

CHAPTER (7)

Limits and Continuity النهايات و الاتصال

7.1 LIMITS OF FUNCTIONS:

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Objectives:

- *One-Sided Limits
- *Rules for Calculating Limits
- * The Squeeze Theorem.

INTRODUCTION TO LIMITS

Example: 1

Describe the behavior of the function

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1} \text{ near } x=1.$$

Solution:

* As an illustration , consider

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1}$$

* Note that **1** is not in the domain of f , since substituting $x = 1$ gives us the undefined expression $\frac{1^2 - 1}{1 - 1} = \frac{0}{0}$.

x	$f(x)$
0.5	1.5
0.9	1.9
0.99	1.99
0.999	1.999

x	$f(x)$
1.1	2.1
1.01	2.01
1.001	2.001
1.0001	2.0001

0.9999	1.9999
0.999999	1.999999

1.00001	2.00001
1.000001	2.000001

* It appears that the closer x to 1 , the closer $f(x)$ to 2 .

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1} = 2.$$

* In general

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1}$$

* The number 1 is not in the domain of f since the meaningless expression $\frac{(1)^2 - 1}{1 - 1} = \frac{0}{0}$ is obtained if 1 is substituted for x .

* Factoring the numerator and denominator

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

* Since $x \neq 1$, we may cancel the common factor $(x - 1)$

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

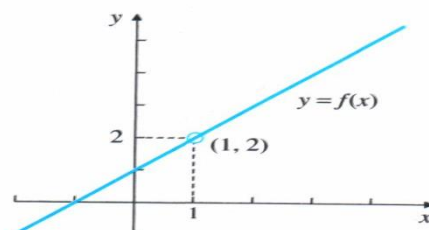


Figure 1 The graph of $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x - 1}$

Homework 1:

What happens to the function $g(x)=(1+x^2)^{\frac{1}{x^2}}$ as x approaches zero.

Solution:

x	$f(x)$
0.1	2.7048138294
0.01	2.7181459268
0.001	2.7182804691
0.0001	2.718287983
0.00001	2.7182820532
0.000001	2.718523496

x	$f(x)$
-0.1	2.7048138294
-0.01	2.7181459268
-0.001	2.7182804691
-0.0001	2.718287983
-0.00001	2.7182820532
-0.000001	2.718523496

* It appears that the closer x to 0 , the closer $f(x)$ to 2.7182818285 .

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1+x^2)^{\frac{1}{x^2}} = e = 2.7182818285$$

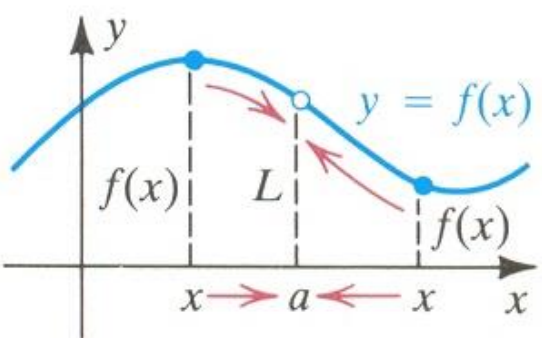
* In general

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

* The number 0 is not in the domain of f since the meaningless expression $\frac{1}{0}$ is obtained if 0 is substituted for x .

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} g(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1+x^2)^{\frac{1}{x^2}} = e = 2.7182818285$$

Definition 1 An informal definition of Limits of a function :
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NOTATION	INTUITIVE MEANING	GRAPHICAL INTERPRETATION
$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$	<p>We can make $f(x)$ as close to L as desired by choosing x sufficiently close to a, and $x \neq a$.</p>	

Example (2) : Page (201)

Find (i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x$ (ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} c$ (where c is a constant)

Solution :

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x = a$.

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

HOMEWORK 2

Evaluate:

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{x^2 + x - 2}{x^2 + 5x + 6}$ (b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{a}}{x - a}$ (c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\sqrt{x} - 2}{x^2 - 16}$

Solution:

a) $f(x) = \frac{x^2 + x - 2}{x^2 + 5x + 6}$

* The number -2 is not in the domain of f since the meaningless expression $\frac{(-2^2) + (-2-)}{(-2^2) + 5 - (-20)}$ is obtained if -2 is substituted for x .

* Factoring the numerator and denominator

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{x^2 + x - 2}{x^2 + 5x + 6} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{(x+2)(x-1)}{(x+2)(x+3)}$$

* Since $x \neq -2$, we may cancel the common factor $(x+2)$

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

b)

$$f(x) = \frac{\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{a}}{x-a}$$

* The number a is not in the domain of f since the meaningless expression $\frac{\frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{a}}{a-a} = \frac{0}{0}$ is obtained if a is substituted for x .

* Factoring the numerator and denominator

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{a}}{x-a} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\frac{(a-x)}{xa}}{(x-a)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{(a-x)}{xa} \cdot \frac{1}{(x-a)}$$

* Since $x \neq a$, we may cancel the common factor $(x-a)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{-(x-a)}{xa} \cdot \frac{1}{(x-a)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{-1}{xa} = \frac{-1}{a^2}$$

$$c) f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x} - 2}{x^2 - 16}$$

* The number 4 is not in the domain of f since the meaningless expression $\frac{\sqrt{4} - 2}{4^2 - 16} = \frac{2 - 2}{16 - 16} = \frac{0}{0}$ is obtained if 4 is substituted for x .

* Factoring the numerator and denominator

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\sqrt{x} - 2}{x^2 - 16} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\sqrt{x} - 2)}{(x - 4)(x + 4)} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\sqrt{x} - 2)}{(\sqrt{x} - 2)(\sqrt{x} + 2)(x + 4)} \end{aligned}$$

* Since $x \neq 4$, we may cancel the common factor $(\sqrt{x} - 2)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{1}{(\sqrt{x} + 2)(x + 4)} = \frac{1}{(\sqrt{4} + 2)(4 + 4)} = \frac{1}{32}$$

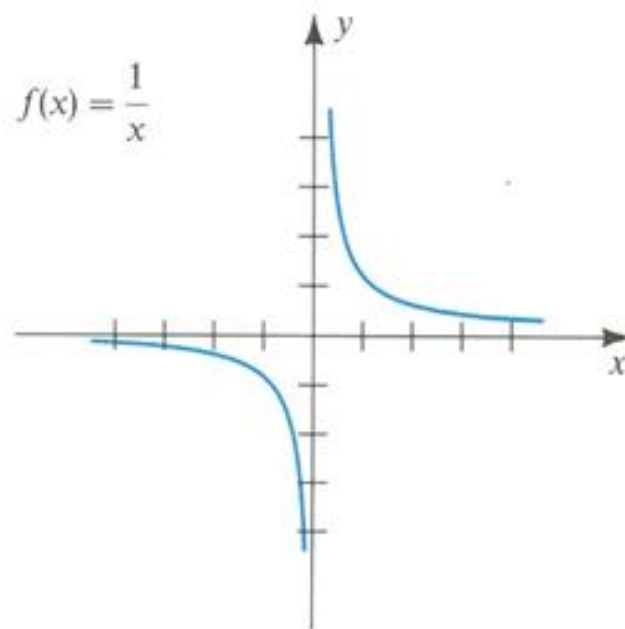
Example (3): Page (201)

a) Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x}$ does not exist.

Solution

* The graph of $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ is sketched in Figure 2.

