### **Limits of Functions at a Point**

Reference:

S. L. Salas and E. Hille, Calculus: One and Several Variables, Xerox College Publishing, 1971.

## **Concept of a Limit:**

The mathematical statement,

$$\lim_{x \to c} f(x) = \ell \tag{1}$$

means that as the value of x is made *closer* and *closer* to c, the value of the function f(x) becomes *closer* and *closer* to  $\ell$ . Specifically, the value of the difference  $|f(x)-\ell|$  can be made smaller and smaller by decreasing the value of the difference |x-c|. Absolute values are taken of the differences " $f(x)-\ell$ " and "x-c" to show that x can be *increasing* or *decreasing* toward c while f(x) is be *increasing* or *decreasing* toward  $\ell$ . For the *limit* to *exist*, the function value must approach the value of  $\ell$  from *both sides* of c.

### **How to Read Equation (1):**

Equation (1) should be read as follows:

The limit of function f(x) as x approaches c is equal to  $\ell$ .

Or,

As the value of x approaches c, the value of function f(x) approaches  $\ell$ .

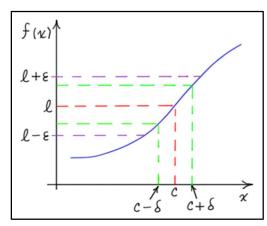
#### **Formal Definition:**

The 
$$\lim_{x\to c} f(x) = \ell$$
 if and only if for each number  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a number  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $0 < |x-c| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x)-\ell| < \varepsilon$ .

Note that the inequality  $0 < |x - c| < \delta$  requires the value of x lie within the band of width  $2\delta$  from  $c - \delta$  to  $c + \delta$ , and the inequality  $|f(x) - \ell| < \varepsilon$  requires the value of f(x) lie within the band of width  $2\varepsilon$  from  $\ell - \varepsilon$  to  $\ell + \varepsilon$ .

#### **Illustration:**

The figure shows a function f(x) as it passes through the region around x=c. The **red** dashed lines indicate the values of c and  $\ell$ ; the **green** dashed lines indicate the values of  $c-\delta$ ,  $c+\delta$ , and the function values at these points; and the **purple** lines indicate the  $\varepsilon$  band around the value of  $\ell$ . If  $\lim_{x\to c} f(x) = \ell$ , then the **function values** at  $c-\delta$  and  $c+\delta$  must fall **within** the  $\varepsilon$  **band**, and as the **value** of  $\varepsilon$  is decreased, the **value** of  $\delta$  can be decreased as well to ensure the function values remain in the  $\varepsilon$  band. Finally, as the value of  $\delta \to 0$ , the function values at  $c-\delta$  and  $c+\delta$  must approach  $\ell$ .



### **Notes:**

- 1. For the function f(x) to have a limit at x = c, it needs to be defined *close to* x = c, but it need **not be** defined at x = c.
- 2. To check the limit of the function at x = c, the **relative values** of the parameters  $\varepsilon$  and  $\delta$  for any given value of c can related by f(x). Once the value of either parameter is chosen, an acceptable value of the **second parameter** can be found using f(x) and c.
- 3. In each of the examples that follow, to verify the limit of the function at some point x = c, the limit is checked both from *above* and *below* x = c. These limits are often written as follows.

Limit from below:

$$\lim_{x \uparrow c} f(x)$$
 or  $\lim_{x \to c^{-}} f(x)$ 

Limit from above:

$$\lim_{x \downarrow c} f(x) \quad \text{or} \quad \lim_{x \to c^+} f(x)$$

## **Useful properties of limits:**

1. If 
$$\overline{\lim_{x \to c} f(x) = \ell}$$
 and  $\overline{\lim_{x \to c} g(x) = m}$ , then

a) 
$$\lim_{x \to c} (f(x) + g(x)) = \ell + m$$

$$\lim_{x \to c} (f(x) + g(x)) = \ell + m$$
 b) 
$$\lim_{x \to c} \alpha f(x) = \alpha \ell \text{ (for any real } \alpha)$$
 c)

c) 
$$\lim_{x \to c} (f(x)g(x)) = \ell m$$

2. If 
$$\overline{\lim_{x \to c} f(x) = \ell}$$
 and  $\overline{\lim_{x \to c} g(x) = m \neq 0}$ , then  $\lim_{x \to c} \left( \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right)$ 

