

Recall that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$ iff For every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $\delta > 0$ such that if $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ then $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$

• One can make out formal definitions (using ϵ - δ) for one-sided limits as well.

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L$ iff For every $\epsilon > 0$ there is $\delta > 0$ with if $0 < x - a < \delta$ then $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$
 $0 < a - x < \delta$

Some properties of limit Suppose that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ and

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$ exist. Then

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (f(x) \pm g(x)) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \pm \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (f(x) \cdot g(x)) = (\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)) \cdot (\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x))$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (c f(x)) = c (\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x))$ for all $c \in \mathbb{R}$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left(\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right) = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)}$ provided that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \neq 0$

WARNING: The assumptions that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$ exist are necessary. For example,

$$5 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 5 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{x} + 5 \right) - \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x} \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x} + 5 - \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x}$$

Proof of the first item: Suppose that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = K$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = L$

We wish to show $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (f(x) + g(x)) = K + L$

Given $\epsilon > 0$.

- Because $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = K$, for $\epsilon_1 = \frac{\epsilon}{4}$, there is $\delta_1 > 0$ such that if $0 < |x - a| < \delta_1$, then $|f(x) - K| < \epsilon_1 = \frac{\epsilon}{4}$
- Similarly, because $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = L$, for $\epsilon_2 = \frac{\epsilon}{4}$, there is $\delta_2 > 0$ such that if $0 < |x - a| < \delta_2$, then $|g(x) - L| < \epsilon_2 = \frac{\epsilon}{4}$

Choose $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\} > 0$. Then

$$\text{if } 0 < |x - a| < \delta \leq \delta_1, \text{ then } |f(x) + g(x) - (K + L)| = |f(x) - K + g(x) - L| \leq |f(x) - K| + |g(x) - L| = \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 = \frac{\epsilon}{4} + \frac{\epsilon}{4} < \epsilon$$

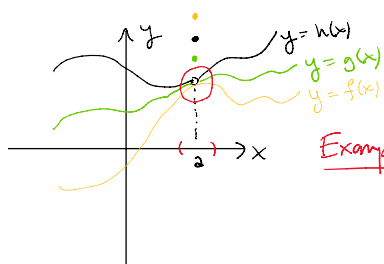
So $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) + g(x) = K + L$

- The other properties can be proven similarly.
- These limit properties also hold for one-sided limits.

The Squeeze Theorem: Suppose that the inequality $f(x) \leq g(x) \leq h(x)$

holds on a neighborhood of a , possibly except at a . Then

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} h(x) = L$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} g(x) = L$.



• Similar statements hold for one-sided limits as well.

Example: Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \left(\sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) + \cos^2(x) \right) = 0$

Solution: For all $x \neq 0$, we have

$$\left| \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) + \cos^2(x) \right| \leq \left| \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \right| + \left| \cos^2(x) \right| \leq 1 + 1 = 2$$

So $0 \leq |x(\sin(\frac{1}{x}) + \cos^2(x))| \leq 2|x|$ for all $x \neq 0$.

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 0 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 2|x| = 0$, by the squeeze theorem

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} |x(\sin(\frac{1}{x}) + \cos^2(x))| = 0 \quad \text{and so} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x(\sin(\frac{1}{x}) + \cos^2(x)) = 0.$$

Fact: If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} |f(x)| = 0$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0$

Proof: We have that $-|f(x)| \leq f(x) \leq |f(x)|$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

As $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} |f(x)| = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} -|f(x)| = 0$, by squeeze theorem

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0.$$

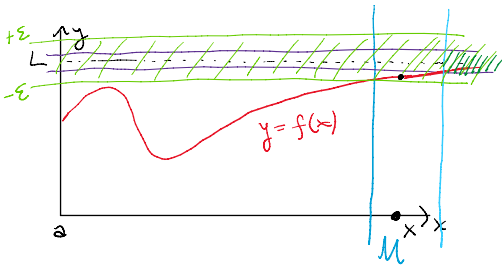
Example: Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \sqrt{x \cdot |\sin(\frac{1}{x})|} = 0$

Solution: We have that $0 \leq \sqrt{x \cdot |\sin(\frac{1}{x})|} \leq \sqrt{x}$ for $x > 0$.

