

4.1 I Theorem: Let f be a nonincreasing function on the bounded open interval (a, b) . If f is bounded above on (a, b) , then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$ exists, while if f is bounded below on (a, b) , then $\lim_{x \rightarrow b^-} f(x)$ exists. ①

Proof case (i) Given f be a nonincreasing function

(a) decreasing function

\Rightarrow when $x < y$ $f(x) > f(y)$

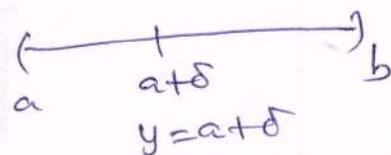
If f is bounded above on (a, b) , therefore f has a l.u.b, let l.u.b $f(x) = M \quad \forall x \in (a, b)$

$$f(x) \leq M \quad \forall x \in (a, b)$$

$$f(x) < M + \varepsilon \quad \forall x \in (a, b) \quad \text{--- ①}$$

Since M is a l.u.b, therefore $M - \varepsilon$ is not an upper bound, therefore at least one $y \in (a, b)$

such that $f(y) > M - \varepsilon$



let $y = a + \delta$

$$\therefore a < x < a + \delta$$

$$f(x) > M - \varepsilon$$

$$a < x < a + \delta \quad \text{--- ②}$$

using ① & ②

$$M - \varepsilon < f(x) < M + \varepsilon$$

$$a < x < a + \delta$$

$$-\varepsilon < f(x) - M < \varepsilon$$

$$a < x < a + \delta$$

$$|f(x) - M| < \varepsilon$$

$$a < x < a + \delta$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = M$$

$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$ exists,

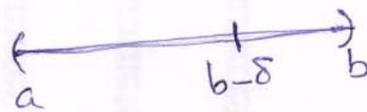
Case (ii) If f is bounded below on (a, b) ; (2)

$\therefore f$ has g.l.b on (a, b)

Let g.l.b $f(x) = L \quad \forall x \in (a, b)$

$\therefore f(x) \geq L \quad \forall x \in (a, b)$

$\therefore f(x) \geq L - \epsilon \quad \forall x \in (a, b) \quad \text{--- (3)}$



Since L is the g.l.b of f

$L + \epsilon$ is not a lower bound.

\therefore there exists atleast one $y \in (a, b)$

such that $f(y) < L + \epsilon$ let $y = b - \delta$

\therefore when $x \in (b - \delta, b)$

$f(x) < L + \epsilon, \quad b - \delta < x < b \quad \text{--- (4)}$

$\therefore L - \epsilon < f(x) < L + \epsilon$

$\Rightarrow -\epsilon < f(x) - L < \epsilon$

$|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$

\Rightarrow

\Rightarrow

$\lim_{x \rightarrow b^-} f(x) = L$

$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow b^-} f(x)$ exists.

4.1J COROLLARY. If f is a monotone function on the open interval (a, b) and if $c \in (a, b)$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x)$ exists. (3)

f is a monotone function

\Rightarrow either f is increasing function or f is decreasing function.

Let us assume f is increasing function.

Choose $\delta > 0$ such that $(c - \delta, c + \delta)$ is contained in (a, b) .

Then the values of f on the open interval $(c - \delta, c)$ are bounded above by $f(c)$ and hence f is bounded above on open interval $(c - \delta, c)$

\therefore By theorem 4.1.H $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x)$ exists.

and the values of f on the open interval $(c, c + \delta)$ are bounded below by $f(c)$

$\therefore f$ is bounded below on $(c, c + \delta)$

\therefore By thm 4.1.H $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x)$ exists.

Suppose f is decreasing function on (a, b) and $c \in (a, b)$

$\therefore f$ is decreasing function $(c - \delta, c + \delta)$

$\therefore f$ is bounded above on $(c, c + \delta)$ by $f(c)$

\therefore by theorem 4.1.G $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x)$ exists.

and f is bounded below on $(c - \delta, c)$ by $f(c)$

\therefore by theorem 4.1.G $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x)$ exists.

Hence proved.

