

Multi Variable Limits

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Question 1

Compute the following limit: $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{e^y + xy}{1+xy}$

Solution

The function $f(x, y) = \frac{e^y + xy}{1+xy}$ is continuous at $(0, 0)$ and thus $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{e^y + xy}{1+xy} = \frac{e^0 + 0}{1+0} = \boxed{1}$

Question 2

Compute the following limit: $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2 - y^6}{xy^3}$

Solution

We can show this limit does not exist by using the *Heine criterion*. To do so we observe the following two sequences: $(\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}) \rightarrow (0, 0)$, $(\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n^6}) \rightarrow (0, 0)$, Now it holds that:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\frac{1}{n})^2 - (\frac{1}{n})^6}{\frac{1}{n} \cdot (\frac{1}{n})^3} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{n^6}}{\frac{1}{n^4}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^4 \left(\frac{1}{n^2} + \frac{1}{n^6} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2 - \frac{1}{n^2} = \infty$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\frac{1}{n})^2 - (\frac{1}{n^6})^6}{\frac{1}{n} \cdot (\frac{1}{n^6})^3} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{n^6}}{\frac{1}{n^{\frac{3}{2}}}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{\frac{3}{2}} \left(\frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{n^6} \right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} - \sqrt{n} = -\infty$$

And because the limits of the sequences are different we have that the limit does not exist.

Question 3

Compute the following limit: $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,1)} \frac{x^2 - 2xy}{x^2 - 4y^2}$

Solution

In this case simple algebraic manipulation does the trick, notice it holds that:

$$\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,1)} \frac{x^2 - 2xy}{x^2 - 4y^2} = \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,1)} \frac{x(x-2y)}{(x+2y)(x-2y)} \stackrel{(*)}{=} \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (2,1)} \frac{x}{x+2y} = \frac{2}{2+2 \cdot 1} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$(*) \exists 0 < \delta : (x, y) \in B_\delta(2, 1) \setminus \{(2, 1)\} \implies \frac{x^2 - 2xy}{x^2 - 4y^2} = \frac{x}{x+2y}$$

Question 4

Compute the following limit: $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{3x^2y}{x^2+y^2}$

Solution

Lemma. Let $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Then $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,y_0)} |f(x,y)| = 0 \implies \lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,y_0)} f(x,y) = 0$

Indeed this follows immediately from $|f(x,y) - 0| = ||f(x,y)| - 0|$ and the definition of a limit.

Now we have $0 \leq \left| \frac{3x^2y}{x^2+y^2} \right| = \left| \frac{x^2}{x^2+y^2} \right| |3y| \leq |3y|$ And thus by the squeeze theorem we have $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \left| \frac{3x^2y}{x^2+y^2} \right| = 0$ and so using the lemma we obtain $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{3x^2y}{x^2+y^2} = \boxed{0}$

Question 5

Compute the following limit: $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{\sin(x^2+y^2)}{x^2+y^2}$

Solution

Lemma. Let $f, g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. If $f = h \circ g$ for some $B_\delta(x_0, y_0) \setminus \{(x_0, y_0)\}$ and $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,y_0)} g(x,y) = t_0, \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0} h(t) = L$ then $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,y_0)} f(x,y) = L$

Indeed, the proof is exactly the same as the proof for a limit of a composition of two single variable functions.

Now we can define $h(x) = \frac{\sin x}{x}$ and $h(x,y) = x^2 + y^2$, it is known that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} h(x) = 1$ also $h(x,y)$ is continuous so we have $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} x^2 + y^2 = 0$ so by the lemma $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{\sin(x^2+y^2)}{x^2+y^2} = \boxed{1}$