

§1.4B: Intermediate Value Theorem, §1.5: Infinite Limits, and §3.5: Limits at Infinity
“I WILL...

...apply the Intermediate Value Theorem to real life situations.”

I. Intermediate Value Theorem

A. If $f(x)$ is continuous on the closed interval $[a, b]$

B. $f(a) \neq f(b)$

C. If k is between $f(a)$ and $f(b)$ then there exists a number c between a and b for $f(c) = k$

Ex 1: If $f(x) = x^2 + x - 1$, prove the IVT holds through the indicated interval of $[0,5]$. If the IVT applies, find the value of c for $f(c) = 11$. What are the extremes? (other words $f(a)$ and $f(b)$)?

Ex 2: If $f(x) = x^2 - 6x + 8$, prove the IVT holds through the indicated interval of $[0,3]$. If the IVT applies, find the value of c for $f(c) = 3$.

Your Turn: If $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-2}$, use the Intermediate Value Theorem to prove there is zero on the interval $[\frac{5}{2}, 7]$ if $f(c) = \frac{1}{4}$.

II. To Earn Full Credit:

- A. The function, $f(x)$ (or whatever they give) is identified and stated to be continuous.
- B. Include the function is continuous in (a, b) where a and b are defined
- C. State the value of c , if asked to be defined.

III. Piecewise Functions

- A. For a piecewise function to be continuous each function must be continuous on its specified interval and the limit of the endpoints of each interval must be equal.

Ex 3: What value of a will make the given piecewise function $f(x)$ continuous at $x = -3$ of $f(x) =$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{2x^2+5x-3}{x^2-9}, & x \neq -3 \\ a, & x = -3 \end{cases} ?$$

IV. Infinite Limits

- A. Infinite Limits are limits in which $f(x)$ increases or decreases without bound as x approaches c or $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = \pm\infty$, does not exist. The statement, “ x approaches to infinity” really describes the limit to reach a constant number.
- B. Let f and g be continuous on an open interval containing c . If $f(c) \neq 0$, $g(c) = 0$, then $h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ has a vertical asymptote at $x = c$.

V. Steps

- A. Simplify the rational function
- B. Establish the limit from the left side and right side
- C. If the limits are the same, it is the established limit.
- D. If the limits are not the same, the limit fails to exist.

Review: Determine $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} \frac{3}{x-2}$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} \frac{3}{x-2}$

Ex 4: Solve the vertical asymptotes (if any) of $f(x) = \frac{2}{\sin(x)}$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2}{\sin x}$

Your Turn: Solve the vertical asymptotes (if any) of $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} = \frac{1}{x^2}$

VI. Properties of Infinite Limits

A. As we let $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = \infty$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) = L$:

B. Types:

1. Sum or difference: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x) \pm g(x)] = \infty \pm L = \infty$

2. Product: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)g(x)] = \infty$ if $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x)$ or $L > 0$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)g(x)] = -\infty$ if $L < 0$

3. Quotient: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right] = \frac{\infty}{L} = \frac{\text{BIGGER}}{\text{SMALLER}} = \pm\infty$ (DNE) "It's BS so it is DNE"

$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \left[\frac{g(x)}{f(x)} \right] = \frac{L}{\infty} = \frac{\text{SMALLER}}{\text{BIGGER}} = 0$

C. Similar properties hold for one-sided limits and for functions for which the limit of $f(x)$ as x approaches c is $+\infty$.

Ex 5: If $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (x^2 + 1) = 2$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{1}{x-1} = -\infty$, solve

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{x^2 + 1}{\cancel{1}/(x-1)}$$

Your Turn: If $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (x^2 + 1) = 2$ and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (\cot \pi x) = -\infty, \text{ solve } \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{x^2 + 1}{\cot \pi x}$$

Ex 6: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \frac{2}{x-3}$.

Your Turn: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{x^2 - 3x}{x-1}$

VII. Steps

- A. Establish the highest exponent
 B. Divide each term by the biggest exponent of the denominator
1. Bottom Exponent is Bigger: “0”; $x = 0$
 2. Top Exponent is Bigger: No (Simplify)
 3. Same Exponent on Top and Bottom: Divide the leading Coefficients
- C. Simplify

Ex 7: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{3x^2}{x^2 + 1}$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x^2}{x^2 + 1}$	Ex 8: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6\sqrt[3]{x} + 3\sqrt[6]{x} + 4}{\sqrt[3]{8x} - \sqrt[6]{x} - 10}$
Your Turn: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x^2 - 1}{1 - 2x^2} \right)$	Ex 9: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x - 1}{x + 1}$
Ex 10: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x + 5}{4x^2 + 1}$	Ex 11: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{5x^4 - 2x^2}{4x^2 + 1}$
Your Turn: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^2 - 3}{7x + 4}$	

Identify the following of functions in order of “bigness” and how they grow, e^x , $\ln x$, c , x^2 , $\sin x$ or $\cos x$:

Ex 12: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{\ln x}$

Ex 13: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{3x^2 + 6}}{5 - 2x}$

Ex 14: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{2x^2 - 1}}{-5x + 3}$

Your Turn: Solve $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{3x^2 + 3}}{x + 3}$

Ex 15: Identify the horizontal asymptote of $g(x) = \frac{\sqrt{4x^2 + 5}}{3 - 2x}$

Ex 16: Identify the horizontal asymptote of $g(x) = \frac{\sqrt{e^{2x} + 1}}{1 + e^x}$

Ex 17: Identify the horizontal asymptotes of $f(x) = \frac{4+6e^x}{5-9e^x}$

AP 1) Let f be a continuous function on the closed interval $[-3, 6]$. If $f(-3) = -1$ and $f(6) = 3$, then the Intermediate Value Theorem guarantees that:

- (A) $f'(c) = \frac{4}{9}$ for at least one c between -3 and 6
- (B) $-1 \leq f(x) \leq 3$ for all x between -3 and 6
- (C) $f(c) = 1$ for at least one c between -3 and 6
- (D) $f(c) = 0$ for at least one c between -1 and 3

Vocabulary	Connections and Process	Answer and Justifications

AP 2) Solve $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t^{4/3} + t^{1/3}}{(4t^{2/3} + 1)^2}$

- (A) $-\frac{1}{16}$
- (B) $\frac{1}{4}$
- (C) 0
- (D) $\frac{1}{16}$

Vocabulary	Connections and Process	Answer and Justifications