

## 7. LIMITS



### Let's study.

- Definition of Limit
- Algebra of Limits
- Evaluation of Limits
  - Direct Method
  - Factorization Method
  - Rationalization Method
- Limits of Exponential and Logarithmic Functions

### Introduction:

Calculus is one of the important branches of Mathematics. The concept of limit of a function is a fundamental concept in calculus.

### Let's understand

Meaning of  $x \rightarrow a$  :

When  $x$  takes the values gradually nearer to  $a$ , we say that ' $x$  tends to  $a$ '. This is symbolically written as ' $x \rightarrow a$ '.

' $x \rightarrow a$ ' implies that  $x \neq a$  and hence  $(x-a) \neq 0$

Limit of a function :

Let us understand the concept by an example.

Consider the function  $f(x) = x + 3$

Take the value of  $x$  very close to 3, but not equal to 3; and observe the values of  $f(x)$ .

	$x$ approaches 3 from left				
$x$	2.5	2.6	...	2.9	2.99
$f(x)$	5.5	5.6	...	5.9	5.99

	$x$ approaches 3 from right				
$x$	3.6	3.5	...	3.1	3.01
$f(x)$	6.6	6.5	...	6.1	6.01

From the table we observe that as  $x \rightarrow 3$  from either side.  $f(x) \rightarrow 6$ .

This idea can be expressed by saying that the limiting value of  $f(x)$  is 6 when  $x$  approaches to 3.

This is symbolically written as,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x) = 6$$

$$\text{i.e. } \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (x+3) = 6$$

Thus, limit of the function,  $f(x) = x + 3$  as  $x \rightarrow 3$  is the value of the function at  $x = 3$ .



### Let's learn.

### 7.1 DEFINITION OF LIMIT OF A FUNCTION:

A function  $f(x)$  is said to have the limit  $l$  as  $x$  tends to  $a$ , if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  we can find  $\delta > 0$  such that,  $|f(x) - l| < \epsilon$  whenever  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$  and ' $l$ ' is a finite real number.

We are going to study the limit of a rational

function  $\frac{P(x)}{Q(x)}$  as  $x \rightarrow a$ .

Here  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  are polynomials in  $x$ .

We get three different cases.

- (1)  $Q(a) \neq 0$ ,
- (2)  $Q(a) = 0$  and  $P(a) = 0$
- (3)  $Q(a) = 0$  and  $P(a) \neq 0$

$$\text{In case (1) } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} = \frac{P(a)}{Q(a)}.$$

Because as  $x \rightarrow a$ ,  $P(x) \rightarrow P(a)$  and  $Q(x) \rightarrow Q(a)$

In Case (2)  $x - a$  is a factor of  $P(x)$  as well as  $Q(x)$  so we have express  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  as  $P(x) = (x - a) P_1(x)$  and  $Q(x) = (x - a) Q_1(x)$

$$\text{Now } \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} = \frac{(x-a)P_1(x)}{(x-a)Q_1(x)} = \frac{P_1(x)}{Q_1(x)}.$$

Note that

$(x-a) \neq 0$  so we can cancel the factor.

In case (3)  $Q(a) = 0$  and  $P(a) \neq 0$ ,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} \text{ does not exist.}$$

**7.1.1 One Sided Limit:** You are aware of the fact that when  $x \rightarrow a$ ;  $x$  approaches  $a$  in two directions; which can lead to two limits, known as left hand limit and right hand limit.

**7.1.2 Right hand Limit :** If given  $\epsilon > 0$  (however small), there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|f(x) - l_1| < \epsilon$  for all  $x$  with  $a < x < a + \delta$  then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = l_1$

**7.1.3 Left hand Limit :** If given  $\epsilon > 0$  (however small), there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that for  $|f(x) - l_2| < \epsilon$  all  $x$  with  $a - \delta < x < a$  then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = l_2$

### Example:

Find left hand limit and right hand limit for the following example.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 3x+1 & \text{if } x < 1 \\ 7x^2-3 & \text{if } x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

To compute,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x)$ , we use the definition for  $f$  which applies to  $x \geq 1$ :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (7x^2 - 3) = 4$$

Likewise, to compute  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x)$ , we use the definition for  $f$  which applies to  $x < 1$ :

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

Since left and right-hand limits are equal,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = 4$$

## 7.1.4 Existence of a limit of a function at a point $x = a$

If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = l$ , then limit of the function  $f(x)$  as  $x \rightarrow a$  exists and its value is  $l$ . If

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x)$  then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$  does not exist.