Moreover, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} 0 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \sqrt{x} = 0$ and so by the

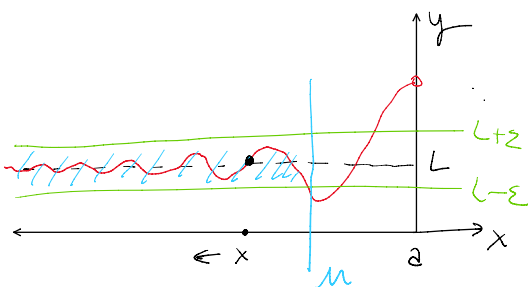
squeeze theorem $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \sqrt{x \cdot |\sin(\frac{1}{x})|} = 0$. *will be explained later while covering continuity*

Limits at infinity and infinite limits



Informal defn: let f be a function defined on an interval (a, ∞) (or $(-\infty, a)$). We say that the limit of f as x approaches ∞ (or $-\infty$) is L and write $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L$ (or $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = L$) if $f(x)$ values can be made arbitrarily close to L by taking *(or, small enough)* large enough x values.

More formally, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L$ iff For every $\epsilon > 0$ there is M such that if $x > M$ then $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$



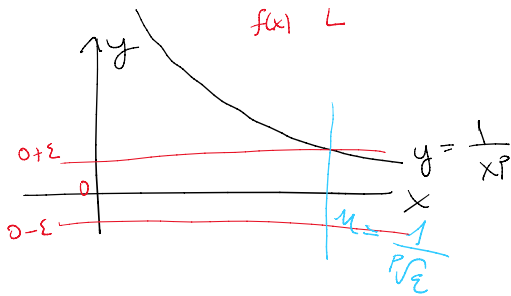
$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = L$ iff For every $\epsilon > 0$ there is M such that if $x < M$ then $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$

Example: Suppose that $p > 0$. Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x^p} = 0$

Solution: Given $\epsilon > 0$, choose $M = \frac{1}{p\epsilon} > 0$. Then

if $x > M$, then $x > \frac{1}{p\epsilon}$ and so $p\epsilon > \frac{1}{x}$
 $\epsilon > \frac{1}{x^p} > 0$

which means $|\frac{1}{x^p} - 0| < \epsilon$
 $f(x)$ L



Example: Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin x + x}{\cos(\frac{1}{x}) + x^2}$

Solution: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\sin x + x) \cdot \frac{1}{x^2}}{(\cos(\frac{1}{x}) + x^2) \cdot \frac{1}{x^2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{\sin x}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x}}{\frac{\cos(\frac{1}{x})}{x^2} + 1} = \frac{0+0}{0+1} = 0$

*

$-\frac{1}{x^2} \leq \frac{\sin x}{x^2} \leq \frac{1}{x^2}$ for all $x \neq 0$
 As $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-1}{x^2} = 0$, by
 squeeze theorem, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin x}{x^2} = 0$

Show that this limit is 0 by squeeze theorem

in order to say this, we needed to check that the limits $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin x}{x^2}$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x^2}$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cos(\frac{1}{x})}{x^2}$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} 1$ all separately exist.

Example: Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + x} + \sin x}{x + 5}$

Solution: $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{(\sqrt{x^2 + x} + \sin x) \cdot \frac{1}{x}}{(x + 5) \cdot \frac{1}{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\frac{\sqrt{x^2 + x}}{x} + \frac{\sin x}{x}}{\frac{1}{x} + \frac{5}{x}} = -1$

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

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

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2} \cdot \sqrt{1+\frac{1}{x}}}{x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{|x| \cdot \sqrt{1+\frac{1}{x}}}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{-x \cdot \sqrt{1+\frac{1}{x}}}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} -\sqrt{1+\frac{1}{x}} = -1$$

WARNING:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+x} + \sin x}{x} = 1 + \frac{5}{x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+x} + 0}{x} = 1 + 0$$

YOU CAN'T TAKE
PARTIAL LIMITS LIKE THIS!
HERE THAT YOU GET THE
CORRECT ANSWER IS AN ACCIDENT!