

Department: _____ ID Number: _____ Name: _____

1. (? points) Compute each of the following limits if it exists or explain why it doesn't exist.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sqrt{4x^4+1}}{e^{x^2}}$ (b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\sin^2 x) 2^{\cos(\frac{1}{x})}$ (c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\sqrt{x+x})^2}{1+x\sqrt{x}}$ (d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sin(\ln(\frac{1}{x}))$

Solution:

(a) (Method 1)

Exponential functions grow asymptotically faster than algebraic functions.

Since $\sqrt{4x^4+1}$ grows asymptotically slower than e^{x^2} as x approaches ∞ , $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{-x^2} \sqrt{4x^4+1} = 0$.

(Method 2)

For every $x > 1$,

$$0 \leq \frac{\sqrt{4x^4+1}}{e^{x^2}} \leq \frac{4x^2}{e^{x^2}}$$

and since $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{4x^2}{e^{x^2}} \stackrel{(\infty)}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{4}{e^{x^2}} = 0$, we see that by Squeeze Theorem, $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sqrt{4x^4+1}}{e^{x^2}} = 0$.

(b) We have the inequalities,

$$-1 \leq \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \leq 1 \implies \frac{1}{2} = 2^{-1} \leq \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \leq 2^1 = 2, \quad x \neq 0$$

where we have used that for $a \geq b$, $2^a \geq 2^b$ (this follows from the fact that the derivative of 2^x is always positive, so the function is increasing). Since $\sin^2(x) \geq 0$, we get the inequalities

$$\frac{1}{2} \sin^2(x) \leq \sin^2(x) \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \leq 2 \sin^2(x), \quad x \neq 0$$

since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2} \sin^2(x) = 0$ and $2 \frac{1}{2} \sin^2(x) = 0$, by Squeeze Theorem, we find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\sin^2 x) 2^{\cos(\frac{1}{x})} = 0$.

(c) (Method 1)

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\sqrt{x} + x)^2}{1 + x\sqrt{x}} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x + 2x\sqrt{x} + x^2}{1 + x\sqrt{x}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x + 2x\sqrt{x} + x^2}{1 + x\sqrt{x}} \cdot \frac{x^{-2}}{x^{-2}} \right) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{x} + \frac{2}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} + 1}{\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}} \end{aligned}$$

Note that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{2}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} + 1 \right) = 1$, while $\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} = 0$.

Hence, the limit is of the form $\frac{1}{0}$, which implies that the limit is either ∞ or $-\infty$. Since both the numerator and denominator are positive, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\sqrt{x} + x)^2}{1 + x\sqrt{x}} = +\infty$$

(Method 2)

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\sqrt{x} + x)^2}{1 + x\sqrt{x}} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x + 2x\sqrt{x} + x^2}{1 + x\sqrt{x}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x + 2x\sqrt{x} + x^2}{1 + x\sqrt{x}} \cdot \frac{x^{-\frac{3}{2}}}{x^{-\frac{3}{2}}} \right) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} + 2 + \sqrt{x}}{\frac{1}{x\sqrt{x}} + 1} = \infty\end{aligned}$$

because the numerator goes to ∞ and the denominator goes to 1.

- (d) Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$, the above is equivalent to $\lim_{y \rightarrow 0^+} \sin(\ln(y))$. But $\lim_{y \rightarrow 0^+} \ln(y) = -\infty$, so the limit we're considering is equivalent to $\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \sin t$. This limit **does NOT exist**, since the value of $\sin t$ oscillates infinitely often between -1 and 1 as t increases without bound, and does not approach a value.

2. (? points) Consider the function $h(x) = e^{(-e^x)} - 2$.

- (a) Find the domain and range of h .
- (b) Find the equations of all vertical asymptotes of h , or explain completely why none exist. (As justification for each asymptote $x = a$, calculate both the one-sided limits $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} h(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} h(x)$ with reasoning.)
- (c) Find the equations of all horizontal asymptotes of $h(x)$, or explain why none exist. Justify using limit computations.
- (d) It is a fact that $h(x)$ is one-to-one (which you do not have to prove). Find an expression for $h^{-1}(x)$, the inverse of $h(x)$.

