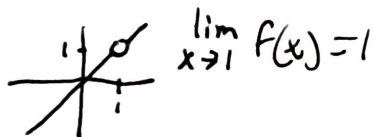


## Limit properties:

- If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$  then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$

- The function doesn't need to be defined at the point for the limit to exist



- The limit needs to be a finite number.

-  $\infty / -\infty$  is DNE (Does not exist)

## Infinite limits

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \pm \infty$$

- Vertical asymptote
- When denominator is 0
- $x = a$

## Limits at infinity

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm \infty} f(x) = L$$

- Horizontal asymptote
- $y = L$

## Finding the limit

1. If the function is continuous at the point, then you can use direct substitution.

- You can do direct substitution for the left and right limits and see if they're equal.

Ex:  $f(x) = \begin{cases} x+1 & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 5 & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$   $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = 1$   $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = 1$

- You can use algebra to convert the function to one that's continuous at the point.

- Factoring:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(3+x)^2 - 9}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x+6 = 6$

$$\frac{(3+x)^2 - 9}{x} = \frac{9 + 6x + x^2 - 9}{x} = \frac{x(x+6)}{x} = x+6$$

- Rationalizing:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+9} - 3}{x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+9} + 3} = \frac{1}{6}$

$$\frac{\sqrt{x^2+9} - 3}{x^2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x^2+9} + 3}{\sqrt{x^2+9} + 3} = \frac{x^2+9-9}{x^2(\sqrt{x^2+9} + 3)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+9} + 3}$$

- Least common denominator:  $f(x) = \frac{1-x}{2+x}$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1-x-h}{2+x+h} - \frac{1-x}{2+x}}{h} \cdot \frac{(2+x+h)(2+x)}{(2+x+h)(2+x)}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1-x-h)(2+x) - (1-x)(2+x+h)}{h(2+x+h)(2+x)}$$

$$(1-x-h)(2+x) = 1(2+x) - x(2+x) - h(2+x) = 2+x-2x-x^2-2h-xh$$

$$(2+x+h)(1-x) = 2(1-x) + x(1-x) + h(1-x) = 2-2x+x-x^2+h-xh$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2+x-2x-x^2-2h-xh - (2-2x+x-x^2+h-xh)}{h(2+x+h)(2+x)}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2h-h}{h(2+x+h)(2+x)} = -\frac{3}{(2+x)(2+x)} = -\frac{3}{(2+x)^2}$$

2. Squeeze theorem: Finding functions that are greater and less than that converge to the same limit

Ex:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x}$

$$\begin{aligned} -1 &\leq \sin x \leq 1 && \text{Since } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} -x^2 = 0 \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^2 = 0 \\ -1 &\leq \sin \frac{1}{x} \leq 1 && \text{and} \\ -x^2 &\leq x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x} \leq x^2 && \text{then } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

3. Composite limit:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(g(x)) = f\left(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)\right)$

Ex:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (3x+1)^2 = \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (3x+1)\right)^2 = 7^2 = 49$

4. Guess and check from the left and right

- Too far causes calculator errors

- Too short may lead to a wrong guess.

Left

0.9

0.99

0.999

0.9999

Right

1.1

1.01

1.001

1.0001

5. Finding limits at infinity

- Multiplying numerator and denominator by greatest power of  $x$  in the denominator.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} |x| = \sqrt{x^2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} |x| = -\sqrt{x^2}$$

You want it in the form of  $\frac{1}{\infty}$  which  $= 0$ .

- ONE cases

- Oscillating Ex:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sin x$

-  $\infty/\infty$  Ex:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{x^2+1}$

Ex:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{x^2+1} - x$

$$\frac{\sqrt{x^2+1} - x}{1} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x^2+1} + x}{\sqrt{x^2+1} + x} = \frac{x^2+1 - x^2}{\sqrt{x^2+1} + x}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+1} + x} \cdot \frac{1}{x} = \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{\frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{x} + 1} = \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{\frac{\sqrt{x^2+1}}{\sqrt{x^2}} + 1} = \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{\sqrt{\frac{x^2+1}{x^2}} + 1}$$

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

## 6. L'Hopital's rule

- When the limit produces  $\frac{0}{0}$  or  $\frac{\pm\infty}{\pm\infty}$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$

- Simplify the equation after.

Ex:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{\sqrt{x}} \rightarrow \frac{\infty}{\infty}$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\sqrt{x}}{x} \rightarrow \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}}{1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} = 0$$

## - Indeterminate Products

- When the limit produces  $0 \cdot \pm\infty$ , force  $f(x)g(x)$  into  $\frac{f(x)}{\frac{1}{g(x)}}$  or  $\frac{g(x)}{\frac{1}{f(x)}}$

Ex:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x \ln x \rightarrow 0 \cdot -\infty$

Easier taking  $\frac{1}{dx}$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{x}{\frac{1}{\ln x}} \text{ or } = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\ln x}{\frac{1}{x}}$$

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

## - Indeterminate Differences

- When the limit produces  $\infty - \infty$ , force  $f(x) - g(x)$  into a quotient by using common denominators.

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

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \left( \frac{x-1}{\ln x(x-1)} - \frac{\ln x}{\ln x(x-1)} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \left( \frac{x-1-\ln x}{x \ln x - \ln x} \right) \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

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

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