

SOLUTIONS

- [4] 1. (a) Direct substitution results in a $\frac{0}{0}$ indeterminate form, so we use the rationalisation method:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lim_{h \rightarrow 3} \frac{6 + h - h^2}{\sqrt{5h - 6} - \sqrt{h + 6}} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 3} \frac{6 + h - h^2}{\sqrt{5h - 6} - \sqrt{h + 6}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{5h - 6} + \sqrt{h + 6}}{\sqrt{5h - 6} + \sqrt{h + 6}} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 3} \frac{(6 + h - h^2)(\sqrt{5h - 6} + \sqrt{h + 6})}{(5h - 6) - (h + 6)} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 3} \frac{(6 + h - h^2)(\sqrt{5h - 6} + \sqrt{h + 6})}{4h - 12} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 3} \frac{-(h - 3)(h + 2)(\sqrt{5h - 6} + \sqrt{h + 6})}{4(h - 3)} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 3} \frac{-(h + 2)(\sqrt{5h - 6} + \sqrt{h + 6})}{4} \\
 &= \frac{-5(3 + 3)}{4} \\
 &= -\frac{15}{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

- [4] (b) We can write

$$\begin{aligned}
 7(x^2 + 3x + 2)^{-1} - (x + 8)(x + 1)^{-1} &= \frac{7}{x^2 + 3x + 2} - \frac{x + 8}{x + 1} \\
 &= \frac{7}{(x + 2)(x + 1)} - \frac{x + 8}{x + 1} \\
 &= \frac{7}{(x + 2)(x + 1)} - \frac{(x + 8)(x + 2)}{(x + 2)(x + 1)} \\
 &= \frac{7 - (x^2 + 10x + 16)}{(x + 2)(x + 1)} \\
 &= \frac{-x^2 - 10x - 9}{(x + 2)(x + 1)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now direct substitution results in a $\frac{0}{0}$ indeterminate form, so we can use the cancellation method:

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} [7(x^2 + 3x + 2)^{-1} - (x + 8)(x + 1)^{-1}] &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{-x^2 - 10x - 9}{(x + 2)(x + 1)} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} -\frac{(x + 9)(x + 1)}{(x + 2)(x + 1)} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} -\frac{x + 9}{x + 2} \\ &= -8.\end{aligned}$$

[4] (c) First observe that

$$\frac{4}{t \cot(7t)} = \frac{4}{t \cdot \frac{\cos(t)}{\sin(t)}} = \frac{4 \sin(7t)}{t \cos(7t)}.$$

Now we can use the special sine limit. Because the argument of the sine function is $7t$, and there is already a factor of t in the denominator, we need to multiply the numerator and the denominator by 7, to get

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{4}{t \cot(7t)} &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{4 \sin(7t)}{t \cos(7t)} \cdot \frac{7}{7} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(7t)}{7t} \cdot \frac{28}{\cos(7t)} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(7t)}{7t} \cdot \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{28}{\cos(7t)}.\end{aligned}$$

As $t \rightarrow 0$, it is also true that $7t \rightarrow 0$ so the first limit is the special sine limit, and the other limit can be evaluated by direct substitution:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{4}{t \cot(7t)} = 1 \cdot \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{28}{\cos(7t)} = 1 \cdot \frac{28}{\cos(0)} = 28.$$

[8] 2. First we set

$$\begin{aligned}x^5 - 4x^3 &= 0 \\ x^3(x^2 - 4) &= 0 \\ x^3(x - 2)(x + 2) &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

so the possible vertical asymptotes are $x = 0$, $x = 2$ and $x = -2$.

At $x = 0$, the numerator is 0 as well, so we need to check the limit:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(x + 2)}{x^3(x - 2)(x + 2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^2(x - 2)}.$$

Now direct substitution results in a $\frac{1}{0}$ form, so $x = 0$ is a vertical asymptote.

At $x = 2$, the numerator is 8, so $x = 2$ is also a vertical asymptote.

At $x = -2$, the numerator is 0, so again we need to determine the limit:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{x(x+2)}{x^3(x-2)(x+2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{1}{x^2(x-2)} = \frac{1}{4(-4)} = -\frac{1}{16}.$$

Since the limit exists, $x = -2$ is not a vertical asymptote.

Now consider the expression $\frac{1}{x^2(x-2)}$. As $x \rightarrow 0^-$, the denominator becomes a small negative number, so

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = -\infty.$$

The same is true as $x \rightarrow 0^+$, so

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = -\infty.$$

As $x \rightarrow 2^-$, the denominator is also a small negative number, so again

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = -\infty.$$

However, as $x \rightarrow 2^+$, the denominator is a small positive number, so

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = \infty.$$