Figure 2

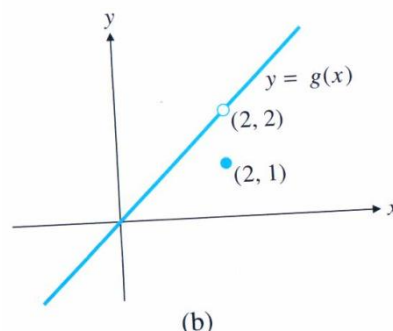


- * Note that we can make $|f(x)|$ as large as desired by choosing x sufficiently close to 0 (but $x \neq 0$).
- * For example, if we choose $x = -0.000001$, we obtain $f(x) = -1,000,000$ and if we choose $x = 0.000001$, we obtain $f(x) = 1,000,000$.
- * Since $f(x)$ does not approach a specific number as x approaches 0 , the limit does not exist

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x} = \text{does not exist.}$$

Example 3 b)

$$\text{Let } g(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \neq 2 \\ 1 & \text{if } x = 2 \end{cases}$$



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} g(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x = 2, \text{ Although } g(2) = 1$$

One-sided Limits of a function :

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NOTATION	INTUITIVE MEANING	GRAPHICAL INTERPRETATION
$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L$ <p>(left-hand limit)</p>	<p>We can make $f(x)$ as close to L as desired by choosing x sufficiently close to a, and $x < a$.</p>	
$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L$ <p>(right-hand limit)</p>	<p>We can make $f(x)$ as close to L as desired by choosing x sufficiently close to a, and $x > a$.</p>	

Homework 3 : Page (202)

The signum function $\text{sgn}(x) = \frac{x}{|x|}$, sketch the graph of f and find, if possible,

- (a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \text{sgn}(x)$. (b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \text{sgn}(x)$. (c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \text{sgn}(x)$.

Solution

$$f(x) = \operatorname{sgn}(x) = \frac{x}{|x|}$$

* Since $|x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$

* f is undefined, $\frac{0}{0}$, at $x = 0$.

* If $x > 0$, the $|x| = x$ and $f(x) = \frac{x}{|x|} = \frac{x}{x} = 1$.

* If $x < 0$, the $|x| = -x$ and $f(x) = \frac{x}{|x|} = \frac{x}{-x} = -1$.

Figure 2.7

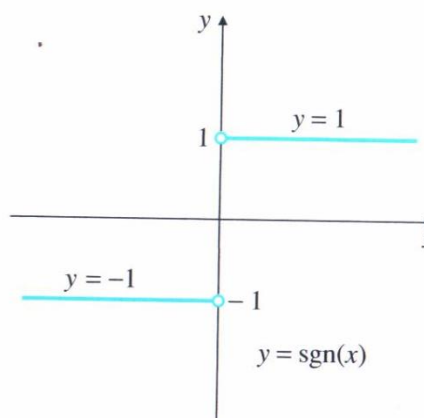


Figure 4 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \operatorname{sgn}(x)$ does not exist, because $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \operatorname{sgn}(x) = -1$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \operatorname{sgn}(x) = 1$

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \operatorname{sgn}(x) = -1$.

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \operatorname{sgn}(x) = 1$.

(c) Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \operatorname{sgn}(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \operatorname{sgn}(x)$, then

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \operatorname{sgn}(x)$ does not exist.

Theorem (1) : Relationship between one-sided and two-sided limits Page (202)

A function $f(x)$ has limit L at $x=a$ if and only if it has both left and right limits there and these one-sided limits are both equal to L

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

Example (4) : Page (202)

If : $f(x) = \frac{|x-2|}{x^2+x-6}$

Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x)$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x)$, and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$.

Solution

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x-2}{x^2+x-6}, & \text{for } x > 2 \\ \frac{-(x-2)}{x^2+x-6}, & \text{for } x < 2 \end{cases}$$

* If $x > 2$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} \frac{x-2}{x^2+x-6} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} \frac{(x-2)}{(x-2)(x+3)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} \frac{1}{(x+3)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{5}.$$

* If $x < 2$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{-(x-2)}{x^2 + x - 6} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{-(x-2)}{(x-2)(x+3)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{-1}{(x+3)} =$$

$$\boxed{-\frac{1}{5}}.$$

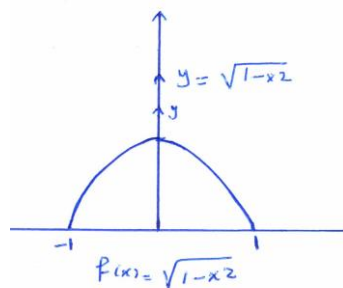
* Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x)$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = \text{does not exist}.$$

Homework 4:

What one-sided limits does $g(x) = \sqrt{1-x^2}$ have at $x=-1$ and $x=1$?

Solution:



* If $x > -1$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} \sqrt{1-x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} \sqrt{1-(-1)^2} = \boxed{0}.$$

* If $x < 1$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \sqrt{1-x^2} = \sqrt{1-(1)^2} = \boxed{0}.$$

Theorem (2) : Limits Rules

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = M$ both exist, then

$$(i) \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) + g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) + \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = L + M .$$

Example: find

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} (3x^2 + 5x - 9)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} (3x^2) + \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} (5x) + \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} (-9)$$

$$= 3(-2)^2 + 5(-2) - 9 = 12 - 10 - 9 = -7$$

$$(ii) \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) \cdot g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = L \cdot M .$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} 20x \cdot (x + 5) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (20x) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (x + 5) = (20 \cdot 2) \cdot (2 + 5)$$

$$= 40 \cdot 7 = 280$$

$$(iii) \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right] = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)} = \frac{L}{M}, \text{ provided } M \neq 0 .$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(x^2 - 1)}{\sqrt{4x}} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} (x^2 - 1)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \sqrt{4x}} = \frac{16 - 1}{\sqrt{4 \cdot 4}} = \frac{15}{4}$$

$$(iv) \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [k f(x)] = k \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \right] = kL .$$

$$\text{Example : } \lim_{x \rightarrow 8} 9x = 9 \lim_{x \rightarrow 8} x = 9 \cdot 8 = 72$$

$$(v) \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) - g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) - \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = L - M .$$

Example: find

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} (3x - 5) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} (3x) - \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} (5) = 3 \cdot 4 - 5 = 12 - 5 = 7$$

(vi) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)]^{\frac{m}{n}} = \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \right]^{\frac{m}{n}} = L^{\frac{m}{n}}$, provided $L > 0$ if n is even, and $L \neq 0$ if $m < 0$.

Example: find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} (3x - 5)^2 = [\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} (3x - 5)]^2 = 7^2 = 49$

(vii) If $f(x) \leq g(x)$ on an interval containing a in its interior, then

$$L \leq M$$

Example 5

Find a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{x^2 + x + 4}{x^3 - 2x^2 + 7}$ and b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \sqrt{2x + 1}$

Solution:

a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{x^2 + x + 4}{x^3 - 2x^2 + 7} = \frac{a^2 + a + 4}{a^3 - 2a^2 + 7}$, provide $a^3 - 2a^2 + 7 \neq 0$

b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \sqrt{2x + 1} = \sqrt{2 \cdot 2 + 1} = \sqrt{5}$

Theorem (3) Limits of Polynomials and Rational Functions

1-If $P(x)$ is a polynomial and a is any real number, then

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

2-If $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ are any polynomials and $Q(a) \neq 0$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} = \frac{P(a)}{Q(a)}.$$

3-If m , b , and a are real numbers, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (mx + b) = ma + b$$

Quiz (1)

Find a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} (x^2 - 4x + 1)$ b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x+3}{x+6}$, c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{3x+4}{5x+7}$

Solution

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

$$b) \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x+3}{x+6} = \frac{3+3}{3+6} = \frac{6}{9} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$c) \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{3x+4}{5x+7} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (3x+4)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (5x+7)} = \frac{3(2)+4}{5(2)+7} = \frac{10}{17}.$$

Quiz (2) :

Prove that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x^3 = a^3$.

