

Calculus II

Convergence of sequences related to the number e as a limit, part 1

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Theorem

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$ and the function f is continuous at L , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = f(L)$$

Example

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{k}{x}\right)^x &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{\ln(1 + \frac{k}{x})^x} && \text{exponent= continuous f-n} \\
 &= e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln(1 + \frac{k}{x})^x} = e^k && \text{limit computed below} \\
 \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln \left(1 + \frac{k}{x}\right)^x &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \ln \left(1 + \frac{k}{x}\right) \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{d}{dx} (\ln(1 + \frac{k}{x}))}{\frac{d}{dx} (x)} && \text{form "0/0", use L'Hospital} \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{1 + \frac{k}{x}} \left(1 + \frac{k}{x}\right)'}{-\frac{1}{x^2}} \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{1 + \frac{k}{x}} \left(-\frac{k}{x^2}\right)}{-\frac{1}{x^2}} \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k}{1 + \frac{k}{x}} = k
 \end{aligned}$$