

3rd lesson

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Theory

Theorem 1 (Arithmetics of limits). Let $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ and $\{b_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be sequences (of real numbers). Further let $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = A \in \mathbb{R}^*$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = B \in \mathbb{R}^*$. Then

(a) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n + b_n) = A + B,$

(b) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n \cdot b_n) = A \cdot B,$

(c) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \frac{A}{B},$

if the right sides are well defined.

Exercises

1. Write down a few first terms of the sequences, sketch the graph, find the limit.

(a) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n = \infty$

(e) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = 0$

(i) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln n = \infty$

(b) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2 = \infty$

(f) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} = 0$

(j) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n = 0$

(c) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{n} = \infty$

(g) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^n = \infty$

(k) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2^n = \infty$

(d) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0$

(h) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-n} = 0$

(l) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n! = \infty$

2. Find limits:

(a) $(-1)^n \not\exists$

(c) $(-1)^n \frac{1}{n} = 0$

(b) $(-1)^n n \not\exists$

(d) $\cos(\pi n) \sqrt{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-1)^n \sqrt{n} \not\exists$

3. Find limits:

(a)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} -n^8 + 2n^3 - 4$$

Solution: Factor out the "largest" term of the expression. Then use the Arithmetic of limits theorem (several times).

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} -n^8 + 2n^3 - 4 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^8 \left(-1 + \frac{2}{n^5} - \frac{4}{n^8}\right) \stackrel{AL}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^8 \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(-1 + \frac{2}{n^5} - \frac{4}{n^8}\right) \stackrel{AL}{=}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^8 \cdot \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} -1 + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{n^5} - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4}{n^8}\right) = \infty(-1 + 0 - 0) = -\infty$$

(b)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n^5 + 2n - 7}{n^5 - 6n^2 + 4}$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n^5 + 2n - 7}{n^5 - 6n^2 + 4} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^5(2 + \frac{2}{n^4} - \frac{7}{n^5})}{n^5(1 - \frac{6}{n^3} + \frac{4}{n^5})} = \frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}(2 + \frac{2}{n^4} - \frac{7}{n^5})}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}(1 - \frac{6}{n^3} + \frac{4}{n^5})} = \\ &= \frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2 + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{n^4} - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{7}{n^5}}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6}{n^3} + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4}{n^5}} = \frac{2 + 0 - 0}{1 - 0 + 0} = 2 \end{aligned}$$

(c)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5n^2 + n - 5}{n^3 + 8}$$

Solution:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5n^2 + n - 5}{n^3 + 8} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^3(\frac{5}{n} + \frac{1}{n} - \frac{5}{n^3})}{n^3(1 + \frac{8}{n^3})} = \frac{0 + 0 - 0}{1 + 0} = 0$$

(d) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[3]{n^2}}{n+1}$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[3]{n^2}}{n+1} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt[3]{n^2}}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{n}} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{n}} \\ &\stackrel{AL}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{n}} \cdot \frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n}} = 0 \cdot \frac{1}{1 + 0} = 0. \end{aligned}$$