

Limit and Continuity

Example

Let $f(x) = \frac{|x|}{x}$ for all except 0

Prove that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ does not exist.

Sol.

Let $\epsilon > 0$ where $0 < \epsilon < 1$

Let $\delta > 0$ be any real number.

$\therefore x \rightarrow 0$

\therefore We take $0 < |x_1 - 0| < \delta$

$$0 < |x_2 - 0| < \delta \quad \text{for } \begin{cases} x_1 > 0 \\ x_2 < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$|f(x_1) - f(x_2)| = \left| \frac{|x_1|}{x_1} - \frac{|x_2|}{x_2} \right|$$

$$= \left| \frac{x_1}{x_1} - \frac{(-x_2)}{x_2} \right|$$

$$\begin{cases} |x_1| = x_1 & x_1 > 0 \\ |x_2| = -x_2 & x_2 < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$= \left| \frac{x_1}{x_1} + \frac{x_2}{x_2} \right| = |1+1| = 2 > 1 > \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x_1) - f(x_2)| > \epsilon \text{ for } 0 < |x_1 - 0| < \delta$$

$$0 < |x_2 - 0| < \delta \quad [0 < \epsilon < 1]$$

∴ By Cauchy Criterion.

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ does not exist.

(ii) $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{Q} \\ -1 & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q} \end{cases}$

Prove By using def.

Let $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$ does not exist.