

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

MATH1510 Calculus for Engineers (2020-2021)
Solution to Supplementary Exercise 3

Limits of Functions

1. Let $f(x) = x + 1$ and $g(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1}$.

(a) State the domains of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$.

(b) Fill in the blanks.

$g(x)$ can be described in the following way:

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \text{_____} & \text{if } x \neq 1, \\ \text{NOT defined} & \text{if } x = \text{_____}. \end{cases}$$

(c) Sketch the graphs of the functions $f(x)$ and $g(x)$.

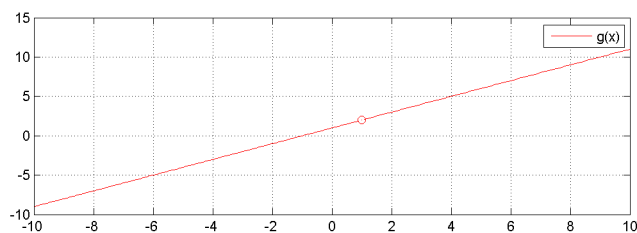
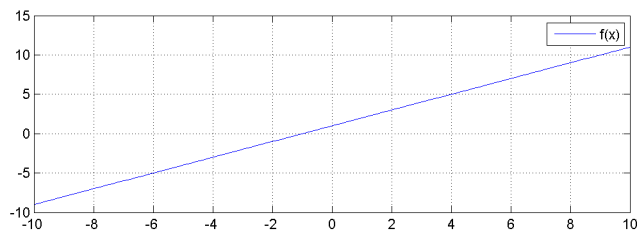
Ans:

(a) Domain of $f(x) = \mathbb{R}$; Domain of $g(x) = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\}$.

(b) By (a), $g(x)$ can be described in the following way:

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x+1}{1} & \text{if } x \neq 1, \\ \text{NOT defined} & \text{if } x = \underline{1}. \end{cases}$$

(c) We have



(Remark: $f(x) = g(x)$ for all real numbers except $x = 1$.)

2. Let $f(x) = x + 1$ and $g(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1}$ for $x \neq 1$.

Complete the following table.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|------|-------|--------|---|--------|-------|------|-----|
| x | 0.9 | 0.99 | 0.999 | 0.9999 | 1 | 1.0001 | 1.001 | 1.01 | 1.1 |
| $f(x)$ | | | | | | | | | |
| $g(x)$ | | | | | | | | | |

By observation, when x is getting closer and closer to 1, what values do $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ get closer and closer to? Hence, guess the value of $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} g(x)$.

Ans:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|------|-------|--------|-------------|--------|-------|------|-----|
| x | 0.9 | 0.99 | 0.999 | 0.9999 | 1 | 1.0001 | 1.001 | 1.01 | 1.1 |
| $f(x)$ | 1.9 | 1.99 | 1.999 | 1.9999 | 2 | 2.0001 | 2.001 | 2.01 | 2.1 |
| $g(x)$ | 1.9 | 1.99 | 1.999 | 1.9999 | NOT defined | 2.0001 | 2.001 | 2.01 | 2.1 |

By observation, when x is getting closer and closer to 1, what both $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ get closer and closer to 2. It suggests (but not a formal proof) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = 2$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} g(x) = 2$.

Conclusion: When we consider $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} g(x)$, we only look at the values of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ when x is close to 1, but we do NOT care whether $f(1)$ and $g(1)$ are well defined. However, $f(x) = g(x)$ everywhere except $x = 1$, so it is not surprising that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} g(x) = 2$.

3. Complete the following table. (Note: x is in radian)

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|------|-------|--------|---|-------|------|-----|
| x | -0.1 | -0.01 | -0.001 | 0 | 0.001 | 0.01 | 0.1 |
| $f(x)$ | | | | | | | |

By observation, guess the value of $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x}$.

Ans:

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|---------|------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------|---------|
| x | -0.1 | -0.01 | -0.001 | 0 | 0.001 | 0.01 | 0.1 |
| $f(x)$ | 0.99833 | 0.99998333 | 0.9999998333 | NOT defined | 0.9999998333 | 0.99998333 | 0.99833 |

By observation, it suggests (but not a formal proof) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1$.

