

(Q1)

(a)

*Proof.* Based on the definition of limits at infinity, the implication we are trying to prove is:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists M \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } x > M \implies \left| \frac{1}{x} \right| < \varepsilon$$

Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Let  $M = \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ . If  $x > M$ , then  $x > \frac{1}{\varepsilon} > 0$ . Assuming  $x > M$ , it follows:

$$\begin{aligned} x > M &\implies x > \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \\ &\implies \varepsilon x > 1 \\ &\implies \frac{1}{x} < \varepsilon \\ &\implies \left| \frac{1}{x} \right| < \varepsilon \quad (\text{since } \frac{1}{x} > 0) \end{aligned}$$

■

(b)

*Proof.* In order to prove that  $\frac{1}{x^k} < \frac{1}{x}$  for all integers  $x > 1$  and  $k \geq 2$ , we first have to prove that  $x < x^k$  for all  $k \geq 2$ . This can be done with a proof by induction.

**Base Case.** The base case we have to prove is  $x^2 > x$ . Since  $x > 1$ , it follows:

$$x > 1 \implies x^2 > x$$

**Induction Step.** Following this, we need to prove for any natural  $k \geq 2$ :

$$x^k > x \implies x^{k+1} > x$$

We observe that  $x^{k+1} = x^k \cdot x$ . Thus, since  $x > 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} x^k \cdot x > x^k > x &\implies x^k \cdot x > x \\ &\implies x^{k+1} > x \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we prove that  $x < x^k$  for all  $k \geq 2$  and in turn  $\frac{1}{x^k} < \frac{1}{x}$ . Since  $x > 0, k > 0, x^k > 0 \implies \frac{1}{x^k} > 0$ . Therefore,

$$0 < \frac{1}{x^k} < \frac{1}{x} \text{ for all integers } x > 1, k \geq 2$$

■

(c)

*Proof.* We know from the Squeeze Theorem that for any three functions  $f, g, h$ :  
If:

- For  $x$  close to any point  $a$  but not  $a$ ,  $h(x) \leq g(x) \leq f(x)$ ;
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} h(x) = L$ ;

then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = L$ .

Let  $h(x) = 0, g(x) = \frac{1}{x^k}, f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ .

By (b) we know that

$$0 < \frac{1}{x^k} < \frac{1}{x} \text{ for all integers } x > 1, k \geq 2$$

Therefore by the Squeeze Theorem,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} h(x) = 0 \implies \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x) = 0$$

■