

GIVEN ①:-

$$\forall \epsilon_1 > 0, \exists \delta_1 > 0 \text{ s.t. } 0 < |x - a| < \delta_1 \Rightarrow |f(x) - b| < \epsilon_1$$

GIVEN ②:-

$$\forall \epsilon_2 > 0, \exists \delta_2 > 0 \text{ s.t. } 0 < |y - b| < \delta_2 \Rightarrow |f(y) - f(b)| < \epsilon_2$$

WTS:-

$$\forall \epsilon_3 > 0, \exists \delta_3 > 0 \text{ s.t. } 0 < |x - a| < \delta_3 \Rightarrow |f(f(x)) - f(b)| < \epsilon_3$$

PROOF:-

Let $\epsilon_3 > 0$

I choose $\epsilon_1 = \delta_2$ in def. of $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = b$:-

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta_1 \Rightarrow |f(x) - b| < \delta_2 \text{ (i)}$$

Now, I chose $\epsilon_2 = \epsilon_3$ in my definition of 'f being cts @ b':-

$$0 < |y - b| < \delta_2 \Rightarrow |f(y) - f(b)| < \epsilon_3$$

$$\text{Let } y = f(x)$$

$$\therefore 0 < |f(x) - b| < \delta_2 \Rightarrow |f(f(x)) - f(b)| < \epsilon_3 \text{ (ii)}$$

From (i), we can conclude that there exists a

From (i) and (ii),

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta_1 \Rightarrow |f(f(x)) - f(b)| < \epsilon_3 \text{ (iii)}$$

\therefore for all values of ϵ_3 , there exists a $\delta_3 (= \delta_1)$ s.t. (iii) is true.
 \therefore from defn of limit, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(f(x)) = f(b)$

Comment 1: Proof writing error

The second line says “I choose $\epsilon_1 = \delta_2$ ”. At this point in the proof, only ϵ_3 has been defined (in the first line, as a given ϵ_3). I, as the reader, have no idea what δ_2 is and what it has to do with that given ϵ_3 . It is only afterwards that I figure out you mean a δ_2 which works for given (2) when we set $\epsilon_2 = \epsilon_3$. In a proof, before you start using a variable (in this case setting things to be equal to the variable δ_2), you need to make sure the reader knows what it is sfirst.

What should actually be done is choosing $\epsilon_2 = \epsilon_3$ first, which you can do since your first line already talked about ϵ_3 . Then using given (2) to choose a δ_2 which works for that choice of ϵ_2 . Then setting $\epsilon_1 = \delta_2$, since now we know how δ_2 is defined.

Comment 2: Technical error

(i) says $0 < |x - a| < \delta_1 \implies |g(x) - b| < \delta_2$. (ii) says $0 < |g(x) - b| < \delta_2 \implies |f(g(x)) - f(b)| < \epsilon_3$. The goal was to use (i) and (ii) together to produce the result. However, $|g(x) - b| < \delta_2$ does not imply $0 < |g(x) - b| < \delta_2$. For example, what if $g(x) = b$. Fortunately, the condition given to us is that f is continuous at b , which means we can change given (2) and (ii) to a slightly different statement for which this won't be an issue. What is that statement?

Comment 3: Proof writing error

In both (i) and (ii) in the proof, the δ_1 and δ_2 are unquantified. After you say, “I choose... in the def. of ...”, you need to say, “then there exists a $\delta_1 > 0$ (or $\delta_2 > 0$) s.t. ... ”.