Solution

* Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x = a$,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x^3 = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} (x \cdot x \cdot x)$$

$$= \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x \right) \cdot \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x \right) \cdot \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x \right).$$

$$= a \cdot a \cdot a = a^3.$$

Theorem 4. The Squeeze(sandwich) theorem Page (211)

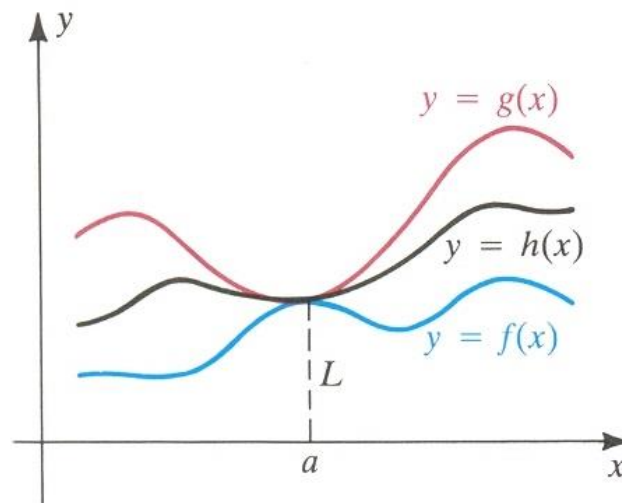
Suppose $f(x) \leq h(x) \leq g(x)$ holds for all x in some open interval containing a , except possibly at a , suppose also that

$$\text{If } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x),$$

$$\text{Then } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} h(x) = L.$$

Similar statements hold for left and right limits.

Figure 5



Homework (5): Page (211)

Given that $3 - x^2 \leq u(x) \leq 3 + x^2$ for all $x \neq 0$, find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} u(x)$

Solution :

* Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (3 - x^2) = 3$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (3 + x^2) = 3$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} u(x) = 3$$

End

More examples

QUIZ 1:

If $f(x) = \frac{2x^2 - 5x + 2}{5x^2 - 7x - 6}$, find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$.

Solution

$$f(x) = \frac{2x^2 - 5x + 2}{5x^2 - 7x - 6}$$

* The number 2 is not in the domain of f since the meaningless expression $\frac{0}{0}$ is obtained if 2 is substituted for x .

* Factoring the numerator and denominator

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{2x^2 - 5x + 2}{5x^2 - 7x - 6} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(x - 2)(2x - 1)}{(x - 2)(5x + 3)}$$

* Since $x \neq 2$, we may cancel the common factor $(x - 2)$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{2x - 1}{5x + 3} = \frac{2(2) - 1}{5(2) + 3} = \frac{3}{13}.$$

QUIZ (2):

If $f(x) = \frac{x - 9}{\sqrt{x} - 3}$.

(a) find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 9} f(x)$.

(b) Sketch the graph of f and illustrate the limit in part (a) graphically.

(a)
$$f(x) = \frac{x-9}{\sqrt{x}-3}$$

* The number **9** is not in the domain of f since the **meaningless expression** $\frac{0}{0}$ is obtained if **9** is substituted for x .

* Rationalizing the denominator by multiplying the numerator and denominator by $\sqrt{x}+3$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 9} \frac{x-9}{\sqrt{x}-3} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 9} \left(\frac{x-9}{\sqrt{x}-3} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x}+3}{\sqrt{x}+3} \right) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 9} \frac{(x-9)(\sqrt{x}+3)}{x-9} \end{aligned}$$

* Since $x \neq 9$, we may cancel the common factor $(x-9)$

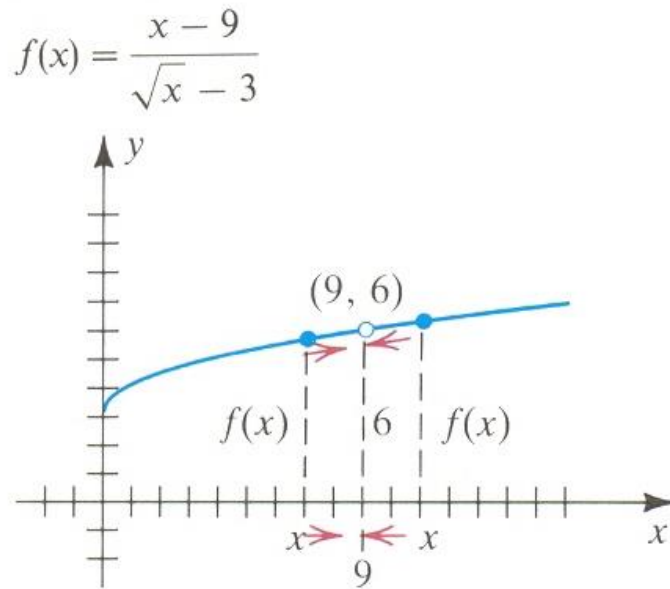
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 9} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 9} (\sqrt{x}+3) = \sqrt{9}+3 = \boxed{6}.$$

(b) The graph of f is the same as the graph of the equation $y = \sqrt{x}+3$, except for the point $(9,6)$, as illustrated in **Figure 2.3**.

* As x gets closer to **9**, the point $(x, f(x))$ on the graph of f gets closer to the point $(9,6)$.

* Note that $f(x)$ never actually attains the value **6**; however, $f(x)$ can be made as close to **6** as desired by choosing x sufficiently close to **9**.

Figure 2.3



Use the sandwich theorem to prove that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x^2} = 0$.

Solution

* Since $-1 \leq \sin t \leq 1$ for every real number t ,

$$-1 \leq \sin \frac{1}{x^2} \leq 1, \text{ for every } x \neq 0$$

* Multiplying by x^2 (which is positive if $x \neq 0$), we obtain

$$-x^2 \leq x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x^2} \leq x^2$$

* This inequality implies that the graph of $y = x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x^2}$ lies between the parabolas $y = -x^2$ and $y = x^2$.

* Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (-x^2) = 0$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (x^2) = 0$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^2 \sin \frac{1}{x^2} = 0 .$$

Theorem (2.10) : Page (62)

If n is a positive integer, then

$$(i) \lim_{x \rightarrow a} x^n = a^n .$$

$$(ii) \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)]^n = \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \right]^n , \text{ provided } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \text{ exists .}$$

Example (3) : Page (62)

Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (3x + 4)^5$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} * \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (3x + 4)^5 &= \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (3x + 4) \right]^5 \\ &= [3(2) + 4]^5 = 10^5 = \boxed{100,000} . \end{aligned}$$

Example (4) : Page (62)

Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} (5x^3 + 3x^2 - 6)$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} (5x^3 + 3x^2 - 6) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} (5x^3) + \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} (3x^2) - \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} (6) \\ &= 5 \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} (x^3) + 3 \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} (x^2) - 6 \\ &= 5(-2)^3 + 3(-2)^2 - 6 \end{aligned}$$

$$= 5(-8) + 3(4) - 6 = \boxed{-34}.$$

Theorem (2.11): Page (62)

If f is a polynomial function and a is a real number, then

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

Corollary (2.12): Page (63)

If q is a rational function and a is in the domain of q , then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} q(x) = q(a).$$

Example (5): Page (63)

Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{5x^2 - 2x + 1}{4x^3 - 7}$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} * \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{5x^2 - 2x + 1}{4x^3 - 7} &= \frac{5(3)^2 - 2(3) + 1}{4(3)^3 - 7} \\ &= \frac{45 - 6 + 1}{108 - 7} = \boxed{\frac{40}{101}}. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (2.13): Page (63)

1-If $a > 0$ and n is a positive integer, or if $a \leq 0$ and n is an odd positive integer, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{x} = \sqrt[n]{a}.$$

2-If m and n are positive integers and $a > 0$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left(\sqrt[n]{x} \right)^m = \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{x} \right)^m = \left(\sqrt[n]{a} \right)^m$$

$$\text{or } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} x^{m/n} = a^{m/n}$$

Example (6): Page (64)

Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 8} \frac{x^{2/3} + 3\sqrt{x}}{4 - (16/x)}$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} * \lim_{x \rightarrow 8} \frac{x^{2/3} + 3\sqrt{x}}{4 - (16/x)} &= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 8} (x^{2/3} + 3\sqrt{x})}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 8} [4 - (16/x)]} \\ &= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 8} x^{2/3} + \lim_{x \rightarrow 8} 3\sqrt{x}}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 8} 4 - \lim_{x \rightarrow 8} (16/x)} \\ &= \frac{8^{2/3} + 3\sqrt{8}}{4 - (16/8)} \\ &= \frac{4 + 6\sqrt{2}}{4 - 2} = \frac{4 + 6\sqrt{2}}{2} = \boxed{2 + 3\sqrt{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (2.14) : Page (64)

If a function f has a limit as x approaches a , then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{f(x)} = \sqrt[n]{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)},$$

provided either n is an odd positive integer or n is an even positive integer and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) > 0$.

