

1.3 Evaluating Limits Analytically

- Evaluate a limit using properties of limits.
- Develop and use a strategy for finding limits.
- Evaluate a limit using dividing out and rationalizing techniques.
- Evaluate a limit using the Squeeze Theorem.

THEOREM 1.2 PROPERTIES OF LIMITS

Let b and c be real numbers, let n be a positive integer, and let f and g be functions with the following limits.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = L \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) = K$$

1. Scalar multiple: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [bf(x)] = bL$
2. Sum or difference: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x) \pm g(x)] = L \pm K$
3. Product: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)g(x)] = LK$
4. Quotient: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{L}{K}$, provided $K \neq 0$
5. Power: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)]^n = L^n$

Strategy for finding limits analytically

1. Direct Substitution
2. Algebraic techniques
(factoring or rationalizing or simplifying)
3. Special Cases

THEOREM 1.9 TWO SPECIAL TRIGONOMETRIC LIMITS

$$1. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1 \quad 2. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{x} = 0$$

Ex 1

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\sqrt{x+2}}{x-4} = \frac{2}{-2} = -1$$

Ex 2

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 7} \sec\left(\frac{\pi x}{6}\right) = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$$

Ex 3

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 5\pi/3} \cos x$$
$$\frac{1}{2}$$

Pythagorean Identities

$$\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$$

$$1 + \cot^2 x = \csc^2 x$$

$$\tan^2 x + 1 = \sec^2 x$$

Other Trig identities

$$\sin 2x = 2 \sin x \cos x$$

$$\cos 2x = \cos^2 x - \sin^2 x = 1 - 2 \sin^2 x = 2 \cos^2 x - 1$$

$$\frac{\frac{1}{x+2} - \frac{1}{2}}{x} = \frac{\frac{2 - (x+2)}{2(x+2)}}{\left(\frac{x}{1}\right)}$$

$$\frac{\cancel{2} - x - \cancel{2}}{2(x+2)} \cdot \frac{1}{x}$$

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

$$\frac{\left(\frac{1}{x+2} - \frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot 2(x+2)}{\left(\frac{x}{1}\right) \cdot 2(x+2)}$$

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

$$\cos 2x = 1 - 2\sin^2 x$$

$$\frac{\cos 2x - 1}{-2} = \frac{-2\sin^2 x}{-2}$$

$$\frac{1 - \cos 2x}{2} = \sin^2 x$$

Ex 4

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{3x^2 - 4x - 4}{2x^2 - 8}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\cancel{(x-2)}(3x+2)}{2\cancel{(x-2)}(x+2)}$$

1

Ex 5

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^3 - 8}{x^2 - 6x + 8}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\cancel{(x-2)}(x^2 + 2x + 4)}{\cancel{(x-2)}(x-4)}$$

$$\frac{12}{-2}$$

$$-6$$

Ex 6

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{2\cos^2 x + 3\cos x - 2}{2\cos x - 1}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{3}} \frac{(\cancel{2\cos x - 1})(\cos x + 2)}{\cancel{2\cos x - 1}}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + 2$$

$$\frac{5}{2}$$

Ex 7

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cot x}{\csc x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{\cos x}}{\cancel{\sin x}} \cdot \frac{\cancel{\sin x}}{1}$$

1

Ex 8

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x \cancel{(1 - e^x)}}{\cancel{1 - e^x}}$$

1

Ex 9

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

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

$\frac{1}{8}$

Ex 10

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{\sqrt{x+1} - 2}{x-3} \cdot \frac{(\sqrt{x+1} + 2)}{(\sqrt{x+1} + 2)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{\cancel{x+1} - 4}{(\cancel{x-3})(\sqrt{x+1} + 2)}$$
$$\frac{1}{4}$$

$$\text{II.) } \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x-2}{\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{4-x}} \cdot \frac{(\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{4-x})}{(\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{4-x})}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\cancel{(x-2)} (\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{4-x})}{\cancel{x} - \cancel{(4-x)} \cdot 2 \cancel{(x-2)}}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2}}{2} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{2} = \sqrt{2} \quad \ddot{\smile}$$

Ex 12

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\frac{x}{x+1} - \frac{4}{5}}{x-4}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\frac{5x - 4(x+1)}{5(x+1)}}{\frac{x-4}{1}}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\cancel{x-4}}{5(x+1)} \cdot \frac{1}{\cancel{x-4}} = \frac{1}{25} = .04$$

Ex 13

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(1 - \cos x)}{x}$$

$$3 \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{x}$$

$$3 \cdot 0$$

$$0$$

Ex 14

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(3t)}{2t}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 3t}{t} \cdot \frac{3}{3}$$

$$\frac{3}{2} \left[\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 3t}{3t} \right]$$

$$\frac{3}{2} \cdot 1$$
$$\left(\frac{3}{2} \right)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 4x}{11x}$$

$$\frac{1}{11} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 4x}{x} \cdot \frac{4}{4}$$

$$\frac{4}{11} \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 4x}{4x} \right]$$

$$\frac{4}{11}$$

Ex 15: Given $f(x) = 5x - 2$, $f(x+\Delta x) = 5(x+\Delta x) - 2$

find $\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}$.

$$\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{5(x+\Delta x) - 2 - (5x - 2)}{\Delta x}$$

$$\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{5\Delta x}{\Delta x}$$

5

$$16.) \quad f(x) = -x^2 + 4x \quad f(x+h) = \underline{- (x+h)^2 + 4(x+h)}$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

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

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\cancel{x^2} - 2xh - \cancel{h^2} + \cancel{4x} + 4h + \cancel{x^2} - \cancel{4x}}{h}$$

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

$$17.) f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{x+h} - \frac{1}{x}}{h}$$

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

$\left(-\frac{1}{x^2} \right)$

Analyze a limit with a table

Analyze a limit with a graph

*Analyze a limit analytically
direct substitution, factoring,
rationalizing, simplifying,
special cases*

Ex. 11

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) = \frac{1}{2}$$

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [4f(x)]$

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x) + g(x)]$

(c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)g(x)]$

(d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$