

Conditions

Prove (using the "epsilon - delta" definition) that the function $f(x) = 4x^2 - 5x + 3$ is continuous at every point x_0 .

Solution

Consider function:

$$f(x), x \in [a, b]$$

This function is continuous in $x_0 \in [a, b]$, if:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta = \delta(\varepsilon) > 0 \forall x: |x - x_0| < \delta \implies |f(x) - f(x_0)| < \varepsilon$$

Fix $x_0 \in [a, b]$, fix $\varepsilon > 0$

Consider $|f(x) - f(x_0)|$:

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(x_0)| &= |4x^2 - 5x + 3 - 4x_0^2 + 5x_0 - 3| = |4x^2 - 5x - 4x_0^2 + 5x_0| = \\ &= |4x^2 - 5x - 4x_0^2 + 5x_0| \leq 4|x - x_0|^2 + 5|x - x_0| \leq 8\delta|b| + 5\delta < \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

$$\delta < \frac{\varepsilon}{8|b| + 5}$$