Example (7) : Page (64)

Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \sqrt[3]{3x^2 - 4x + 9}$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} * \lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \sqrt[3]{3x^2 - 4x + 9} &= \sqrt[3]{\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} (3x^2 - 4x + 9)} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{3(5)^2 - 4(5) + 9} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{64} = \boxed{4}. \end{aligned}$$

7.2 LIMITS at INFINITY and INFINITE LIMITS:

Page (212)

Objectives:

*Limits at infinity

*Limits at infinity for Rational Functions

* Infinite Limits.

Limit at Infinity:

Consider the function:

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$$

Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x)$.

Solution:

Table 1

x	$f(x) = x/\sqrt{x^2 + 1}$
-1,000	-0.9999995
-100	-0.9999500
-10	-0.9950372
-1	-0.7071068
0	0.0000000
1	0.7071068
10	0.9950372
100	0.9999500
1,000	0.9999995

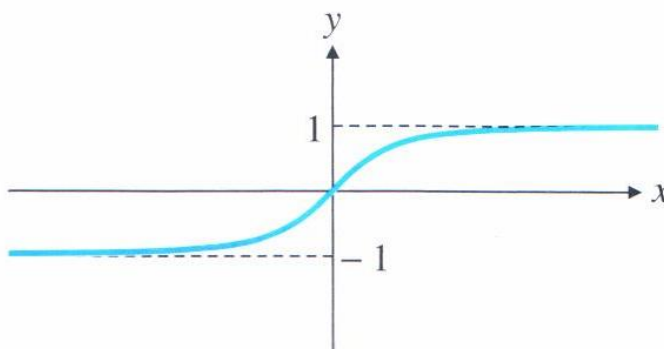


Figure 7 The graph of $x/\sqrt{x^2 + 1}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = 1, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = -1$$

Definition (3): Limits at infinity and negative infinity (informal definition). Page (213)

If the function f is defined on an interval (a, ∞) and if we can ensure that $f(x)$ is as close as we want to the number L by taking x large enough, then we say that $f(x)$ approaches the limit L as x approaches infinity, and we write

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

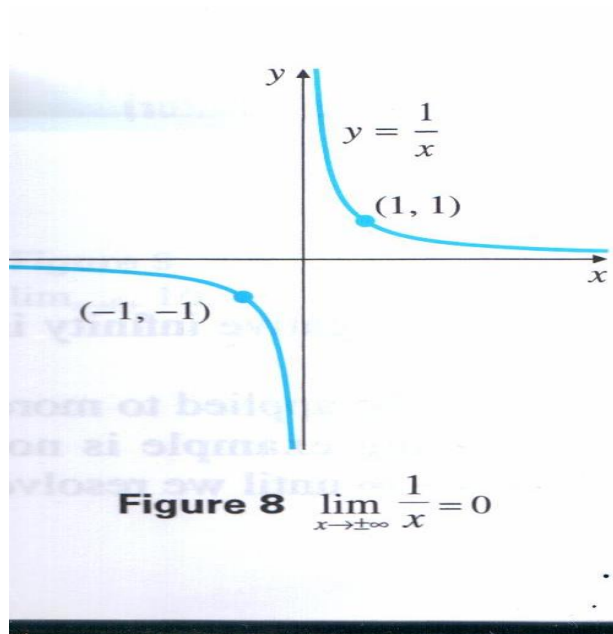
If the function f is defined on an interval $(-\infty, b)$ and if we can ensure that $f(x)$ is as close as we want to the number M by taking x negative and large enough in absolute value, then we say that $f(x)$ approaches the limit L as x approaches negative infinity, and we write

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = M$$

Example 1: Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{1}{x}$

Solution:

In figure 8, we can see that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$, the x -axis is a horizontal asymptote of the graph $y = \frac{1}{x}$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$



Definition Page (214)

If n is a positive rational number and c is any number, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c}{x^n} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{c}{x^n} = 0,$$

provided x^n is always defined.

For example:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{1}{x^2} = 0, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{1}{x^3} = 0, \dots$$

Example (2):

Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$

Solution:

Rewrite the expression for $f(x)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{x^2}\right)}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2} \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{x^2}}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{x}{|x| \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{x^2}}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{\operatorname{sgn} x}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{x^2}}}, \quad \text{Remember } \sqrt{x^2} = |x| \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Where } \operatorname{sgn}(x) = \frac{x}{|x|} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{\operatorname{sgn} x}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{x^2}}} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+0}} = 1 & \text{if } x \rightarrow \infty \\ \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1+0}} = -1 & \text{if } x \rightarrow -\infty \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} = 1, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} = -1$$

Limits at infinity for rational functions:

Let

$$P_m(x) = a_m x^m + \dots + a_0, \quad \text{and} \quad Q_n(x) = b_n x^n + \dots + b_0$$

be polynomials of degree m and n , respectively, so that

$a_m \neq 0, b_n \neq 0$. Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{P_m(x)}{Q_n(x)} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m < n \\ a_m & \text{if } m = n \\ b_n & \\ (\pm\infty) & \text{does not exist if } m > n \end{cases}$$

Homework (1): Page (214)

Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{2x^2 - x + 3}{3x^2 + 5}$

Solution:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{2x^2 - x + 3}{3x^2 + 5} = \frac{2}{3}, \quad m = n = 2$$

Homework (2): Page (214)

Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{5x + 2}{2x^3 - 1}$

Solution:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{5x + 2}{2x^3 - 1} = 0, \quad m = 1, n = 3, m < n$$

Quiz (1):

Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{2x^2 - 5}{3x^2 + x + 2}$.

Quiz (2)

$$\text{Find } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^2 - 5}{3x^4 + x + 2} .$$

Example (5): Page (216)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3 + 1}{x^2 + 1}$$

Solution:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3 + 1}{x^2 + 1} = \infty, \quad m = 3, n = 2, m > n$$

Quiz (3)

$$\text{Find } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^3 - 5}{3x^2 + x + 2} .$$

Example (3): Page (215)

If $f(x) = \sqrt{x^2 + x} - x$, find

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

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x)$.

Solution

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x^2 + x} - x$$

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{x^2 + x} - x &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\sqrt{x^2 + x} - x)(\sqrt{x^2 + x} + x)}{(\sqrt{x^2 + x} + x)} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 + x - x^2}{(\sqrt{x^2(1 + \frac{1}{x})} + x)} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{(x\sqrt{(1 + \frac{1}{x})} + x)} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(1 + \frac{1}{x})} + 1} = \frac{1}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \sqrt{x^2 + x} - x = \infty$ (does not exist)

Infinite Limits:

A function whose values grow arbitrary large can sometimes be said to have an infinite limit.