Solution:

- (a) The domain of h is all of $\mathbb{R} = (-\infty, \infty)$, because h is a composition of exponential and linear functions, all of whose domains are \mathbb{R} .

To find the range of h :

(Method 1)

Range of e^x is $(0, \infty)$, range of $-e^x$ is $(-\infty, 0)$, range of e^{-e^x} is $(0, 1)$, range of $e^{-e^x} - 2$ is $\boxed{(-2, -1)}$.

(Method 2)

From part d, $h^{-1}(x) = \ln(-\ln(x+2))$, and the range of h is the domain of h^{-1} . For $h^{-1}(x)$ to be defined, the arguments of both natural logarithms must be positive, i.e. $x+2 > 0 \Rightarrow x > -2$ and $-\ln(x+2) > 0 \Rightarrow \ln(x+2) < 0 \Rightarrow x+2 < 1 \Rightarrow x < -1$. So the range is $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid -2 < x < -1\}$.

(Method 3)

Many said that the range is $(-2, -1)$ because the horizontal asymptotes (found in part c) are $y = -2$ and $y = -1$. This receives no credit since this approach usually finds the wrong answer: for example, $f(x) = \frac{e^x+x}{e^x-x}$ has horizontal asymptotes $y = 1$ and $y = -1$, but for all positive x , $f(x) > 1$, so its range is not just $(-1, 1)$. If you really want to mend this argument with horizontal asymptotes, you can say: $h'(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(-e^x)e^{(-e^x)} = -e^x e^{(-e^x)} < 0$ for all x , so $h(x)$ is a decreasing function that is continuous on all of \mathbb{R} , so its range is the interval between $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} h(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} h(x)$, i.e. the interval $(-2, -1)$.

- (b) (Method 1)

h has no vertical asymptotes because it is continuous on all of \mathbb{R} .

(Method 2)

The range of h is $(-2, -1)$, so $|h(x)|$ cannot be arbitrarily large. Hence $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} h(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} h(x)$ cannot be ∞ or $-\infty$.

(c) Our computations below are aided by making the substitution $t = -e^x$; notice that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} t = -\infty$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} t = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} h(x) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} e^t - 2 \\ &= 0 - 2 \\ &= -2\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} h(x) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} e^t - 2 \\ &= e^0 - 2 \\ &= 1 - 2 \\ &= -1\end{aligned}$$

So horizontal asymptotes are $y = -2$ and $y = -1$.

(d)

$$\begin{aligned}y &= e^{(-e^x)} - 2 \\ y + 2 &= e^{(-e^x)} \\ \ln(y + 2) &= -e^x \\ -\ln(y + 2) &= e^x \\ \ln(-\ln(y + 2)) &= x\end{aligned}$$

So $h^{-1}(x) = \ln(-\ln(x + 2))$.

3. (? points) Let

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} ax + b, & x < 1 \\ x^4 + x + 1, & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

Find all a and b such that function $f(x)$ is differentiable.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (ax + b) \\ &= a + b \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (x^4 + x + 1) \\ &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

So $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = 1$ if and only if $a + b = 3$.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f'(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} a \\ &= a \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f'(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (4x^3 + 1) \\ &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

So $f'(x)$ is differentiable at $x = 1$ if and only if $a = 5$. So $b = -2$.

4. (? points) Derive the formula $\frac{d}{dx}a^x = M(a)a^x$ directly from the definition of the derivative, and identify $M(a)$ as a limit.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}(a^x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^{x+h} - a^x}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x \cdot a^h - a^x}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x(a^h - 1)}{h} \\ &= a^x \underbrace{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^h - 1}{h}}_{M(a)} \\ &= M(a)a^x\end{aligned}$$

End of Quiz 1