

9.1 Limits

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Def • Let $f(x)$ be a function defined on an open interval containing c , or except perhaps at c . Then we say the limit of $f(x)$ is L as x approaches c means

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = L \quad \text{where } L \text{ is finite number}$$

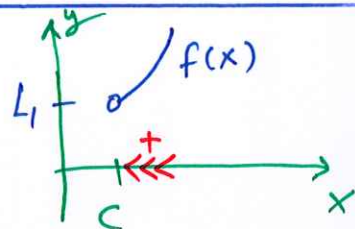
• $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = L$ also means $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x) = L$

• If $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x)$ then we say

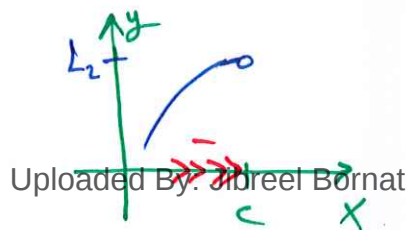
$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$ does not exist (or we write DNE)

One-Sided Limits:

limit from right $\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x) = L_1$



limit from left $\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x) = L_2$



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Exp Find ① $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (2x+1) = 2(3)+1 = 6+1 = 7$

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

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

$$\frac{0}{0}$$

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

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (x+2) = (2)+2 = 4$$

$$\textcircled{4} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^2 + 2x}$$

$$\frac{(1)^2 - 3(1) + 2}{(1)^2 + 2(1)} = \frac{1 - 3 + 2}{1 + 2} = \frac{0}{3} = 0$$

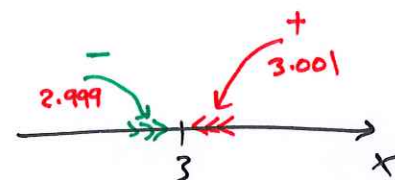
$$\textcircled{5} \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x^2 + 2x - 3}{x - 3}$$

$$\frac{12}{0}$$

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

DNE since



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \frac{x^2 + 2x - 3}{x - 3} = \frac{(3)^2 + 2(3) - 3}{\text{small positive}} = \frac{12}{\text{small} +} = +\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} \frac{x^2 + 2x - 3}{x - 3} = \frac{(3)^2 + 2(3) - 3}{\text{small negative}} = \frac{12}{\text{small} -} = -\infty$$

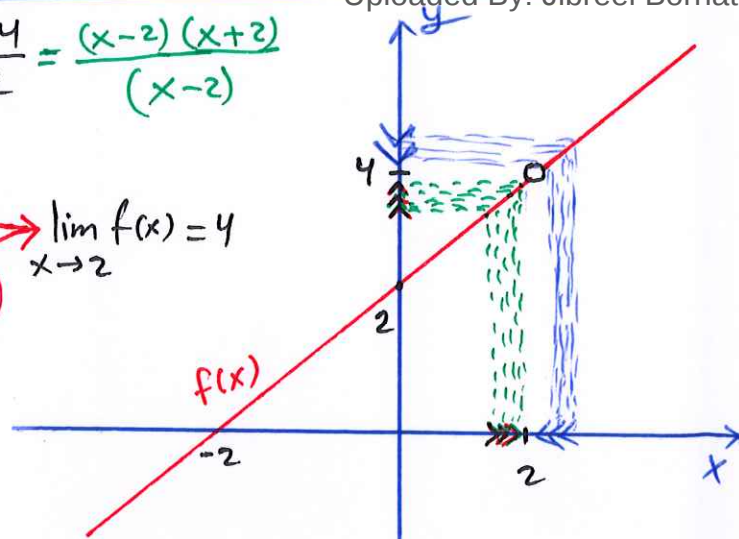
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Exp Sketch $\textcircled{3} \Rightarrow f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 4}{x - 2} = \frac{(x-2)(x+2)}{(x-2)}$

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

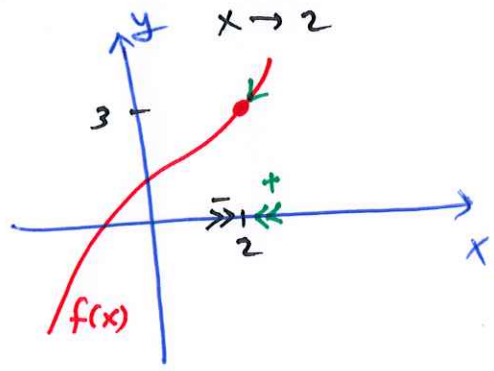
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = 4$$



Note that $f(2) \Rightarrow \text{DNE}$

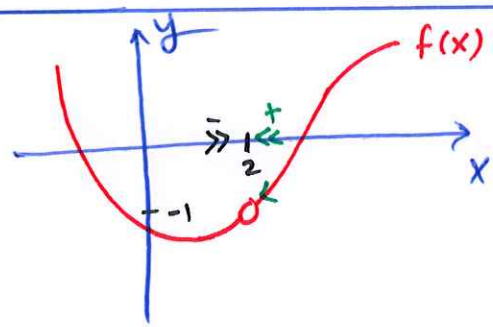
Exp Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ and $f(2)$ for the following

[A]