- 3. For any polynomial P(x),  $\lim_{x\to c} P(x) = P(c)$
- 4. For polynomials P(x) and Q(x):

If 
$$\overline{\lim_{x\to c} P(x) = P(c)}$$
 and  $\overline{\lim_{x\to c} Q(x) = Q(c) \neq 0}$ , then  $\overline{\lim_{x\to c} \left(\frac{P(x)}{Q(x)}\right) = \frac{P(c)}{Q(c)}}$ 

5. If 
$$\overline{\lim_{x \to c} f(x) = \ell \neq 0}$$
 and  $\overline{\lim_{x \to c} g(x) = 0}$ , then  $\overline{\lim_{x \to c} \left( \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right)}$  does not exist

# **Examples:**

## Example #1:

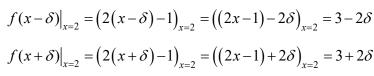
Verify the following limit:  $\lim_{x \to 2} f(x) \triangleq \lim_{x \to 2} (2x - 1) = 3$ 

Solution:

1. Set the range for  $x: (2-\delta) < x < (2+\delta)$ 

2. Set the range for f(x):  $(3-\varepsilon) < f(x) < (3+\varepsilon)$  (the function is increasing)

3. Calculate the function values at the *end points* of the *x*-range:



4. Comparing the results from step 3 to the limits set in step 2, we require

$$\boxed{3-2\delta > 3-\varepsilon}$$
 and  $\boxed{3+2\delta < 3+\varepsilon}$ 

5. First condition:

$$3-2\delta > 3-\varepsilon$$
  $\Rightarrow -2\delta > \varepsilon$   $\Rightarrow 2\delta < \varepsilon$   $\delta < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$ 

6. Second condition:

$$3 + 2\delta < 3 + \varepsilon$$
  $\Rightarrow 2\delta < \varepsilon$   $\Rightarrow \delta < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$ 

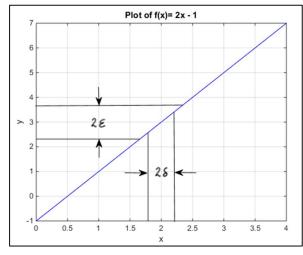
7. Check: Let  $\varepsilon = 0.1$  and  $\delta = 0.04 < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon = 0.05$ 

Note:  $3 - \varepsilon = 2.9$  and  $3 + \varepsilon = 3.1$ 

$$f(x-0.04)|_{x=2} = (2(x-0.04)-1)_{x=2} = 2.92 > 3-\varepsilon = 2.9$$

$$f(x+0.04)|_{x=2} = (2(x+0.04)-1)_{x=2} = 3.08 < 3 + \varepsilon = 3.1$$

8. As  $\varepsilon \to 0$ :  $\left(\delta < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon\right) \to 0$ ,  $\left. f(x-\delta) \right|_{x=2} \to f(x) \right|_{x=2} = 3$ , and  $\left. f(x+\delta) \right|_{x=2} \to f(x) \right|_{x=2} = 3$ 



# Example #2:

Verify the following limit:

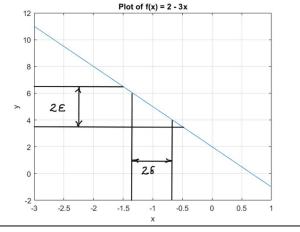
$$\lim_{x \to -1} f(x) \triangleq \lim_{x \to -1} (2 - 3x) = 5$$

Solution:

1. Set the range for 
$$x: (-1-\delta) < x < (-1+\delta)$$

2. Set the range for 
$$f(x)$$
:  $(5+\varepsilon) > f(x) > (5-\varepsilon)$  (the function is decreasing)

3. Calculate the function values at the end points of the *x*-range:



$$f(x-\delta)\big|_{x=-1} = (2-3(x-\delta))_{x=-1} = ((2-3x)+3\delta)_{x=-1} = 5+3\delta$$

$$f(x+\delta)\big|_{x=-1} = (2-3(x+\delta))_{x=-1} = ((2-3x)-3\delta)_{x=-1} = 5-3\delta$$

