

Miscellaneous drill on difference quotient involving square root function.  
 This and the next 3 pages are older stuff, re-worked a little bit after class. Might be worth a glance. Otherwise, we're starting on Page 5 of this document with new stuff.

Slope of  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$

We compute the limit as  $h \rightarrow 0$  of the difference quotient for this function. This gives us the *slope* of the function at whatever  $x$  we choose to plug in (in its domain).

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} &= \left( \frac{\sqrt{x+h} - \sqrt{x}}{h} \right) \left( \frac{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}} \right) && (a-b)(a+b) = a^2 - b^2 \\ &= \frac{(\sqrt{x+h})^2 - (\sqrt{x})^2}{h(\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x})} = \frac{x+h-x}{h(\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x})} = \frac{h}{h(\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x})} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}} \xrightarrow{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} = f'(x) \end{aligned}$$

More Algebra Review

$$x^3 - y^3 = (x - y)(x^2 + xy + y^2)$$

$$x^3 + y^3 = (x + y)(x^2 - xy + y^2)$$

Difference  
of two  
cubes.

## Section 1.8

**1 Definition** A function  $f$  is **continuous at a number  $a$**  if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$$

**2 Definition** A function  $f$  is **continuous from the right at a number  $a$**  if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = f(a)$$

and  $f$  is **continuous from the left at  $a$**  if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = f(a)$$

**3 Definition** A function  $f$  is **continuous on an interval** if it is continuous at every number in the interval. (If  $f$  is defined only on one side of an endpoint of the interval, we understand *continuous* at the endpoint to mean *continuous from the right* or *continuous from the left*.)

**4 Theorem** If  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous at  $a$  and  $c$  is a constant, then the following functions are also continuous at  $a$ :

1.  $f + g$

2.  $f - g$

3.  $cf$

4.  $fg$

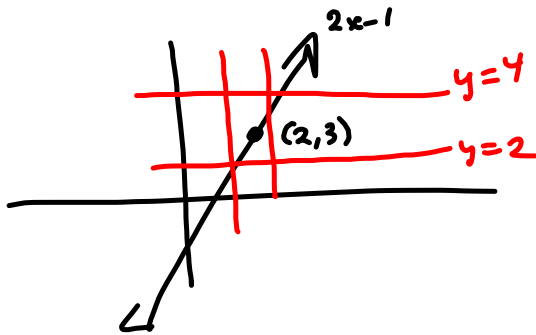
5.  $\frac{f}{g}$  if  $g(a) \neq 0$

I want  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (2x-1) = 3$

How close to 3 do you want to make

$$y = 2x - 1$$

within 1 unit? OK. If u insist.



Need  $x$  within  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit of 2 to keep  $y$ -value within 1 unit of  $y = 3$ .

want  $y$  within 1 unit of  $y = 3$

$$2 < 2x - 1 < 4$$

$$|(2x - 1) - 3| < 1$$

$$|2x - 4| < 1$$

$$2|x - 2| < 1$$

$$|x - 2| < \frac{1}{2}$$

Then make  $x$  within  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit of  $x = 2$

when  $\epsilon = 1,$

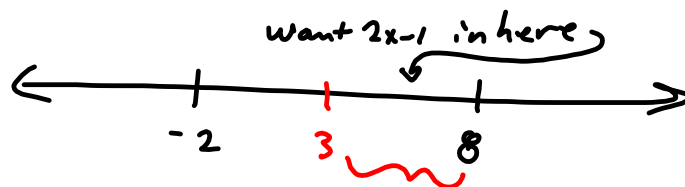
$$\delta = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$f(x) = 2x - 1$$

Want  $y=2x-1$  within 5 units of  $y=3$

Want  $|(2x-1)-3| < 5$

Want  $-2 < 2x-1 < 8$



$\frac{-2+8}{2} = 3 = \text{middle}$

$8-3=5 = \text{radius}$

$| (2x-1)-3 | < 5$

What condition on  $x$  guarantees this?

Reverse-engineer from result to a condition on  $x$  of the form  $|x-2| < \text{something}$ .

Then we back-track.

