

1.6 Exercises

1. Given that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x) = 4 \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} g(x) = -2 \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} h(x) = 0$$

find the limits that exist. If the limit does not exist, explain why.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} [f(x) + 5g(x)]$

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} [g(x)]^3$

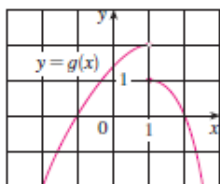
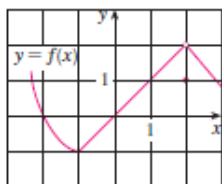
(c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \sqrt{f(x)}$

(d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{3f(x)}{g(x)}$

(e) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{g(x)}{h(x)}$

(f) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{g(x)h(x)}{f(x)}$

2. The graphs of f and g are given. Use them to evaluate each limit, if it exists. If the limit does not exist, explain why.



(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} [f(x) + g(x)]$

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} [f(x) + g(x)]$

(c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} [f(x)g(x)]$

(d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$

(e) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} [x^3 f(x)]$

(f) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \sqrt{3 + f(x)}$

3–9 Evaluate the limit and justify each step by indicating the appropriate Limit Law(s).

3. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (5x^3 - 3x^2 + x - 6)$

4. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} (x^4 - 3x)(x^2 + 5x + 3)$

5. $\lim_{t \rightarrow 2} \frac{t^4 - 2}{2t^2 - 3t + 2}$

6. $\lim_{u \rightarrow 2} \sqrt{u^4 + 3u + 6}$

7. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 8} (1 + \sqrt[3]{x})(2 - 6x^2 + x^3)$

8. $\lim_{t \rightarrow 2} \left(\frac{t^2 - 2}{t^3 - 3t + 5} \right)^2$

9. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \sqrt{\frac{2x^2 + 1}{3x - 2}}$

10. (a) What is wrong with the following equation?

$$\frac{x^2 + x - 6}{x - 2} = x + 3$$

(b) In view of part (a), explain why the equation

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 + x - 6}{x - 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (x + 3)$$

is correct.

11–32 Evaluate the limit, if it exists.

11. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{x^2 - 6x + 5}{x - 5}$ 12. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x^2 - 4x}{x^2 - 3x - 4}$
13. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{x^2 - 5x + 6}{x - 5}$ 14. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^2 - 4x}{x^2 - 3x - 4}$
15. $\lim_{t \rightarrow -3} \frac{t^2 - 9}{2t^2 + 7t + 3}$ 16. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{2x^2 + 3x + 1}{x^2 - 2x - 3}$
17. $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(-5 + h)^2 - 25}{h}$ 18. $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(2 + h)^3 - 8}{h}$
19. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{x + 2}{x^3 + 8}$ 20. $\lim_{t \rightarrow 1} \frac{t^4 - 1}{t^3 - 1}$
21. $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{9 + h} - 3}{h}$ 22. $\lim_{u \rightarrow 2} \frac{\sqrt{4u + 1} - 3}{u - 2}$
23. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{x}}{4 + x}$ 24. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^2 + 2x + 1}{x^4 - 1}$
25. $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{1 + t} - \sqrt{1 - t}}{t}$ 26. $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{t} - \frac{1}{t^2 + t} \right)$
27. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 16} \frac{4 - \sqrt{x}}{16x - x^2}$ 28. $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(3 + h)^{-1} - 3^{-1}}{h}$
29. $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{t\sqrt{1 + t}} - \frac{1}{t} \right)$ 30. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -4} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} - 5}{x + 4}$
31. $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x + h)^3 - x^3}{h}$ 32. $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{(x + h)^2 - x^2}$

33. (a) Estimate the value of

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

by graphing the function $f(x) = x/(\sqrt{1 + 3x} - 1)$.

- (b) Make a table of values of $f(x)$ for x close to 0 and guess the value of the limit.
- (c) Use the Limit Laws to prove that your guess is correct.

34. (a) Use a graph of

$$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{3 + x} - \sqrt{3}}{x}$$

to estimate the value of $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ to two decimal places.

- (b) Use a table of values of $f(x)$ to estimate the limit to four decimal places.
- (c) Use the Limit Laws to find the exact value of the limit.

35. Use the Squeeze Theorem to show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (x^2 \cos 20\pi x) = 0$. Illustrate by graphing the functions $f(x) = -x^2$, $g(x) = x^2 \cos 20\pi x$, and $h(x) = x^2$ on the same screen.

36. Use the Squeeze Theorem to show that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \sqrt{x^3 + x^2} \sin \frac{\pi}{x} = 0$$

Illustrate by graphing the functions f , g , and h (in the notation of the Squeeze Theorem) on the same screen.

