

9.1 Limits of Functions.

A. Definition of limit.

1. Definition. We will consider *vector-valued functions*, $\mathbb{f}: D \rightarrow \mathbb{E}^m$, with domain $D = D_{\mathbb{f}} \subseteq \mathbb{E}^n$. We write
$$\mathbb{f}(\mathbb{x}) = \mathbb{f}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (f_1(\mathbb{x}), f_2(\mathbb{x}), \dots, f_m(\mathbb{x}))$$
where $f_i: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and we usually write
$$f_i(\mathbb{x}) = f_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n).$$
2. Definition. Let \mathfrak{a} be a limit point (cluster point) of the domain $D_{\mathbb{f}}$ of a function \mathbb{f} . Then

$$\lim_{\mathbb{x} \rightarrow \mathfrak{a}} \mathbb{f}(\mathbb{x}) = \mathbb{L}$$

if for all $\epsilon > 0$ there is an $\delta > 0$ such that for all $\mathbb{x} \in D_{\mathbb{f}}$, if $0 < \|\mathbb{x} - \mathfrak{a}\| < \delta$, then $\|\mathbb{f}(\mathbb{x}) - \mathbb{L}\| < \epsilon$.

3. Remark. If \mathfrak{a} is an isolated point of $D_{\mathbb{f}}$ then it does not make sense to talk about

$$\lim_{\mathbb{x} \rightarrow \mathfrak{a}} \mathbb{f}(\mathbb{x}).$$

Theorem 1. (9.1.1) Suppose that \mathfrak{a} is a limit point of the domain $D_{\mathfrak{f}}$ of the function \mathfrak{f} .

Then the following are equivalent

a. $\lim_{\mathfrak{x} \rightarrow \mathfrak{a}} \mathfrak{f}(\mathfrak{x}) = \mathbb{L}.$

b. For every sequence $\{\mathfrak{x}^{(j)}\} \in D_{\mathfrak{f}}$, with $\mathfrak{x}^{(j)} \neq \mathfrak{a}$ for all j , such that $\mathfrak{x}^{(j)} \rightarrow \mathfrak{a}$,
 $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \mathfrak{f}(\mathfrak{x}^{(j)}) = \mathbb{L}.$

Proof.

4. Example. Find $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{\sin(x) \sin(y)}{x^2 + y^2}$ or prove it does not exist.

5. Example. Find $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2 + y^4}{x^2 + 2y^4}$ or prove it does not exist.

6. Example. Find $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^3 - y^3}{x^2 + y^2}$ or prove it does not exist.