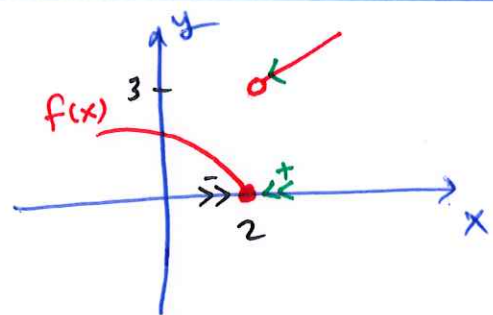
- $f(2) = 3$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = 3 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x)$ so
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = 3$

[B]



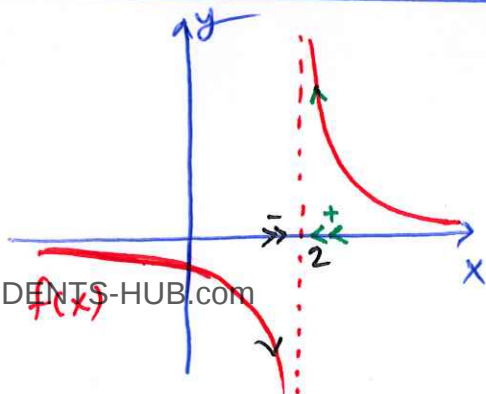
- $f(2)$ undefined
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = -1 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x)$ so
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = -1$

[C]



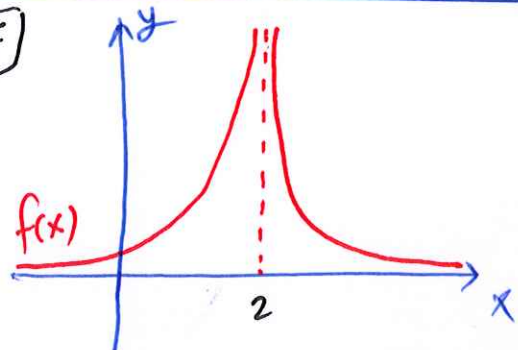
- $f(2) = 0$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = 0$ but $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = 3$
so $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ DNE

[D]



- $f(2)$ undefined
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = \infty$ but $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = -\infty$
so $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ DNE

[E]



- $f(2)$ undefined
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = \infty = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x)$ but
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ DNE since ∞ is not finite

Exp [i] Can $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$ exists if $f(c)$ is undefined?

Yes see [B]

[ii] Does $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$ exist if $f(c) = 0$?

Not necessarily $\Rightarrow$ see [C]

[iii] Does $f(c) = 0$ if $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = 0$?

Not necessarily $\Rightarrow$ see [C]

Remark: we may write $f(x) \rightarrow L$ as $x \rightarrow c$ instead of $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = L$

Properties of Limits: Assume K constant, $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = L$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) = M$

Then (1) $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} K = K$

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

(3) $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} (f(x) \pm g(x)) = L \pm M$

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

(5) $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{L}{M}, M \neq 0$

(6) $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \sqrt[n]{f(x)} = \sqrt[n]{L}$ where $L > 0$ if n is even.

Def. The function $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$, $a_n \neq 0$ is called **polynomial function of degree n** where n is positive integer

• The function $h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$, where f and g are polynomials, is called **rational function**

Remark • If $f(x)$ is polynomial then $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = f(c)$ for all values of c

• If $h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ is rational function then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} h(x) = \frac{f(c)}{g(c)} \text{ where } g(c) \neq 0$$

Exp ① $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x}{x^2 - 2x}$ $\left(\frac{0}{0}\right) \rightarrow$ Ans

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{x}}{\cancel{x}(x-2)}$$

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

STUDENTS-HUB.com $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (x^3 - x^2 + 1) = (2)^3 - (2)^2 + 1 = 8 - 4 + 1 = 5$ Uploaded By: Jibreel Bornat

③ $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{3}{x-1}$ $\left(\frac{3}{0}\right) \rightarrow$ DNE since

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{3}{\text{small}^+} = \infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{3}{\text{small}^-} = -\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{3}{x-1} \text{ DNE}$$

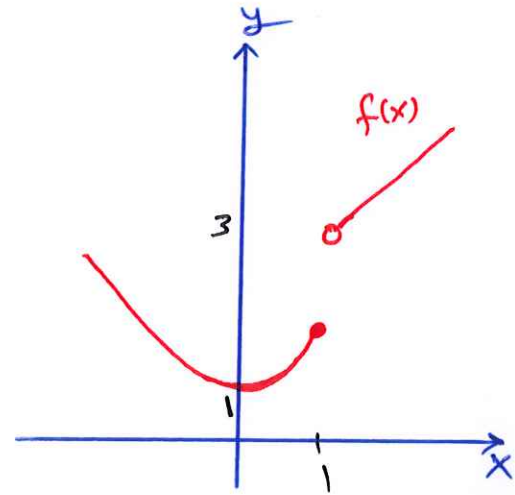
Exp Let $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 + 1 & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ x + 2 & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$

Find

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

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

③ $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$ DNE since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x)$



④ sketch $f(x)$

Exp Assume $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} g(x) = 3$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (f(x) + 2g(x)) = 7$

Find ① $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$

since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (f(x) + 2g(x)) = 7$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) + 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} g(x) = 7$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) + 2(3) = 7 \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = 7 - 6 = 1$

② $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} [f(x)^2 - 5g(x)]$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} [f(x)^2 - 5g(x)]$

$\left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) \right) \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) \right) - 5 \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} g(x)$

$(1)(1) - 5(3) = 1 - 15 = -14$