4. Comparing the results from step 3 to the limits set in step 2, we require

$$5+3\delta < 5+\varepsilon$$
 and  $5-3\delta > 5-\varepsilon$ 

5. First condition:

$$5+3\delta < 5+\varepsilon \qquad \Rightarrow 3\delta < \varepsilon \qquad \delta < \frac{1}{3}\varepsilon$$

6. Second condition:

$$5-3\delta > 5-\varepsilon$$
  $\Rightarrow -3\delta > -\varepsilon$   $\Rightarrow 3\delta < \varepsilon$   $\Rightarrow \delta < \frac{1}{3}\varepsilon$ 

7. Check: Let  $\varepsilon = 0.1$  and  $\delta = 0.03 < \frac{1}{3}\varepsilon = 0.0\overline{33}$ 

Note:  $5 - \varepsilon = 4.9$  and  $5 + \varepsilon = 5.1$ 

$$f(x-0.03)\big|_{x=-1} = (2-3(x-0.03))_{x=-1} = 5.09 < 5+\varepsilon = 5.1$$

$$f(x+0.03)\big|_{x=-1} = (2-3(x+0.03))_{x=-1} = 4.91 > 5-\varepsilon = 4.9$$

5. As 
$$\varepsilon \to 0$$
:  $\left(\delta < \frac{1}{3}\varepsilon\right) \to 0$ ,  $\left. f(x-\delta) \right|_{x=-1} \to f(x) \right|_{x=-1} = 5$ , and  $\left. f(x+\delta) \right|_{x=-1} \to f(x) \right|_{x=-1} = 5$ 

## Example #3:

Verify the following limit:  $\lim_{r \to 0} f$ 

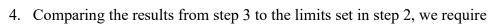
$$\lim_{x \to 0} f(x) \triangleq \lim_{x \to 0} |x| = 0$$

Solution:

- 1. Set the range for  $x: -\delta < x < \delta$
- 2. Set the range for f(x):  $-\varepsilon < f(x) < \varepsilon$  (the function bottoms out at zero)
- 3. Calculate the function values at the end points of the *x*-range:

$$f(x-\delta)\big|_{x=0} = (|x|)_{x=-\delta} = \delta$$

$$f(x+\delta)\big|_{x=0} = (|x|)_{x=\delta} = \delta$$



$$\delta > -\varepsilon$$
 and  $\delta < \varepsilon$ 

5. First condition:

Both  $\varepsilon$  and  $\delta$  are **positive**, so this condition is satisfied. No new information here.

6. Second condition:

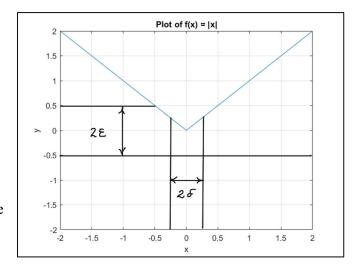
$$\delta < \varepsilon$$

7. Check: Let  $\varepsilon = 0.1$  and  $\delta = 0.09 < \varepsilon$ 

$$f(x+0.09)|_{x=0} = (|x|)_{x=0.09} = 0.09 < \varepsilon$$

$$f(x-0.09)|_{x=0} = (|x|)_{x=-0.09} = 0.09 < \varepsilon$$

- 5. As  $\varepsilon \to 0$ :  $\left(\delta < \varepsilon\right) \to 0$ ,  $\left. f(x \delta) \right|_{x=0} \to f(x) \right|_{x=0} = 0$ , and  $\left. f(x + \delta) \right|_{x=0} \to f(x) \right|_{x=0} = 0$
- 6. These results are *consistent* with the graph of the function.



