

# Math 111

September 7, 2022

# Limits

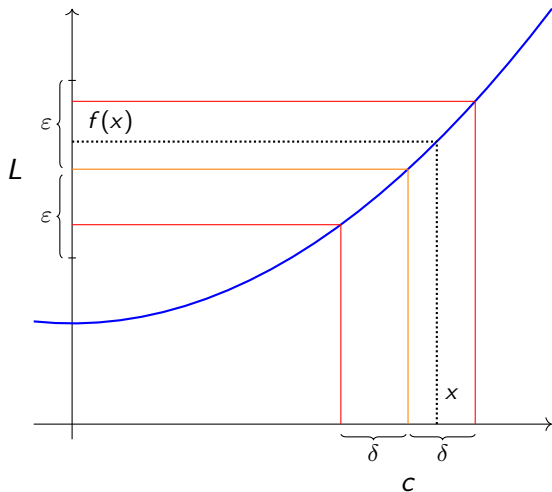
**Definition.** Let  $f$  be a function defined in an open interval containing a point  $c$ , except  $f$  might not be defined at the point  $c$ , itself. Let  $L$  be a real number. The *limit of  $f(x)$  as  $x$  approaches  $c$*  is  $L$ , denoted  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = L$ , if for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$  such if  $x$  satisfies

$$0 < |x - c| < \delta,$$

then

$$|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon.$$

## Relevant diagram



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = L$$

## Example

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Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , let  $\delta = \varepsilon/5$ . Suppose that  $0 < |x - 7| < \delta = \varepsilon/5$ .

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$$|(5x - 4) - 31| = |5x - 35|$$

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as required. □

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Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , let  $\delta = \varepsilon/3$ . Suppose that  $0 < |x - 2| < \delta = \varepsilon/3$ .

Then

$$|(-3x - 1) - (-7)|$$

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Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , let  $\delta = \varepsilon/3$ . Suppose that  $0 < |x - 2| < \delta = \varepsilon/3$ .

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$$|(-3x-1)-(-7)| = |-3x+6|$$

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## Examples

**Claim.**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \cos(1/x) = ?$  .

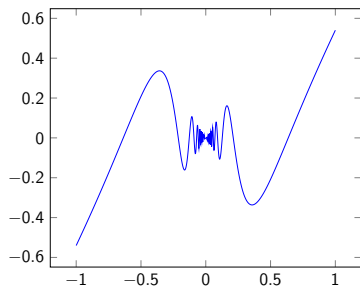
Note that  $x \cos(1/x)$  is not defined at  $x = 0$ .

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Since  $\delta \leq 1$ , it follows that  $4 < x < 6$ , and hence  $9 < x + 5 < 11$ .

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In particular,  $|x + 5| < 11$ . Therefore,

$$|x^2 - 25| = |(x + 5)(x - 5)| = |x + 5||x - 5| < 11|x - 5|.$$

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In particular,  $|x + 5| < 11$ . Therefore,

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Now, since  $\delta \leq \varepsilon/11$  and  $|x - 5| < \delta$ , it follows that

$$|x^2 - 25| < 11|x - 5| < 11 \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{11} = \varepsilon,$$

as required. □



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3. If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) \neq 0$ , then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x)}.$$

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It's easy to show  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} x = 5$  (and we'll do this next time.) Then, using part 2 of the Limit Theorem with  $f(x) = g(x) = x$ , we get

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