(Remark: $\frac{\sin x}{x}$ is not defined at $x = 0$ but $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x}$ exists.)

4. Let $f(x)$ be a function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x + 1 & \text{if } x > 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0, \\ -1 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

(a) Complete the following table.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|------|-------|--------|---------|---|--------|-------|------|-----|
| x | -0.1 | -0.01 | -0.001 | -0.0001 | 0 | 0.0001 | 0.001 | 0.01 | 0.1 |
| $f(x)$ | | | | | | | | | |

(b) Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x)$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$ and $f(0)$.

(c) Does $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ exist? Why?

Ans:

(a)

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|------|-------|--------|---------|---|--------|-------|------|-----|
| x | -0.1 | -0.01 | -0.001 | -0.0001 | 0 | 0.0001 | 0.001 | 0.01 | 0.1 |
| $f(x)$ | -1 | -1 | -1 | -1 | 0 | 1.0001 | 1.001 | 1.01 | 1.1 |

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = -1$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = 1$ and $f(0) = 0$.

(c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ does not exist since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$.

(Remark: The existence of $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ does not depend on $f(0)$.)

5. Let $f(x) = \frac{|x-1|}{x^2-1}$ for $x \neq \pm 1$.

(a) Does $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$ exist?

(b) Does $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} f(x)$ exist?

(Hint: Rewrite the function $f(x)$ as a piecewise defined function.)

Ans: Rewrite the function $f(x)$ as:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x-1}{x^2-1} = \frac{1}{x+1} & \text{if } x > 1, \\ \frac{-(x-1)}{x^2-1} = -\frac{1}{x+1} & \text{if } x < 1 \text{ and } x \neq -1, \\ \text{NOT defined} & \text{if } x = \pm 1. \end{cases}$$

(a) Note that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{1}{x+1} = \frac{1}{2}$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} -\frac{1}{x+1} = -\frac{1}{2}$, so $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$ does not exist.

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} -\frac{1}{x+1}$ which goes to infinity and so it does not exist.
(In particular, $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} f(x) = -\infty$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} f(x) = +\infty$.)

6. Let a be a real number and let $f(x)$ be a function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } x \geq 2, \\ 3x + a & \text{if } x < 2 \end{cases}$$

Given that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ exists. What is the value of a ?

Ans: Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ exists, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} 3x + a &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} x^2 \\ 6 + a &= 4 \\ a &= -2\end{aligned}$$

7. Let $f(x) = \frac{x^3}{|x|}$ for $x \neq 0$.

(a) Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x)$.

(b) Does $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ exist?

Ans: Rewrite the function $f(x)$ as:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^3}{x} = x^2 & \text{if } x > 0, \\ \frac{x^3}{-x} = -x^2 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x^2 = 0$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} -x^2 = 0$

(b) Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = 0$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0$.

8. Without using L'Hôpital rule, find the following limits.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^2 - 1}$

$$\text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^2 - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x-2)(x-1)}{(x+1)(x-1)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x-2}{x+1} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

(Remark: When we consider the limit of the function at $x = 1$, we only care the value of the function when x is close to 1 but not 1, therefore $x - 1$ is nonzero and we can cancel it out in the second step.)

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^3 - 4x^2 + 5x - 2}{x^2 - 4}$

$$\text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^3 - 4x^2 + 5x - 2}{x^2 - 4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(x-2)(x-1)^2}{(x+2)(x-2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(x-1)^2}{x+2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

(c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\sqrt{x} - 2}{x - 4}$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\sqrt{x} - 2}{x - 4} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\sqrt{x} - 2}{x - 4} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x} + 2}{\sqrt{x} + 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x - 4}{(x - 4)(\sqrt{x} + 2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x} + 2} = \\ &= \frac{1}{4}\end{aligned}$$

$$(d) \lim_{x \rightarrow 27} \frac{\sqrt[3]{x} - 3}{x - 27}$$

$$\text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 27} \frac{\sqrt[3]{x} - 3}{x - 27} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 27} \frac{\sqrt[3]{x} - 3}{x - 27} \cdot \frac{(\sqrt[3]{x})^2 + 3(\sqrt[3]{x}) + 9}{(\sqrt[3]{x})^2 + 3(\sqrt[3]{x}) + 9} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 27} \frac{x - 27}{(x - 27)[(\sqrt[3]{x})^2 + 3(\sqrt[3]{x}) + 9]} =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 27} \frac{1}{(\sqrt[3]{x})^2 + 3(\sqrt[3]{x}) + 9} = \frac{1}{27}$$