37. If $4x - 9 \leq f(x) \leq x^2 - 4x + 7$ for $x \geq 0$, find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} f(x)$.

38. If $2x \leq g(x) \leq x^4 - x^2 + 2$ for all x , evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} g(x)$.

39. Prove that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^4 \cos \frac{2}{x} = 0$.

40. Prove that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \sqrt{x} [1 + \sin^2(2\pi/x)] = 0$.

41–46 Find the limit, if it exists. If the limit does not exist, explain why.

41. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (2x + |x - 3|)$

42. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -6} \frac{2x + 12}{|x + 6|}$

43. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0.5^-} \frac{2x - 1}{|2x^3 - x^2|}$

44. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{2 - |x|}{2 + x}$

45. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{|x|} \right)$

46. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{|x|} \right)$

47. The *signum* (or *sign*) function, denoted by sgn , is defined by

$$\text{sgn } x = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } x < 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } x > 0 \end{cases}$$

(a) Sketch the graph of this function.

(b) Find each of the following limits or explain why it does not exist.

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \text{sgn } x$ (ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \text{sgn } x$

(iii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \text{sgn } x$ (iv) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} |\text{sgn } x|$

48. Let

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 + 1 & \text{if } x < 1 \\ (x - 2)^2 & \text{if } x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

(a) Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x)$.

(b) Does $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$ exist?

(c) Sketch the graph of f .

49. Let $g(x) = \frac{x^2 + x - 6}{|x - 2|}$.

(a) Find

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} g(x)$ (ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} g(x)$

(b) Does $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} g(x)$ exist?

(c) Sketch the graph of g .

50. Let

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x < 1 \\ 3 & \text{if } x = 1 \\ 2 - x^2 & \text{if } 1 < x \leq 2 \\ x - 3 & \text{if } x > 2 \end{cases}$$

(a) Evaluate each of the following, if it exists.

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} g(x)$ (ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} g(x)$ (iii) $g(1)$

(iv) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} g(x)$ (v) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} g(x)$ (vi) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} g(x)$

(b) Sketch the graph of g .

51. (a) If the symbol $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ denotes the greatest integer function defined in Example 10, evaluate

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} \llbracket x \rrbracket$ (ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \llbracket x \rrbracket$ (iii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2.4} \llbracket x \rrbracket$

(b) If n is an integer, evaluate

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow n} \llbracket x \rrbracket$ (ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow n^+} \llbracket x \rrbracket$

(c) For what values of n does $\lim_{x \rightarrow n} \llbracket x \rrbracket$ exist?

52. Let $f(x) = \llbracket \cos x \rrbracket$, $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$.

(a) Sketch the graph of f .

(b) Evaluate each limit, if it exists.

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ (ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow (\pi/2)^-} f(x)$

(iii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow (\pi/2)^+} f(x)$ (iv) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pi/2} f(x)$

(c) For what values of a does $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ exist?

53. If $f(x) = \llbracket x \rrbracket + \llbracket -x \rrbracket$, show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ exists but is not equal to $f(2)$.

54. In the theory of relativity, the Lorentz contraction formula

$$L = L_0 \sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}$$

expresses the length L of an object as a function of its velocity v with respect to an observer, where L_0 is the length of the object at rest and c is the speed of light. Find $\lim_{v \rightarrow c^-} L$ and interpret the result. Why is a left-hand limit necessary?

55. If p is a polynomial, show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} p(x) = p(a)$.

56. If r is a rational function, use Exercise 55 to show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} r(x) = r(a)$ for every number a in the domain of r .

57. If $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{f(x) - 8}{x - 1} = 10$, find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$.

58. If $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x)}{x^2} = 5$, find the following limits.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ (b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x)}{x}$

59. If

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } x \text{ is rational} \\ 0 & \text{if } x \text{ is irrational} \end{cases}$$

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

60. Show by means of an example that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) + g(x)]$ may exist even though neither $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ nor $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$ exists.

61. Show by means of an example that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)g(x)]$ may exist even though neither $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ nor $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$ exists.

62. Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\sqrt{6-x} - 2}{\sqrt{3-x} - 1}$.

63. Is there a number a such that

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

exists? If so, find the value of a and the value of the limit.

64. The figure shows a fixed circle C_1 with equation $(x - 1)^2 + y^2 = 1$ and a shrinking circle C_2 with radius r and center the origin. P is the point $(0, r)$, Q is the upper point of intersection of the two circles, and R is the point of intersection of the line PQ and the x -axis. What happens to R as C_2 shrinks, that is, as $r \rightarrow 0^+$?