Let's learn.

## 7.2 ALGEBRA OF LIMITS:

Let  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  be two functions such that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = l \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = m, \text{ then}$$

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) \pm g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \pm \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = l \pm m$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) \times g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \times \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = l \times m$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [k f(x)] = k \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = kl$ , where ' $k$ ' is a constant
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)} = \frac{l}{m}$  provided  $m \neq 0$

## 7.3 EVALUATION OF LIMITS :

**Direct Method :** In some cases  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$  can be obtained by just substitution of  $x$  by  $a$  in  $f(x)$

## SOLVED EXAMPLES

**Ex. 1)**  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} \left( \frac{4}{3} \pi r^2 \right) = \frac{4}{3} \pi \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} (r^2) = \frac{4}{3} \pi (1)^2 = \frac{4}{3} \pi$

**Ex. 2)**  $\lim_{y \rightarrow 2} [(y^2 - 3)(y + 2)]$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \lim_{y \rightarrow 2} (y^2 - 3) \lim_{y \rightarrow 2} (y + 2) \\ &= (2^2 - 3)(2 + 2) = (4 - 3)(4) = 1 \times 4 = 4 \end{aligned}$$

**Ex. 3)**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \left( \frac{\sqrt{6+x} - \sqrt{7-x}}{x} \right)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (\sqrt{6+x}) - \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (\sqrt{7-x})}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (x)} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{6+3} - \sqrt{7-3}}{3} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{9} - \sqrt{4}}{3} \\ &= \frac{3-2}{3} = \frac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

**Ex. 4)** Discuss the limit of the following function as  $x$  tends to 3 if

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 + x + 1, & 2 \leq x \leq 3 \\ 2x + 1, & 3 < x \leq 4 \end{cases}$$

**Solution:** we use the concept of left hand limit and right hand limit, to discuss the existence of limit as  $x \rightarrow 3$

**Note :** In both cases  $x$  takes only positive values.

For the interval  $2 \leq x \leq 3$ ;  $f(x) = x^2 + x + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} (x^2 + x + 1) \\ &= (3)^2 + 3 + 1 \\ &= 9 + 3 + 1 = 13 \text{ -----(I)} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly for the interval  $3 < x \leq 4$ ;

$$f(x) = 2x + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} (2x + 1) = (2 \times 3) + 1 = 6 + 1 \\ &= 7 \text{ -----(II)} \end{aligned}$$

From (I) and (II),  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} f(x)$

$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x)$  does not exist.

**Theorem:**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{x^n - a^n}{x - a} = n(a^{n-1})$ , for  $n \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

## SOLVED EXAMPLES

**Ex. 1)**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \left[ \frac{x^n - 4^n}{x - 4} \right] = 48$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , find  $n$ .

**Solution:** Given  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \left[ \frac{x^n - 4^n}{x - 4} \right] = 48$

$$\therefore n(4)^{n-1} = 48 = 3 \times 16 = 3(4)^2$$

$$\therefore n(4)^{n-1} = 3(4)^{3-1} \dots \text{by observation}$$

$$\therefore n = 3.$$

**Ex. 2)** Evaluate  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{2x-2}{\sqrt[3]{26+x}-3} \right]$

**Solution:** Put  $26 + x = t^3 \therefore x = t^3 - 26$

As  $x \rightarrow 1, t \rightarrow 3$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{2x-2}{\sqrt[3]{26+x}-3} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 3} \left[ \frac{2(t^3 - 26) - 2}{\sqrt[3]{t^3} - 3} \right]$$

$$= 2 \lim_{t \rightarrow 3} \left[ \frac{t^3 - 3^3}{t - 3} \right]$$

$$\text{As } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left[ \frac{x^n - a^n}{x - a} \right] = na^{n-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 2 \times 3(3)^{3-1} \\
 &= 2 \times 3^3 = 2 \times 27 \\
 &= 54
 \end{aligned}$$

