

Limit Rules

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$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} P(x) = P(c) \quad , \quad P(x) \text{ is continuous around } c, \text{ just plug-in}$$

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Indeterminate does not mean the limit does not exist.

It just means that the method you tried did not tell you anything and you need to try another method.

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- ▶ when you reach an indeterminant form, you must try another method to determine the limit. This usually means to first use an algebra trick and then continue finding the limit.
- ▶ **indeterminant does not mean that the limit cannot be determined. It only means that the method you used did not work. You must try another method to determine the limit. In some cases this could just mean using the table method.**

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$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x - 4}{\sqrt{x} - 2} = ?$$

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First try “limit of ratio = ratio of limits rule” and will again get $\frac{0}{0}$ an indeterminate form. Try an algebra trick:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x - 4}{\sqrt{x} - 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\sqrt{x})^2 - 2^2}{(\sqrt{x} - 2)} \quad (1)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\sqrt{x} - 2)(\sqrt{x} + 2)}{(\sqrt{x} - 2)} \quad (2)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} (\sqrt{x} + 2) \quad (3)$$

$$= (\sqrt{4} + 2) = 2 + 2 = 4 \quad (4)$$

Limit Rules

same example, new trick

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x - 4}{\sqrt{x} - 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x - 4}{(\sqrt{x} - 2)} \cdot \frac{(\sqrt{x} + 2)}{(\sqrt{x} + 2)} \quad (5)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(x - 4)(\sqrt{x} + 2)}{(\sqrt{x} - 2)(\sqrt{x} + 2)} \quad (6)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(x - 4)(\sqrt{x} + 2)}{(x - 4)} \quad (7)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} (\sqrt{x} + 2) \quad (8)$$

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$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{top goes to } 0 \text{ faster than bottom} \end{cases}$$

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indeterminant form $\frac{\infty}{\infty}, \frac{0}{0}$

Exercise: to demonstrate the previous six results evaluate the following six limits by using the table method for each:

1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{x^2}$

Use powers of **10** for x

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indeterminant form $\frac{\infty}{\infty}, \frac{0}{0}$

Exercise: to demonstrate the previous six results evaluate the following six limits by using the table method for each:

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