$| (2x-1)-3 | < 5 \Rightarrow$

$\Leftarrow | 2x-4 | < 5 \Rightarrow$

$\Leftarrow 2|x-2| < 5 \Rightarrow$

$\Leftarrow |x-2| < \frac{5}{2}$

wanted  $|y-3| < 5$   
I got  $|x-3| < \frac{5}{2}$

Yestiddy

wanted  $|y-3| < 1$   
got  $|x-3| < \frac{1}{2}$

want  $|y-3| < \epsilon$

Make  $|x-2| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$

Proof

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Define  $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ . Then

any time  $x$  is within

$\delta$  units of  $x=2$  ( $|x-2| < \delta$ )

without touching  $x=2$ , ( $0 < |x-2| < \delta$ )

we have

$|y-3| = | (2x-1)-3 | = | 2x-4 |$

$= 2|x-2| < 2\delta = 2\left(\frac{\epsilon}{2}\right) = \epsilon$   $\square$

Kind of a fix from Monday's notes

S 1.

$$\frac{x^2+1}{3x-2x^2} = \frac{x^2+1}{-x(2x-3)}$$

$$D = \mathbb{R} - \{0, \frac{3}{2}\}$$

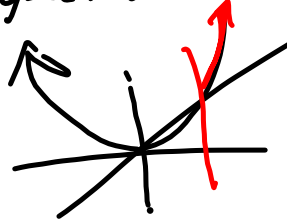
No cancellations, so,

$$V.A. \quad \boxed{x=0, x=\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$H.A.: \quad \frac{x^2}{-2x^2} = \frac{1}{-2} = y$$

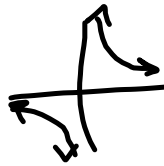
Power up & down is same.  
Look @ highest power terms.

x-int:  $x^2+1=0$  Never.  
y-int: None ( $\nexists$  @  $x=0$ )

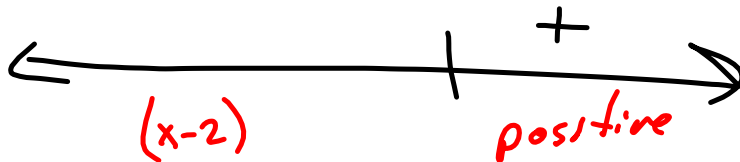


$$\frac{x^5 - 7x^4 + 7}{7x^6 - 11x^5 - 1} \text{ is } \text{proper} \cdot \frac{\text{Degree} = 5}{\text{Degree} = 6} \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow \infty} \boxed{0 = y}$$

$$\frac{x^5}{7x^6} = \frac{1}{7x} = \frac{1}{7} \cdot \frac{1}{x}$$



$\frac{1}{7(1000)} \approx 0$   
Also, clearly  $> 0$ .



Different problem below this line

$$\frac{(x-2)^2 (2-x)^3}{(x+1)^5 (x-5)^{11}}$$

way off to the right

$$\frac{(x)^2 (-x)^3}{(x)^5 (x)^{11}} = \frac{(+)(-)}{(+)(+)} = -$$



Whatever else goes on to the left, we know this one is negative off to the far right.

FORMAL LIMITS. Section 1.7.

We place a requirement on how close the  $y$ -value must be to a specific number.

We manipulate an absolute value inequality to obtain the sufficient condition on how close  $x$  must be to a specific number in order to *keep* the  $y$ -value(s) close enough to the originally specified number.

These are *easy* to do with lines. Basically you use the reciprocal of the slope, because it is how fast the  $y$ -values grow, relative to the  $x$ -values.

It gets tricky - and forces you to *understand* - when you're up against a higher-degree polynomial. The growth rate of a polynomial is not just a constant, like you get with a straight line. But we *can* get a handle on just how bad things are (how fast  $y$  is growing), if we delve a little deeper into it.

Only testing over straight lines, with *BONUS* problems on higher-degree functions on the test.

APPLICATION: Kind of a 'related rates' thing. Like how fast you have to pedal in what gear to make your bicycle go 20 mph. Or how close you have to be on the *radius* of a disc in order to keep its *area* sufficiently close to a desired value. And I think we know the formula relating area to radius... This isn't a rate but it's the same sort of deal, in practice.

$$\text{Let } f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 7$$

$$\text{Claim } \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x) = -4$$

Scratch:

Want:

$$|f(x) - (-4)| < \epsilon$$

$$|x^2 - 2x - 7 + 4| < \epsilon$$

$$|x^2 - 2x - 3| < \epsilon$$

$$|x-3||x+1| < \epsilon$$

is how close to 3 we are.