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

Homework 3

Describe the behavior of the function $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ near $x=0$

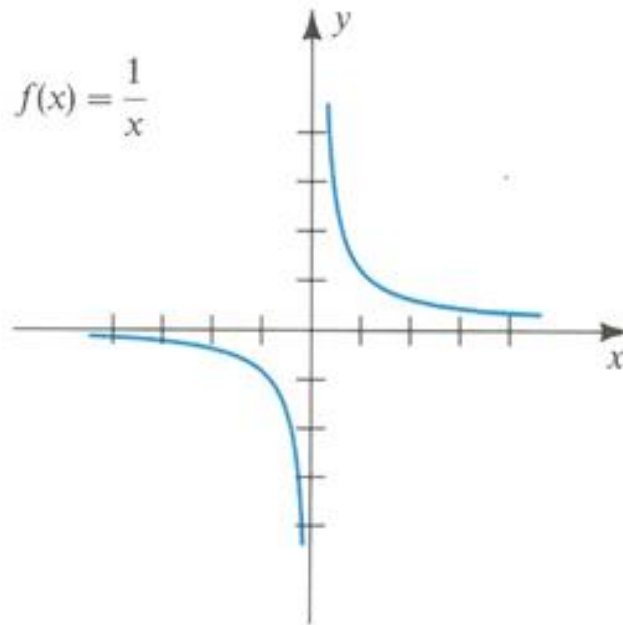
Solution :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{x^2} = \infty, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{1}{x^2} = \infty$$

Example 4:

Describe the behavior of the function $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ near $x=0$

Solution :



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{x} = \infty, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{1}{x} = -\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x} = \text{does not exist}$$

Homework 4

$$a) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (3x^3 - x^2 + 2) = \infty \quad b) \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} (3x^3 - x^2 + 2) = -\infty$$

$$c) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (x^4 - 5x^3 - x) = \infty \quad c) \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} (x^4 - 5x^3 - x) = \infty$$

Example (5) : Page (216)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3 + 1}{x^2 + 1}$$

Solution:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3 + 1}{x^2 + 1} = \infty, \quad m = 3, n = 2, m > n$$

End

More examples.

Example (2): Page (70)

Find each limit, if it exists.

$$(a) \lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3} \cdot \quad (b) \lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3} \cdot \quad (c) \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3} \cdot$$

Solution

(a) If x is close to 4 and $x < 4$, then $x - 4$ is close to 0 and negative, and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3} = \boxed{-\infty}.$$

(a) If x is close to 4 and $x > 4$, then $x - 4$ is close to 0 and positive, and

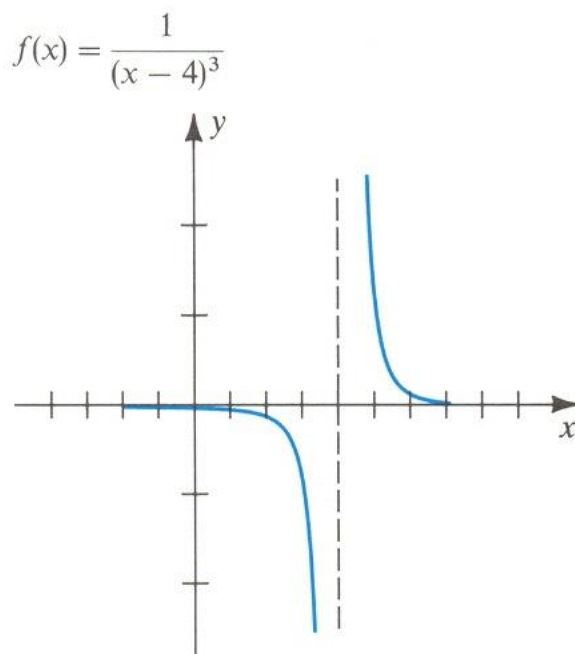
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3} = \infty.$$

(c) Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3} \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3}$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3} \text{ does not exist}.$$

* The graph of $y = \frac{1}{(x-4)^3}$ is sketched in Figure 2.29. The line $x = 4$ is a vertical asymptote.

Figure 2.29



Quiz (3)

Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^3 - 5}{3x^2 + x + 2}$.

Solution

* Since the **highest power** of x in the denominator is **2**, we first divide numerator and denominator by x^2 , obtaining

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^3 - 5}{3x^2 + x + 2} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x - \frac{5}{x^2}}{3 + \frac{1}{x} + \frac{2}{x^2}} \\ &= \frac{\infty - 0}{3 + 0 + 0} = \frac{\infty}{3} = \boxed{\infty}.\end{aligned}$$

Example (6): Page (74)

If $f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3}$, find

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

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x)$.

Solution

$$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3}$$

(a) If x is large and **positive**, then

$$\sqrt{9x^2 + 2} \approx \sqrt{9x^2} = 3x \quad \text{and} \quad 4x + 3 \approx 4x$$

and hence

$$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3} \approx \frac{3x}{4x} = \frac{3}{4}$$

this suggests that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \frac{3}{4}$.

* To give a rigorous proof we may write

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 \left(9 + \frac{2}{x^2}\right)}}{4x + 3} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2} \sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4x + 3} \end{aligned}$$

If x is **positive**, then $\sqrt{x^2} = x$, and dividing numerator and denominator of the last fraction by x gives us

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2} \sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4x + 3} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x \sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4x + 3} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4 + \frac{3}{x}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{9 + 0}}{4 + 0} = \boxed{\frac{3}{4}}. \end{aligned}$$

(b) If x is large **negative**, then $\sqrt{x^2} = -x$. If we use the same steps as in part (a), we obtain

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2} \sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4x + 3}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{(-x) \sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4x + 3}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{-\sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4 + \frac{3}{x}}$$

$$= \frac{-\sqrt{9 + 0}}{4 + 0} = \boxed{-\frac{3}{4}}.$$

7.3 CONTINUITY: Page (218)

Objectives:

- *Continuity at a Point*
- *Continuity on an interval*
- *There are lots of continuous functions.*
- *Continuous Extension and Removable Discontinuities.* للاطلاع

Continuity at a point.

Definition (4): Continuity at an interior point. Page (219)

We say that a function f is **continuous** at an interior point c of its domain if

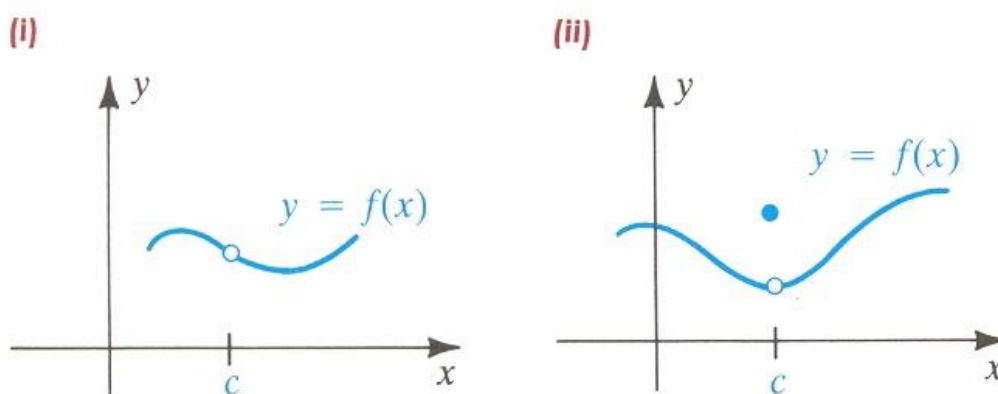
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = f(c)$$

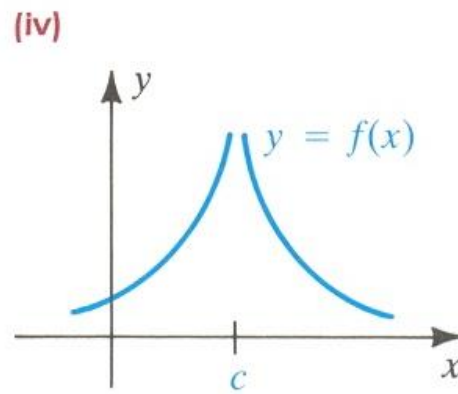
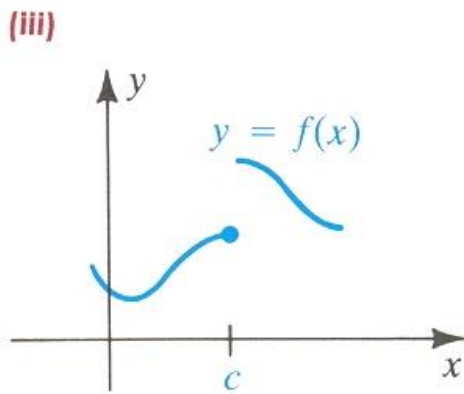
If either $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$ fails to exist or it exists but is not equal to $f(c)$, then we say that f is **discontinuous** at c .