### EXERCISE 7.1

#### Q.I Evaluate the Following limits :

$$1. \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{x+6}}{x} \right]$$

$$2. \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \left[ \frac{x^{-3} - 2^{-3}}{x - 2} \right]$$

$$3. \lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \left[ \frac{x^3 - 125}{x^5 - 3125} \right]$$

$$4. \text{ If } \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{x^4 - 1}{x - 1} \right] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left[ \frac{x^3 - a^3}{x - a} \right] \text{ find all possible values of } a.$$

#### Q.II Evaluate the Following limits :

$$1. \lim_{x \rightarrow 7} \left[ \frac{(\sqrt[3]{x} - \sqrt[3]{7})(\sqrt[3]{x} + \sqrt[3]{7})}{x - 7} \right]$$

$$2. \text{ If } \lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \left[ \frac{x^k - 5^k}{x - 5} \right] = 500 \text{ find all possible values of } k.$$

$$3. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(1-x)^8 - 1}{(1-x)^2 - 1} \right]$$

#### Q.III Evaluate the Following limits :

$$1. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\sqrt[3]{1+x} - \sqrt{1+x}}{x} \right]$$

$$2. \lim_{y \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{2y - 2}{\sqrt[3]{7+y} - 2} \right]$$

$$3. \lim_{z \rightarrow a} \left[ \frac{(z+2)^{\frac{3}{2}} - (a+2)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{z - a} \right]$$

$$4. \lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \left[ \frac{x^3 - 125}{x^2 - 25} \right]$$



**Let's learn.**

#### 7.4 FACTORIZATION METHOD :

Consider the problem of evaluating,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \text{ where } g(a) \neq 0.$$

#### SOLVED EXAMPLES

**Ex. 1)** Evaluate  $\lim_{z \rightarrow 3} \left[ \frac{z(2z-3)-9}{z^2-4z+3} \right]$

**Solution:** If we substitute  $z = 3$  in numerator and denominator,

$$\text{we get } z(2z-3)-9 = 0 \text{ and } z^2-4z+3 = 0.$$

So  $(z-3)$  is a factor in the numerator and denominator.

$$\therefore \lim_{z \rightarrow 3} \left[ \frac{z(2z-3)-9}{z^2-4z+3} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow 3} \left[ \frac{2z^2-3z-9}{z^2-4z+3} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow 3} \left[ \frac{(z-3)(2z+3)}{(z-3)(z-1)} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow 3} \left[ \frac{(2z+3)}{(z-1)} \right] \because (z-3 \neq 0)$$

$$= \frac{2(3)+3}{3-1}$$

$$= \frac{9}{2}.$$

**Ex. 2)** Evaluate  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \left[ \frac{(x^3 - 8x^2 + 16x)^9}{(x^2 - x - 12)^{18}} \right]$

**Solution :**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \left[ \frac{[x(x-4)^2]^9}{(x-4)^{18}(x+3)^{18}} \right]$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \left[ \frac{(x-4)^{18} x^9}{(x-4)^{18} (x+3)^{18}} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \left[ \frac{x^9}{(x+3)^{18}} \right] \because (x-4) \neq 0$$

$$= \frac{4^9}{7^{18}}$$

**Ex. 3)** Evaluate  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{2}{1-x^2} \right]$

**Solution :**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{2}{(1-x)(x+1)} \right]$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{2}{(x-1)(x+1)} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{1+x-2}{(x-1)(x+1)} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{x-1}{(x-1)(x+1)} \right]$$

Since  $x \rightarrow 1, (x-1 \neq 0)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{1}{(x+1)} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}$$

