

5.9 Limits and multiplication: proof

Theorem 5.5. (Limits and multiplication)

Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$. Let $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be functions and let $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Assume that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$ exist.

Then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (f(x)g(x)) = \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \right) \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \right)$.

Proof.

Let $l_1 = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ and $l_2 = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$.

To show: $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (f(x)g(x)) = l_1 l_2$.

To show: If $e \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ then there exists $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ such that

if $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is within 10^{-d} of a then $f(x)g(x)$ is within 10^{-e} of $l_1 l_2$.

Assume $e \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$.

Let $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ such that $|l_1| < 10^r$ and $|l_2| < 10^s$.

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = l_1$ then we know that there exists $d_1 \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ such that

if $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is within 10^{-d_1} of a and $f(x)$ is within $10^{-(e+s+1)}$ of l_1 .

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = l_2$ then we know that there exists $d_2 \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ such that

if $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is within 10^{-d_2} of a and $g(x)$ is within $10^{-(e+r+1)}$ of l_2 .

Let $d = \max(d_1, d_2)$.

Assume $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is within 10^{-d} of a .

To show: $f(x)g(x)$ is within 10^{-e} of $l_1 l_2$.

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x)g(x) - l_1 l_2| &= |(f(x) - l_1)g(x) + l_1(g(x) - l_2)| \\ &\leq |(f(x) - l_1)g(x)| + |l_1(g(x) - l_2)|, \quad \text{by the triangle inequality,} \\ &= |(f(x) - l_1)(g(x) - l_2) + (f(x) - l_1)l_2| + |l_1| |g(x) - l_2| \\ &\leq |f(x) - l_1| |g(x) - l_2| + |f(x) - l_1| |l_2| + |l_1| |g(x) - l_2| \\ &\leq |f(x) - l_1| |g(x) - l_2| + |f(x) - l_1| 10^s + 10^r |g(x) - l_2| \\ &\leq |f(x) - l_1| |g(x) - l_2| + |f(x) - l_1| 10^s + 10^r 10^{-(e+r+1)} \\ &= 10^{-e} (10^{-(e+r+s+2)} + 10^{-1} + 10^{-1}) < 10^{-e} \cdot 1 = 10^{-e}. \end{aligned}$$

So $f(x)g(x)$ is within 10^{-e} of $l_1 l_2$.

So there exists $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ such that

if $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is within 10^{-d} of a then $f(x)g(x)$ is within 10^{-e} of $l_1 l_2$.

So $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (f(x)g(x)) = l_1 l_2$.

□