

II Calculating Limits Using Limit Theorems (1D)

* A picture is not proof.

* Inductive reasoning is not proof (tables) → these are estimations of the limit

* we need theorems to prove ☺

A. Limit Theorems

"plug in rules"

1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x = a$

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

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

4. $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} C = C$

{n is a positive integer}

{n is a positive integer, and if n is even then a > 0}

{where C is a constant}

5. $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) \pm g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \pm \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$

6. $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [c \cdot f(x)] = c \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$

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

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

{ $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \neq 0$ }

9. $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)]^n = [\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)]^n$

{n is a positive integer}

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

{n is a positive integer and if n is even $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) > 0$ }

ex1 Justify the limit is the indicated number.

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x(x+3)}{x+1} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x(x+3)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x+1)} = \frac{\left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x \right] \cdot \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x+3) \right]}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x+1)} =$$

$$= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x \cdot \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x + \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} 3 \right]}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x + \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} 1} = \frac{1 \cdot [1 + 3]}{1 + 1} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$$

B. Justify Vs. Evaluate

1. Justify the limit:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} \frac{x^2 - 2x + 1}{x} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} x^2 - 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow 6} x + \lim_{x \rightarrow 6} 1}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} x} = \frac{(6)^2 - 2(6) + 1}{6} = \frac{25}{6}$$

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2. Evaluate the limit

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} \frac{x^2 - 2x + 1}{x} = \frac{6^2 - 2(6) + 1}{6} = \frac{25}{6}$$

b/c limit theorems allow this!

Note:
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 6} f(x) \neq f(6)$
 two different ideas.

a. What if no limit theorems work?

→ Use graph/table/calculator

b. if you can use limit theorems...

→ "plug in" and simplify

HOWEVER ... you may get stuck!

if $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \frac{0}{\#} = 0$ good.

if $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \frac{\pm}{0} = \infty$ ∴ DNE good.
 approaching!

if $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \frac{0}{0} = ???$ it's not DNE or 0 ...
 approaching

IDK
 ↑ for now :)

C. Evaluating Limits of Indeterminate Form (IE)

If you use the Limit Theorems to "plug in" and get:

$$\frac{0}{0}, \frac{\infty}{\infty}, 0^0, 0 \cdot \infty, 1^\infty, \infty^0, \infty \pm \infty$$

this is called indeterminate form, solve by:

* using algebra rules to simplify / change the format
→ factor / cancel / rationalize / trig IDs / etc

* try limit theorems again

* repeat as necessary

ex 1

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+4}-2}{x}$$

can't "plug in" w/LT. $\frac{0}{0}$ ∴ indeterminate form

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+4}-2}{x} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x+4}+2}{\sqrt{x+4}+2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x+4-4}{x\sqrt{x+4}+2x} =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{x}}{\cancel{x}\sqrt{x+4}+2\cancel{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+4}+2} = \frac{1}{2+2} = \boxed{\frac{1}{4}}$$

* or use your calculator

Ⓣ3 → limit → $\lim (f(x), x, a)$

$$\lim \left(\frac{\sqrt{x+4}-2}{x}, x, 0 \right)$$