$$(e) \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x - 3}{\sqrt{x + 1} - 2}$$

$$\text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x - 3}{\sqrt{x + 1} - 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x - 3}{\sqrt{x + 1} - 2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x + 1} + 2}{\sqrt{x + 1} + 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{(x - 3)(\sqrt{x + 1} + 2)}{x - 3} =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \sqrt{x + 1} + 2 = 4$$

$$(f) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{1 + x^2} - 1}{x}$$

$$\text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{1 + x^2} - 1}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{1 + x^2} - 1}{x} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{1 + x^2} + 1}{\sqrt{1 + x^2} + 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2}{x(\sqrt{1 + x^2} + 1)} =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x}{\sqrt{1 + x^2} + 1} = \frac{0}{2} = 0$$

$$(g) \text{ (Harder Problem) } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 + x)^n - 1}{x}, \text{ where } n \text{ is a positive integer.}$$

$$\text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 + x)^n - 1}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 + C_1^n x + C_2^n x^2 + \cdots + C_n^n x^n) - 1}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{C_1^n x + C_2^n x^2 + \cdots + C_n^n x^n}{x} =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} C_1^n + C_2^n x + \cdots + C_n^n x^{n-1} = C_1^n = n$$

(Remark: We use the binomial theorem to expand $(1 + x)^n$ and $C_r^n = \frac{n!}{r!(n - r)!}$ are the binomial coefficients for $r = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$.)

9. By using the fact that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1$, find the following limits.

$$(a) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 2x}{5x}$$

$$\text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 2x}{5x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{\sin 2x}{2x} = \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2}{5} \right) \cdot \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 2x}{2x} \right) = \frac{2}{5} \cdot 1 = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$(b) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 5x}{\sin 7x}$$

$$\text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 5x}{\sin 7x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{5}{7} \cdot \frac{7x}{\sin 7x} \cdot \frac{\sin 5x}{5x} = \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{5}{7} \right) \cdot \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{7x}{\sin 7x} \right) \cdot \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 5x}{5x} \right) =$$

$$\frac{5}{7} \cdot 1 \cdot 1 = \frac{5}{7}$$

$$(c) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x^2)}{5x^2}$$

$$\text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x^2)}{5x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{\sin(x^2)}{x^2} = \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{5} \right) \cdot \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x^2)}{x^2} \right) = \frac{1}{5} \cdot 1 = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$(d) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos ax - \cos bx}{x^2}, \text{ where } a \text{ and } b \text{ are distinct real numbers.}$$

Ans:

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos ax - \cos bx}{x^2} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 \sin\left(\frac{(a+b)x}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{(a-b)x}{2}\right)}{x^2} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(a+b)(a-b)}{4} \cdot \frac{-2 \sin\left(\frac{(a+b)x}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{(a-b)x}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{(a+b)x}{2}\right)\left(\frac{(a-b)x}{2}\right)} \\
&= \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-(a+b)(a-b)}{2} \right) \cdot \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{(a+b)x}{2}\right)}{\frac{(a+b)x}{2}} \right) \cdot \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{(a-b)x}{2}\right)}{\frac{(a-b)x}{2}} \right) \\
&= \frac{b^2 - a^2}{2} \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \\
&= \frac{b^2 - a^2}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

10. (a) By using the fact that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1$, find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - 1}{x^2}$.

(b) Using (a), find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - 1}{x}$.

Ans:

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - 1}{x^2} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-(1 - \cos(2 \cdot \frac{x}{2}))}{4(\frac{x}{2})^2} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 \sin^2(\frac{x}{2})}{4(\frac{x}{2})^2} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\sin(\frac{x}{2})}{(\frac{x}{2})} \cdot \frac{\sin(\frac{x}{2})}{(\frac{x}{2})} \\
&= \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} -\frac{1}{2} \right) \cdot \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\frac{x}{2})}{(\frac{x}{2})} \right) \cdot \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\frac{x}{2})}{(\frac{x}{2})} \right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \\
&= -\frac{1}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - 1}{x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - 1}{x^2} \cdot x \\
&= \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - 1}{x^2} \right) \cdot \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \cdot 0 \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

(Remark: This result is useful to find the derivative of sine function and cosine function later.)

