

Mathematics 1110H (Section A) – Calculus I: Limits, Derivatives, and Integrals
TRENT UNIVERSITY, Fall 2024

Solution to Quiz #2

Sine δ^\dagger

In doing this quiz, you may freely use the fact it true that for all real numbers t , $|\sin(t)| \leq |t|$.

1. Use the ε - δ definition of limits to verify that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 2 \sin(2x) = 0$. [5]

SOLUTION. To verify that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 2 \sin(2x) = 0$ using the ε - δ definition of limits, we need to check that for any $\varepsilon > 0$ we can find a $\delta > 0$ such that if $|x - 0| < \delta$, then $|2 \sin(2x)| < \varepsilon$. As usual, we attempt to reverse-engineer the δ we need.

Suppose we are given an $\varepsilon > 0$; then

$$\begin{aligned} |2 \sin(2x)| < \varepsilon &\iff 2 |\sin(2x)| < \varepsilon \\ &\iff |\sin(2x)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

At this point we can exploit the fact that $|\sin(t)| \leq |t|$ for all t . Applying this fact with $t = 2x$ tells us that $|\sin(2x)| \leq |2x|$, so if we can get $|2x| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$, then we will have $|\sin(2x)| \leq |2x| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} |2x| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} &\iff 2|x| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \\ &\iff |x| < \frac{\varepsilon}{4} \\ &\iff |x - 0| < \frac{\varepsilon}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

Since each of the steps immediately above is reversible, if we let $\delta = \frac{\varepsilon}{4}$, it will follow that $|2x| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$, and since $|\sin(t)| \leq |t|$ for all t , it then follows that $|\sin(2x)| \leq |2x| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$. As the steps in our first calculation above are reversible, it then follows that $|2 \sin(2x)| < \varepsilon$, as required. ■

[†] With apologies to the creators of *Buckaroo Banzai*. “Remember: no matter where you go, there you are.”