Which equivalent to the following conditions :

- $f(c)$ is defined .
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$ exists .
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = f(c)$.

Figure 10





*** Not that :**

In (i) of the **Figure 10**, $f(c)$ is not defined.

In (ii), $f(c)$ is defined ;however, $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) \neq f(c)$.

In (iii), $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$ does not exist, $f(c)$ is defined.

In (iv), $f(c)$ is undefined and, in addition, $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = \infty$

Definition (5): Right and left continuity Page (219)

We say that f is right continuous at c if $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x) = f(c)$

We say that f is left continuous at c if $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x) = f(c)$

Example 1:

The Heaviside function

$$H(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} H(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} 1 = 1, H(0) = 1$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} H(x) = H(0)$$

Then $H(x)$ is right continuous at 0.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} H(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} -1 = -1, H(0) = 1$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} H(x) \neq H(0)$$

Then $H(x)$ is not left continuous at 0.

Theorem (5): Page (219)

Function f is continuous at c if and only if it is both right and left continuous at c .

Definition (6) Continuity at endpoint Page (220)

We say that f is continuous at a left end point c if it is right continuous there. $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x) = f(c)$

We say that f is continuous at a right end point c if it is left continuous there. $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x) = f(c)$.

Homework (1): Page (220)

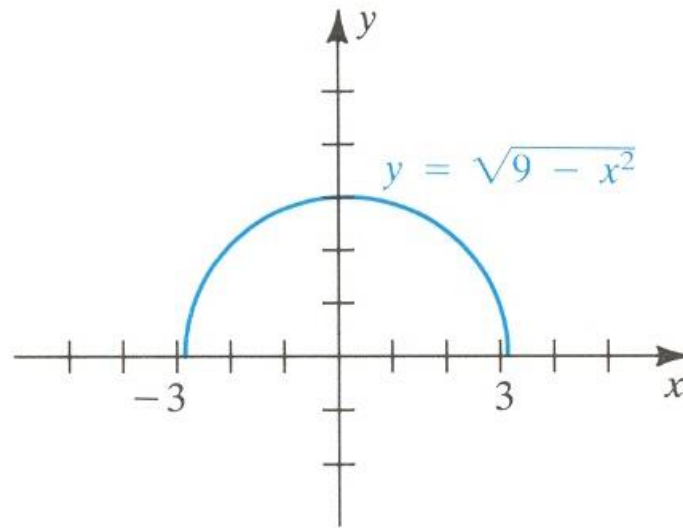
If $f(x) = \sqrt{9 - x^2}$, sketch the graph of f and prove that f is continuous on the closed interval $[-3, 3]$.

Solution

$$f(x) = \sqrt{9 - x^2}$$

*** The graph of $x^2 + y^2 = 9$ is a circle with center at the origin and radius 3. Solving for y gives us $y = \pm \sqrt{9 - x^2}$, and hence the graph of $y = \sqrt{9 - x^2}$ is the upper half of that circle.**

Figure 2.37



* If $-3 < c < 3$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \sqrt{9 - x^2} = \sqrt{9 - c^2} = f(c) .$$

Hence f is continuous at c .

* All that remains is to check the endpoint of the interval $[-3, 3]$ using one-sided limits as follows :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -3^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -3^+} \sqrt{9 - x^2} = \sqrt{9 - 3^2} = 0 = f(-3)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} \sqrt{9 - x^2} = \sqrt{9 - 3^2} = 0 = f(3)$$

Thus , f is continuous from the right at -3 and from the left at 3 .

* Then , f is continuous on $[-3, 3]$.

Continuity on an interval

Definition 7 Continuity on an interval:

We say that a function f is continuous on the interval I if it is continuous at each point of I . In particular, we will say that f is a continuous function if f is continuous at every point in its domain.

Let a function f be defined on a closed interval $[a, b]$. The function f is **continuous** on $[a, b]$ if it is continuous on (a, b) and if, in addition,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = f(a) \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow b^-} f(x) = f(b).$$

Example 2

Show that the function $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ is a continuous function.

Solution:

The Domain is $[0, \infty)$. The function is continuous at the left endpoint 0 because it is right continuous there.

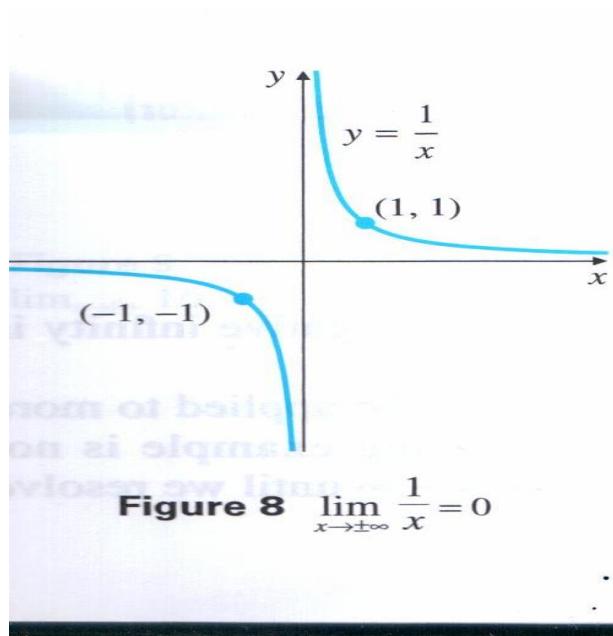
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \sqrt{x} = 0 = f(0)$$

Also, f is continuous at every number $c > 0$ since:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \sqrt{x} = \sqrt{c} = f(c), c > 0$$

Homework 2:

Show that the function $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ is a continuous function.



The function f is continuous on its domain $(-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$, the point 0 is not in its domain.

Example 3:

The greatest integer function: $f(x) = [x] = n$ if $x \in [n, n+1)$, n is an integer.

Solution : examples: $[2]=2, [2,5]=2, [-1]=-1, [-1.5]=-2, \dots$

This function is continuous on every interval $[n, n+1)$, n is an integer. It is right continuous at each integer n but it is not left continuous there, so it is discontinuous at the integers.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow n^+} [x] = n = [n],$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow n^-} [x] = n - 1 \neq n = [n].$$

There are Lots of Continuous Functions:

The following functions are continuous wherever they are defined

a) All polynomials

b) A rational function $q = \frac{f}{g}$ is continuous at every number

except the numbers c such that $g(c) = 0$.

c) All rational powers $x^{\frac{m}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{x^m}$

d) The sine, cosine, tangent, secant, cosecant and cotangent functions and

e) The absolute values function $|x|$.

Theorem 6: Combining continuous functions Page (221)

If f and g are **continuous** at c , then the following are also continuous at c :

(i) the sum $f + g$ and the difference $f - g$.

(ii) the product $f g$.

(iii) the constant multiple kf , where k is any number.

(iv) the quotient f / g , provided $g(c) \neq 0$.

(v) the n th root $(f(x))^{\frac{1}{n}}$, provided $f(c) > 0$ if n is even.

Theorem 7: Page (221)

If $f(g(x))$ is defined on an interval containing c , and if $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) = L$ and if f is **continuous** at L , then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(g(x)) = f(L) = f\left(\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x)\right).$$

In particular, if g is **continuous** at c and if f is **continuous** at $L = g(c)$, then

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(g(x)) = f\left(\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x)\right) = f(g(c))$.