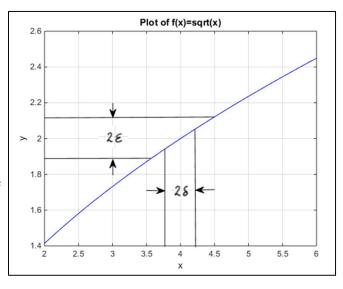
## Example #4:

Verify the following limit:  $\lim_{x \to 4} f(x) \triangleq \lim_{x \to 4} \sqrt{x} = 2$ 

Solution:

- 1. Set the range for  $x: (4-\delta) < x < (4+\delta)$
- 2. Set the range for f(x):  $(2-\varepsilon) < f(x) < (2+\varepsilon)$
- 3. Calculate the function values at the *end points* of the *x*-range:

$$f(x-\delta)\big|_{x=4} = \left(\sqrt{x-\delta}\right)_{x=4} = \sqrt{4-\delta}$$
$$f(x+\delta)\big|_{x=4} = \left(\sqrt{x+\delta}\right)_{x=4} = \sqrt{4+\delta}$$



4. Comparing the results from step 3 to the limits set in step 2, we require

$$\sqrt{4-\delta} > 2-\varepsilon$$
 and  $\sqrt{4+\delta} < 2+\varepsilon$ 

5. First condition:

Note first that  $4-\delta > 1$  and  $2-\varepsilon > 1$ , so both sides can be squared without changing the inequality.

$$\left(\sqrt{4-\delta}\right)^2 > \left(2-\varepsilon\right)^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 4-\delta > 4-4\varepsilon+\varepsilon^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad -\delta > -4\varepsilon+\varepsilon^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\delta < 4\varepsilon-\varepsilon^2}$$

6. Second condition:

Note first that  $4+\delta>1$  and  $2+\varepsilon>1$ , so both sides can be squared without changing the inequality.

$$\left(\sqrt{4+\delta}\right)^2 < \left(2+\varepsilon\right)^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 4+\delta < 4+4\varepsilon+\varepsilon^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\delta < 4\varepsilon+\varepsilon^2}$$

- 7. The *first condition* that  $\delta < 4\varepsilon \varepsilon^2$  should be used as it yields a *smaller value* for  $\delta$ .
- 8. Check: Let  $\varepsilon = 0.1$  and  $\delta = 0.38 < 4\varepsilon \varepsilon^2 = 0.39$

Note:  $2 - \varepsilon = 1.9$  and  $2 + \varepsilon = 2.1$ 

$$f(x-0.38)\big|_{x=4} = \left(\sqrt{x-0.38}\right)_{x=4} = 1.90263 > 2 - \varepsilon = 1.9$$

$$f(x+0.38)\big|_{x=4} = \left(\sqrt{x+0.38}\right)_{x=4} = 2.0928 < 2 + \varepsilon = 2.1$$

9. As  $\varepsilon \to 0$ :  $\left(\delta < 4\varepsilon - \varepsilon^2\right) \to 0$  and  $\left. f(x - \delta) \right|_{x=4} \to \left. f(x) \right|_{x=4} = 2$ 

As 
$$\varepsilon \to 0$$
:  $\left(\delta < 4\varepsilon + \varepsilon^2\right) \to 0$  and  $f(x+\delta)\big|_{x=4} \to f(x)\big|_{x=4} = 2$ 

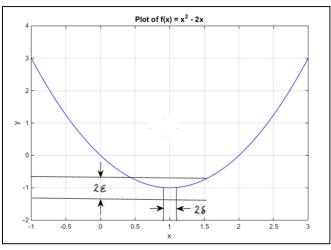
## Example #5:

Verify the following limit:

$$\lim_{x \to 1} f(x) \triangleq \lim_{x \to 1} \left( x^2 - 2x \right) = -1$$

Solution:

- 1. Set the range for  $x: (1-\delta) < x < (1+\delta)$
- 2. Set the range for f(x):  $(-1-\varepsilon) < f(x) < (-1+\varepsilon)$
- 3. Calculate the function values at the *end points* of the *x*-range:



$$f(x-\delta)\big|_{x=1} = \left( (x-\delta)^2 - 2(x-\delta) \right)_{x=1} = (1-\delta)^2 - 2(1-\delta) = \left( 1 - 2\delta + \delta^2 \right) + \left( 2\delta - 2 \right) = \delta^2 - 1$$

$$f(x+\delta)\big|_{x=1} = \left( (x+\delta)^2 - 2(x+\delta) \right)_{x=1} = (1+\delta)^2 - 2(1+\delta) = \left( 1 + 2\delta + \delta^2 \right) - \left( 2\delta + 2 \right) = \delta^2 - 1$$

4. Comparing the results from step 3 to the limits set in step 2, we require

$$\left| \delta^2 - 1 > -1 - \varepsilon \right|$$
 and  $\left| \delta^2 - 1 < -1 + \varepsilon \right|$ 

5. First condition for small  $\delta$  and  $\varepsilon$ :

Note first that  $\delta^2 - 1 < 0$  and  $-1 - \varepsilon < 0$ . Then,

$$\delta^2 - 1 > -1 - \varepsilon \implies \delta^2 > -\varepsilon \implies \boxed{\delta > 0}$$

This result may seem odd, but the function increases in value for x < 1 and never crosses the lower limit of  $-1 - \varepsilon$ . See the graph of the function.

6. Second condition for small  $\delta$  and  $\varepsilon$ :

Note first that  $\delta^2 - 1 < 0$  and  $-1 + \varepsilon < 0$ . Then,

$$\delta^2 - 1 < -1 + \varepsilon \implies \delta^2 < \varepsilon \implies \delta < \sqrt{\varepsilon}$$

- 7. The *first condition* that  $|\delta\rangle 0$  adds *no new information* as  $\delta$  is required to be greater than zero, so we use the *second condition*  $\delta < \sqrt{\varepsilon}$ .
- 8. Check: Let  $\varepsilon = 0.1$  and  $\delta = 0.3 < \sqrt{\varepsilon} = 0.31623$

Note:  $-1 - \varepsilon = -1.1$  and  $-1 + \varepsilon = -0.9$ 

$$|f(x-0.3)|_{x=1} = ((x-0.3)^2 - 2(x-0.3))_{x=1} = -0.91 > -1 + \varepsilon$$

$$|f(x+0.3)|_{x=1} = ((x+0.3)^2 - 2(x+0.3))_{x=1} = -0.91 < -1 + \varepsilon$$

9. As  $\varepsilon \to 0$ :  $\left(\delta < \sqrt{\varepsilon}\right) \to 0$  and  $f(x - \delta)|_{x=1} \to f(x)|_{x=1} = -1$ 

As 
$$\varepsilon \to 0$$
:  $\left(\delta < \sqrt{\varepsilon}\right) \to 0$  and  $f(x+\delta)|_{x=1} \to f(x)|_{x=1} = -1$ 

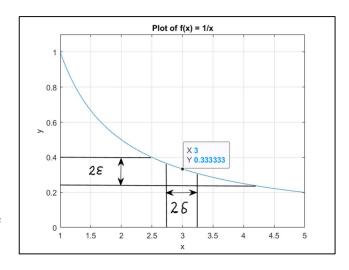
## Example #6:

Verify the following limit:  $\lim_{x\to 3} f(x) \triangleq \lim_{x\to 3} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = \frac{1}{3}$ 

### Solution:

- 1. Set the range for  $x: (3-\delta) < x < (3+\delta)$
- 2. Set the range for f(x):  $\left(\frac{1}{3} + \varepsilon\right) > f(x) > \left(\frac{1}{3} \varepsilon\right)$  (the function is decreasing)
- 3. Calculate the function values at the *end points* of the *x*-range:

$$f(x-\delta)\big|_{x=3} = \left(\frac{1}{x-\delta}\right)_{x=3} = \frac{1}{3-\delta}$$
$$f(x+\delta)\big|_{x=3} = \left(\frac{1}{x+\delta}\right)_{x=3} = \frac{1}{3+\delta}$$



4. Comparing the results from step 3 to the limits set in step 2, we require

$$\left[\frac{1}{3-\delta} < \left(\frac{1}{3} + \varepsilon\right)\right]$$
 and  $\left[\frac{1}{3+\delta} > \left(\frac{1}{3} - \varepsilon\right)\right]$ 