**Ex. 4)** Evaluate  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 3}{x^2 - 1} \right]$

**Solution :** In this case  $(x-1)$  is a factor of the numerator and denominator.

To find another factor we use synthetic division, Numerator:  $x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 3$

1	1	1	-5	3
		1	2	-3
	1	2 (=1+1)	-3 (= -5+2)	0 (= -3+3)

$$\therefore x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 3 = (x-1)(x^2 + 2x - 3)$$

Denominator:  $x^2 - 1 = (x+1)(x-1)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 3}{x^2 - 1} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{(x-1)(x^2 + 2x - 3)}{(x+1)(x-1)} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{(x^2 + 2x - 3)}{(x+1)} \right] \begin{pmatrix} x \rightarrow 1 \\ x \neq 1 \\ x-1 \neq 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1+2-3}{1+1}$$

$$= 0$$

**Ex. 5)**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{\frac{1}{x} - 1}{x-1} \right]$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{(1-x)}{(x-1) \times x} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{-(x-1)}{(x-1) \times x} \right]$$

since  $x-1 \neq 0$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{-1}{x} \right] = -\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{1}{x} \right] = -\frac{1}{1}$$

$$= -1$$

## EXERCISE 7.2

### Q.I Evaluate the following limits :

$$1. \lim_{z \rightarrow 2} \left[ \frac{z^2 - 5z + 6}{z^2 - 4} \right]$$

$$2. \lim_{x \rightarrow -3} \left[ \frac{x + 3}{x^2 + 4x + 3} \right]$$

$$3. \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{5y^3 + 8y^2}{3y^4 - 16y^2} \right]$$

$$4. \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \left[ \frac{-2x - 4}{x^3 + 2x^2} \right]$$

### Q.II Evaluate the following limits :

$$1. \lim_{u \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{u^4 - 1}{u^3 - 1} \right]$$

$$2. \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \left[ \frac{1}{x - 3} - \frac{9x}{x^3 - 27} \right]$$

$$3. \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \left[ \frac{x^3 - 4x^2 + 4x}{x^2 - 1} \right]$$

### Q.III Evaluate the following limits :

$$1. \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \left[ \frac{x^7 + x^5 + 160}{x^3 + 8} \right]$$

$$2. \lim_{y \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}} \left[ \frac{1 - 8y^3}{y - 4y^3} \right]$$

$$3. \lim_{v \rightarrow \sqrt{2}} \left[ \frac{v^2 + v\sqrt{2} - 4}{v^2 - 3v\sqrt{2} + 4} \right]$$

$$4. \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \left[ \frac{x^2 + 2x - 15}{x^2 - 5x + 6} \right]$$



## Let's learn.

### 7.5 RATIONALIZATION METHOD :

If the function in the limit involves a square root, it may be possible to simplify the expression by multiplying and dividing by the conjugate. This method uses the algebraic identity.

Here, we do the following steps:

Step 1. **Rationalize the factor containing square root.**

Step 2. **Simplify.**

Step 3. **Put the value of  $x$  and get the required result.**

### SOLVED EXAMPLES

**Ex. 1)** Evaluate  $\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(b+z)^{\frac{1}{2}} - (b-z)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{z} \right]$

**Solution:**  $\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(b+z)^{\frac{1}{2}} - (b-z)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{z} \right]$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{b+z} - \sqrt{b-z}}{z} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{b+z} - \sqrt{b-z}}{z} \times \frac{\sqrt{b+z} + \sqrt{b-z}}{\sqrt{b+z} + \sqrt{b-z}} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(\sqrt{b+z})^2 - (\sqrt{b-z})^2}{z} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{b+z} + \sqrt{b-z}} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(b+z) - (b-z)}{z} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{b+z} + \sqrt{b-z}} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{2z}{z} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{b+z} + \sqrt{b-z}} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{z \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{2}{\sqrt{b+z} + \sqrt{b-z}} \right] \\
&= \frac{2}{\sqrt{b+0} + \sqrt{b-0}} \\
&= \frac{2}{2\sqrt{b}} \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{b}}
\end{aligned}$$