Keep that.

It'll be in the proof

$$|x-3| < \delta$$

we need to know how big this might get. Let's get a handle on it by assuming  $x$  is already pretty close to  $x=3$ .

Assume it's within one unit of  $x=3$ .

$$\text{Assume } \delta \leq 1.$$

$$\delta \leq 1 \text{ means}$$

$$|x-3| \leq 1$$

$$-1 \leq x-3 \leq 1 \quad \text{Barely Legal.}$$

$$2 \leq x \leq 4$$

$$2+1 \leq x+1 \leq 4+1$$

$$2 \leq x \leq 4$$

$$|x-3| \geq 1 \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} \text{Lies}$$

$$-1 \geq x-3 \geq 1$$

This says

$$|x+1| \leq 5$$

Return to narrative



**2 Definition** Let  $f$  be a function defined on some open interval that contains the number  $a$ , except possibly at  $a$  itself. Then we say that the **limit of  $f(x)$  as  $x$  approaches  $a$  is  $L$** , and we write

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$$

if for every number  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a number  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$\text{if } 0 < |x - a| < \delta \quad \text{then} \quad |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$$

To prove, formally that a limit is what you say it is, you start with the very last thing in the definition:

$$|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$$

And reason backwards to a condition placed on  $\delta$ , that will guarantee the above, whenever

$$0 < |x - a| < \delta$$

It always seems to come down to algebra and analytic geometry. Got to have a handle on what things generally look like and act like.

$$|x-3||x+1| < \varepsilon$$

$$|x-3| \cdot |x+1| \leq 5|x-3| \quad \text{if we assume } \delta \leq 1$$

$$\text{want } 5|x-3| < \varepsilon$$

Proof  $|x-3| < \frac{\varepsilon}{5}$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given.

Define  $\delta = \min\left\{1, \frac{\varepsilon}{5}\right\}$ . Then

$0 < |x-3| < \delta$  implies

$$|x^2 - 2x - 7 - (-4)|$$

$$= |x^2 - 2x - 3| = |x-3||x+1| \leq |x-3| \cdot 5$$

$$< \delta \cdot 5 = 5\delta \leq 5 \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{5} = \varepsilon \quad \square$$

Prove  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} (x^2 - x - 14) = 6$

Scratch

$$|x^2 - x - 14 - 6|$$

$$= |x^2 - x - 20| \rightarrow \text{Assume } \delta \leq 1$$

$$= |x-5||x+4| \quad \text{Then } 4 \leq x \leq 6$$

Proof

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given.

Define  $\delta = \min\{1, \frac{\epsilon}{10}\}$ . Then

$0 < |x-5| < \delta$  implies

$$8 \leq x+4 \leq 10$$

↙  
10/δ

$$|(x^2 - x - 14) - 6| = |x^2 - x - 20| = |x-5||x+4|$$

$$\leq 10 |x-5| < 10 \delta \leq 10 \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{10} = \epsilon \quad \square$$

Because delta is less than or equal to 1.

Because delta is less than or equal to epsilon/10

**6 Definition** Let  $f$  be a function defined on some open interval that contains the number  $a$ , except possibly at  $a$  itself. Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty$$

means that for every positive number  $M$  there is a positive number  $\delta$  such that

$$\text{if } 0 < |x - a| < \delta \quad \text{then} \quad f(x) > M$$

**5 Theorem**

- (a) Any polynomial is continuous everywhere; that is, it is continuous on  $\mathbb{R} = (-\infty, \infty)$ .
- (b) Any rational function is continuous wherever it is defined; that is, it is continuous on its domain.

**7 Theorem** The following types of functions are continuous at every number in their domains:

polynomials	rational functions
root functions	trigonometric functions

**8 Theorem** If  $f$  is continuous at  $b$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = b$ , then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(g(x)) = f(b)$ .  
In other words,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(g(x)) = f\left(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)\right)$$

**9 Theorem** If  $g$  is continuous at  $a$  and  $f$  is continuous at  $g(a)$ , then the composite function  $f \circ g$  given by  $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$  is continuous at  $a$ .

**10 The Intermediate Value Theorem** Suppose that  $f$  is continuous on the closed interval  $[a, b]$  and let  $N$  be any number between  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$ , where  $f(a) \neq f(b)$ . Then there exists a number  $c$  in  $(a, b)$  such that  $f(c) = N$ .