5. First condition: Note first that for small  $\varepsilon$  and  $\delta$  that  $3 - \delta > 0$  and  $\frac{1}{3} + \varepsilon > 0$ 

$$\frac{1}{3-\delta} < \left(\frac{1}{3} + \varepsilon\right) = \frac{1+3\varepsilon}{3} \qquad \Rightarrow 3 - \delta > \frac{3}{1+3\varepsilon} \qquad \Rightarrow \delta - 3 < -\frac{3}{1+3\varepsilon} \qquad \Rightarrow \delta < 3 - \frac{3}{1+3\varepsilon} \qquad \delta < \frac{3(1+3\varepsilon) - 3}{1+3\varepsilon}$$

$$\boxed{\delta < \frac{9\varepsilon}{1+3\varepsilon}}$$

6. Second condition:

$$\frac{1}{3+\delta} > \frac{1}{3} - \varepsilon \qquad \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3+\delta} > \frac{1-3\varepsilon}{3} \qquad \Rightarrow 3 + \delta < \frac{3}{1-3\varepsilon} \qquad \Rightarrow \delta < \frac{3}{1-3\varepsilon} - 3 = \frac{3-3(1-3\varepsilon)}{1-3\varepsilon} \qquad \Rightarrow \boxed{\delta < \frac{9\varepsilon}{1-3\varepsilon}}$$

- 7. The first condition  $\delta < \frac{9\varepsilon}{1+3\varepsilon}$  should be used as it yields a *smaller value* for  $\delta$ .
- 8. Check: Let  $\varepsilon = 0.1$  then

$$\delta < \left[ \frac{9\varepsilon}{1 + 3\varepsilon} \right]_{\varepsilon = 0.1} = 0.6923$$

Using  $\delta = 0.65$ 

$$f(x-0.65)|_{x=3} = \left(\frac{1}{x-0.65}\right)_{x=3} = 0.4255 < \frac{1}{3} + \varepsilon = 0.4\overline{33}$$

$$f(x+0.65)|_{x=3} = \left(\frac{1}{x+0.65}\right)_{x=3} = 0.2740 > \frac{1}{3} - \varepsilon = 0.2\overline{33}$$

9. As  $\varepsilon \to 0$ :  $\left(\delta < \frac{9\varepsilon}{1+3\varepsilon}\right) \to 0$  and  $f(x-\delta)\big|_{x=3} \to f(x)\big|_{x=3} = \frac{1}{3}$ As  $\varepsilon \to 0$ :  $\left(\delta < \frac{9\varepsilon}{1-3\varepsilon}\right) \to 0$  and  $f(x-\delta)\big|_{x=3} \to f(x)\big|_{x=3} = \frac{1}{3}$ 

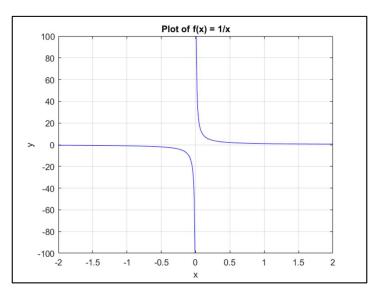
### Example #7:

Verify that the following limit *does not exist* by plotting the function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ .

$$\lim_{x \to 0} f(x) \triangleq \lim_{x \to 0} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$$

#### Solution:

The figure shows a plot of the function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  over the domain [-2,0) and (0,+2]. For the limit of the function at x=0 to exist, the function need not be defined, but the function must approach the same value from above (x>0) as it does from below (x<0).



The value of the function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  is not defined at x = 0. The function is singular at this point. Clearly, when x < 0, the function takes on larger and larger *negative* values as  $x \to 0$ , but when x > 0, the function takes on larger and larger *positive* values as  $x \to 0$ . Clearly the function does not approach the same value on either side of the singularity, so  $\lim_{x \to 0} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$  *does not exist*.

This is an example of property 5 listed above.