(ii) the composite function $f \circ g$ is continuous at c .

Homework 3

The following functions are continuous everywhere on their respective domains.

$$a) 3x^2 - 2x \quad b) \frac{x-2}{x^2-4} \quad c) |x^2 - 1|$$

$$d) \sqrt{x} \quad e) \sqrt{x^2 - 2x - 5} \quad f) \frac{|x|}{\sqrt{|x+2|}}$$

Quiz (1) :

If $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^3 + x^2 - 2x}$, find the discontinuities of f .

Solution

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

* Since f is a rational function, it follows that the only discontinuities are at the zeros of the denominator $x^3 + x^2 - 2x$.

* By factoring we obtain

$$x^3 + x^2 - 2x = x(x^2 + x - 2) = x(x+2)(x-1) = 0$$

* Setting each factor equal to zero, we see that the discontinuities of f are at $0, -2, \text{ and } 1$.

Continuous Extension and Removable Discontinuities

First: Continuous Extension

If $f(c)$ is not defined, but $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = L$ exists, we can define

a new function $F(x)$ by

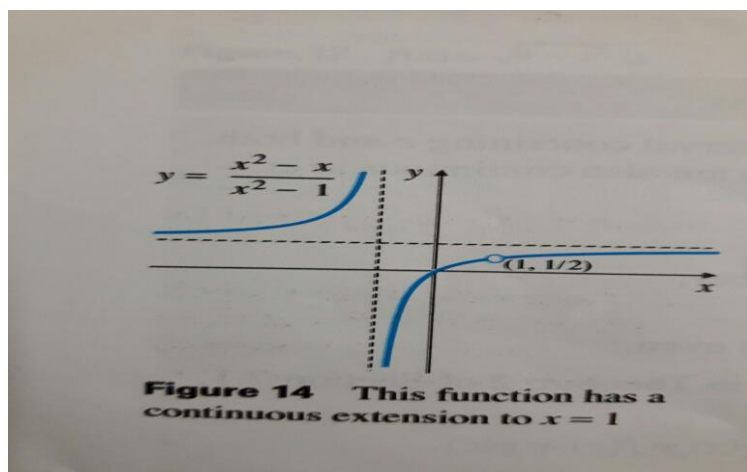
$$F(x) = \begin{cases} f(x), & \text{if } x \text{ is in the domain of } f \\ L & \text{if } x=c. \end{cases}$$

$F(x)$ is continuous at $x=c$. It is called the continuous extension of $f(x)$ to $x=c$. For rational functions $f(x)$, continuous extensions are usually found by cancelling common factors.

Example 4:

Show that $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - x}{x^2 - 1}$ has a continuous extension to $x=1$ and find that extension.

Solution :



Although $f(1) = \frac{1-1}{1-1} = \frac{0}{0}$ is not defined, if $x \neq 1$ we have

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - x}{x^2 - 1} = \frac{x(x-1)}{(x+1)(x-1)} = \frac{x}{x+1}$$

The function

$$F(x) = \frac{x}{x+1}$$

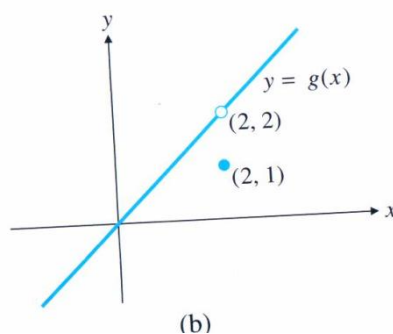
is equal to $f(x)$ for $x \neq 1$ but it is also continuous at $x = 1$, having there the value $\frac{1}{2}$. The graph of $f(x)$ is shown in figure 14. The continuous extension of $f(x)$ to $x = 1$ is $F(x)$. It has the same graph as $f(x)$ except with no hole at $(1, \frac{1}{2})$.

Second: Removable Discontinuities

If a function $f(x)$ is undefined or discontinuous at a point a but can be redefined at the single point so that it becomes continuous there, then we say that f has a **removable discontinuity at a** . The function f in the above example has a removable discontinuity at $x=1$. To remove it, define $f(1) = \frac{1}{2}$

Homework 4:

The function $g(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \neq 2 \\ 1 & \text{if } x=2 \end{cases}$



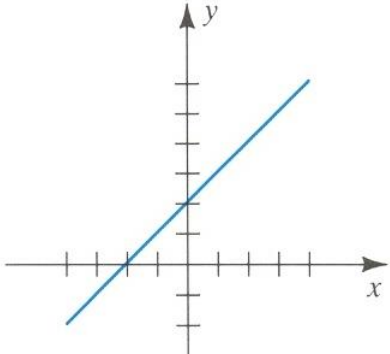
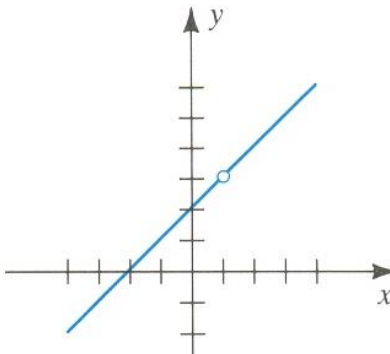
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} g(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x = 2, \text{ Although } g(2) = 1$$

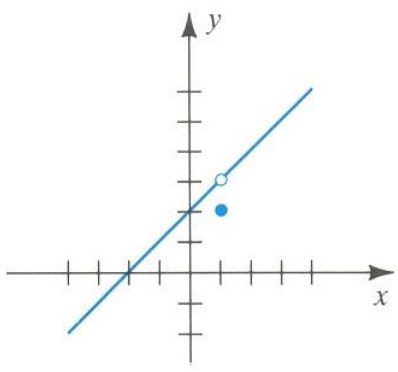
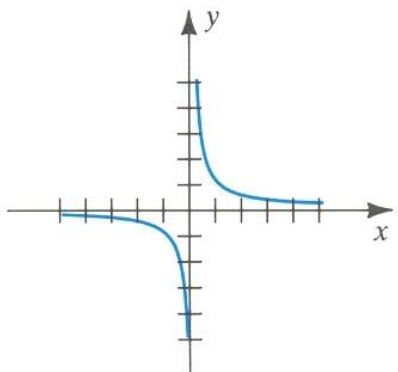
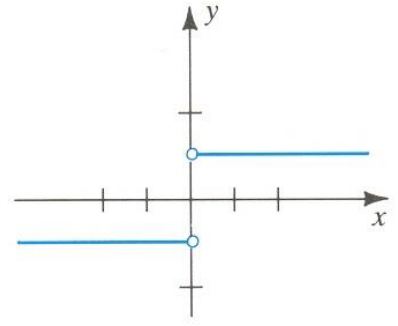
Has a removable discontinuity at $x=2$. To remove it redefine $g(2)=2$.

$$G(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \neq 2 \\ 2 & \text{if } x = 2 \end{cases}$$

End

ILLUSTRATION :

FUNCTION VALUE	GRAPH	DISCONTINUITIES
$f(x) = x + 2$		<p>None, since for every c,</p> $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = c + 2$ $= f(c)$
$g(x) = \frac{x^2 + x + 2}{x - 1}$		<p>$c = 1$ since $g(1)$ is undefined (removable discontinuity).</p> $G(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 + x + 2}{x - 1}; & x \neq 1 \\ 3; & x = 1 \end{cases}$

$h(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 + x - 2}{x - 1} & \text{if } x \neq 1 \\ 2 & \text{if } x = 1 \end{cases}$		<p>$c = 1$ since</p> $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} h(x) = 3$ $\neq h(1)$ <p>(removable discontinuity).</p> $H(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 + x - 2}{x - 1} & \text{if } x \neq 1 \\ 3 & \text{if } x = 1 \end{cases}$
$h(x) = \frac{1}{x}$		<p>$c = 0$ since $h(0)$ does not exist and also</p> $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} h(x) \text{ does not exist}$ <p>(Infinite discontinuity). (non-removable discontinuity)</p>
$p(x) = \frac{ x }{x}$		<p>$c = 0$ since $p(0)$ is undefined and also</p> $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} p(x) \text{ does not exist}$ <p>(jump discontinuity). (non-removable discontinuity)</p>

Quiz (2) :

If $k(x) = \frac{\sqrt{9 - x^2}}{3x^4 + 5x^2 + 1}$, prove that k is continuous on the closed interval $[-3, 3]$.

