

Formal Limit Definitions

General Form of Definitions:

Given any _____ ($\epsilon > 0, M > 0, M < 0$ *what is the challenge on f*) _____, there is a corresponding _____ ($\delta > 0, N > 0, N < 0$ *what is the requirement on x*) _____, such that if x is _____ (*where it meets that requirement*) _____ then $f(x)$ _____ (*beats the challenge*) _____.

Limit Definitions

$\lim f(x) =$

L

∞

$-\infty$

0 < |x - a| < δ

a < x < a + δ

a - δ < x < a

x > N, N > 0

x < N, N < 0

$x \rightarrow a$

$x \rightarrow a^+$

$x \rightarrow a^-$

$x \rightarrow \infty$

$x \rightarrow -\infty$

|f(x) - L| < ϵ

f(x) > M, M > 0

f(x) < M, M < 0

Example: $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L$

means that for every $\epsilon > 0$ there must be a corresponding δ such that if $a - \delta < x < a$ then $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$.