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Mathematics for Data Science

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Chapter 11

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Definition of Limits

Graphical Approach

Graphical Approach
Approaching a Specific Value

Properties of Limits

One-Sided Limits

Concept of One-Sided Limits
Example of Left-Hand Limit
Example of Right-Hand Limit

Limits at Infinity and Infinite Limits

Limits at Infinity
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Introduction to the concept of limits

The concept of limits is one of the essential concepts in mathematics used to understand the behavior of functions as they approach a specific value.

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

This notation is used to express the limit of the function $f(x)$ as x approaches the value a , meaning $f(x)$ will approach L .



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Using function graphs

Using function graphs to illustrate the concept of limits helps in understanding how the function approaches a particular value.

Concept of approaching a specific value

In this concept, we observe how the graph of the function approaches a particular value as the variable x approaches a certain point.



Concept of Approaching a Specific Value

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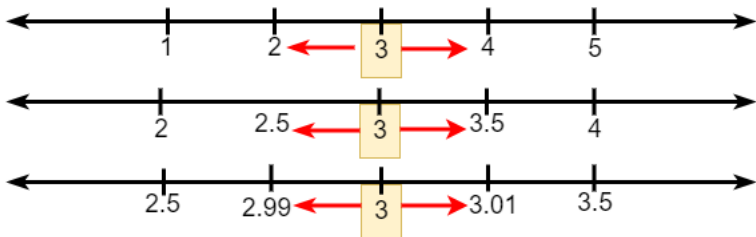
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It turns out that there are many values approaching 3, both from the left and right. If we denote these numbers that approach 3 as x , then x is said to be approaching 3.





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Properties of Limits

1 $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (mx + b) = ma + b$

2 $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} k = k$

3 $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x = a$

4 $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)]^n = [\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)]^n$

5 $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{f(x)} = \sqrt[n]{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}$ for $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) > 0$ and even n .



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Properties of Limit Operations

1 Addition of limits:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) + g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) + \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$$

2 Subtraction of limits:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) - g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) - \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$$

3 Multiplication of limits:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) \cdot g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$$

4 Division of limits: $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)}$, provided $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \neq 0$



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Calculate the following limit:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (3x^2 - 5x + 7)$$

Using the properties of addition and multiplication of limits, we can calculate the limit as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (3x^2 - 5x + 7) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} 3x^2 - \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} 5x + \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} 7 \\ &= 3 \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x^2 - 5 \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x + 7 \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} 1 \\ &= 3(2^2) - 5(2) + 7(1) = 12 - 10 + 7 = 9 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (3x^2 - 5x + 7) = 9$.



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We can calculate the limit as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (2x^2 - 3x + 1) &= 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} x^2 - 3 \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} x + \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} 1 \\ &= 2(3^2) - 3(3) + 1 = 18 - 9 + 1 = 10\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (2x^2 - 3x + 1) = 10$.



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Calculate the following limit:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 - 3x}{x - 2}$$

We can use the properties of division of limits:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 - 3x}{x - 2} &= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (x^2 - 3x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (x - 2)} \\ &= \frac{(0^2 - 3 \cdot 0)}{(0 - 2)} = \frac{0}{-2} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 - 3x}{x - 2} = 0$.



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Definition

One-sided limits refer to approaching from the left side or the right side.

1 x approaches a from the **left**, written as $x \rightarrow a^-$

2 x approaches a from the **right**, written as $x \rightarrow a^+$



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Definition

- 1 $f(x) \rightarrow L$ as $x \rightarrow a^-$, called the **left-hand limit** of $f(x)$ as $x \rightarrow a^-$, written as $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L$
- 2 $f(x) \rightarrow L$ as $x \rightarrow a^+$, called the **right-hand limit** of $f(x)$ as $x \rightarrow a^+$, written as $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = M$



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We will solve the left-hand limit of the function $f(x) = x^2 + 1$ as x approaches 1. The left-hand limit is expressed as:

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

We will calculate this limit.



Solution

To calculate the limit, we need to approach $x = 1$ from smaller values. Let's calculate:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (x^2 + 1) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (x^2) + \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (1)$$

Now, we can evaluate each limit.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (x^2) = 1^2 = 1$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (1) = 1$$

Thus, we have calculated the left-hand limit of $f(x) = x^2 + 1$ as $x \rightarrow 1$, and the result is:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (x^2 + 1) = 1 + 1 = 2$$



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Right-Hand Limit of $f(x) = x^2 + 1$ as $x \rightarrow 1$

We want to calculate the right-hand limit of the function $f(x) = x^2 + 1$ as x approaches 1^+ , meaning from the right side of $x = 1$.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (x^2 + 1)$$

To calculate the right-hand limit, we can directly substitute $x = 1$ into the function $f(x) = x^2 + 1$:

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

Therefore,

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



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Types of Limits at Infinity

- 1 x getting larger towards ∞ ; and
- 2 x getting smaller towards $-\infty$.

Example:

- 1 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$
- 2 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x^2} = 0$
- 3 $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$
- 4 $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{x^3} = 0$





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In mathematics, there are important properties of limits at infinity:

- 1 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} c = c$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} c = c$
- 2 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [f(x) + g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) + \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x)$
- 3 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [f(x) \cdot g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x)$
- 4 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x)}$
- 5 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [f(g(x))] = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x))$





Problem

Calculate the following limit:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4x + 1}{2x - 3}$$

To calculate the limit as $x \rightarrow \infty$, we can use the ratio of the highest degree coefficients in the numerator and denominator:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4x + 1}{2x - 3} = \frac{\text{Highest degree coefficients in numerator}}{\text{Highest degree coefficients in denominator}}$$

$$= \frac{4}{2} = 2$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4x + 1}{2x - 3} = 2$$



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An infinite limit refers to a limit with an **infinite value**.

There are two types: (a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty$ and (b)

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

Example

- 1 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{x} = \infty$
- 2 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{x}{x+2} = -\infty$
- 3 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} \frac{1}{x} = -\infty$
- 4 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{1}{x} = \infty$



Thank You.

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