

Limits at ∞

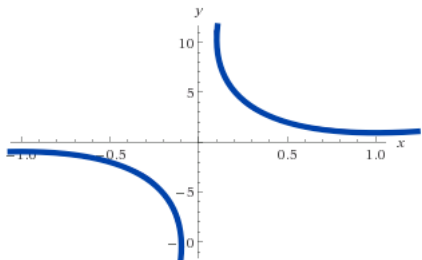
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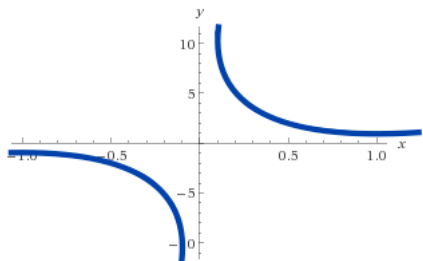
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$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0 = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{x}$. Note that for a positive number k ,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x^k} = 0 = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{x^k}.$$

Mathematical Definition

For $f(x)$ a real function, the limit of f as x approaches infinity is L , denoted

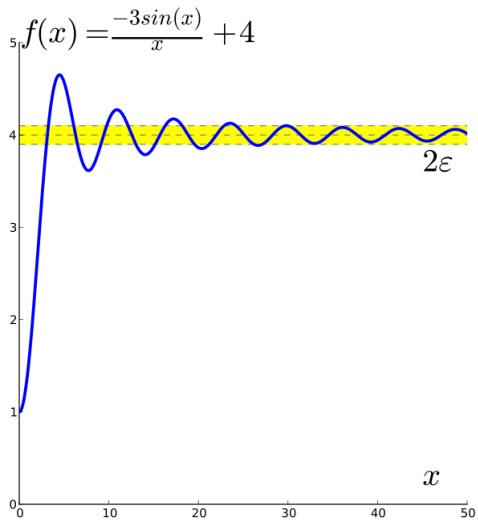
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L,$$

means that for all $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists c such that $|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$ whenever $x > c$. Similarly, the limit of f as x approaches negative infinity is L , denoted

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

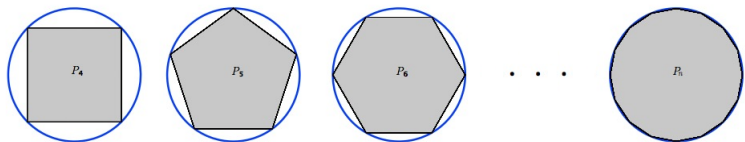
means that for all $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists c such that $|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$ whenever $x < c$. For example

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} e^x = 0.$$

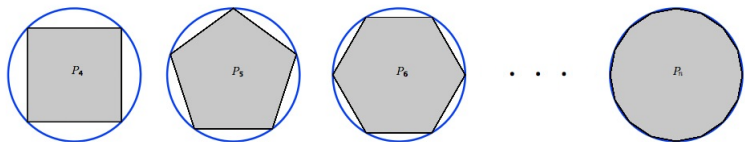


An application: Finding the Area of a Circle

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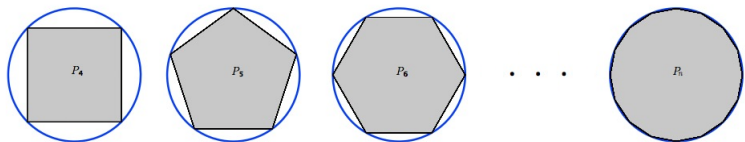


An application: Finding the Area of a Circle



Let $f(n)$ be the area of the n -gon inscribed in a circle of radius r .

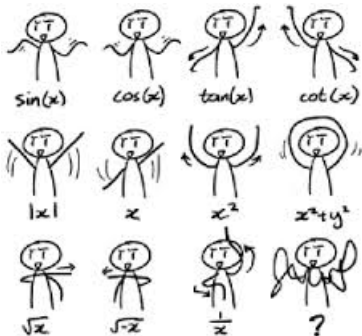
An application: Finding the Area of a Circle



Let $f(n)$ be the area of the n -gon inscribed in a circle of radius r . Then,
Area of a circle with radius r is $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(n) = \pi r^2$

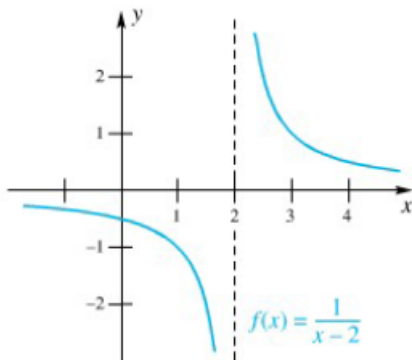
Math Dance Moves

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Infinite Limits

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Vertical and Horizontal Asymptotes

Definition

Line $x = c$ is a vertical asymptote of the graph of $y = f(x)$. If any of the following is satisfied:

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x) = \infty$
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Definition

Line $y = b$ is a horizontal asymptote of the graph of $y = f(x)$. If any of the following is satisfied:

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