**Ex. 2)** Evaluate  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{1 - \sqrt{x^2 + 1}}{x^2} \right]$

**Solution :**

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

### EXERCISE 7.3

**Q.I Evaluate the following limits :**

$$\begin{aligned}
1. & \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{6+x} - \sqrt{6}}{x} \right] \\
2. & \lim_{y \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{1-y^2} - \sqrt{1+y^2}}{y^2} \right] \\
3. & \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{2+x} - \sqrt{6-x}}{\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{2}} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

**Q.II Evaluate the following limits :**

$$\begin{aligned}
1. & \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{a+2x} - \sqrt{3x}}{\sqrt{3a+x} - 2\sqrt{x}} \right] \\
2. & \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \left[ \frac{x^2 - 4}{\sqrt{x+2} - \sqrt{3x-2}} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

**Q.III Evaluate the Following limits :**

$$\begin{aligned}
1. & \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{x^2 + x\sqrt{x} - 2}{x-1} \right] \\
2. & \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{1+x^2} - \sqrt{1+x}}{\sqrt{1+x^3} - \sqrt{1+x}} \right] \\
3. & \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \left[ \frac{x^2 + x - 20}{\sqrt{3x+4} - 4} \right] \\
4. & \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \left[ \frac{x^3 - 8}{\sqrt{x+2} - \sqrt{3x-2}} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

**Q.IV Evaluate the Following limits :**

$$\begin{aligned}
1. & \lim_{y \rightarrow 2} \left[ \frac{2-y}{\sqrt{3-y} - 1} \right] \\
2. & \lim_{z \rightarrow 4} \left[ \frac{3 - \sqrt{5+z}}{1 - \sqrt{5-z}} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

## 7.6 LIMITS OF EXPONENTIAL AND LOGARITHMIC FUNCTIONS :

We use the following results without proof.

$$1. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x - 1}{x} = \log a, \quad a > 0,$$

$$2. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - 1}{x} = \log e = 1$$

$$3. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} [1 + x]^{\frac{1}{x}} = e$$

$$4. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(1+x)}{x} = 1$$

### SOLVED EXAMPLES

**Ex.1)** Evaluate :  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{7^x - 1}{x} \right]$

**Solution :**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{7^x - 1}{x} \right]$   
 $= \log 7$

**Ex.2)** Evaluate :  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{5^x - 3^x}{x} \right]$

**Solutions :**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{5^x - 3^x}{x} \right]$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{5^x - 1 - 3^x + 1}{x} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(5^x - 1)}{x} - \frac{(3^x - 1)}{x} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(5^x - 1)}{x} \right] - \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(3^x - 1)}{x} \right]$$

$$= \log 5 - \log 3$$

$$= \log \left( \frac{5}{3} \right)$$

**Ex.3)** Evaluate :  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ 1 + \frac{5}{6}x \right]^{\frac{1}{x}}$

**Solutions :**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ 1 + \frac{5}{6}x \right]^{\frac{1}{x}}$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{5}{6}x \right)^{\frac{1}{\left(\frac{5}{6}\right)x}} \right]^{\frac{5}{6}}$$

$$= e^{\frac{5}{6}}$$

**Ex.4)** Evaluate :  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\log(1+4x)}{x} \right]$

**Solutions :**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\log(1+4x)}{x} \right]$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\log(1+4x)}{4x} \times 4 \right]$$

$$= 4 \times 1$$

$$= 4$$

**Ex.5)** Evaluate :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{8^x - 4^x - 2^x + 1}{x^2} \right]$$

**Solutions :** Given  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{8^x - 4^x - 2^x + 1}{x^2} \right]$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(4 \times 2)^x - 4^x - 2^x + 1}{x^2} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{4^x \cdot 2^x - 4^x - 2^x + 1}{x^2} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{4^x (2^x - 1) - (2^x - 1)}{x^2} \right]$$



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

### EXERCISE 7.4

#### I] Evaluate the following :

- 1)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{9^x - 5^x}{4^x - 1} \right]$
- 2)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{5^x + 3^x - 2^x - 1}{x} \right]$
- 3)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\log(2+x) - \log(2-x)}{x} \right]$

