

7.8 Relative Rates of Growth.

Def: Rates of Growth as $x \rightarrow \infty$.

Let $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ be positive for x sufficiently large

1) f grows faster than g as $x \rightarrow \infty$ if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \infty \quad \text{or} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{g(x)}{f(x)} = 0$$

2) f and g grows at the same rate as

$$x \rightarrow \infty \text{ if } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = L$$

where L is finite and positive

2] Which of the following functions grow faster than e^x as $x \rightarrow \infty$? which grow at the same rate as e^x ? which grow slower?

a) $10x^4 + 30x + 1$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{10x^4 + 30x + 1}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{40x^3 + 30}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{120x^2}{e^x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{240x}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{240}{e^x} = 0$$

$\therefore 10x^4 + 30x + 1$ grow slower than e^x as $x \rightarrow \infty$

b) $x \ln x - x$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x \ln x - x}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x(\ln x - 1)}{e^x} \quad \begin{matrix} \nearrow \frac{\infty}{\infty} \\ \searrow \frac{\infty}{\infty} \end{matrix} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x \cdot \frac{1}{x} + (\ln x - 1) \cdot 1}{e^x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + \ln x - 1}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{e^x} \quad \begin{matrix} \nearrow \frac{\infty}{\infty} \\ \searrow \frac{\infty}{\infty} \end{matrix} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{e^x} =$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x e^x} = 0 \rightarrow x \ln x - x \text{ grow slower than } e^x$$

c) $\sqrt{1+x^4}$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{1+x^4}}{e^x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{1+x^4}{e^{2x}}} = \sqrt{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1+x^4}{e^{2x}}} = \sqrt{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4x^3}{2e^{2x}}} \\ &= \sqrt{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{12x^2}{2e^{2x}}} = \sqrt{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{12}{e^{2x}}} = \sqrt{0} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\sqrt{1+x^4}$ grow slower than e^x

d) $\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^x$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^x}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\frac{5}{2}}{e}\right)^x = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{5}{2e}\right)^x = 0$$

$\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^x$ grows slower than e^x

e) e^{-x} ; $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{-x}}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{e^{-1}}{e}\right)^x = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{e^2}\right)^x$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{e^2}\right)^x = 0 \quad \text{Since } \frac{1}{e^2} < 1$$

e^{-x} grows slower than e^x

$$f) x e^x: \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x e^x}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x = \infty$$

$x e^x$ grows faster than e^x

$$g) \frac{\cos x}{e}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cos x}{e^x} =$$

$$-1 \leq \cos x \leq 1 \rightarrow -e^{-1} \leq \frac{\cos x}{e^x} \leq e^{-1} \rightarrow \frac{-1}{e^x} \leq \frac{\cos x}{e^x} \leq \frac{1}{e^x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-1}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e^{x+1}} = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e^x} = e \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e^x} = e(0) = 0$$

$$\text{so by sandwich theorem } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cos x}{e^x} = 0$$

$\therefore \frac{\cos x}{e^x}$ grows slower than e^x

$$h) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{x-1}}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{x-1}}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x \cdot e^{-1}}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{-1} = e^{-1}$$

$\therefore e^{x-1}$ grows at the same rate as e^x .

6 Which of the following functions grow faster than $\ln x$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$? which grow at the same rate as $\ln x$? which grow slower?

a) $\log_2 x^2$:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_2 x^2}{\ln x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2 \log_2 x}{\ln x} = 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{\ln x}{\ln 2}}{\ln x}$$

$$= 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{\ln 2} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln x} = 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\ln 2}$$

$$= 2 \left(\frac{1}{\ln 2} \right) \text{ Constant} \Rightarrow \text{same rate}$$

b) $\log_{10} 10x$:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_{10} 10x}{\ln x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{\ln 10x}{\ln 10}}{\ln x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln 10x}{\ln 10 \cdot \ln x} = \frac{1}{\ln 10} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln 10x}{\ln x}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\ln 10} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{10}{10x}}{\frac{1}{x}} = \frac{1}{\ln 10} \cdot 1 = \frac{1}{\ln 10}$$

$$\text{Constant} \Rightarrow \text{same rate}$$

c) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}}{\ln x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x} \cdot \ln x} = \frac{1}{\infty \cdot \infty} = 0$$

$\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$ grows slower than $\ln x$

d) $\frac{1}{x^2}$:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{x^2}}{\ln x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x^2 \ln x} = 0$$

$\frac{1}{x^2}$ grows slower than $\ln x$

e) $x - 2 \ln x$:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x - 2 \ln x}{\ln x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x}{\ln x} - \frac{2 \ln x}{\ln x} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x}{\ln x} - 2 \right) \overset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \infty/\infty}}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}} - \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} 2$$

$$= \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \right) - 2 = \infty - 2 = \infty$$

$x - 2 \ln x$ grows faster than $\ln x$

f) e^{-x} :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{-x}}{\ln x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{e^x \ln x} = 0$$

e^{-x} grows slower than $\ln x$.

g) $\ln(\ln x)$:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(\ln x)}{\ln x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{x} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln x}}{\frac{1}{x}} = 0$$

or let $u = \ln x$, as $x \rightarrow \infty$, $u \rightarrow \infty$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(\ln x)}{\ln x} = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln u}{u} = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{u} = 0$$

$\ln(\ln x)$ grows slower than $\ln x$.

h) $\ln(2x+5)$:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(2x+5)}{\ln x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{2}{2x+5}}{\frac{1}{x}}$$

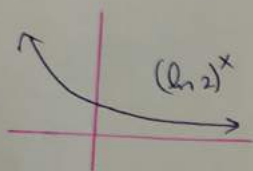
$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x}{2x+5} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{2+0} = \frac{2}{2} = 1$$

$\ln(2x+5)$ grows at the same rate as $\ln x$

8] Order the following functions from slowest growing to fastest growing as $x \rightarrow \infty$

$$2^x, (\ln 2)^x, x^2, e^x$$

$$(\ln 2)^x = (0.69)^x \Rightarrow \text{decay function since } a < 1$$



$$(\ln 2)^x, x^2 :-$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\ln 2)^x}{x^2} = \frac{0}{\infty} = 0 \quad \text{So } (\ln 2)^x \text{ grows slower than } x^2$$

$$2^x, e^x :-$$

e^x grows faster than 2^x since $e > 2$

$$(\text{growth functions}) \quad \text{also } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{2^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{e}{2}\right)^x = \infty$$

$$2^x, x^2 :-$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^x}{x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^x \ln 2}{2x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^x (\ln 2)^2}{2} = \infty$$

2^x grows faster than x^2

$$\boxed{(\ln 2)^x, x^2, 2^x, e^x}$$