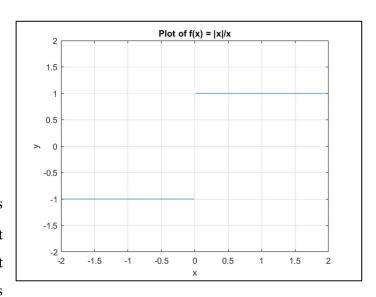
## Example #8:

Verify that the following limit *does not exist* by plotting the function  $f(x) = \frac{|x|}{x}$ .

$$\lim_{x \to 0} f(x) \triangleq \lim_{x \to 0} \left( \frac{|x|}{x} \right)$$

#### Solution:

The figure shows a plot of the function  $f(x) = \frac{|x|}{x}$  over the domain [-2,0) and (0,+2]. The function is **undefined** (singular) at x=0, and the left and right branches approach different values as  $x \to 0$ . The left branch approaches -1 while the right branch approaches



+1. So, 
$$\lim_{x\to 0} \left(\frac{|x|}{x}\right)$$
 does not exist.

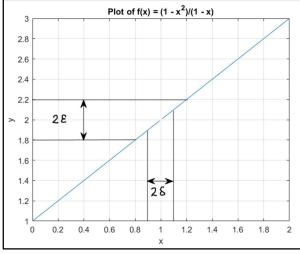
Example #9:

Verify the following limit:

$$\lim_{x \to 1} f(x) \triangleq \lim_{x \to 1} \left( \frac{1 - x^2}{1 - x} \right) = 2$$

Solution: The function is singular at x = 1.

- 1. Set the range for  $x: (1-\delta) < x < (1+\delta)$
- 2. Set the range for f(x):  $(2-\varepsilon) < f(x) < (2+\varepsilon)$
- 3. Calculate the function values at the *end points* of the *x*-range:



$$f(x-\delta)_{x=1} = \frac{1 - (1-\delta)^2}{1 - (1-\delta)} = \frac{1 - \left(1 - 2\delta + \delta^2\right)}{\delta} = \frac{2\delta - \delta^2}{\delta} = 2 - \delta$$

$$f(x+\delta)_{x=1} = \frac{1 - (1+\delta)^2}{1 - (1+\delta)} = \frac{1 - (1+2\delta + \delta^2)}{-\delta} = \frac{-2\delta - \delta^2}{-\delta} = 2 + \delta$$

4. Comparing the results from step 3 to the limits set in step 2, we require

$$2 - \delta > 2 - \varepsilon$$
 and  $2 + \delta < 2 + \varepsilon$ 

5. Conditions 1 and 2:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
2 - \delta > 2 - \varepsilon & \Rightarrow -\delta > -\varepsilon & \Rightarrow \boxed{\delta < \varepsilon} \\
2 + \delta < 2 + \varepsilon & \Rightarrow \boxed{\delta < \varepsilon}
\end{array}$$

6. Check: Let  $\varepsilon = 0.1$  and  $\delta = 0.09 < \varepsilon = 0.1$ 

$$f(x-0.09)_{x=1} = \frac{1-(1-0.09)^2}{1-(1-0.09)} = 1.91 > (2-\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon=0.1} = 1.9$$

$$f(x+0.09)_{x=1} = \frac{1 - (1+0.09)^2}{1 - (1+0.09)} = 2.09 < (2+\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon=0.1} = 2.1$$

7. Note that the function  $f(x) = \frac{1-x^2}{1-x}$  is undefined at, however the left and right branches approach the same value. That is, they both approach the value of 2.

As 
$$\varepsilon \to 0$$
:  $(\delta < \varepsilon) \to 0$  and  $f(x - \delta)|_{x=1} = 2 - \delta \longrightarrow \lim_{\delta \to 0} (2 - \delta) = 2$ 

As 
$$\varepsilon \to 0$$
:  $(\delta < \varepsilon) \to 0$  and  $f(x+\delta)|_{x=1} = 2 + \delta \to \lim_{\delta \to 0} (2 + \delta) = 2$ 

8. These results are *consistent* with the graph of the function. Note that the limits from the *left* and *right* both approach a value of 2 even though the function is *not defined* at x = 1.