentiable at $x \in I$. Then f is continuous at x. Further, if f is differentiable on I, then f is continuous on I.

Proof. Suppose $x \in I$. Let us show that $f(y) \to f(x)$, when $y \to x$. First, if $y \in I$ is distinct to x, then

$$f(x) - f(y) = \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y}(x - y).$$

Thus, if f'(x) is the derivative of f at x, we have

$$\lim_{y \to x} f(x) - f(y) = \lim_{y \to x} \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y} (x - y)$$

$$= \lim_{y \to x} \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y} \lim_{y \to x} (x - y)$$

$$= f'(x) 0$$

$$= 0.$$

where the second equality is justified since both limits on the second line exist. The second claim follows since f is continuous on I if and only if f is continuous at x for all $x \in I$.