Solution

Let $f(x) = \sqrt{9 - x^2}$ and $g(x) = 3x^4 + 5x^2 + 1$ from example 3, f is continuous on the closed interval $[-3, 3]$ and

from Theorem (2.21), g is continuous at every real number. Moreover for every c in $[-3, 3]$, $g(c) \neq 0$. Hence by Theorem (2.23) (iv), the quotient $k = \frac{f}{g}$ is continuous on the closed interval $[-3, 3]$.

Quiz(3):

If $k(x) = |3x^2 - 7x - 12|$, show that k is continuous at every number.

Solution

If we let $f(x) = |x|$ and $g(x) = 3x^2 - 7x - 12$

Then

$$k(x) = f(g(x)) = (f \circ g)(x)$$

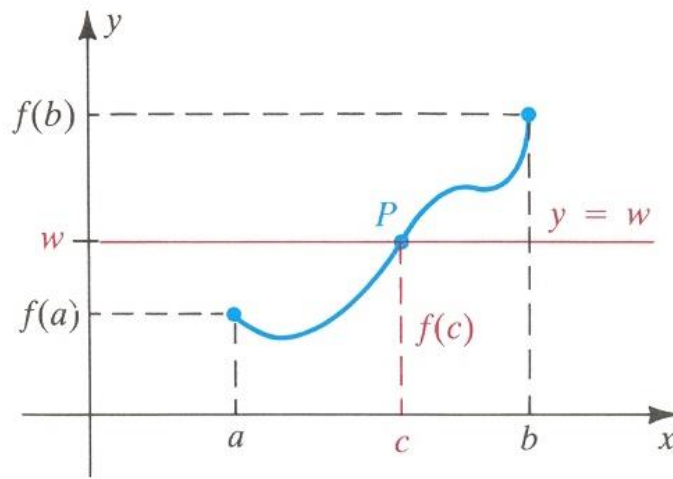
Since both f and g are continuous function (see example 1 and (i) of Theorem (6)), it follows from (ii) of Theorem (7) that the composite function $k = f \circ g$ is continuous at c .

Intermediate value theorem (2.26): Page (84)

If f is **continuous** on a closed interval $[a, b]$ and if w is any number between $f(a)$ and $f(b)$, then there is at least one number c in $[a, b]$ such that

$$f(c) = w.$$

Figure 2.38



If $f(a)$ and $f(b)$ have opposite signs, then there is a number c (zero or root) in $[a, b]$ such that

$$f(c) = 0.$$

Example (6): Page (84)

Show that $f(x) = x^5 + 2x^4 - 6x^3 + 2x - 3$ has a zero between 1 and 2.

Solution

$$f(x) = x^5 + 2x^4 - 6x^3 + 2x - 3$$

* Substituting 1 and 2 for x gives us the function values :

$$f(1) = 1 + 2 - 6 + 2 - 3 = -4$$

$$f(2) = 32 + 32 - 48 + 4 - 3 = 17$$

* Since $f(1)$ and $f(2)$ have opposite signs, it follows from the intermediate value theorem that $f(c) = 0$ for at least one real number c between 1 and 2.

Theorem [2.27].

If a function f is **continuous** and has no zeroes on an interval, then either $f(x) > 0$ or $f(x) < 0$ for every x in the interval.

Exercises 2.5, pages 85-87, from 1-60.

Example (2): Page (70)

Find each limit, if it exists.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3}$. (b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3}$. (c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3}$.

Solution

(a) If x is close to 4 and $x < 4$, then $x - 4$ is close to 0 and negative, and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3} = -\infty.$$

(a) If x is close to 4 and $x > 4$, then $x - 4$ is close to 0 and positive, and

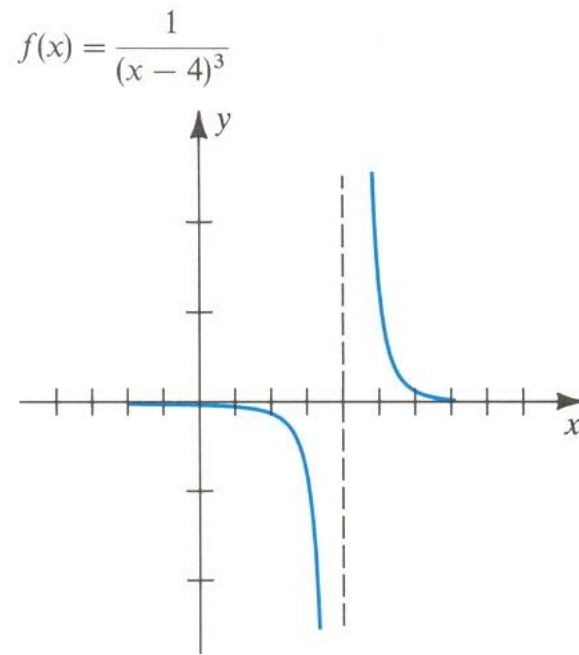
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3} = \infty.$$

(c) Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3} \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3}$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{1}{(x-4)^3} \text{ does not exist}.$$

* The graph of $y = \frac{1}{(x-4)^3}$ is sketched in **Figure 2.29**. The line $x = 4$ is a vertical asymptote.

Figure 2.29



Quiz (3)

Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^3 - 5}{3x^2 + x + 2}$.

Solution

* Since the **highest power** of x in the denominator is **2**, we first divide numerator and denominator by x^2 , obtaining

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^3 - 5}{3x^2 + x + 2} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x - \frac{5}{x^2}}{3 + \frac{1}{x} + \frac{2}{x^2}} \\ &= \frac{\infty - 0}{3 + 0 + 0} = \frac{\infty}{3} = \boxed{\infty}. \end{aligned}$$

Example (6): Page (74)

If $f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3}$, find

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

$$(b) \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x).$$

Solution

$$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3}$$

(a) If x is large and **positive**, then

$$\sqrt{9x^2 + 2} \approx \sqrt{9x^2} = 3x \quad \text{and} \quad 4x + 3 \approx 4x$$

and hence

$$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3} \approx \frac{3x}{4x} = \frac{3}{4}$$

this suggests that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \frac{3}{4}$.

* To give a rigorous proof we may write

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 \left(9 + \frac{2}{x^2} \right)}}{4x + 3} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2} \sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4x + 3} \end{aligned}$$

If x is **positive**, then $\sqrt{x^2} = x$, and dividing numerator and denominator of the last fraction by x gives us

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2} \sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4x + 3} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x \sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4x + 3} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4 + \frac{3}{x}} \\
&= \frac{\sqrt{9 + 0}}{4 + 0} = \boxed{\frac{3}{4}}.
\end{aligned}$$

(b) If x is large *negative*, then $\sqrt{x^2} = -x$. If we use the same steps as in part (a), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{9x^2 + 2}}{4x + 3} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2} \sqrt{x^2 \left(9 + \frac{2}{x^2}\right)}}{4x + 3} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{(-x) \sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4x + 3} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{-\sqrt{9 + \frac{2}{x^2}}}{4 + \frac{3}{x}} \\
&= \frac{-\sqrt{9 + 0}}{4 + 0} = \boxed{-\frac{3}{4}}.
\end{aligned}$$

