

Limits Rules ... Set 1

I. The Limit Laws

Assumptions: c is a constant and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$ exist

| | Limit Law in symbols | Limit Law in words |
|----|--|--|
| 1 | $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) + g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) + \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$ | The limit of a sum is equal to the sum of the limits. |
| 2 | $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) - g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) - \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$ | The limit of a difference is equal to the difference of the limits. |
| 3 | $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} cf(x) = c \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ | The limit of a constant times a function is equal to the constant times the limit of the function. |
| 4 | $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$ | The limit of a product is equal to the product of the limits. |
| 5 | $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)} \quad (\text{if } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \neq 0)$ | The limit of a quotient is equal to the quotient of the limits. |
| 6 | $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)]^n = [\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)]^n$ | where n is a positive integer |
| 7 | $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} c = c$ | The limit of a constant function is equal to the constant. |
| 8 | $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x = a$ | The limit of a linear function is equal to the number x is approaching. |
| 9 | $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x^n = a^n$ | where n is a positive integer |
| 10 | $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{x} = \sqrt[n]{a}$ | where n is a positive integer & if n is even, we assume that $a > 0$ |
| 11 | $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{f(x)} = \sqrt[n]{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}$ | where n is a positive integer & if n is even, we assume that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) > 0$ |

Direct Substitution Property:

If f is a polynomial or rational function and a is in the domain of f , then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) =$

“Simpler Function Property”:

If $f(x) = g(x)$ when $x \neq a$ then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$, as long as the limit exists.