

Theory of Real Functions

B.Sc (H) Mathematics

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More Examples on limit of functions:-

(f) Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} x^3 = c^3$.

Let $f(x) = x^3$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$

Consider

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - c^3| &= |x^3 - c^3| \\ &= |(x-c)(x^2 + xc + c^2)| \\ &= |x-c| |x^2 + xc + c^2| \\ &\quad (\because |ab| = |a||b|) \\ &\leq |x-c| (|x|^2 + |c|^2 + |x||c|) \quad \text{--- (1)} \end{aligned}$$

Let $|x-c| < 1$ then

$$|x| - |c| \leq ||x| - |c|| \leq |x-c| < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |x| - |c| < 1 \Rightarrow |x| < |c| + 1$$

\therefore (1) \Rightarrow

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - c^3| &\leq |x-c| \cdot (|x|^2 + |c|^2 + |x||c|) \\ &< |x-c| \left((|c|+1)^2 + |c|^2 + (|c|+1)|c| \right) \\ &= |x-c| (3|c|^2 + 1 + 3|c|) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x) - c^3| < |x - c| (3c^2 + 3|c| + 1)$$

$$\text{Then } |f(x) - c^3| < |x - c| (3c^2 + 3|c| + 1) < \epsilon$$

provided

$$|x - c| < \frac{\epsilon}{3c^2 + 3|c| + 1} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\text{Thus, choose } \delta = \inf \left\{ 1, \frac{\epsilon}{3c^2 + 3|c| + 1} \right\}$$

$$\therefore |x - c| < \delta = \inf \left\{ 1, \frac{\epsilon}{3c^2 + 3|c| + 1} \right\} \leq 1$$
$$\leq \frac{\epsilon}{3c^2 + 3|c| + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow |x - c| < 1 \quad \text{and} \quad |x - c| < \frac{\epsilon}{3c^2 + 3|c| + 1}$$

Hence (2) \Rightarrow

$$|f(x) - c^3| < \epsilon$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = c^3.$$

(8) Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} x + 1 = 5$

let $\epsilon > 0$ be given,

let $f(x) := x+1$, $L := 5$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Consider } |f(x) - L| &= |x+1-5| \\ &= |x-4| < \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

provided $|x-4| < \delta$ and $\delta = \epsilon$.

\therefore choose $\delta = \epsilon$ then

$$0 < |x-4| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \epsilon.$$

(h) Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} x^2 = 4$. (H.W.)

(i) Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \sqrt{x+1} = \sqrt{5}$, $x > 0$

let $\epsilon > 0$ be given, $f(x) := \sqrt{x+1}$
 $L = \sqrt{5}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } |f(x) - L| &= |\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{5}| \\ &= \left| \frac{(x+1) - 5}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{5}} \right| = \left| \frac{x-4}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{5}} \right| \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Since } \sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{5} \geq \sqrt{5}$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x) - L| \leq \frac{|x-4|}{\sqrt{5}} < \epsilon$$

provided $|x-4| < \epsilon\sqrt{5}$

\therefore Choose $\delta = \epsilon\sqrt{5}$

Then $0 < |x-4| < \delta \Rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \epsilon$

Hence $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \sqrt{x+1} = \sqrt{5}$