Limits at Infinity

11. Let $f(x) = \frac{x-1}{x-2}$.

Complete the following table.

| | | | |
|--------|----|-----|------|
| x | 10 | 100 | 1000 |
| $f(x)$ | | | |

By observation, guess the value of $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x)$.

(Remark: You may repeat the above by putting $x = -10, -100, -1000$ and guess the value of $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x)$.)

Ans:

| | | | |
|--------|-------|----------|------------|
| x | 10 | 100 | 1000 |
| $f(x)$ | 1.125 | 1.010204 | 1.00010002 |

By observation, it suggests (but not a formal $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) = 1$). Similarly, we have

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = 1.$$

12. The graphs of $f(x) = e^x$ (in blue) and $g(x) = \ln x$ (in red) is shown in Figure 1, while the graphs of $f(x) = e^{-x}$ (in blue) and $g(x) = \ln(1/x)$ (in red) is shown in Figure 2.

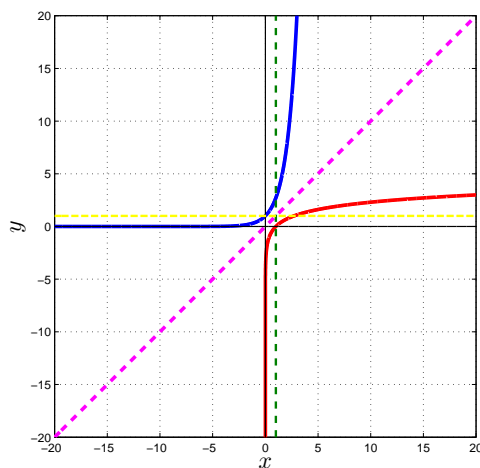


Figure 1

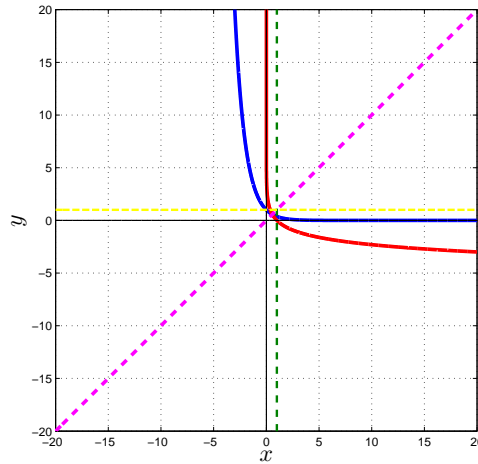


Figure 2

Without using L'Hôpital's rule, evaluate the limit. Furthermore, if the limit does not exist but diverges to $\pm\infty$, please indicate so and determine the correct sign.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} e^{1+x^6};$

Ans: When x tends to $-\infty$, $1+x^6$ tends to ∞ , so e^{1+x^6} diverges to $+\infty$.

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \ln(e^{-2x} + e^{-x} + 1);$

Ans: When x tends to $+\infty$, $e^{-2x} + e^{-x} + 1$ tends to 1, so $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \ln(e^{-2x} + e^{-x} + 1) = 0$.

(c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \ln\left(\frac{e^{3x} + e^x}{e^{5x} + e^{2x}}\right);$

Ans: When x tends to $+\infty$, $\frac{e^{3x} + e^x}{e^{5x} + e^{2x}} = \frac{1 + e^{-2x}}{e^{2x} + e^{-x}}$ tends to 0 from the right hand side, so $\ln\left(\frac{e^{3x} + e^x}{e^{5x} + e^{2x}}\right)$ diverges to $-\infty$.

