Calculus

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May 22, 2024

For all lovers of mathematics.

Introduction

Calculus is the study of continuous change established by Issac Newton (1643–1727) and Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz (1646–1716) in the 17th century. Single variable calculus studies derivatives and integrals of functions of one variable and their relationship stated by the fundamental theorem of calculus.

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx = F(b) - F(a)$$

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1 Functions and Limits

1.1 The Limit of a Function

1.1.1 Functions

A function $f: X \mapsto Y$ is a rule that assigns each element x in set X to exactly one element y in set Y. We have a formal definition of a function.

Definition 1.1. A function f is a binary relation R between domain X and codomain Y that satisfies:

• R is a subset of the Cartesian product of X and Y.

$$R \subset \{(x,y) \mid x \in X, y \in Y\}$$

• For every x in X, there exists a y in Y such that (x,y) is in R.

$$\forall x \in X, \exists y \in Y, (x, y) \in R$$

• If (x, y) and (x, z) are in R, then y = z.

$$(x,y) \in R \land (x,z) \in R \implies y = z$$

A function of a real variable is a function whose domain is the set of real numbers \mathbb{R} . A real function is a real-valued function of a real variable whose domain and codomain is \mathbb{R} .

1.1.2 Intuitive Definition of a Limit

Newton and Leibniz introduced a working definition of a limit. Let f(x) be a function defined on some open interval that contains the number a, except possibly at a itself.

Definition 1.2. The **limit** of f(x) as x approaches a equals L if we can make f(x) arbitrarily close to L by taking x sufficiently close to a from the left and the right but $x \neq a$.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

Definition 1.3. The **left-hand limit** of f(x) as x approaches a from the left equals L if we can make f(x) arbitrarily close to L by taking x sufficiently close to a where x < a.

$$\lim_{x \to a^{-}} f(x) = L$$

Definition 1.4. The **right-hand limit** of f(x) as x approaches a from the right equals L if we can make f(x) arbitrarily close to L by taking x sufficiently close to a where x > a.

$$\lim_{x \to a^+} f(x) = L$$

The limit **exists** if the left-hand limit and the right-hand limit of f(x) as x approaches a equal L, otherwise the limit **does not exist**.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L \iff \lim_{x \to a^{-}} f(x) = \lim_{x \to a^{+}} f(x) = L$$

1.2 The Precise Definition of a Limit

1.2.1 Epsilon-Delta Definition of a Limit

Augustin-Louis Cauchy (1789–1857) and Karl Weierstrass (1815–1897) formalized a rigorous definition of a limit.

Definition 1.5.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

if for every number $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a number $\delta > 0$ such that

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta \implies |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$$

Definition 1.6.

$$\lim_{x \to a^{-}} f(x) = L$$

if for every number $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a number $\delta > 0$ such that

$$a - \delta < x < a \implies |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$$

Definition 1.7.

$$\lim_{x \to a^+} f(x) = L$$

if for every number $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a number $\delta > 0$ such that

$$a < x < a + \delta \implies |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$$

Problem 1.1. Prove that

$$\lim_{x \to 3} (4x - 5) = 7$$

Solution. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given, we want to find a number $\delta > 0$ such that

$$0 < |x-3| < \delta \implies |(4x-5)-7| < \varepsilon$$

We simplify to get |(4x - 5) - 7| = |4x - 12| = 4|x - 3| so we have

$$4|x-3| < \varepsilon \iff |x-3| < \frac{\varepsilon}{4}$$

Let $\delta = \varepsilon/4$, we have

$$0<|x-3|<\frac{\varepsilon}{4}\implies 4|x-3|<\varepsilon\implies |(4x-5)-7|<\varepsilon$$

