

10.1 Limits

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

the limit of $f(x)$ as x approaches a is the number L

if there is no such number, the limit DNE

Note: $f(a) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ in all cases

$$\star \text{ Properties: } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} c = c \quad \text{if } f(x) = c, \text{ a constant function}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x^n = a^n$$

given n positive integer

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left[f(x) \pm g(x) \right] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \pm \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \quad \text{add, subtract, multiply}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} c \cdot f(x) = c \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \quad \text{for a constant } c$$

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

given f a polynomial function

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)} \quad \text{given } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x), g(x) \text{ exist and } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \neq 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{f(x)} = \sqrt[n]{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)} \quad \text{given } n \text{ positive integer}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \quad \text{given } f, g \text{ functions for which } f(x) = g(x) \text{ for all } x \neq a \text{ (if either limit exists, they are equal)}$$

$$\text{given form } \frac{0}{0}: \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1+x)^{1/x} = e$$

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

↳ $x \rightarrow 1$ but $x \neq 1$ so avoid $\frac{f(x)}{0}$

$$\text{ex. } \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{8x^2 + 16x}{x^3 - 4x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{8x + 16}{x^2 - 4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{8(x+2)}{(x-2)(x+2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{8}{x-2} = \frac{8}{-2-2} = \frac{8}{-4} = -2$$

$$\text{ex. } \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \sqrt{x^2 + 1} = \sqrt{\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} x^2 + 1} = \sqrt{(4)^2 + 1} = \sqrt{17}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ex. given } f(x) &= x^2 + x + 1 \\ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^2 + (x+h) + 1 - (x^2 + x + 1)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 2xh + h^2 + x + h + 1 - x^2 - x - 1}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2xh + h^2 + h}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (2x + h + 1) \\ &= 2x + 0 + 1 = 2x + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Hilroy

ex. * conjugates!

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x+16} - 4} \quad (\text{gives } \frac{0}{0} \text{ form})$$

given $(\sqrt{x+16} - 4)$, conjugate: $(\sqrt{x+16} + 4)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{x+16} - 4} \right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{x+16} + 4}{\sqrt{x+16} + 4} \right)$$

* multiply $\frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{b}{b} = 1$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(\sqrt{x+16} + 4)}{(\sqrt{x+16})^2 - 4^2}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x\sqrt{x+16} + 4x}{(x+16) - 16}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(\sqrt{x+16} + 4)}{x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \sqrt{x+16} + 4 = \sqrt{0+16} + 4 = \sqrt{16} + 4 = 4 + 4 = 8$$

ex. $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{4+2h} - 2}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sqrt{4+2h} - 2}{h} \right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{4+2h} + 2}{\sqrt{4+2h} + 2} \right)$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{4+2h - 4}{h(\sqrt{4+2h} + 2)} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2}{\sqrt{4+2h} + 2}$$

$$= \frac{2}{\sqrt{4+2 \cdot 0} + 2} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{4} + 2} = \frac{2}{2+2} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$

10.2 Limits continued

* One-Sided Limits $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x)$ $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$

approach from left

right

where $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$

exists if

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

* Infinite Limits

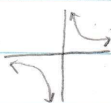
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \pm \infty$$

increasing/decreasing without bound

Limits at Infinity

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

ex. consider $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$



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

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

since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$

then $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ DNE

ex. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \frac{x^2 + x - 12}{\sqrt{x-3}}$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \frac{(x-3)(x+4)}{\sqrt{x-3}}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \frac{(\sqrt{x-3})(\sqrt{x-3})(x+4)}{\sqrt{x-3}}$$

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

$$= (\sqrt{3-3})(3+4)$$

$$= \sqrt{0}(7) = 0 \cdot 7 = 0$$

$$\text{ex. } \lim_{x \rightarrow 5^-} \left(\frac{10}{x-5} \right) = \left(-\frac{1}{0} \right) = -\infty$$

for $x < 5$, $x-5 < 0$, neg approaching 0 from the left

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ex. } \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{|x^2-4|}{x+2} & \quad \text{given } |x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases} \quad (|-2| = -(-2) = 2) \\ \text{for } x < 1, \quad x^2-4 < 0 \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{-(x^2-4)}{x+2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{-(x+2)(x-2)}{x+2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} -(x-2) = -(1-2) = -(-1) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ex. } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2+9}{5x^2+6} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2(1+9/x^2)}{x^2(5+6/x^2)} \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow \infty, \quad \frac{9}{x^2}, \frac{6}{x^2} \rightarrow 0 \\ &= \frac{1}{5} \end{aligned}$$

Note: as $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$, $\frac{1}{x} \rightarrow 0$

$$\text{ex. consider dominant terms} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^4-3x}{5-2x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^4}{-2x} = -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^3 = \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)(\infty) = \infty$$

$$\text{ex. } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{(3x-1)^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{9x^2-6x+1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{9x^2} = \frac{1}{9} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{9}(0) = 0$$

$$\text{ex. } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (8x^2-2x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^2 \left(8 - \frac{2}{x}\right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^2(8-0) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} 8x^2 = \infty$$

$$\text{ex. } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x}\right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (x^2) + \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = \infty + 0 = \infty$$

10.3 Continuity

* f is continuous at a if (a) $f(a)$ exists [AND]

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ exists [AND]

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

discontinuous if $f(a)$ DNE [or] $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ DNE

[or] $f(a) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$

ex. $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 + 1 & \text{if } x \geq 1 \\ 3 & x < 1 \end{cases}$, is f continuous at $a=1$?

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (x^2 + 1) = (1)^2 + 1 = 1 + 1 = 2$$

since $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$, f is discontinuous at $a=1$

ex. $f(x) = \begin{cases} x-2 & \text{if } x > 0 \\ 0 & x = 0 \\ -2 & x < 0 \end{cases}$, continuous at $a=0$?

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

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

but! $f(a) = f(0) = 0$

since $f(a) = 0 \neq -2 = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$, f discontinuous at $a=0$

ex. given $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^3 - 8}{x-2} & \text{if } x < 2 \\ c^2 x^2 & x \geq 2 \end{cases}$

for what c is $f(x)$ continuous at $a=2$?

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{x^3 - 8}{x-2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{(x-2)(x^2 + 2x + 4)}{x-2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} (x^2 + 2x + 4) \\ &= (2)^2 + 2(2) + 4 = 4 + 4 + 4 = 12 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} c^2 x^2 \\ &= c^2 (2)^2 = 4c^2 \end{aligned}$$

need $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x)$

$$12 = 4c^2$$

$$3 = c^2$$

$$\pm \sqrt{3} = c$$

double check: $f(a) = f(2) = (\pm \sqrt{3})^2 (2)^2$

$$= (3)(4) = 12$$