(d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \ln\left(\frac{e^{2x+1} + 2e^{-x}}{e^{2x} + e^{-x+2}}\right).$

Ans: When x tends to $+\infty$, $\frac{e^{2x+1} + 2e^{-x}}{e^{2x} + e^{-x+2}} = \frac{e \cdot e^{2x} + 2e^{-x}}{e^{2x} + e^2 \cdot e^{-x}}$ tends to e . Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \ln\left(\frac{e^{2x+1} + 2e^{-x}}{e^{2x} + e^{-x+2}}\right) = 1$.

13. Find the following limits, if exist.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} 2^x;$

Ans: As x tends to positive infinity, 2^x tends to positive infinity, therefore the limit does not exist.

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} 2^x;$

Ans: $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} 2^x = 0$

(c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} 0.2^x;$

Ans: $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} 0.2^x = 0$

(d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} 0.2^x;$

Ans: As x tends to negative infinity, 0.2^x tends to positive infinity, therefore the limit does not exist.

(e) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \ln \left(\frac{e^x + 2e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} \right);$

Ans: $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \ln \left(\frac{e^x + 2e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \ln \left(\frac{1 + 2e^{-2x}}{1 + e^{-2x}} \right) = \ln 1 = 0$

(f) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \ln \left(\frac{e^x + 2e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} \right).$

Ans: $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \ln \left(\frac{e^x + 2e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \ln \left(\frac{e^2x + 2}{e^{2x} + 1} \right) = \ln 2$

14. By using the fact that $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x} \right)^x = e$, find the following limits.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{2}{x} \right)^{2x};$

Ans:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{2}{x} \right)^{2x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left[\left(1 + \frac{1}{x/2} \right)^{x/2} \right]^4 \\ &= e^4 \end{aligned}$$

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x+1} \right)^x$

Ans:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x+1} \right)^x &= \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x+1} \right)^{x+1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x+1} \right)^{-1} \\ &= \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left[1 + \frac{1}{x+1} \right]^{x+1} \right) \cdot \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x+1} \right)^{-1} \right] \\ &= e \cdot 1 \\ &= e \end{aligned}$$

(c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(\frac{x}{x-1} \right)^x$

Ans:

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(\frac{x}{x-1} \right)^x &= \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x-1} \right)^x \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x-1} \right)^{x-1} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1}{x-1} \right) \\
&= e \cdot 1 \\
&= e
\end{aligned}$$

15. Without using L'Hôpital rule, find the following limits, if exist.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^2 - 1};$

Ans: $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^2 - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1 - \frac{3}{x} + \frac{2}{x^2}}{1 - \frac{1}{x^2}} = 1$

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x^3 - 2x}{4x^3 + 2x^2};$

Ans: $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x^3 - 2x}{4x^3 + 2x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1 - \frac{2}{x^2}}{4 + \frac{2}{x}} = \frac{1}{4}$

(c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 4}}{x + 4};$

Ans: $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 4}}{x + 4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sqrt{1 + \frac{4}{x^2}}}{1 + \frac{4}{x}} = 1$

(d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{9x^2 + 5}};$

Ans: $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{9x^2 + 5}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{9 + \frac{5}{x^2}}} = \frac{1}{3}$

(e) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{9x^2 + 5}};$

Ans: $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{9x^2 + 5}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}\sqrt{9x^2 + 5}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{-\sqrt{9 + \frac{5}{x^2}}} = -\frac{1}{3}$

Note: if $x < 0$, then $x = -\sqrt{x^2}$.

(f) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x-1};$

Ans: $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x-1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} (\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x-1}) \cdot \left(\frac{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x-1}}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x-1}} \right) =$
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{2}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x-1}} = 0$

(g) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \sqrt{x^2 + x} - x;$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \sqrt{x^2 + x} - x &= \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} (\sqrt{x^2 + x} - x) \cdot \left(\frac{\sqrt{x^2 + x} + x}{\sqrt{x^2 + x} + x} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + x} + x} = \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{x}} + 1} &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$(h) \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \sqrt{x^2 + x} - x.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ans: } \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \sqrt{x^2 + x} - x &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} (\sqrt{x^2 + x} - x) \cdot \left(\frac{\sqrt{x^2 + x} + x}{\sqrt{x^2 + x} + x} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + x} + x} = \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{-\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{x}} + 1} &\text{ which does not exist.} \end{aligned}$$