

The goal is to practice evaluating limits

- numerically

- graphically

This sheet is a 1.5 class sheet. Day 1: pp 1-2 ; Day 2: pg 3.

① Remind students that in §2.1 we used

$$m_{\text{sec}} \approx m_{\text{tan}}$$

OR

$$\text{as } Q \rightarrow P, \quad m_{PQ} \rightarrow m_{\text{tan } \theta P}$$

This was a type of limit.

② State the definition + work problem #2.

③ Have the students work #3, 4, 5 + put on board. Ask them how to split the work.

(Get students to split #3 into the jobs of two groups b/c it looks hard.)

- Emphasize
 - #3 answer should feel shakey.
 - limits do not always exist
 - limits do not care what happens @ $x=a$
 - infinite limits do not exist
- Use the last two problems on page 1 to motivate

one-sided limits. Go back + work those in.

④ Work #7 + #8. (I put on screen. Get students to tell me answers.) Emphasize that v. asymptotes correspond to infinite limits.

Things to add if there is time on day 1

- What do the graphs of #1-4 look like? Does this confirm our numerical work?
- What is the algebraic limit from the example from 2.1?

On day 2, have students put their answers on board for both problems.

For #9 emphasize that knowing that $x = -5$ makes the denominator 0 is not sufficient:
See #'s 2 and 3 from page 1.
Checking the limit is infinite is essential.

For #10, emphasize that there are multiple correct answers.

SECTION 2-2: THE LIMIT OF A FUNCTION

1. DEFINITION: Two-Sided Limit

Notation: $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$

Words: the limit of $f(x)$, as x approaches a , is L .

It means: As the x -values get closer + closer to a (larger + smaller than a) the y -values of $f(x)$ get close to L . In fact, the y 's can be forced arbitrarily close to L .

Evaluate the limits below numerically. Estimate the limit to 4 decimal places, if possible.

2. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} = \boxed{1}$

x	$\sin(x)/x$
0.1	0.99833
0.01	0.99998
0.001	0.99999
0	DNE
-0.001	0.99999
-0.01	0.99998
-0.1	0.99833

4. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{|x+1|}{x+1} = \boxed{\text{DNE}}$

x	$ x+1 /(x+1)$
-0.9	1
-0.99	1
-0.999	1
-0.9999	1
-1	DNE
-1.0001	-1
-1.001	-1
-1.01	-1
-1.1	-1

from page 2
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} \frac{|x+1|}{x+1} = \boxed{1}$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} \frac{|x+1|}{x+1} = \boxed{-1}$

3. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\cos(x)(x-2)}{3x^2-5x-2} = \boxed{0.0594}$

x	$\cos(x)(x-2)/(3x^2-5x-2)$
2.1	-0.069157
2.01	-0.060486
2.001	-0.05955
2.0001	-0.05945
2	
1.99999	-0.059448
1.999	-0.059345
1.99	-0.058397
1.9	-0.04825

5. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1}{x-1} = \boxed{\text{DNE}}$

x	$1/(x-1)$
1.1	10
1.01	100
1.001	1000
1.0001	10,000
1	DNE
0.9999	-10,000
0.999	-1000
0.99	-100
0.9	-10

from page 2
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{1}{x-1} = +\infty$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{1}{x-1} = -\infty$

6. DEFINITION: One-Sided Limits

Notation:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L$$

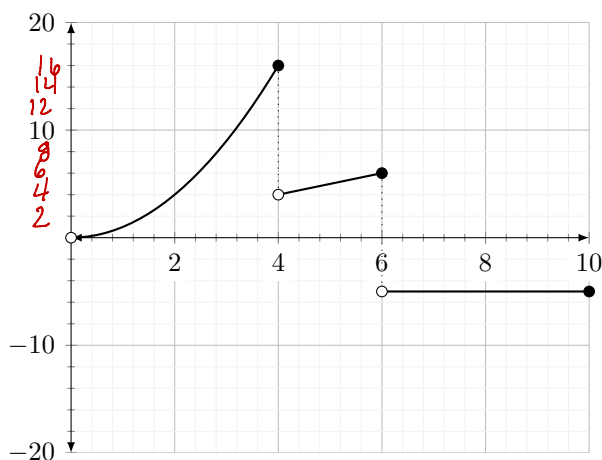
x-values approach a
only on left or
below or
x-values less than
x=a

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L$$

x-values approach x=a only on the
right or above or from x-values
larger than x=a.

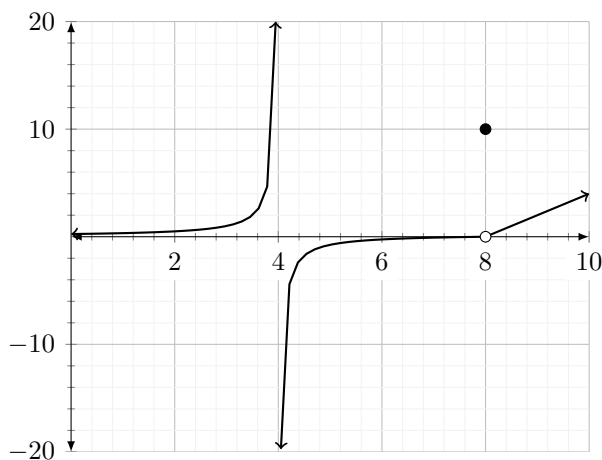
Limits can also be evaluated graphically.

7. The function $g(x)$ is graphed below. Use the graph to fill in the blanks.



- (a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} g(x) = 16$
 (b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} g(x) = 4$
 (c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} g(x) = \text{DNE}$
 (d) $g(4) = 16$
 (e) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 8} g(x) = -5$
 (f) $g(8) = -5$

8. The function $h(x)$ is graphed below. Use the graph to fill in the blanks.



- (a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} h(x) = +\infty$
 (b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} h(x) = -\infty$
 (c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} h(x) = \text{DNE}$
 (d) $h(4) = \text{DNE}$
 (e) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 8} h(x) = 0$
 (f) $h(8) = 10$

9. Find any vertical asymptotes of $f(x) = \frac{2}{x+5}$ and justify your answer using a limit.

V.A.: $x = -5$ ← Value makes denominator zero.

Justification:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -5^+} \frac{2}{x+5} = +\infty$$

as $x \rightarrow -5^+$ (e.g. like $-4.9, -4.99$)

$$x+5 \rightarrow 0^+$$

10. Sketch the graph of a function that satisfies *all* of the given conditions. Compare your answer with that of your neighbor.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = 1 \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = -2 \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} f(x) = 3 \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} f(x) = 0$$

$$f(0) = -2$$

$$f(4) = 1$$

