

11.1 (B) Finding Limits Using Tables and Graphs

Limits

Suppose that f is a function defined on some open interval containing the number a . The function f may or may not be defined at a .

Limit notation $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$ is read “the limit of $f(x)$ as x approaches a equals the number L .” This means as x gets closer to a , but remains unequal to a , the corresponding values of $f(x)$ get closer to L .

Finding a Limit Using a Table: Construct a table to find the indicated limit.

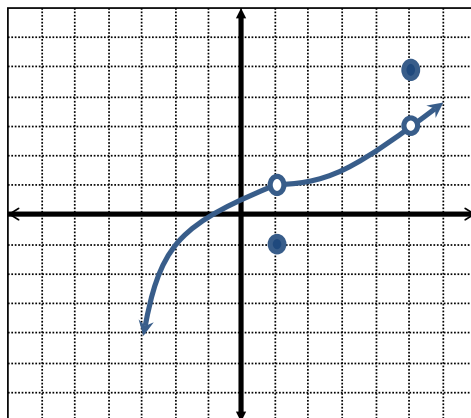
1) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} 3x^2$

2) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x+1}{x^2+1}$

3) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x}$

4) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - 1}{x}$

Finding a Limit Using a graph: Use the graph of f to find the indicated limit and function value.



5) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$

6) $f(1)$

7) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} f(x)$

8) $f(-2)$

9) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} f(x)$

10) $f(5)$

Equal and Unequal One-Sided Limits

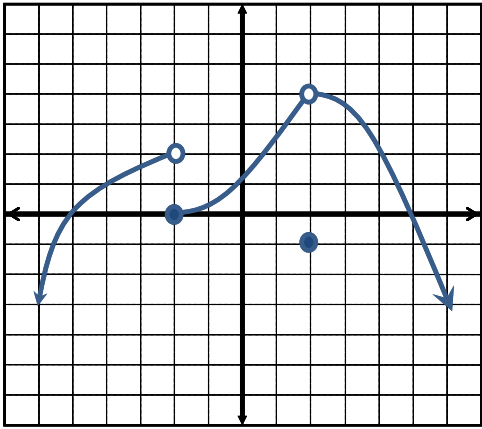
Equal One-Sided Limits:

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$ if and only if both $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L$.

Unequal One-Sided Limits:

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = M$, where $L \neq M$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ does not exist.

One-Side Limits: The graph of a function f is given. Use the graph to find the indicated limits and function values, or state that a limit or function value does not exist.



11) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} f(x)$

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

13) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} f(x)$

14) $f(-2)$

15) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x)$

16) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x)$

17) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$

18) $f(2)$

19) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5^-} f(x)$

20) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5^+} f(x)$

21) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} f(x)$

22) $f(5)$