Therefore, by the definition of a limit, it is proved that

$$\lim_{x \to 3} (4x - 5) = 7$$

Problem 1.2. Prove that

$$\lim_{x \to 3} x^2 = 9$$

Solution. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given, we want to find a number $\delta > 0$ such that

$$0 < |x - 3| < \delta \implies |x^2 - 9| < \varepsilon$$

We simplify to get

$$|x^2 - 9| = |x + 3| |x - 3| < \varepsilon$$

Let C be a positive constant such that

$$|x+3| |x-3| < C |x-3| < \varepsilon \iff |x-3| < \frac{\varepsilon}{C}$$

Since we are interested only in values of x that are close to 3, it is reasonable to assume that |x-3| < 1 such that |x+3| < 7 so C = 7. Let $\delta = \min\{1, \varepsilon/7\}$, we have

$$0 < |x-3| < 1 \iff |x+3| < 7$$
$$0 < |x-3| < \frac{\varepsilon}{7} \iff 7 |x-3| < \varepsilon$$
$$|x+3| |x-3| < 7 |x-3| < \varepsilon \implies |x^2-9| < \varepsilon$$

Therefore, it is proved that

$$\lim_{x \to 3} x^2 = 9$$

Problem 1.3. Prove that

$$\lim_{x \to 0^+} \sqrt{x} = 0$$

Solution. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given, we want to find a number $\delta > 0$ such that

$$0 < x < \delta \implies |\sqrt{x} - 0| < \varepsilon$$

We simplify to get $\sqrt{x} < \varepsilon \iff x < \varepsilon^2$. Let $\delta = \varepsilon^2$, so we have

$$0 < x < \varepsilon^2 \implies |\sqrt{x} - 0| < \varepsilon$$

Therefore, it is proved that

$$\lim_{x \to 0^+} \sqrt{x} = 0$$

1.3 Computing Limits

1.3.1 Limit Laws

Suppose that c is a constant and the limits

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L, \lim_{x \to a} g(x) = M$$

exist. We have the following properties of limits called the **limit laws** to compute limits.

Theorem 1.1.

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

Proof. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given, we want to find a number $\delta > 0$ such that

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta \implies |c - c| < \varepsilon$$

We have $|c-c|=0<\varepsilon$ so the trivial inequality is always true for any number $\delta>0.$

Theorem 1.2.

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

Proof. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given, we want to find a number $\delta > 0$ such that

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta \implies |x - a| < \varepsilon$$

Let $\delta = \varepsilon$ so we have

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta = \varepsilon \implies |x - a| < \varepsilon$$

Theorem 1.3 (Sum and Difference Law). The limit of a sum or difference is the sum or difference of the limits.

$$\lim_{x \to a} [f(x) \pm g(x)] = \lim_{x \to a} f(x) \pm \lim_{x \to a} g(x) = L \pm M$$

Proof. First we prove the sum law. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given, we want to find a number $\delta > 0$ such that

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta \implies |f(x) + g(x) - (L + M)| < \varepsilon$$

By the **triangle inequality** $|a + b| \le |a| + |b|$ we get

$$|f(x) + g(x) - (L+M)| = |f(x) - L + g(x) - M| \le |f(x) - L| + |g(x) - M|$$

Theorem 1.4 (Constant Multiple Law). The limit of a constant times a function is the constant times the limit of the function.

$$\lim_{x \to a} [c f(x)] = c \lim_{x \to a} f(x) = cL$$

Proof. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given, we want to find a number $\delta > 0$ such that

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta \implies |f(x) - c \lim_{x \to a} f(x)| < \varepsilon$$

Theorem 1.5 (Product Law). The limit of a product is the product of the limits.

$$\lim_{x \to a} [f(x)g(x)] = \lim_{x \to a} f(x) \cdot \lim_{x \to a} g(x) = L \cdot M$$

Theorem 1.6 (Quotient Law). The limit of a quotient is the quotient of the limits (provided that the limit of the denominator is not 0).

$$\lim_{x \to a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \to a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \to a} g(x)} = \frac{L}{M} \iff \lim_{x \to a} g(x) = M \neq 0$$

Theorem 1.7 (Power Law).

$$\lim_{x \to a} [f(x)]^n = [\lim_{x \to a} f(x)]^n$$

Theorem 1.8 (Root Law).

$$\lim_{x \to a} \sqrt[n]{f(x)} = \sqrt[n]{\lim_{x \to a} f(x)}$$

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