Limits – Definitions (sic)

Definition. (Actual, p. 96)

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x-a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

#### Some Correct and Incorrect Variations

Decide which, if any, of the Definitions A–N are equivalent to the *actual* definition of

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

## Definition A.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x-a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

### Definition B.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that for some x, if  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

## Definition C.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that for some  $x, 0 < |x - a| < \delta, |f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

### Definition D.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $|x - a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

### Definition E.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ , then  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ .

## Definition F.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ , and  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ .

## Definition G.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\delta > 0$ , there is some  $\epsilon > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x-a| < \epsilon$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \delta$ .

## Definition H.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x-a| < \epsilon$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \delta$ .

### **Definition I.**

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\delta > 0$ ,  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ ,  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

### Definition J.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x-a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < 20\epsilon$ .

## Definition K.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x - a| < 20\delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

## Definition L.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x - a| < 10^{-6}\delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < 10^{6}\epsilon$ .

## Definition M.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: There is a number M such that for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x - a| < 20\delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < M\epsilon$ .

## Definition N.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: There is a number M such that for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x - a| < \delta/M$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < M\epsilon$ .

**Definition**  $10^6$ .

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x - a| < 10^6 \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

 $10^6 \Rightarrow$  Actual: Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . By  $10^6$ , there is an  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x - a| < 10^6 \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ . If  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ , then  $0 < |x - a| < 10^6 \delta$ , so  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

Actual  $\Rightarrow 10^6$ : Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . By Actual, there is an  $\eta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x - a| < \eta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ . Let  $\delta = 10^{-6}\eta$ . Then  $\delta > 0$  iff  $\eta > 0$ . For all x, if  $0 < |x - a| < 10^6\delta = \eta$ ,  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

# From actual student papers:

Definition St1.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

 $\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$ 

means: For every  $\epsilon > \delta$ , the limit of f(x) as x goes to a is L.

### Definition St2.

means: There exists a  $\delta > 0$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $|x - a| < \delta$  and  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

#### Definition St3.

means: 
$$\label{eq:general} \begin{split} & \lim_{x\to a} f(x) = L \\ & \lim_{x\to a} f(x) = f(a). \end{split}$$

Therefore f(a) = L.

## Definition St4.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x-a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

## Definition St5.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: There exists some  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $|x - a| = \delta \delta > 0$  as  $|\epsilon - \delta|$  gets "small" f(x) = L.

## Definition St6.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: There exists a  $f(\epsilon) \leq f(a) \leq f(\delta)$  for some  $\epsilon, \delta$  in the domain of f(x). I don't remember!!

### Definition S6.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x-a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

## Definition St7.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exist  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ .

### Definition St8.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if 0 < |x-a| < 0, then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

## Definition St9.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: Given an  $\epsilon > 0$ , but otherwise as small as we like, we can find that  $\delta > 0$  such that  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ , given  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

## Definition St10.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: The limit of a function as it approaches a.

## Definition St11.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: If f(x) is within  $\epsilon$  of L is within  $\delta$  of a. So the closer we desire our f(x) to be to L the smaller we must choose an  $\delta$ , until it is clear that f(x) approaches L as x approaches a.

#### Definition St12.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all x, if  $0 < |x-a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$ .

# Definition St13.

$$\lim_{x \to a} f(x) = L$$

means: A continuous function has a limit at a if  $|f(x) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  when  $|x - a| < \delta$  for some  $\delta > 0$  and the limit L = f(a).