

Tip: How to input compound functions in Geogebra

Luciano Battaia

October 1, 2016

In order to input the code for piecewise defined functions in Geogebra, the IF construction must be used.

The following is the main syntax:

`If[condition, then, else]`

The `else` part may be another IF construction. Some examples will make you understand how this code can effectively be used.

To input the following function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2, & \text{if } x < -1; \\ x + 2, & \text{if } -1 \leq x \leq 1; \\ -x + 2, & \text{if } x > 1; \end{cases}$$

the code is:

`If[x < -1, x^2, If[-1 <= x <= 1, x + 2, -x + 2]]`

To input the following function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2, & \text{if } x < -1; \\ 3, & \text{if } x = -1; \\ x + 1, & \text{if } x > -1; \end{cases}$$

the code is:

`f(x) = If[x < -1, x^2, If[x == -1, 3, x + 1]]`

Observe, in this last code, that the mathematical condition $x = -1$ must be written in Geogebra as `x == -1`

Try to experiment with Geogebra!