

Math 201

Section 1.2 Computing Limits

Limit Laws Suppose that c is a constant and the limits

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$$

exist. Then

1.

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

2.

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

3.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [cf(x)] = c \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$$

4.

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

5.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)} \text{ if } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \neq 0$$

6.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)]^n = \left[\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \right]^n \text{ where } n \text{ is a positive integer}$$

7.

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

8.

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

9.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \sqrt[n]{f(x)} = \sqrt[n]{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)} \text{ where } n \text{ is a positive integer (and } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) > 0 \text{ if } n \text{ is even)}$$

Direct Substitution Property If f is a polynomial or a rational function and a is in the domain of f , then

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