#### II] Evaluate the following :

- 1)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{3^x + 3^{-x} - 2}{x^2} \right]$
- 2)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{3+x}{3-x} \right]^{\frac{1}{x}}$
- 3)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\log(3-x) - \log(3+x)}{x} \right]$

#### III] Evaluate the following :

- 1)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{a^{3x} - b^{2x}}{\log(1+4x)} \right]$
- 2)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(2^x - 1)^2}{(3^x - 1) \cdot \log(1+x)} \right]$
- 3)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{15^x - 5^x - 3^x + 1}{x^2} \right]$

$$4) \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \left[ \frac{3^{\frac{x}{2}} - 3}{3^x - 9} \right]$$

#### IV] Evaluate the following :

- 1)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(25)^x - 2(5)^x + 1}{x^2} \right]$
- 2)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(49)^x - 2(35)^x + (25)^x}{x^2} \right]$



**Let's learn.**

#### Some Standard Results

1.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} k = k$ , where k is a constant
2.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x = a$
3.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x^n = a^n$
4.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{x} = \sqrt[n]{a}$
5. If p(x) is a polynomial, then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} p(x) = p(a)$
6.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{x^n - a^n}{x - a} = n(a^{n-1})$ , for  $n \in \mathbb{Q}$
7.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{e^x - 1}{x} \right) = \log e = 1$
8.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(1+x)}{x} = 1$

### MISCELLANEOUS EXERCISE - 7

**I.** If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^n - 2^n}{x - 2} = 80$  then find the value of n.

**II.** Evaluate the following Limits.

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

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

$$3) \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \left[ \frac{(x-2)}{2x^2 - 7x + 6} \right]$$

$$4) \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{x^3 - 1}{x^2 + 5x - 6} \right]$$

$$5) \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \left[ \frac{x-3}{\sqrt{x-2} - \sqrt{4-x}} \right]$$

$$6) \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \left[ \frac{3 - \sqrt{5+x}}{1 - \sqrt{5-x}} \right]$$

$$7) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{5^x - 1}{x} \right]$$

$$8) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( 1 + \frac{x}{5} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}}$$

$$9) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\log(1+9x)}{x} \right]$$

$$10) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1-x)^5 - 1}{(1-x)^3 - 1}$$

$$11) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{a^x + b^x + c^x - 3}{x} \right]$$

$$12) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x + e^{-x} - 2}{x^2}$$

$$13) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{x(6^x - 3^x)}{(2^x - 1) \cdot \log(1+x)} \right]$$

$$14) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{a^{3x} - a^{2x} - a^x + 1}{x^2} \right]$$

$$15) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(5^x - 1)^2}{x \cdot \log(1+x)} \right]$$

$$16) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{a^{4x} - 1}{b^{2x} - 1} \right]$$

$$17) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\log 100 + \log(0.01 + x)}{x} \right]$$

$$18) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\log(4-x) - \log(4+x)}{x} \right]$$

19) Evaluate the limit of the function if exist at

$$x = 1 \text{ where } f(x) = \begin{cases} 7-4x & x < 1 \\ x^2 + 2 & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

### Activity 7.1

Evaluate :  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{e^x - x - 1}{x} \right]$

**Solution :**  $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{(e^x - 1) - \boxed{\phantom{000}}}{x} \right]$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\boxed{\phantom{000}}}{x} - \frac{x}{x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{e^x - 1}{x} \right] - \boxed{\phantom{000}}$$

$$= \boxed{\phantom{000}} - 1$$

$$= \boxed{\phantom{000}}$$

### Activity 7.2

Carry out the following activity.

Evaluate:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{2}{1-x^2} \right]$

**Solution :**  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{2}{\boxed{\phantom{000}}} \right]$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left[ \frac{\boxed{\phantom{000}}}{(x-1)(x+1)} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1}{x+1}$$

$$= \boxed{\phantom{000}}$$

