

**Question 1.** If  $K$  is a constant, show that  $K(x - a) = o(x - a)$  if and only if  $K = 0$ .

*Solution.* The sufficiency is obvious, so prove the necessity. Recall that  $f(x) = o(g(x))$  as  $x \rightarrow a$  iff for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $\delta > 0$ , such that  $|f(x)| \leq \varepsilon|g(x)|$  for all  $x$  with  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ . Use this definition in the case when  $f(x) = K(x - a)$  and  $g(x) = x - a$ : for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|K(x - a)| \leq \varepsilon|x - a|$  for all  $x$ , such that  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ . Since  $|x - a| > 0$ , we can divide both sides of the above inequality by  $|x - a|$  and obtain  $|K| < \varepsilon$ . But this is true for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Therefore,  $|K| = 0$ , i. e.  $K = 0$ .  $\square$