

Limit at infinity

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

$$f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad L \in \mathbb{R}$$

$f: A \rightarrow B$ f is constant $\exists c \in B$ s.t.
 $\forall x \in A \quad f(x) = c$

eventually constant

D nonempty subset \mathbb{R} $f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $\exists c \in \mathbb{R} \quad \exists X \in D$ s.t. $\forall x > X$ we have $f(x) = c$



"constantish" approximations

$$\tanh 8 = 1$$

wrong

$$\tanh 8 < 1$$

$$\tanh x = \frac{\sinh x}{\cosh x} = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} < 1$$

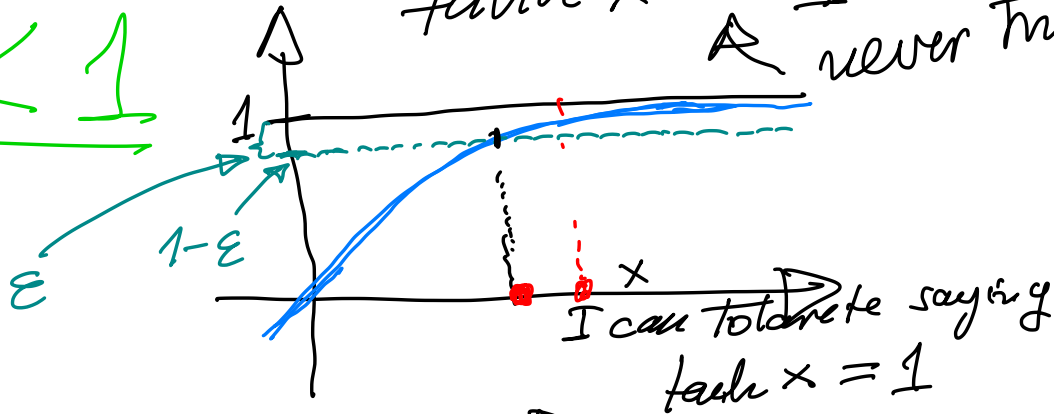
If we are willing to tolerate

$\epsilon = 10^{-8}$ error for which x

can we write

$$\tanh x = 1$$

never true



Find such x

$$0 < 1 - \tanh x < \epsilon \quad \text{solve for } x!$$

Solve $1 - \tanh x < \epsilon$

$$1 - \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} = \frac{e^x + e^{-x} - e^x + e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} = \frac{2e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}$$

Solve $\frac{2e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} < \epsilon$ hard!


Make it easier by increasing $\frac{2e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}$

pizza → $2e^{-x}$
party → $e^x + e^{-x}$

$$\frac{2e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} < \frac{2e^{-x}}{e^x} \stackrel{\text{alg.}}{=} 2e^{-2x}$$

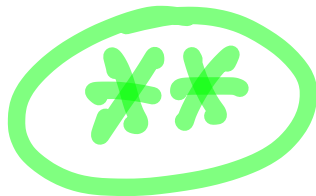
huge pizza-party-principle

TRUE



Solving

$$\frac{\epsilon > 0}{\epsilon > 0}$$



A large green box containing a sequence of steps for solving an inequality:

- $2e^{-2x} < \epsilon$
- $e^{-2x} < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$
- $\ln e^{-2x} < \ln \frac{\epsilon}{2}$
- $-2x < \ln \frac{\epsilon}{2}$
- $x > -\frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{\epsilon}{2}$

much easier than what we had before

If $\frac{\epsilon = 10^{-8}}{\epsilon = 10^{-8}}$

$$x > -\frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{1}{2} 10^{-8}\right) \approx 9.55$$

$x > 10$ we are ok.

Definition of limit as x approaches $+\infty$

Let $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and $L \in \mathbb{R}$. Assume

$\exists X_0 \in D$ such that $[X_0, +\infty) \subseteq D$.

Let $f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function. We say that L is a limit of f as x approaches $+\infty$ if the following condition is satisfied

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists X(\varepsilon) \geq X_0 \text{ s.t.}$$

$$x > X(\varepsilon) \Rightarrow |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$$

The notation for this is

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) = L.$$

What we did above, we proved

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \tanh x = 1$$

How come? For every $\varepsilon > 0$ we calculated

$$X(\varepsilon) = -\frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)$$

Recall $\textcircled{**}$ $\left| \tanh x - 1 \right| = \frac{2e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} < 2e^{-2x}$ proved by Pizza Party

and

$\textcircled{**}$ $2e^{-2x} < \varepsilon \iff x > -\frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)$

Now prove

$x > -\frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right) \implies \left| \tanh x - 1 \right| < \varepsilon$

By $\textcircled{**}$ $2e^{-2x} < \varepsilon$

(*)

$$\left| \tanh x - 1 \right| < 2e^{-2x}$$

By transitivity of order

I deduce $|\tanh x - 1| < \varepsilon$

On the following page I finish the proof of $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \tanh x = 1$.

In the proof I use the green statements (*) and (**).

which we proved earlier.

It is a good strategy to split a proof in several parts and then combine the parts at the end.

We proved the following two statements (boxed in green)

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad |\tanh x - 1| = \frac{2e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} < 2e^{-2x}$$



Let $\varepsilon > 0$.

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad 2e^{-2x} < \varepsilon \iff x > -\frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)$$



Now we will prove

$$x > -\frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)$$

$$\implies |\tanh x - 1| < \varepsilon$$



Assume

$$x > -\frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)$$

By the implication \Leftarrow in

we conclude that

$$2e^{-2x} < \varepsilon$$

By  we have

$$|\tanh x - 1| < 2e^{-2x}$$

From the preceding two green boxes we deduce that we proved

$$|\tanh x - 1| < \varepsilon$$